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DOCTOR KILLED IN ACCIDENT

...His car was involved in a head on collision with a BMW police escort at the Inyatsi Construction gate, Mahlanga road.

PAGE 4



MORE TOURISTS AT HLANE FOR BUGANU FESTIVAL



PAGE 4

SALARY REVIEW REPORT UNPACKED BY AN HR EXPERT...

GOVT'S HYBRID SALARY STRUCTURE CROOKED

STORY
ON PAGE 2

- Freeze nurses 25 percent allowances
- Allowances distort wage bill
- Gives review report clean bill, says it's fair

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By Alec Lushaba
Editor

COVER STORY

IN light of the uproar caused by the release of the Salary Review report, which under normal circumstances should have brought relief to public servants, the Swazi Observer went out to seek experts' views of what the report says.

It is difficult to understand such bulky documents, especially when read and analysed by novice who had not done similar studies. In fear that we may end up not knowing what the report says, we sought a view from an HR expert who agreed to give his expert analysis provided we protect his name. On page 19 we have a Swazi economist who looks at the report from an economic perspective and even recommends that the review be shelved.

CHAPTER 1

In chapter 1 of the report the consultant covers the rationale of the project including a presentation on key issues including: terms of reference, economic growth of Swaziland in the past decade, the impact of the global financial crisis on Swaziland, business sector percentage growth. There is mention of the economic recovery strategy and the various initiatives that government has adopted to try and turn around the economy. Employment growth is analysed in detail including the growth patterns of the civil service over the past 10 years.

CHAPTER 2

It was imperative for me to understand this chapter because it sets the tone on how the consultant approached the work. It is clear that the consultation with key stakeholders was undertaken extensively which enabled the consultant to obtain an explicit picture of what the expectations are from the different stakeholders. Of note were the submissions made by social partners namely:

- SNAT
- SNA
- SNAGAP

The chapter presents the methodology used by the consultant to gather information and the fact that a total of 2 338 civil servants were interviewed and of key importance is the process of validating or auditing job descriptions. Each job description was developed through interviews of job incumbents submitted to the respective heads of departments who authenticated them by signing. These were further submitted to the ministry of public service who signed them and sent them back to the consultant for grading. This in essence means the grading was based on accurate and audited job descriptions, an important foundation for evaluation and grading. There is no more effective way that the consultant could have adopted in validating the job descriptions.

Re-grading explained

CHAPTER 3

This chapter talks about the heartbeat of the entire project which is job evaluation and grading, which is more important than the salaries as the latter is based on accurate grading.

The report goes deep in analysing the common misconceptions of job evaluation which unfortunately in my view continues to filter through as evidenced by my analysis of some of the comments made in the media.

Needless to say that in this chapter, the report sets the tone by a detailed analysis of the current grading system used by government wherein the conclusion is that it has more challenges than advantages which was listed in detail.

The report analyses and considers other job evaluation systems in order to address the

'GOVT SALARY STRUCTURE CROOKED'

...allowances were unsustainable and distorted wage bill. Consultants justified in recommending removal of nurses' 25 percent allowance

If you skip one chapter you will be lost and herein under is the report outline:

- Chapter 1 - Background and Introduction
- Chapter 2 - Consultants Methodology
- Chapter 3 - Job Evaluation and Grading
- Chapter 4 - Salary Review
- Chapter 5 - Review of Allowances
- Chapter 6 - Recommendations

Below is the view from our HR expert.

Report is fair, it could have been worse

Firstly I would like to thank the editors of The Observer for asking me to be part of this important exercise for the civil service, social part-

ners, government and the general public, all who have an interest in this Salary Review report. I must clearly mention upfront that this report requires you to read it in the manner it has been drafted for you to understand it.

Hybrid grading system distorted salaries

...juniors were paid higher than their seniors

CHAPTER 4

This chapter covers the whole subject of money and salaries. The report presents a detailed analysis of inflation versus GDP annual growth for the past 10 years. It analyses the civil service wage bill in terms of the ratio of inflation to cost of living adjustments over the last 10 years; annual government budget versus salary expenditure for the past seven years and housing allowance distortions.

The report indicates that the government lagged behind in 2011/2012 where there was no cost of living adjustment yet inflation stood at 6.1 percent and 8.9 percent respectively, whilst average private sector increase was 6.5 percent and 10 percent respectively. A detailed analysis is undertaken of the pay differences between the private sector and government, with the latter placed at 35.19 percent below private sector rates using the weighted average principle.

One major finding of note outlined in the report is the distortions caused by the hybrid grading system resulting in salary overlaps as outlined by the table herein under:

TABLE ONE

The impact of the overlaps means that you have people in junior positions but earning higher than those more senior to them which confirms a grading and remuneration structure flaw. In order to address this challenge through the compression of grades, the result is outlined herein under:

TABLE TWO

This correction placement of overlapping grades has

grade distortions identified in the current grading system. It concludes that the best alternative is to adopt the full principles of Paterson resulting in the compression of grades from 1-7 to 1-5.

Grade	Earning Notch
A6	B4 notch 4 & B5 notch 3
A7	B5 notch 4 & B6 notch 2
B6	C3 notch 4 & C4 notch 3
B7	C4 notch 4 & C5 notch 3
C6	D3 notch 4 & D4 notch 4
D6	E2 notch 4 & E3 notch 3
D7	E3 & E4
E6	F2 & F3

Old Grade	Recommended Grade
A6	C2/C3
A7	C3/C4
B6	C3
B7	C4
C6	E1/E2
D6	E2
D7	E3
E6	F3

resulted in the misconception by unions that there have been exorbitant increases mainly in executive positions.

I indicated earlier in my submission that this entire report has to be read in full to enable the reader to understand its recommendations.

For an example, the director of Meteorological Services was wrongly graded at D7 and has been correctly graded at F2; in this instance the movement to F2 is factually to F2 new salary scale range hence the perceived increase.

In technical terms this is an increase arising from a re-grade. The same applies to the other positions alluded to in the same publication that claimed higher increases for executive positions.

In the recommended salary dispensation, the first notch of a higher grade is higher than the last notch of the previous grade, denoting rightly so, the seniority of the higher graded position.

Based on the aforesaid, I

therefore found no evidence in the report that affirms the notion that executive positions were rewarded higher than junior positions.

The report computes the proposed remuneration increase on a total cost to company and it must be understood that a total cost to company denotes adding basic pay plus all allowances claimable under that position.

The housing allowance as recommended in the report is the major contributing factor in the reduction of pay scales between the lowest paid and the highest paid civil servant.

The proposed allowance will result in 9.06 percent of the basic pay of the highest paid civil servant and 39.6 percent of the basic pay of the lowest paid civil servant.

It is imperative therefore when undertaking comparisons using percentages instead of figures for one to comprehend fully the status quo.

This was in my view also addresses the salary notch overlaps which previously were discouraging affected employees from taking up promotions, as they were being promoted to a lower paying grade.

Abolish/freeze some allowances

CHAPTER 5

This chapter analyses each allowance by looking at its purpose when it was introduced, its relevance now both in terms of current purpose as well as the amount eligible for payment.

I am generally in agreement with the recommendation of abolishment of some of the allowances and in my view, the report should have recommended the abolishment of most of the allowances as the current government remuneration structure is too allowance inclined, thus making the total wage bill unpredictable.

The report justifies some of the executive allowances it is recommending due to their relevance to the current conditions of service of the executives. For an example, the provision of internet services at their residences as they do substantial work after hours.

Business Consultant



Shocking disparities revealed

Grade	Basic Pay (E)	Housing Benefit (E)	Housing Eligible (E)	Total Compensation
A5	5,538	14,000	601	19,539
A5	5,538	601	-	6,139

CHAPTER 6

This chapter tables 14 specific recommendations made by the consultant. Of note is recommendation number six that the current housing allowance scheme distorts salaries and herein under is a simple illustration:

The table above shows two people in the same position, one allocated an executive house beyond their grade eligibility and the other paid an allowance.

Because of that benefit, the first one is earning E13 399 more than the other yet they are in the same grade and doing the same functions.

The recommendation seeks to redress this anomaly.

Recommendation number 10 states that government must abolish the 25 percent nurses overtime allowance and place it with computed overtime based on the hours worked, which should result in a lesser wage bill for government, increase accountability of nurses and ensure they are paid for work done.

Recommendation number 11 is the most interesting one to me as a neutral reader as it basically requests government to demote people not only in terms of functions but also in terms of pay.

It is true that a demoted employee cannot retain a higher salary scale equivalent to that of their previous position.

The last recommendation talks about the starting of all employees on the first notch of their grade which is a fundamental principle of maintaining a salary structure without distortions.

POSTPONE SALARY REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION OR ELSE – ECONOMIST WARNS

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

A Swazi economist from the Diaspora has come out to warn the Swazi government against implementing the much awaited salary review which is due next month.

The economist said the basis for the salary review is that more than 10 years has passed without any review done for civil servants salaries.

The economist however said, during this period, civil servants have been receiving cost-of-living adjustments which were either at the average inflation rate that prevailed or less.

"Thus in real terms it can be argued that they did not suffer any significant real reduction in their salaries.

Under normal circumstances, a salary review is driven by productivity, profits and the economic climate. When the environment is favourable, salaries are increased or not increased but more allowances given. If not favourable, the institution undertakes structural reforms with cuts in size and salary reductions," the economist said.

The economist further states: "Under the present circumstances with the economy having suffered two decades of slow growth, massive cuts in SACU, high poverty levels and running deficits, this does not appear sound or prudent. This is also proposed at the time when the South African economy is undergoing serious challenges which will negatively impact on Swaziland. The sugar sector is facing challenges and it is the main export sector.

"According to the available data (projection), salaries and related

spending is estimated at E6.3 billion and tax revenue around E12.5 billion of which SACU is estimated at E5.3 billion.

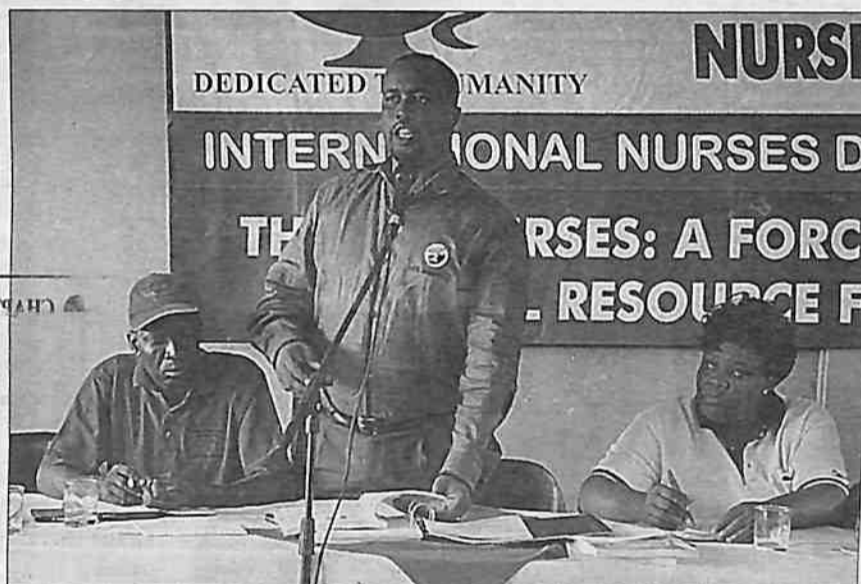
This means salaries and related costs take about 50 percent of revenue currently.

"Even SACU revenues are not enough to pay for such expenditures. The salary review report admits that the revenue base is fragile and declines have been experienced. It admits that the economy is fragile, government delivery is very weak, recruitment of staff is not done based on merit, qualifications nor are promotions.

At the same time, government has taken and implemented a decision to reduce and in some instances cap salaries for executives in parastatals."

For more on the salary review analyses go to Page 19.

AGGRIEVED: SWAD-NU Secretary General Sibusiso Lushaba expressed his union's disappointment at the contents of the salary review report which they said failed to recognise them as professionals and was more of a cost of living adjustment than a review. (Pic: Thembeke Dlamini)



Report given thumps up

CONCLUSION

I must mention though that the views expressed in the public domain, especially by the social partners (unions) have been interesting hence became one of my fundamental approaches in analysing the report.

In conclusion, for me reading the report as a neutral party, I was able to follow the facts that led to the conclusions made by the consultant in the report.

I fully understand and concur with the consultant on the compression of grades as a prerequisite of eliminating salary distortions.

Under the same breath, I further concur with the report on the eradication of salary notch overlaps.

As stated earlier, I am still of the view that the report should have recommended the abolishment of more allowances than recommended.

I found no empirical evidence in the report supporting the notion that

it favours or rewards those in the top. Taking into account the recommendations made, one realises that the report attempted to address almost all the concerns raised by social partners and one needs to qualify that a report of this magnitude will never be readily acceptable and satisfactory to all parties.

Technically, the principles of grading were fully adhered to as well as those of determining the remuneration which I found more inclined on affordability than market related.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Our author who agreed to do the work provided he remains anonymous boasts of 37 years experience consulting in the human resource (HR) space including participating in three similar exercises for three different governments.

● He holds a Master of Science

in Human Resources Management; and is certified to grade using Paterson, Hay and Peromnes, the main popular job evaluation systems in Africa.

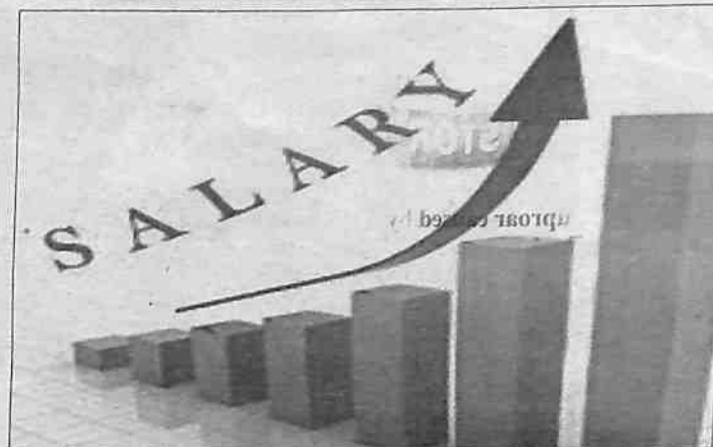
● He has done work in almost all African countries of note, as such is well placed to deal with such topics and his views therefore are respected. His terms of reference for the Swazi Observer were;

● Read the report and comment thereof

● Review its structure, presentation, technical acumen and relevance

● Provide independent opinion on the major specific recommendations

● Make comments of all the above in a manner enabling the public to understand.



WE WANT MORE: Some members of SNAT in one of their recent meetings.

Rains expected on Wednesday

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane

AFTER two very hot days, today and tomorrow the country may be relieved to know that cool temperatures are expected on Wednesday.

Victor Boy Motsa from Swaziland Meteorological Services said rains can be expected from the eve of Wednesday.

"Otherwise from the early hours of Wednesday through to the last part of the week, it is looking

good, with temperatures dropping," Motsa said.

He did not, however, specify on the amount of rain that would be expected at this stage.

Expected

He said the expected rains and the drop of temperatures would be caused by the cold front that is expected to pass over the country, coming from the Congo air mass. The rains are expected to last right on to the weekend of this week.

The temperatures from today to Thursday are as follows:

Monday					
Mbabane	Mankayane	Manzini	Siteki	Mhlume	Big Bend
18 min/32 max	19 min/33 max	22 min/36 max	20 min/35 max	23 min/36 max	24 min/38 max
Fine and hot to very hot in the lowveld.					
Tuesday					
Mbabane	Mankayane	Manzini	Siteki	Mhlume	Big Bend
19 min/33 max	20 min/34 max	23 min/37 max	21 min/36 max	24 min/38 max	25 min/39 max
Fine becoming partly cloudy and hot to very hot in the lowveld with isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon.					
Wednesday					
Mbabane	Mankayane	Manzini	Siteki	Mhlume	Big Bend
15 min/17 max	16 min/18 max	19 min/21 max	17 min/20 max	20 min/22 max	21 min/23 max

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4 NATIONAL NEWS



Baganu festival 2016

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DANCING: USDF Lutsango showing them a thing or two on the arena during the main day.



RUBBING: Emalangeri joined by the Lubombo Regional Administrator Sylvia Mthethwa.

Tourists came in their numbers at Hlane

Stories by Thembeke Dlamini
Hlane

TOURISTS from the western world seemingly made the majority of those present at Hlane Royal Residence during the second and final day of the Baganu Festival.

"We have been in South Africa for a couple of weeks and on reading about the ceremony from our brochure, we decided to come as

we could not miss out on taking part in such a colourful ceremony," Dayani and Mike Percy from the United States of America said.

They were in the company of locals Thuminits and Khelekhele.

Enjoyed

They enjoyed themselves at the festival and had sampled the marula brew which they called refreshing. Anxious to see the festival they heard about while visiting Hlane Big Game Park, David Smith from Manchester and Mark said they

were excited to at last see some culture.

They said as they were leaving on Thursday, they were happy to witness Swazi life.

They praised Sibebe beer calling it the best brew by far while stating that they were willing to try some buganu. Tourists from neighbouring countries as well as expatriate Swazis also made their way to Hlane where they expressed their joy at communing with locals.

"It is refreshing to come here and



QUENCHING: Tourists Dayani and Mike Percy from the United States of America with Thuminits and Khelekhele.

just be joyful. To be able to celebrate life this way as a country is a blessing, as some other countries only gather in this manner when

they want something from the residents such as votes and yet this is about being merry," Sandile Mahlindza said.

Lutsango creative

THE creativity of the Lutsango Regiment was noted as their songs were for every occasion and situation.

This was during *kuhlehla* as they made their way around the arena in song prior to the formation from which some would later dance during *kutsamba*.

The ministry of health regiment's song said, "Angisaguli ngiyatsakatsa sengigula ngengcondvo sengibutsa emaphepha," had everybody in stitches.

Other songs had political connotations such as those cementing that the country

was ruled through the system of Tinkhundla. Others were in the same manner prayerful as they sought God's protection over the country.

Another notable song was *Live liyafanana* which explained that no matter where one goes there in no place like home.

The song talked about a person travelled far and wide and on finding that there was nothing new in other countries, returned to build a home in the country.

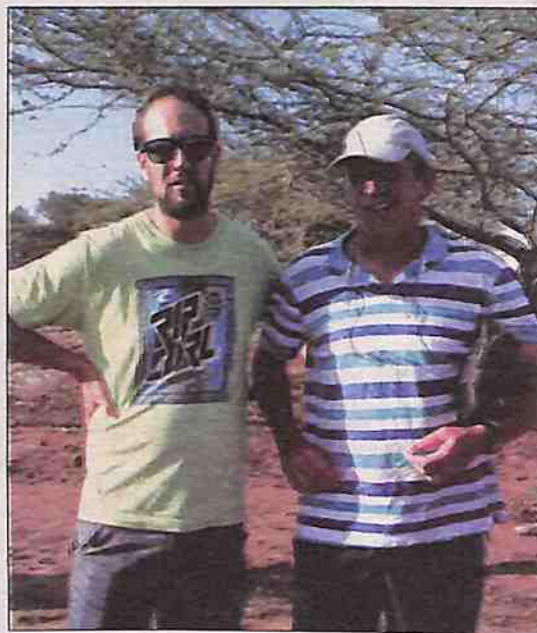
In the absence of wearing their choice of *lihiya* colours, Lutsango

Regiment members have come up with ways of accessorising the kanga to attractive proportions.

In previous years, different regiments used their own coloured *lihiya* resulting in a colourful mix, however this year, the colours of orange and red were the stipulated uniform for all regiments.

As soon as the dusk set in, reflective beads were noted on their kangas. On closer inspection, it was noted that most were glued on the pieces of fabrics while others were stitched.

This resulted in them being brighter and catching the light at each movement.



EXHAUSTED: Andries Angyus and Ruben Perez who were looking for water due to the heat.

Traditional attire cheap

TRADITIONAL wear and accessories turned out to be cheaper within the Hlane Royal Residence campsite than usual.

A snap survey of attire for sale indicated that it was cheaper to equip oneself at such functions. There was a last minute rush to complete the ensemble with Lutsango buying horns as well as jewellery to accessorise their attire. Whereas horns retail for E150 in the market place, they were selling for E40 at the stalls situated near the camping area.

ITEM	Normal retail price	Price at Hlane
Ligebebesha	E65	E50
Lihawu	E95	E40
Sidvwaba	E850	E600
Sicholo	E150	E80
Bukhakha	E150	E100
Sidziya	E500	E600
Timphondvo	E150	E40
Emafahlawane	E45	E50

DOCTOR KILLED IN ACCIDENT AT BETHANY

By Sibusiso Masilela
Mbabane

A dentist was killed in an accident which saw his car involved in a head-on collision with a BMW police escort at the Inyatsi Construction gate, Mahlanya Road.

The police escort caught fire and was burnt beyond recognition.

However, the driver of the escort escaped the accident unhurt, according to Police Chief

Information and Communications Officer Khulani Mamba yesterday. "It's true, the doctor unfortunately died on the spot. We cannot reveal his identity now because his next of kin have not yet been informed," said Mamba.

The dentist, who is well known around Bethany area, is said to

have been turning to the right hand side of the gravel road to his nearby home from church when the accident occurred. He was alone in the car.

IN FLAMES: An accident involving a BMW police escort and another vehicle saw the other burst into flames at the Inyatsi Construction gate.





YOUR MAJESTY: His Majesty King Mswati III and Her Majesty the Indlovukazi with Princes Mahlaba and Masitsela watching members of the Lutsango regiment doing the Kutsamba dance.



BAYETHE: The King, Indlovukazi and the senior princes during the singing of Incangosi.



SKILLFUL: Zanele Thwala from the Umbutfo Swaziland Defence Force showcasing her kutsamba dancing skills while colleagues appreciated her.



IN SONG: Chiefs Kusa Dlamini, Nkamane Ndwandwe and Mshengu at the event.

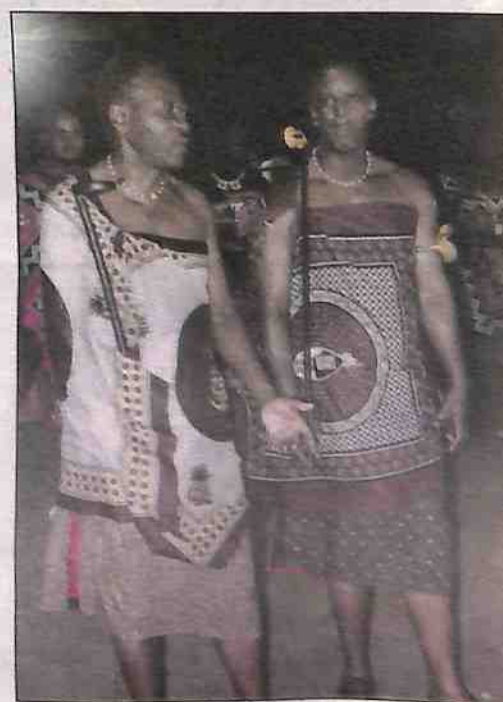


Lutsango singing and dancing before Their Majesties.

Inkhosikati LaMbikiza and Inkhosatana Sikhanyiso with emazinyane and members of the royal family dancing up a storm.



AERIAL VIEW: Lutsango from the Royal Swaziland Police.



KUYO MAJAH: Dumsani Zwane and Polycarp Dlamini.

6 NATIONAL NEWS

Three arrested in connection with Umphakatsi arson attack

Stories by Eddie Abner
KaNgcamphalala

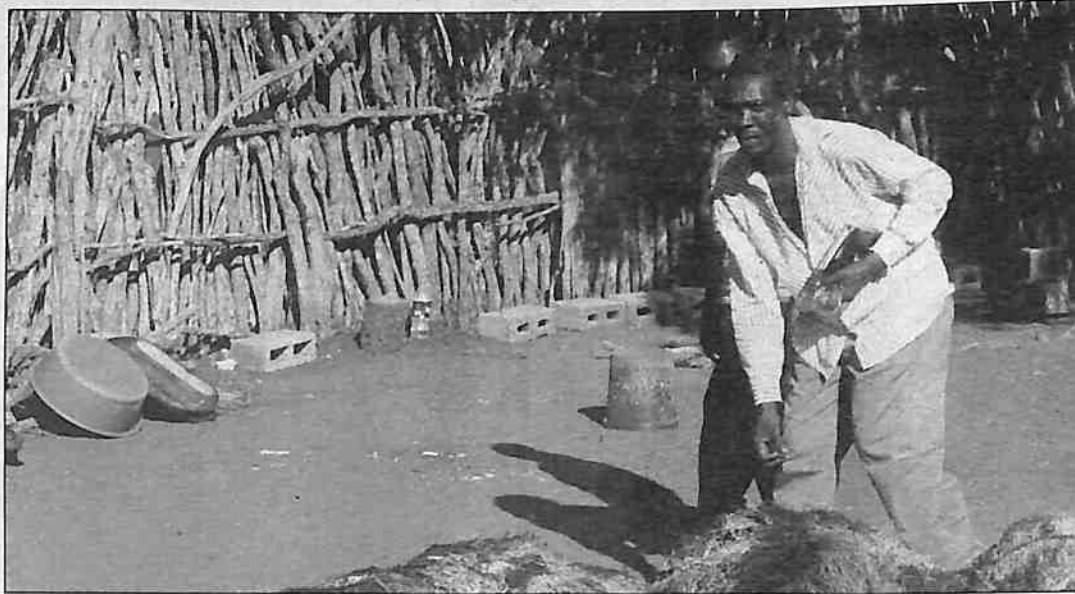
THREE people have been arrested and charged with arson for allegedly petrol bombing the KaNgcamphalala Umphakatsi.

The three are expected to appear before the Siteki Magistrate's Court today.

Police reportedly also found pamphlets linked to Swaziland Communist Party that had a number of demands in the possession of one of the suspects.

The three are alleged to have petrol bombed the umphakatsi and four rondavels estimated to the value of E100 000 were destroyed. Police Information Communications Officer Khulani Mamba confirmed that the police, after their investigation, arrested and charged the three for their involvement in the attack of umphakatsi.

"Three people have been arrested and charged with arson attack. They will appear before Siteki Magistrate's Court tomorrow (today)," he said.



BOMB SCARE: KaNgcamphalala chiefdom elders in shock after the umphakatsi was bombed.

The suspects were rounded up after being traced through a cellphone that was found at the scene. When a team from this publication visited the umphakatsi on Saturday, the suspects were found in a police quantum and one of them was a woman with a child.

Plain clothed police were also found discussing with the com-

munity police under a tree reading the attack on the umphakatsi.

Mamba, who was among the first to be called to the scene, stated that when they arrived at around 1am, the fire had already gutted down four rondavels.

When fire-fighters tried to put out the blaze, they were advised not to do so as that was going to destroy part of the evidence that

was found there.

"When we arrived at the scene, damage had already been done, but the police discovered a cellphone that fell from one of the suspects.

"This then made their work easier as they managed to trace the owner of it. We are very sure that the culprit will face the wrath of law."



DISASTER: This is how the rondavels looked like after they were bombed.

Community police deployed at KaNgcamphalala

KANGCAMPHALALA Umphakatsi has deployed community police to guard the chiefdom for 24.

This follows the petrol bombing of four rondavels (tihonco) at Ka-Ngcamphalala Chiefdom, in Siphofaneni under Chief Mshikashika II.

Indvuna Makhundu Mamba issued the instruction on Saturday, ordering all community police to be at the umphakatsi and ensure that they guarded the area the whole night.

Mamba said the community police would change shifts and guard the umphakatsi until a time when they feel it was safe and no perpetrators would return. The four rondavels that were destroyed were estimated to cost around E100 000.

Man hacks, slits another's throat

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane Magistrate's court

IN what might appear as a spine-chilling incident, a man from Mangwaneni in Mbabane is currently kept in custody for allegedly slitting another's throat with a knife.

However, the victim is said to have survived the ordeal and is fighting for his life at the Mbabane Government Hospital.

Emmanuel Mfanaleni Dlodlu (27) appeared before Magistrate Sifiso Vilakati yesterday. He was charged with attempted murder.

Dlodlu was accused of hacking Michael Mnisi several times with an axe in the head and slitting him around the neck with a knife.

He is said to have done this with an intention to kill Mnisi. Dlodlu is said to have inflicted near-fatal wounds on Mnisi.

The incident is said to have happened last Friday at Mangwaneni, Mbabane in the Hhohho region.

When he appeared in court yesterday, Dlodlu was informed of his legal rights. He was told that he was at liberty to hire a lawyer to represent him or conduct his own defence. He conducted his own defence. The charge was read to him and he said he understood it.

The magistrate told Dlodlu that he would be remanded in custody until Friday 11, where he is expected to appear in court again.

He then advised Dlodlu to apply for bail at the High Court if he wanted to gain his liberty. He said the nature of his offence required that he approached the High Court so that he could file in his application for bail.

36 Malaria cases in February

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

THERE have been 36 reported cases of malaria in the country in the past month.

However, of that number, only one case of malaria was contracted locally.

Director of Health Dr Vusi Magagula said: "We had 36 cases of Malaria in the past month. However, 93% of the cases were imported cases. Only one case was acquired locally and it was at Tsambokhulu. This shows good work on the part of the programme."

Magagula said necessary actions had been taken with the identified case.

Swaziland has been recently been honoured for commitment and excellence by the African leaders Malaria Alliance.



GOOD WORK: Director of Health Dr Vusi Magagula.

54 drink driving cases

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

POLICE reported a total of 54 cases of drink-driving over the past weekend.

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

He said these incidents happened in different places.

Arrested

He also added that last Friday at 5.15pm, Tshaneni police arrested and charged two men, a 28-year-old and a 30-year-old of Mzaceni together with a 31-year-old woman of Maphungwane for possession of dagga weighing 18kg with a street value of E14 400 without a licence or permit while at the Mananga Border Post in the Lubombo region.



Nash calls for unity at KaNgcamphalala

Stories by Eddie Abner
KaNgcamphalala

DIVINE Healing Ministries International Founder Bishop Nash Shongwe has appealed to the nation community of KaNgcamphalala to be united.

Shongwe was speaking at KaNgcamphalala, where he donated food and shared the word of God. The bishop said the country was enjoying peace through the grace of God.

He said Their Majesties have also done a commendable job in keeping unity amongst the nation.

Appealing

"I am appealing to the people of KaNgcamphalala and the nation at large to be united and let no one divide us as a nation.

"We have seen in other countries how conflicts and war have destroyed their monuments, including their infrastructure.

"Let us not allow that to happen here in Swaziland. We need to pray for Their Majesties, government and



GOOD TO SEE YOU: Divine Healing Ministries Bishop Nash Shongwe chatting with KaNgcamphalala Umphakatsi Chief Mshikashika as other church members look on during the ongoing outreach programme held in the area on Saturday. (Pics: Eddie Abner.)

all of us here to be united," he said.

He mentioned that Their Majesties loved the nation and wanted what's best for their people, which was evident by the funds they set up to help them.

Shongwe further implored the nation to pray for anyone who might have negative thoughts about the country to ensure that they do not destabilise what had been built over the years.

...Donates food, clothes worth E45 000

DIVINE Healing Ministries Founder Bishop Nash Shongwe continued with his outreach programme as he donated food items and clothes worth E45 000 at KaNgcamphalala.

The food items included 100 bags of beans, over 150 jams, sweets, 100 maize-meal, amongst other things. He made it clear that he wanted to visit all the four regions of the country and lend a helping hand to those affected by drought.

"Today we made a donation of beans, maize meal, sweets for children, school uniforms and suits to the community.

"All that would be distributed by Umphakatsi as they know the

affected families. We have already visited areas such as Dwalile, St Phillip's, where we made a difference with our donation. This is straight from my pocket.

"The prime minister (Sibusiso Dlamini) declared the drought as a national disaster, so we have to fork out all we have to help government.

"This is just not the end as I am still to visit more areas, especially in the Lubombo region which is the most affected region.

"We have read in newspapers and saw on televisions the drought-stricken areas and people in those areas should know that we are coming to help them," he said.



GENEROUS: Shongwe displaying the goodies that he brought for the residents.



THANK YOU: Children were not left out as they also received something from the bishop



LISTENING: Residents of the area came in their numbers to hear the word of God preached by Bishop Shongwe.

Umphakatsi appeals for prayer

KANGCAMPHALALA Umphakatsi has appealed for prayer and unity amongst its people following the arson attack on Saturday morning.

Indvuna Makhundu Mamba said this was the action of people who were demon possessed and needed prayer.

Mamba was speaking during Divine Healing Ministries outreach programme held at his area on Saturday.

"We are a divided commu-

nity as we speak, but I appeal for prayer and unity amongst you. What the people did to our umphakatsi is a sign that they were demon possessed and those people need prayer. We hope the bishop and his pastors will leave that prayer for us to be united," he said.

Mamba also thanked Bishop Nash Shongwe for building a church in their area and said they were very grateful that he brought the gospel closer to them.



NEED PRAYER: KaNgcamphalala Umphakatsi Indvuna Makhundu Mamba.



MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF MANZINI

INVITATION TO TENDER

TENDER NO. 49 OF 2015/2016

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PAVEMENT (ROADS) MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF MANZINI

Tenders are hereby invited from experienced consultants, for the Establishment of a Pavement (Roads) Management System for the Municipal Council of Manzini. The consultancy involves the following:

- Establishment of a computer-based road information sub-system, including staff training, road monitoring procedures, adaptation, installation and application of a model for preparation of rolling annual programs and budgets of road works, long-term plan of all road expenditures, works and systems.

Tender documents may be obtained from the Municipal Council of Manzini, on presentation of a receipt of payment of a non returnable tender deposit of E500.00 to the Treasury department, from the following address from the 02nd March 2016 –

Municipal Council of Manzini
Ngwane/Nkoseluhlaza Street
Manzini.

Completed tenders in a sealed envelope, endorsed:

"Tender No. 49 of 2015/2016; The Establishment Of A Pavement (Roads) Management System For The Municipal Council Of Manzini" shall be delivered not later than 12h00, on 24th March 2016 to:

The City Engineer's Secretary
Municipal Council of Manzini
Ngwane/Nkoseluhlaza Street
P.O. Box 418
Manzini.

Late, incomplete, telephoned or telegraphic tenders will not be considered. A tender guarantee in the amount of E10,000.00 will be required to be submitted with the tender. The lowest or any other tender will not necessarily be accepted.

L.P. Dlamini
TOWN CLERK



manzini news

website: www.mzcitycouncil.sz



Buganu festival 2016

Pictures and copies sponsored by SPTC & MONTIGNY INVESTMENTS.




BAYETHE: His Majesty King Mswati III joined by his guest, the King of AmaMpondo in South Africa and Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini during the dancing of Incangosi. Her Majesty also danced it from her seat. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



UNISON: Ministry of Public Works and Transport Acting PS Nanikie Mntsi joined by Lutsango from her ministry in song and dance.



POSE: Also at the ceremony were Peter Canham and Mayiwane MP Sifiso Matsobula.



IMBUBE: His Majesty King Mswati III addressing the Lutsango and the nation during the ceremony.



ALL SMILES: Emajaha having a good time at the festival.



ALSO THERE: Cabinet ministers Lindiwe Dlamini and Jabulile Mashwama dancing up a storm.



EXHIBITION: Ministry of Tourism PS Emmanuel Dlamini at the Swaziland National Trust Commission stand with CEO Titus Dlamini, Temalangenzi Nkambule and Gugu Mavimbela. SNTC was among the exhibitors at the festival.



GIYA: Lutsango from USDF came out in their numbers for the event.



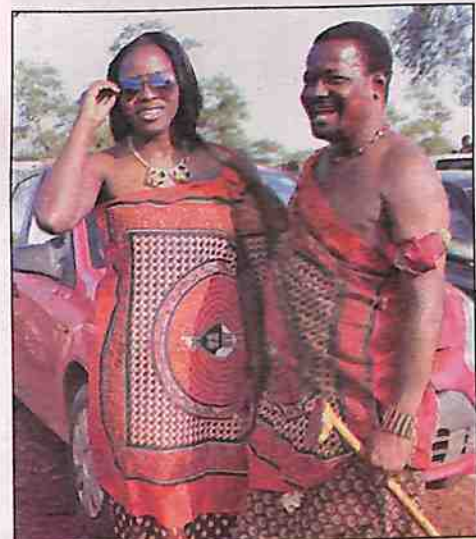
BAMBELA JAHA: Vusi Tfwala sharing a drink with Swazi TV personality Siphesihle Nkwananya while Tsakasile Mamba looks on.



LOMANGCEVEZA: Her Majesty dancing up a storm during the Baganu ceremony at Hlane Royal Residence on Saturday.



PRESENT: Chiefs Lembelele and Velamuva Maseko also attended.



IN THE MIX: Swazi Observer HR Nompumelelo Tsabedze and senior news reporter Sabatha Dlamini were also at the ceremony.



SIGODLO: Inkhosikati LaFogiyane also came out to display her moves as she was joined by Emakhosikati.



FULL SWING: Inkhosikati LaMbikiza showing them how it's done during the kutsamba session.



Ministry of Public Works and Transport



ROAD MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR MR3: MATSAPHA TO MANZINI CBD

PUBLIC NOTICE

TRAFFIC INTERRUPTIONS AND ROAD CLOSURE

The general public is notified that the rehabilitation of the road pavement section inbound Manzini from kaKhoza to the Nazarene traffic lights will be closed to traffic for a period of fourteen days with effect from Sunday 6th March to Sunday 20th March 2016;

Traffic will be re-directed and accommodated on a one way route along kaKhoza bypass - Sobhuza Clinic route as shown on the drawing below.

The public is encouraged to use alternative routes where possible.

Your patience and cooperation in this regard will be highly appreciated. We apologise for any disruptions during this period.

SATISO SEMGWACO

Sive siyatiswa kutsi umgwaco longena kaManzini kusukela kaKhoza ugcine eNazarene utabe uvaliwe kulamaviki lamabili kusukela ngeLisontfo mhlaka 6 - 20 enyangenilesetulu.

Timoto titawusebentisa indlela yinye lephambukela emarobhothini kaKhoza yengce ngasemngwacweni weSobhuza Clinic. Lendlela lena itabe ivulelwe timoto letibheka ngakaManzini kuphela.Umdvwebho longentasj uyachaza.

Bashayeli bayacwayiswa kutsi basebentise letinye tindlela lapho kukhonakalakhona.

Sive siyacelwa kutsi sibe nekubeketela sibambisane nemakhi uma kusalungiswa lomgwaco.



CIVIL SERVANTS NOT ALLOWED TO VENTURE INTO MINING

Stories by Sabatha Dlamini
Mbabane

CIVIL servants and their immediate family members are, by law, not allowed to have shares in the mining projects which they are involved in initiating.

This was said by Senior Government Mining Engineer Robert Biyela.

Biyela said allowing civil servants to participate in the projects they initiated could amount to conflict of interests. He said this was one of the country-level principles and guidelines that were applicable in the governance of the country's natural resources, especially minerals. These principles they followed

were in line with the Southern Africa Resource Barometer, a regional set of principles and guidelines used as a tool to efficiently manage natural resources.

The principles are informed by SADC countries' national legislations and regulations, international best practices and conventions, and inputs from practitioners.

A wide-range of civil society organisations, members of parliament, mining companies, human rights defenders and gender activists from across the region have contributed to the drafting of these principles.

Speaking on the regional perspective of natural resources governance in SADC, Dr. Fanwell Bokosi boldly stated that mineral



NOT ALLOWED: Civil servants and their immediate family members are not allowed to have shares in the mining projects.

resources would contribute to the development of a country and its citizens only if extraction was done

in a transparent and accountable manner along the entire value chain. Biyela said the Swaziland

government met these fundamental regional standards.

With the formulation of the country's mining policy, it was now easy for anyone to venture into the business of mining at any level.

He explained that negotiating for mining contracts with prospective investors had become so easy because most of the requirements and conditions were clearly spelt out in the various pieces of legislations that were, themselves, informed by the country's constitution.

Biyela said the mining policy was a first product of the investor-friendly Mining Act. He stated though that government had enacted specific legislations designated to focus on high value minerals like gold and diamonds.

Last week a training workshop was conducted by the SADC Parliamentary Forum and Southern Africa Resource Watch at the Royal Swazi Sun Hotel to educate local legislators on the need to properly manage the country's resources to benefit large communities. The workshop was sponsored by OSISA.

Salgaocar's closure did not meet standards

THE closure of iron ore mining operator Salgaocar allegedly did not meet regional and international standards as set out by regional mining bodies.

The closure and completion phase of the company, as required by the Southern Africa Resource Barometer, was bypassed in favour of a court route that resulted in legal processes that are still ongoing.

Swaziland's Commissioner of Mines Sibusiso Ntshalintshali said the closure was abrupt and therefore could not meet the Barometer's guidelines and principles.

The Barometer suggests that mine closure design and planning must

be developed and updated throughout the project, including during exploration, pre-feasibility, feasibility, approval, construction, operation, decommissioning, closure of operations and post closure biophysical and social monitoring.

Tried

Ntshalintshali said while his ministry tried its best to monitor mining operations in the country, with regard to Salgaocar, they had difficulty because their operations did not follow the normal closure that would be expected from a mining operation.

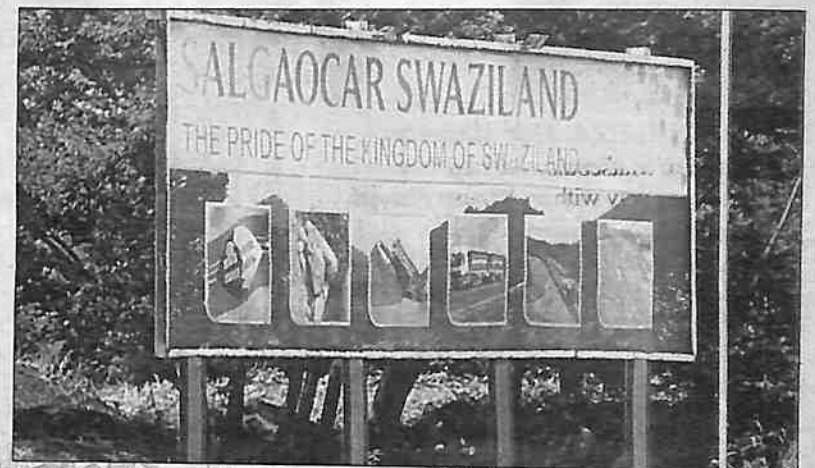
He said the company went to court to apply for liquidation, an act that rendered them without any role to play any more in terms of the

closure processes.

Ntshalintshali said despite the widespread concerns in the manner in which the company closed its operations, they were helpless, not that his department did not care but simply because the matter was now handled in other departments of government.

They had thought normal proper mining operations were being done there until the company took the court route for which government did not anticipate.

He explained that mining operations, like all industries, faced a lot of challenges especially with regard to selling their commodities to the respective markets in which they sold their products. There



were concerns on whether Salgaocar had closure plans and, if they did, who monitored them.

This was more so because it seemed government did not take appropriate measures to monitor the mine closure of the company. The company left the country's

roads in a very bad state and the environment around the mining area has not been rehabilitated. There were no closure funds set aside to help the surrounding communities after the mining operation has been halted for whatever reason.

SHORTAGE OF MINING EXPERTS IN GOVERNMENT

THE Geological Mines Department under the ministry of natural resources and energy is in serious shortage of well-trained mining experts to effectively monitor operations taking place in the country on behalf of government.

Principal Mining Engineer Caroline

Chouraya said government did not have enough experts to help monitor mining companies, especially during the process of planning for closure in the typical mining sequence.

Government needed technocrats and designers that would be able to monitor what the companies were designing because that was what mining operations entailed in most

cases.

She said their future goal was to train more mining inspectors to a level whereby they would be able to extract the required information from the companies they were expected to inspect and monitor.

Although the Geological Mines and Surveys Department have the capacity to analyse and map minerals

throughout the country, highly skilled experts in the industry were still in huge demand.

These mining experts, she said, would help participate in the exploration programmes and other mining activities conducted by private entities to fully represent government interests.

GEOLOGY EXPLORATION & MINING:



ANY SWAZI CAN OWN A MINE

ANY Swazi above the age of 17 can own a large-scale mining business as long as they have the requisite technical expertise and financial capacity.

According to Robert Biyela, the government's senior mining engineer, a Swazi interested in venturing into large-scale mining could, alternatively, partner with someone with the technical expertise or financial capital to make themselves a complete team.

Biyela discouraged and frowned upon the tendency by most Swazis who were usually used as fronts for some foreign companies under the guise that they were directors yet they did not own those companies they were fronting for.

He advised those that might have partnered with foreign companies to ensure that they were given ownership of the company by acquiring shares, as opposed to assuming company directorship that did not render them as owners.



The process of acquiring the mining licence, Biyela said, was straightforward and without any complications. Unrehabilitated insolvents, however, were not eligible for such licenses. He said they were not even considered.

When considering mining applications from foreign investors, Biyela said their focus was now on local value addition, because the primary objective for any mining activity was that it must help create other industries that could stand on their own even after the mine has long been closed. This was basically because

minerals by their nature, were finite and, therefore, a country could not rely on the extraction of that particular mineral forever.

Biyela said it was in the ministry's best interest to have a lot of Swazis participating in the minerals sector industry.

It was for that reason that they currently preferred foreign companies that seriously considered value addition.

He made an example with Botswana, whereby he said they have a thriving diamond processing and polishing plant.

SSA launches sugar essay writing competition

Stories by Sikhulile Vilakati
Mbabane

SWAZILAND Sugar Association (SSA) has launched an essay writing competition for schools titled, 'Sugar is Good Source of Energy.'

The competition is open to all registered primary and secondary/high school pupils.

Retiring SSA Chief Executive Officer Dr. Mike Matsebula said the competition would run for three weeks, beginning March 4 up to the 23rd.

The official launch was held last Friday at SSA offices, Nkhotfotjeni building in Mbabane.

It was graced by the ministry of education and training Hhohho region Inspector of English Language Lungile Simelane.

"The objectives for the competition are to assist pupils in improving their research abilities and English writing skills. The choice of using English for the competition was because this is currently the passing language in Swaziland," said Matsebula. He said they come a long way with the ministry



CLARITY: Swaziland Sugar Association CEO Dr. Mike Matsebula giving more insight about the essay writing competition. (Pics: Mangaliso Dlamini)

of education when it comes to school development and education.

However, he said it was unfortunate that the company could not sponsor scholarship programmes due to financial challenges.

"For research, pupils are allowed to consult their teachers and also use the internet for more information when

they are doing their research. What is important at the end of the day is that they must write down the essay in their own words," he stressed. The pupils entering the competition would be expected to outline the case being made against sugar in a clear manner as possible.

He further outlined that the participating pupils should look at two angles. The first angle of the first story says produce and consume sugar because it has considerable benefits. Whilst the other the other side says reduce sugar consumption to the barest minimum to avoid the harm.

"The harm is mainly tied to health considerations. In the middle of these two opposing sides is a position which states sugar is a product with considerable benefits and should be consumed without fear, provided certain activities occur or certain things are done," said Matsebula.

Adding, he said they consulted with the ministry of education and training on the competition.

And they welcomed the initiative, thus they were really grateful.

E20 000, sugar for winners

OVER E20 000 prizes will be won by pupils in SSA schools essay competition.

SSA Chief Executive Officer Dr. Mike Matsebula said the prizes included E20 000 worth stationery vouchers and 50kgs of brown sugar bags.

"The competition is divided in two categories, one category for primary schools and the other for high schools," he said.

He said the competition was opened to all primary and secondary/high school going children attending both government and private schools in both rural and urban schools.

PRIZE BREAKDOWN:

High schools

First prizes:

The first prize would be an eight

inch tablet.

Second prize will be E3 000 books/stationery voucher

Third prize will be E1 500 books/stationery voucher

Primary schools

First prize will be E3 000 books/stationery voucher

Second prize will be E2 000 books/stationery voucher

Third prize E1 000/stationery voucher

Most Entries

First prize E5 000 worth of book vouchers plus two bags of 50kg of brown sugar.

Second prize E3 000 worth of book vouchers plus two bags of 50kg brown sugar.

Third prize E2 000 worth of book vouchers plus two bags of 50kg brown sugar.



REMARKS: Inspector of English in the ministry of education Hhohho region Lungile Simelane also had something to say at the occasion.



ONE TEAM: Customs and Public Relations Officer Xolani Ngcamphala, Sharon de Souza, Commercial Director, Matsebula and the Inspector of English in the ministry of education Hhohho region Lungile Simelane.

Mob chases mkhulu (57) from funeral on suspicions of witchcraft

By Sizwe Dlamini
Mbabane

A 57-year-old man of Nkhamba ran for his life after he was accused of killing his nephew in a witchcraft related incident.

The accusations surfaced after the family claimed to have consulted a witchdoctor.

The incident happened at a Shabangu residence at Nkhamba during the funeral of a 17-year-old boy Bheki Mkhabela. The funeral had to be postponed after a drunken mob allegedly chased December Shabangu out of the funeral tent to his home. The mob was allegedly being led by Shabangu's niece (19)

Ncobile Dlamini, who accused him of killing her brother.

Dlamini alleged that the family had consulted a witchdoctor who confirmed that her younger brother was killed by her uncle in a witchcraft related incident. Shabangu told the Swazi National Court

that while he was inside the funeral tent he overheard his niece telling a group of drunken men to kill him and his children for the murder of her brother. Shabangu then ran out of the tent to his house which is located six kilometres away, where he locked himself inside.

The angry mob then chased after him and sur-

rounded his home.

The mob had allegedly drank buganu that was purchased by Dlamini.

The mob threatened to burn down the homestead if Shabangu did not come out.

However, he phoned two community policemen, who arrived and helped to calm the

situation. The community policemen from the area dispersed the angry mob by threatening to call the police.

Shabangu then reported the incident to the police who arrested the suspects the following day. The case had to be postponed by the Swazi National Court due to some witnesses failing to show up.



Swaziland Revenue Authority

Employment Opportunity Commissioner Customs & Excise

The SRA seeks to identify a qualified and suitably experienced candidate who is customer focused and deadline driven to fill the position of Commissioner Customs & Excise. On behalf of the SRA, we invite applications for this position, which is responsible for providing strategic direction to the Customs & Excise Department, ensuring that the importation and exportation of goods is undertaken in line with national laws, SACU and other International requirements and in line with international best practice. In addition, the Commissioner Customs and Excise is responsible for ensuring that excisable products are manufactured, controlled and otherwise dealt with in terms of Excise legislation.

Summary of Responsibilities

- Participate in the development of the corporate strategic plan, providing input on the Customs and Excise objectives for the organisation.
- Coordinate, approve and where necessary provide guidance on the annual operational plans developed for the department.
- Provide oversight on all matters relating to the importation and exportation of goods and the handling of excisable goods in the country.
- Approve the development of operational policies and procedures in line with national legislation, international obligations and other national priorities, continuously identifying areas which require policy development.
- Monitor developments at the World Customs Organisation and identify or create opportunities for the SRA.
- Develop and maintain relations with regional and international organisations relevant to customs and excise, and participate in relevant fora as required.
- Prepare annual departmental budgets for consolidation by the Finance department.
- Perform all risk management activities as required to identify and address potential risks.
- Lead all matters relating to staff management in the department.

Minimum requirements

- Bachelor's degree in Customs Administration/Law and Policy, Finance, International Trade, Taxation, or Economics. A Master's level qualification in International Trade Policy, Customs or Taxation and Law Enforcement would be an added advantage.
- At least 10 years' customs or taxation experience, of which at least the last five must have been in a senior management position.
- Working knowledge of international trade agreements, conventions and protocols.
- Working knowledge of customs legislation and other relevant legislation governing the operations of the SRA.
- Strong analytical, communication, negotiation and presentation skills.

All applications must include an application letter and detailed curriculum vitae. Interested applicants should direct their applications clearly specifying the position for which you are applying to:

The Recruitment Manager
KPMG Advisory (Swi) (Pty) Ltd
Umkhwa House, Lot 195,
Kal Grant Street, Mbabane
Email: recruitment@kpmg.co.sz

Closing date for applications: 13th March 2016

KPMG
cutting through complexity

Economist's take on budget 2016/17

By Manqoba Makhubu
Mbabane

UNIVERSITY of Swaziland lecturer and economist Christopher Fakudze says he is doubtful if the minister of finance will surely keep within the healthy position as he claimed.

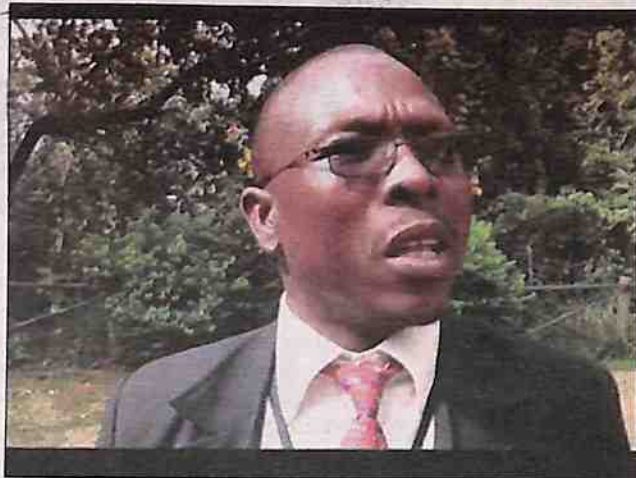
Commenting on the national budget 2016/17, Fakudze said this was because this financial year was characterised by massive declines in critical aspects that should otherwise grow the economy. "For example, investment might drop as far as 6.8 percent from 10.1 percent in 2015.

"This is a wakeup call for a revived private sector participation. It would appear that the private sector in Swaziland is public sector dependent than the other way round, if the public sector dwindles, so does the private sector," he said.

Fakudze said foreign reserves would better not decline, or rather government should keep within the 4.3 months threshold, otherwise the country might not be as resilient to curb any exposures, given the volatility in exchange rates.

"It is therefore doubtful whether the minister will surely keep within healthy position as claimed," he said.

On another note, Fakudze commented that



MONEY TALKS: University of Swaziland lecturer and economist Christopher Fakudze.

the falling SACU revenues had been augmented by a counter improvement in domestic collection.

"This is commendable," he applauded.

He said this reflected a glimpse of hope that the country was shifting to becoming less dependent on SACU revenues, which in turn indicated that in future government can sustain itself.

"However, there is still a concern regarding the expenditure pattern in government," he said.

On another note, the economist said it was quite worrying that priorities of the state were led by the drought response budget.

"Whereas it is fair to combat the effects of

drought, we should not be misled to believe such intervention might grow the economy save bringing to line of normality. In other words, this is a resilience-programme, but the drain shall persist into the future years until we have accumulated more growth points to stimulate the economy," he stressed.

Meanwhile, his main

worry was in education. "What is in there for tertiary education? We have heard much is going to primary and secondary education; should we believe that education is regarded as a new game changer even at tertiary? In particular the University of Swaziland, I think the institution is in dire need to be revived and the budget is quiet about that," he said.

"This is a wakeup call for a revived private sector participation"

Sugarcane production, revenue to drop by 30%

Stories by Sicelo Maziya
Big Bend

UBOMBO Sugar Limited Managing Director Oswald Magwenzi says the prevalent drought faced by Swaziland will reduce sugar production and their revenues by 30 percent.

He said the drought since October last year, has impacted negatively on irrigation by 30-50 percent.

"Our sugar company anticipates about +/- 30 percent drop in sugarcane production and revenue due to the ongoing severe drought situation. The 2015/16 drought situation is the worst ever experienced by the company since its inception," he said.

The MD said due to dry conditions, water provision through irrigation had been rationed so as to manage sugarcane crop production.

As a company they were forced to implement a self-imposed water usage restriction due to the heatwave currently being experienced in the country.

● Ubombo Sugar anticipates about +/- 30 percent drop in sugarcane production and revenue due to the ongoing severe drought situation



BOSSES: Ubombo Sugar Limited MD Oswald Magwenzi and the company's Sugar Agriculture Manager Jerry Ndlovu. (Pics: Sicelo Maziya)

Magwenzi said El Nino was now showing its ugly side as its effects were dire.

Situation

The MD said they had been observing the situation with the hope that rains would be forthcoming but the drought continued to cause havoc to the sugarcane fields.

They were now forced to implement some of the hardest decisions due to the

almost empty dams that have since dried up.

Ranking

Magwenzi said as a company they have used priority ranking as they irrigated and rationed the sugarcane crop fields.

He said they abandoned watering all gardens within the company's compounds as they tried to preserve the little water they had.

Ubombo Sugar imports water from Lubovane

UBOMBO Sugar Limited now imports about two million cubic metres of water from Lubovane Dam.

Lubovane Dam is under SWADE's LUSIP initiative.

The sugar company sources the water from the dam in an effort to avert water shortages currently sparked by drought. The company has opted to buy the water from the dam in order to help in sustaining some of the sugar-

cane plantations as well as save life. Managing Director Oswald Magwenzi said the company was working tirelessly to preserve the available little water as they were currently coordinating with sugarcane growers that the available water be managed.

The water is also optimised to the best.

Magwenzi said with the water shortage from the Usuthu River to the dams the company had to do some-

thing to mitigate the challenge. He said they supplied treated water free of charge to the surrounding communities. When asked on the cost implications associated with the water shortages, the MD said such would impact negatively on the company coffers.

However, Magwenzi said it would be a necessary expenditure for the future and survival of the company as they hoped that rains would come.



FOOD SECURITY: A maize farm by Tibiyo TakaNgwane.

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STAPLE FOOD: Another maize plantation by Tibiyo.

Tibiyo intensifies its food security initiative

TIBIYO Taka Ngwane has responded to the calls for food security by giving up 73 hectares of some of its sugarcane farms for the production of maize.

In its effort to alleviate food shortages in the country, Tibiyo has combined efforts with Ubombo Sugar to plough maize on farms that were previously sugarcane fields.

Tibiyo was playing a key role as a 40 percent shareholder in the company.

The company's role as a true Swazi company has seen so many initiatives being

implemented to help the ordinary Swazi farmer.

Ubombo Sugar Agriculture Manager Jerry Ndlovu said they were a sugar production company, but a hungry nation could not survive working in this industry without food security.

He said they were grateful to Tibiyo Taka Ngwane for its intervention in food security. Meanwhile, Area Manager Smorden Gamedze heaped praises on the progress made on the maize production. He said maize was different from the sugarcane, as they are always on

their toes as maize grows faster. He said with combined farms of Tibiyo Taka Ngwane and Ubombo Sugar Limited at Sivunge, Tjelane and Logobhuza they planted two varieties of maize seeds SC633 and SC637. Gamedze said the combination of the farms was 387 hectares they have been planted since January 9, 2016 till February 24, 2016. Gamedze said they expected a bumper harvest as the maize crop was showing good signs despite the conditions. He said they expected about six to 10 tons of maize per hectare.

High Court reduces sheeben king's heavy sentence

By Linda Jele
High Court

MCOLISI Tfwala of Ndzevane area was all smiles after the High Court set aside a heavy sentence for selling alcohol illegally with a E200 fine or 10 months imprisonment.

He had been convicted to 36 months imprisonment for two counts of trading on liquor without a permit and another of escaping from custody.

He had been ordered to pay E2 000 fine in default be imprisoned to 10 months for each of the first three counts and they were ordered to run consecutively.

He filed a review at the High Court and appeared before Judge Mbutfo Mamba. The judge said he noted from the record that Tfwala had pleaded guilty to the charges and the crown accepted his plea.

Tfwala had appeared before Magistrate Philisiwe Simelane while she was in Manzini.

Justice Mamba said the sentence on the offence for escaping from lawful custody was in order.

Fine

He said the Liquor Licensing Act stipulated that a person who has been convicted for breaching Section 21 (1) was liable to a fine not exceeding E200 or 12 months imprisonment on first conviction.

"So plainly, therefore, the learned trial magistrate was in error in imposing a fine of E2 000 on the accused for the said contravention.

The maximum fine permissible in terms of the quoted section is E200.

The fine imposed by the magistrate is nine times more than that which is legally permissible. This cannot be allowed to stand and is hereby set aside," Justice Mamba said.

He said if Tfwala had already paid the fine, E3 600 should be refunded to him.

He directed that Tfwala should be informed of the order.



PRESIDING: Judge Mbutfo Mamba.

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DRIED-UP: A sugarcane plantation that has been affected by the drought.

Tibiyo preserving sugarcane seeds

TIBIYO Taka Ngwane has reserved some farms to preserve the sugarcane species.

The company has dedicated farms that will be a 'goldmine' for sugarcane seeds to sugar growers.

It had planned ahead so as to develop the farms as a seed garden as the drought would bring challenges of

sugarcane seeds.

Ubombo Sugar Managing Director Oswald Magwenzi said it was a good idea to preserve the seed canes as it would not be easy to get seed canes due to the prevailing drought.

Challenge

Magwenzi said the seed challenge would be enormous as the demand would

be needed in a short space of time for a lot of farms.

He said Tibiyo's initiative of saving the seed canes should be hailed.

Magwenzi said the drought situation would leave many farms that need to replant the sugarcane.

He said such a costly exercise would require sugarcane seedlings.

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With Thandeka Ndlangamandla

Matsanjeni South excavates water for survival

WITH the prevalent drought, Matsanjeni South has been left with one choice of excavating water as all water sources have dried up.

Member of Parliament (MP) Sikiza Mhlungu said the drought situation had worsened as they have not received rains for months in the area.

He said what depressed him the most, was that in some parts of the country it has been raining in the past weeks yet the area did not receive even a single drop.

Mhlungu said as the water sources had dried up, they now have to dig deep into the earth surface so as to get water and even the water level is very low.

"Kute emanti, sesiphila ngekugubha phansi emfuleni, bayagubha nje

loku ngikhuluma," the MP said.

He said they engaged the department of agriculture where they borrowed a caterpillar which is the one they are using for excavating the water.

The MP said the water shortage was also affecting pupils under the constituency.

Just days after schools were opened, parents appealed for assistance from the MP as regards educational needs and others lamented the fact that with the prevalent drought, they were hungry.

Children now survive through supplies from schools.

Even though he did not state the figures, Mhlungu claimed that some community members have died of hunger.



DIG FOR WATER:
Matsanjeni MP Sikiza Mhlungu.

Manyeveni community drinking water with snails

DUE to the drought, residents of Manyeveni community are compelled to drink water with snails.

Manyeveni is a small community under Kubuta in the Shiselweni region.

Speaking during an interview the area's Bucopho Nkosinathi Nhlengetfwa said the situation was very bad as they had only one source of water, which is the Mkhondvo River.

Dried

Other sources of water have dried up.

He said the little water left was contaminated with snails but the community had no choice but to drink it.

Nhlengetfwa said some of the residents had a small farm called Zamokuhle Farmers Association and it was their

only hope but the crops had dried up because there is no rain.

The association had to remove the dried up crops and start growing new ones as they hope there might be some rains.

Schools

Adding, the Bucopho said two schools Kholwane and Kuphumelele Primary were faced with serious water shortages and the ministry of education and training was not supplying them with any.

The schools' principals buy water for the children but sometimes collect it from Mkhondvo River.

Nhlengetfwa said he was worried about the health of the children since they were not even sure if the schools treat the water before usage.

Over 500 registre for Mahamba Gorge hiking

OVER 500 people have confirmed participation in the imminent Mahamba Gorge hiking event.

The Mahamba Gorge hiking, which is Shiselweni Regional Administrator Themba Masuku's brainchild, is one of the main events to be staged in the region this year and would be followed by the King's birthday on April 22.

The proceeds of the hiking would

be used to support mainly small scale projects and youth initiatives.

Sharon Kunene, who is one of the organisers, confirmed the latest developments.

Kunene said they were hoping that the numbers would continue to increase as their anticipation is to host between 3 000 to 5 000 participants. She said sponsors like MTN, Standard Bank, and Inyatsi

Construction had also committed to the event, adding to the last sponsors they had. With about two weeks left before the registration deadline which is March 24, Kunene reminded those willing to participate to register as soon as possible. The event is slated for April 3, 2016.

Those interested can register through calling 7626 8000 and 7611 3534.

Nhlangano Day to be launched by municipality

IN a bid to enhance relationship with residents, the Nhlangano Town Council will launch the Nhlangano Day.

As the municipality is undergoing some infrastructural developments like roads and the King Sobhuza II Stadium which would be completed soon, the town decided to give back

to its people. This will be through launching a day for all the town's residents and the day would be called Nhlangano Day.

Nhlangano Town Council Chief Executive Officer Apollo Maphalala said they thought it would be better that they give back to the people as a way of enhancing their relation-

ship with them.

He said they were yet to come up with concrete details about the day. The town clerk said the details might be available by next week as they were currently busy with preparations for the upcoming King's birthday which would be held in the region next month.



CONTAMINATED: Due to the drought, residents of Manyeveni community are compelled to drink water with snails. (Internet)

HOSEA CONSTITUENCY TO RECEIVE SOLAR COOKERS

THE Hosea constituency has received solar cookers which are meant to help fight the persisting drought.

Hosea Member of Parliament Thulani Masuku said they received the stoves called solar cookers from the Republic of China on Tairwan which only works by using heat from the sun. He said they had long been waiting for

such a worthy intervention.

Solar cooker is a device which uses the energy from direct sunlight to heat, cook or pasteurised food or drink. Many solar cookers presently in use are relatively inexpensive, low-tech devices, although some are as powerful or as expensive as traditional stoves, and advanced.

Solar cooking is a form of out-

door cooking and is often used in situations where minimal fuel consumption is important, or the danger of accidental fires is high, and the health and environmental consequences of alternatives are severe.

Large-scale solar cookers could cook for hundreds of people because they use no fuel and cost nothing to operate. Many non-prof-

it organisations are promoting their usage worldwide in order to help reduce fuel costs (especially where monetary reciprocity is low) and air pollution, and to slow down the deforestation and desertification caused by gathering firewood for cooking.

Hosea Indvuna Yenkundla Thulani Shiba said the reason they asked for the stoves was due to

global warming. "Sifikelele nje, letibuya e-China letisebentisa lilanga kuphela. Saticelela kuli basifunele ngenxa yelidwawasi lelibanga naku kushisa," he said.

Shiba said the stoves were shipped from Mozambique and were brought in containers.

As a constituency they hired trucks to collect the stoves and bring them to the constituency. These would be donated to the residents within the following week.

Double burials practice hits SD

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

THE Municipal Council of Mbabane and Municipal Council of Manzini have already started practising double burials in its cemeteries.

Mbabane Municipality Information and Public Relations Officer Gugulethu Hlophe said as council, they had noted that Swazis were warming up to the concept of double burials.

"The practice of multiple burials in one hole also known as second burials has been ongoing for a while now in the city. In fact, we

record at least four burial applications per month on average," she said.

In 2012, when the municipality announced that the Mangwaneni Cemetery was full thus people would have to share graves, there was an uproar.

The subject came with a host of problems related to socio-cultural considerations. Double burial in Swazi society has not been popular, at least as it understood in modern times and third world countries.

The three cemeteries in the city are already full as they only cater for second burials and used on reserved graves. The only active cemetery - the old Sidvashini

cemetery, has available burial space that will last 12 months.

According to Hlophe, this period can be longer since people had already bought the idea of second burials.

Preparations

Hlophe further said preparations for a new cemetery at Mahwalala were at an advanced stage so as to minimise confusion when the old Sidvashini cemetery is decommissioned.

Both Mbabane and Manzini cities have been concerned that alternative space has to be sought and very quickly because the cemeteries were now full. Municipal Council of Manzini Public

Relations Officer Mathokoza Thwala said they also practised double burials. "We have received some applications in the past. Last year we had one double burial and so far this year we have received two applications," said Thwala.

Thwala explained that with double burial, it was relatives who were buried in one grave.

The grave is dug deeper than the usual six feet for the second burials.

Thwala, however, emphasised that they did not force people to do double burials, but do encourage such in order to save the fast diminishing burial space in the Manzini cemeteries. He said the council also encourage cremation as an alterna-



EXERCISING DOUBLE BURIALS: Mbabane Municipality's Information and PRO Gugulethu Hlophe.

tive to the traditional burial method. Dups Funeral Home Chief Executive Officer Allen Chipangura said from 2014 to 2015 they had a 40 percent increase of cremations.



Ministry of education expects professionalism in reports

By Jozane Maziya
Mbabane

MINISTRY of Education Principal Secretary Pat Muir believes that the national education and training improvement programme (NETIP) will never

Ministry of education PS Pat Muir.

see the light of day if officials cannot come up with professional reports.

Speaking during the presentation of the NETIP baseline survey at the Royal Villas on Monday, Muir said he was hopeful that the planning unit would fully monitor and evaluate the sector programme.

However, the PS said this would not diminish the role of every head of department or section in the

planning, budgeting, implementing, monitoring and evaluating of NETIP agendas, adding that there is a need that reporting also be considered seriously by the heads of departments and sections.

Revealed

The PS revealed that it had come to his attention that some heads of sections not report.

He said he was aware that some departments held workshops on a

regular basis, but did not report the results and impact of the workshop activities. Muir said this had to stop. Muir said the ministry expected all departments that were allocated resources to report fully.

"The ministry also expects all heads of departments to ensure that their third quarter performance reports are up to date and reflect the professionalism expected from the ministry of education," he said.

Thandeka Ndlangamandla
Nhlango

MAN ARRESTED FOR STEALING ITEMS WORTH OVER E17 000

A man has been arrested for allegedly stealing items worth over E17 570 during a series of break-ins in Nhlango.

Sibusiso Khumalo of Makhosini appeared before the Nhlango Magistrate's Court on three charges of breaking in and stealing. According to the charge sheet, on February 12, 2016, Khumalo broke into Thembi Shabalala's home at Makhosini and stole items worth E7 640.

The second charge was that on July 16, 2013 the accused allegedly stole items worth E7 680, which included a lap top and a Samsung Galaxy cellphone belonging to Sibusiso Dlamini also

from Makhosini. The accused pleaded guilty to both charges. On the third charge, the accused was charged with breaking-in and stealing items worth E2 200 belonging to Mancoba from Mathendele.

Accused

However, the accused pleaded not guilty to the offence.

It is alleged that the accused broke into Thembi's home while she was relaxing at another house with her mother.

According to Shabalala, they were notified by a man that someone had broken in their house and was stealing. When they arrived at the scene, they found that the accused had escaped and

they recovered some of the items he stole as he had dropped them along the way.

Meanwhile, Dlamini said he came home from work on July 16, 2013 and noticed that his door had been vandalised.

When he entered the house he found that his lap top worth E6 000 and Samsung Galaxy worth over E1 000 had been missing.

He said it was then that he realised they had stolen.

He alleged that all his items were never recovered.

The accused failed to defend himself on both charges and the matter was postponed to tomorrow as the third complainant was not being present in court.

Woman tells court she had a baby at 13 years

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Pigg's Peak

"I had a baby at the age of 13 because I was uneducated," a 56-year-old woman wept uncontrollably as she told the court why she had a baby at such a tender age.

Mariah Mdluli of Mpofu No.7 narrating her ordeal before the magistrate court following her arrests for cultivating 100 dagga trees without a licence.

She appeared before Senior Magistrate Siphosini Dlamini and pleaded guilty to the

charge of contravening the Opium and Habit Forming Drug Act.

In mitigation Mdluli said she had six children and two of them were still attending school.

First

She told the magistrate that she had her first child at the age of 13. Dlamini, who was surprised by what was being said by the accused, asked how come she had a child at such a tender age.

The woman wept and said she was young and uneducated back then.

The magistrate did not take

that excuse kindly as he told the accused that being uneducated did not mean that one must sleep around with men.

Dlamini also asked the accused how come she told the court that her previous husbands deserted her. Mdluli said this was because she had bad luck when it came to relationships.

"Kusho kutsi ngineskhwalala nkosi yenkatolo" she said in vernacular, much to the amusement of those in court.

The accused was sentenced to a year imprisonment with a fine option of E2 000.



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Horo to get E8m police post



DEVELOPMENT: RSP NATCOM Isaac Magagula addressing Mvembili residents and police officers during the land handover where a police post and houses will be build. (Pics: Sifiso Nhlabatsi)

Stories by Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Mvembili

ONE of the oldest police posts in the country will finally get an E8 million facelift.

Before the end of this month, contractors will be busy constructing the Horo Police Post together with police houses in the Northern Hhohho region.

Royal Swaziland Police (RSP) National Commissioner Isaac Magagula said the police post was built during the colonial era and was the last to remain unreplaced despite the fact that it has been operating for the past 40 years.

Stationed

Police officers stationed in the area currently reside in rondavels.

Magagula said the police residence was no longer safe adding that the place was lagging behind as even the cars that police used were not in good condition.

"The police houses are not up to standard and that compromises their welfare," Magagula said during a land handover ceremony held at the Mvembili (Horo) chiefdom.

The piece of land is where the construction of a new satellite police post facility and a block of

flats to accommodate the officers will resume.

Magagula said this development was considered a key milestone given the fact that Horo was one of the oldest police posts in the country.

NATCOM said in light of the socio-economic development and crime situation levels that have taken place and continue to prevail in the area, the present facilities were inadequate in meeting operational demands.

Activities

Worth noting is that Horo is prone to criminal activities due to its proximity to the borderline between South Africa and Swaziland.

It is alleged that dagga dealings were rife in the area.

Sometime back the Horo Police Post was broken into and the suspect Singwingwi Sabelo Mziyako (35) stole a rifle.

Magagula said he believed that the semi-autonomous police post that would be constructed on a 2.9 hectare area would reduce dependence on the mother police station in Pigg's Peak.

Meanwhile, Mvembili Chief Solani Dlamini said he hoped that other infrastructure would also be improved in the area. He said, for example, he heard that the clinic would be extended as a maternity ward was likely to be constructed.

POLICE CARS ISSUE STILL NOT SOLVED

THE dispatching of police vehicles which was scheduled for February has since been postponed.

RSP NATCOM Isaac Magagula on January this year had said government was working towards addressing the shortage of vehicles in some police stations.

"In fact, orders for a new fleet of vehicles have already been placed with suppliers and vehicles are expected to start trickling by mid-January and early February," he was quoted as saying. However, February has elapsed and no vehicle has been delivered. Magagula at the weekend, told Horo residents and police officers that during his last visit to the area, the shortage of operational vehicles was another issue complained of. "The vehicles were expected last month (February), however, challenges mushroomed as we work on this matter thus delaying the disbursing of new vehicles," he said. Adding, Magagula assured that they were working hand-in-hand with relevant agencies so as to facilitate the process of getting and distributing cars to the different police posts.



STAKE-HOLDERS: Residents of Mvembili and police executives leaving the Horo Police Post.

NATCOM speaks on legalising dagga

NATIONAL Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula has alleged that some residents of Mvembili earn a living through dagga proceeds.

He added that some crimes arose from deals gone wrong and these included murders and assaults. Magagula said maybe dagga was supposed to be legalised because of the country's economic situation.

However, that was not for the police to decide but parliament as

it was the right platform to discuss such issues.

Magagula said for now dagga remained illegal in the country and leads to a wide range of social problems.

It had been alleged that Mvembili and other areas of the Northern Hhohho were fast becoming a haven for dagga cultivation. Magagula advised against dagga dealing noting that such activities had escalated and this has become a concern.

He noted that police officers during raids were sometimes attacked and their vehicles damaged. Magagula said attacking police officers on duty was abominable as they represented the authority of the crown.

It was revealed that growing dagga has become rife as residents are scared to look for cattle in the forest for fear of running into guarded dagga fields and be mistaken for people that have come to steal the dagga.

It is alleged that dagga fields were heavily armed.



CRYING OUT LOUD: Magagula in a conversation with the chief of the area Prince Solani.

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ANCIENT: Simon Mkhathshwa and Julius Lukhele posing before a rondavel used by Horo police officers as accomodation.

YES! NO?



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EDITOR IN COUNCIL



WITH ALEC LUSHABA

TODAY the national council has dispatched me as their boy to pass this message to the House of Assembly.

The message is simple and straight forward, throw out the 2016/17 National Budget and demand a fresh one that talks to our challenges.

Honourable Speaker I have a special message from *labadzala*, and I think this does not even need me to invoke any Standing Order.

Speaker on Friday the entire Swazi Nation cleared its ears for the 2016/17 Budget Speech which was delivered in this august House by the Honourable Finance Minister Martin 'Vulizandla' Dlamini. We used to know him as Gobizadla whilst he was the Central Bank Governor, but ever since he crossed the floor we have seen none of his name in his actions.

Wonderful

The reason I am standing before this House to pass the message from *labadzala* is because, even before we know it one of you will be moving a motion calling the Honourable House to send a message of thanks to cabinet for a wonderful budget speech.

Speaker this budget is wrong for the country and for His Majesty the King. We were all here Mr Speaker when His Majesty told the entire nation that we should brace ourselves for tough times ahead.

He made known his fears about the economic future of the country and we have accepted his counsel.

Mr. Speaker we cannot allow the finance minister or the entire cabinet to contradict the King. It is unSwazi and is unprecedented. We cannot therefore fold our arms and say this was the best speech.

Let me be direct on the contractions Mr Speaker. His Majesty the King

WHAT WAS THAT MARTIN?

...This 2016/17 budget must be rejected and a new one put together. We cannot allow the finance minister or cabinet to twist the King's words



WRONG BUDGET: Finance Minister Martin 'Vulizandla' Dlamini.

stated clearly that in order for the country to recover from its difficult situation we need to invest in agriculture and further ensure that we add value to our products.

What did the finance minister and his cabinet do? They merely added a lousy E300 million into the agriculture budget from a previous E537m, which is still today, 48 years after independence, is not priority and is far from touching a E1 billion mark.

Dependence

An E843 million budget for the ministry of agriculture will not turn around our dependence syndrome neither are we going to achieve food security.

Mr. Speaker, *labadzala* have proposed that the E2.3 billion allocation to the security forces should be slashed by at least E400 million and allocate E300 million to agriculture and the E100 million to the elderly, orphaned children and those living with disabilities.

Speaker it cannot be that when the King has spoken passionately about the issues of the elderly and youth, in particular the orphaned and vulnerable children that we can have a budget that insults his words.

Mr. Speaker, I did not even intend to get into the figures game, the entire budget is upside down. The first two priority areas seem to be okay, that is education and health. But we cannot bring the security ahead of agriculture.

It is not that security is not a priority, but Mr. Speaker the reason we are members of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), African Union and the United Nations it is precisely on the basis that we understand that alone we cannot be secured, we need these affiliations to support our peace and stability.

To tell you the truth Mr. Speaker, no amount of money nor budget is sufficient for security hence our affiliations into those international and regional bodies.

Maintained

Being members of those bodies enhances our security and therefore there is no longer a point to spend so much money into security of a country whose peace is not maintained by a barren of a gun.

Mr. Speaker we love our security forces and believe they are doing a great job, but in such tough economic times, they can bear with the nation and be less greedy on their needs.

Mr. Speaker, the finance minister you can tell that he lost complete control of the treasury to the extent that for his defences in the mess he has done, he chose to rely on biblical scripture and words by the 16th US President Abraham Lincoln.

Let me tell you Speaker and the Honourable House the minister abused the scripture in **Isaiah 41:10**. These words were not meant for times like this: "...fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, and I will uphold you with my

righteous right hand."

Or let me put it in proper perspective, these words count when you do the opposite of what the minister did. If he had presented a lean and mean budget, which clearly shows that we have cut expenditure drastically in view of our situation, then these words would have counted.

You don't bring a ballooned budget of E20.7 billion from a budget of E17 billion when you had plenty and tell us to stick to the scriptures. This says the minister is not okay upstairs or is deliberately setting the country into a journey to precipice.

That we cannot allow Mr. Speaker! When the King spoke of a belt tightening we thought we all heard him clearly what he meant. Where is the money going to come from?

Ballooned

He is not even telling us how he plans to curb expenditure in order to finance his ballooned budget.

Speaker, in the past year we saw a number of Swazi businesses closing down, not out of their will, but because the Receiver of Taxes was forced to apply the law as it is.

One the things that forced the Receiver of Taxes to lock some of these businesses were because of the pressure he gets to ensure that our revenues to run this country are adequate.

But what is this Mr Speaker, going after all those small businesses that have hired a few Swazis to the point that they close because we have a finance minister who could not understand when it was said revenues have declined? It is not only SACU that has declined Mr. Speaker, even our small businesses revenues have declined so the minister must understand that.

I deliberately avoided Mr. Speaker

to call the Receiver of Taxes by his real name because our people are no longer appreciative of his work. To them, he was created to close down Swazi businesses, which is not the case.

The targets set for the Receiver of Taxes must be reasonable and that will be possible if we don't dump him with an unreasonable budget like this.

Abraham Lincoln Mr. Speaker is quoted by the minister as having said: "And this, too, shall pass away".

Mr. Speaker, I am afraid, this too shall not pass because we have a reckless minister who fails to tell his colleagues that we don't have the money to satisfy their needs.

Deny

This budget Mr Speaker is dangerous to the Swazi society. How would government deny other people like workers all what they need when we have a minister that budgets beyond what he can afford?

If it is possible with government, then everybody else might as well demand that his or her case be made priority.

In closing Mr. Speaker the minister insulted our intelligence when he said this was his most difficult budget he had to prepare. I said to myself what? What would have been an easiest budget? In my books E17 billion is far less than E20.7 billion. Clearly in this budget he has not cut anything but increased costs at the time when we were supposed to belt-tighten.

I am not even going to move anything Mr. Speaker, other than just saying the House should just reject this dangerous budget and invite cabinet to review its demands and allow the finance minister to prepare a budget ready to meet our current crisis.

Lona Mr. Speaker *ngumhlolo. Ngitsi live alingatihluphi ngawo. Indvuna iphetse umetjiso ifuna kubabela live, futsi yenta inkhosi ibonakale ite liciniso*. This budget should be rejected. Period!

THOUGHT OF THE DAY: Everything that is done in the world is done by hope - Martin Luther

HOW TO FIND US:

MANAGING EDITOR:

Mbongeni Mbingo
e-mail: mbingo@observer.org.sz
Cell: 7602 9564
P.O. Box A30, 1st Floor, Mbabane, Beilussa Street
Tel: 2404 4437, 2404 4436, 2404 9600,
2404 9797, 2404 0706
Email: info@observer.org.sz
Website: www.observer.org.sz

NHLANGANO OFFICE

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

EDITORIAL CONTACTS

ACTING EDITOR: Alec Lushaba - 7604 6271 editor@observer.org.sz
NEWS EDITOR: Kenneth Dlamini - 7607 0035 newseditor@observer.org.sz
SPORTS EDITOR: Mphikeleli Msibi - 7605 8044 sports@observer.org.sz
BUSINESS SENIOR REPORTER: - business@observer.org.sz
ENTERTAINMENT SNR REPORTER: - entertainment@observer.org.sz
SENIOR SUB EDITOR: Paradise Mamba - 7603 6639 subeditor@observer.org.sz

PIGG'S PEAK OFFICE

Kai Kai Building opposite Shoprite, Office No. 3
Tel: 2437 1083 Sifiso Nhlabatsi Cell: 7674 6378
Email: observersipiki@realnet.co.sz



Swazi Observer

MARKETING MANAGER

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

CIRCULATION OFFICER

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

MANZINI OFFICE

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

SITEKI OFFICE

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

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Email: mbingo@observer.org.sz
Cell: 7602 9564

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Landline: 2404 9600/1/2

ON THIS DAY

...MARCH 7

- 1943 - Major General George Patton arrives in DjebelKouif Tunisia.
- 1960 - Dutch builders strike for CLA.
- 1968 - The BBC broadcasts the news for the first time in colour on television.
- 1971 - Egypt refuses to renew the Suez cease fire.
- 1974 - 1st general strike in Ethiopia.
- 1977 - Israeli PM Yitzhak Rabin meets Pres Carter.
- 1978 - Belgian baron Charles Bracht kidnapped.
- 1986 - South-Africa emergency crisis in Brabant and Limburg ends.
- 1987 - Mike Tyson beats Bonecrusher Smith in 12 bouts for heavyweight title.
- 1989 - Iran drops diplomatic relations with Britain over Salman Rushdie's book 'Satanic Verses'.
- 1991 - Iraq continues to explode oil fields in Kuwait.
- 1994 - Charles Taylor resigns as president of Liberia.
- 1994 - David Platt appointed captain of English football team.
- 1994 - ANC chief Nelson Mandela rejects demand by white right-wingers for separate homeland in South Africa.
- 1994 - The Supreme Court of the United States rules in *Campbell v. Acuff-Rose Music, Inc.* that parodies of an original work are generally covered by the doctrine of fair use.
- 1996 - The first democratically elected Palestinian parliament is formed.
- 2005 - Mass protest outside the National Assembly of Kuwait building for women's voting rights.
- 2007 - British House of Commons votes to make the upper chamber, the House of Lords, 100% elected. (yet to be implemented - 2014).
- 2013 - UN Security Council approves further North Korean sanctions for its nuclear testing.
- 2015 - 54 people are killed and 143 wounded by five Boko Haram suicide bombings in Maiduguri city, Nigeria.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



1970 - Rachel Weisz, English actress (The Mummy, The Constant Gardener) and fashion model, born in London, England



1983 - Manucho, Angolan footballer

South Africa's first Grandmaster

Resident Alien



Rev Carl Brook
(1 Peter 2:11)

"It always seems impossible until it's done" - Nelson Mandela.

In December 2014 Kenny Solomon became South Africa's first chess Grandmaster (GM) by winning the African Chess Championship in Windhoek. This title is awarded to chess players by Fédération Internationale des Échecs (FIDE), aka the World Chess Federation. It is the highest title a chess player can aspire to, after the titles FIDE Master (FM) and International Master (IM). Kenny is only the second grandmaster in sub-Saharan Africa after Amon Simutowe of

Zambia.

What amazes me is the route he took to get there. Someone I play online chess with (check out www.chess.com) told me he had met Kenny's older brothers, Graham and Maxwell, while Kenny was still a toddler and completely uninterested in chess! It was then I learned that the Solomon family lived in Mitchells Plain, on the Cape Flats. Those familiar with South African history know this area is notorious for gang warfare, drugs and crime.

Forced

Though Kenny's father William Charles was well educated and introduced the works of Shakespeare to his eight children, of whom Kenny was the seventh, he was forced to work as a daily wage worker in an industrial area. Kenny's mother Rose Solomon worked as a sample hand in a clothing factory where she did ironing and stitching. Despite these hardships, William and Rose sought to create a home conducive to study and education. Given the era the country found itself in, it is salutary that Kenny's brothers and sisters managed to attend college and university. So the toddler grew up seeing his brothers studying or playing chess with



HISTORY MAKER: Kenny Solomon.

friends. At age 13, Kenny took up the royal game when so many of his peers had followed a different path. The journey began when his brother travelled to the Philippines to participate in a Chess Olympiad and Kenny found a book of the games of Anatoly Karpov, a former world champion.

Learned

Under his brother's tutelage, he learned by playing blitz chess (fast games) in their backyard - according to his website (www.kennysolomon.co.za), "amidst lines of dripping washing."

Almost 22 years later, he was South Africa's first

Grandmaster. Young people, listen up: there came a point in Kenny's life where he realised that if he didn't make certain choices to pursue his own future, "he would merely become a pawn in this scene, trapped in the violent, oppressive cycle of gangsterism." Strong family values and a love for the game steered him away from these negative influences, giving him the space to make decisions about his future.

Perseverance

The road to the Grandmaster title was a long one but, in his own words, "dedication, determination and perseverance" saw him through. And it all began with a choice, a personal decision to chase a dream.

Kenny is now married to an Italian chess player and lives in Venice where he competes on the European circuit. He still hopes to establish a chess foundation in South Africa as well as a chess school. Though President Jacob Zuma is a keen player, hosting an annual tournament at Nkandla, the SA government does not offer much by way of support for the game. When, I wonder, will Swaziland produce its first GM?

Carl Brook is pastor at Mbabane Chapel.

Solar water heating - solution to SADC's energy challenges

By Joseph Ngwawi

SOUTHERN Africa is turning to solar energy as it takes steps to address challenges caused by shortages of electricity afflicting most countries in the region.

Regarded as one of Africa's "sun-belts" and endowed with one of the world's best solar radiation zones, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) is intensifying efforts to harness the potential provided by solar energy.

One such initiative is the Southern African Solar Thermal Training and Demonstration Initiative (SOLTRAIN), a regional initiative on capacity building and demonstration of solar thermal systems in the SADC region.

Unfriendly

The main objective of the project is to help wean the southern African region from the use of environmentally unfriendly fossil fuels and promote usage of renewable energies, with focus on solar water heating.

The focus on solar thermal or heating systems is deliberate because solar radiation levels in SADC are high, and these systems can readily be manufactured or assembled in the region.

Solar thermal systems such as solar water heating have a huge potential to alleviate problems of unemployment, power supply shortages, high energy costs, and pollution.

Started in 2009 with support from

the Austrian Development Agency and the OPEC Fund for International Development, the initiative has benefited five countries during the first two phases - Lesotho, Namibia, Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

SOLTRAIN Project Coordinator, Werner Weiss said the first phase ran from May 2009 to August 2012 while the current second phase began in November 2012 and is expected to be completed at the end of February 2016.

Weiss told a conference held in Johannesburg, South Africa in early February that the first two phases of the project had four focus areas.

Awareness

These were to raise awareness about the potential of solar heating technology in the SADC region; build competence in production of solar heating technology; create discussion and lobby platforms in participating countries; and establish demonstration project to show that the technology works.

"Between 2009 and 2015 about 2,150 people were trained in 80 training courses," Weiss said.

He revealed that some 187 small-to large-scale solar heating systems were installed during the first and second phase of SOLTRAIN.

The applications of these systems range from small-scale thermosiphon systems for single family houses to medium-sized systems for industrial and commercial applications.

Some of the demonstration projects were installed at food and

beverage companies that require a lot of hot water for their operations.

South Africa has the largest number of installed solar heating systems with 85 beneficiaries at breweries, abattoirs, orphanages, hospitals, retirement homes and tertiary institutions. It is followed by Namibia which has 71 solar water heater installations at a low-cost government housing project, restaurants and tertiary institutions.

Zimbabwe has the third highest number of beneficiaries at 19 projects, followed by Lesotho with 10 and Mozambique with two projects. According to Weiss, the third phase of the programme will commence in March and will see the initiative being expanded to include Botswana as the sixth country. The phase will run until July 2019.

Implementation

The third phase of the project will see implementation of roadmaps developed by participating countries. Three of the participating countries have developed roadmaps. These are Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa.

The roadmaps outline the strategies and targets set by the countries and to be met by 2030.

For example, Mozambique plans to install at least one million solar water heaters in residential areas by 2030 as well as more than 30 000 in hotels and other tourism establishments and 15 000 in public institutions such as government offices, hospitals and schools by the same period.

The South African roadmap

shows that the country plans to install at least eight million high pressure and low pressure solar water geysers in residential areas over the next 14 years.

To encourage and promote the widespread implementation of solar water heating, The South African Department of Energy, through power utility Eskom, has rolled out a large-scale solar water heating programme.

The programme assists consumers by giving them rebates after buying approved solar water heaters to replace conventional geysers.

Ambitious

Namibia also has equally ambitious targets to install solar thermal systems in residential areas, tourism facilities, hospitals and office blocks by 2030.

This will include more than 200 000 installations in houses and at least 343 at hospitals and clinics around the country. Even participating countries without roadmaps have their own targets to upscale the deployment of solar heating systems. The Zimbabwean government announced in January 2016 that it is set to launch a national Solar Water Heating Programme (SWHP) by March which aims to install and retrofit 250 000 solar geysers over the next five years.

This development comes as the government has begun making legislative amendments to ban the use of electric geysers in the country which could save an estimated 300 to 400 megawatts of power on the national grid. sardc.net

A BRIEF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF THE SALARY REVIEW FOR CIVIL SERVANTS

Postpone salary review or face instability – Economist warns



By Swazi Economist
from the Diaspora.

THE basis for the salary review is that more than 10 years has passed without any review done for civil servants salaries.

However, during this period, civil servants have been receiving cost-of-living adjustments which were either at the average inflation rate that prevailed or less. Thus in real terms it can be argued that they did not suffer any significant real reduction in their salaries.

Under normal circumstances, a salary review is driven by productivity, profits and the economic climate.

When the environment is favourable, salaries are increased or not increased but more allowances given. If not favourable, the institution undertakes structural reforms with cuts in size and salary reductions.

The main issue to consider with this salary review is what justifies it? Now that it has been done, should it be considered and implemented? If implemented, what should be the considerations and what should be forgone?

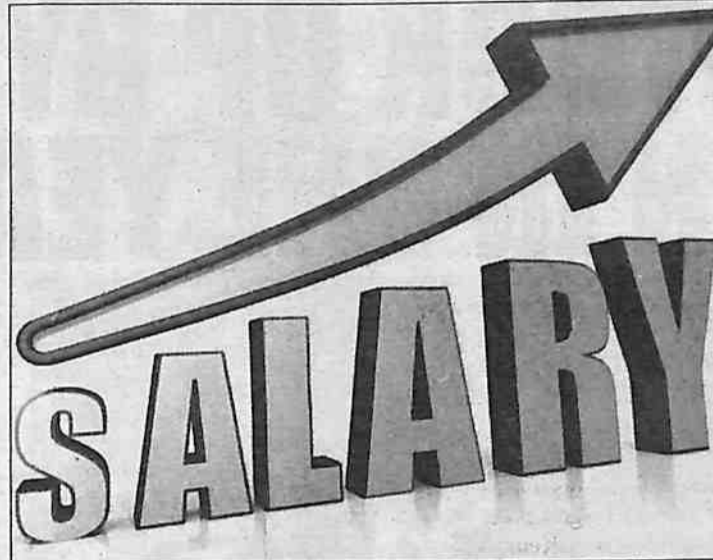
Crisis

The review has been undertaken with government fully aware of the environment it is operating under and has just slightly recovered from the 2010 fiscal crisis and only to go deeper in the 2014/15 fiscal and the current fiscal year.

This review provides a big test to the government on issues of good governance and public financial management. The basic indicator is CREDIBILITY. Can it say it is taking the right decisions and hard ones for economic and political stability?

Civil servants will always demand more but should government agree to any demand? This unfortunately comes during a difficult economic environment and shortly after His Majesty the King has talked about belt tightening and the need to contain costs and expenditures.

This is sending signals to players internally and externally, in particular the private sector which is contributing taxes, donors who are contributing grants and aid, local population which is getting services from government, lenders who give loans and prospective investors



who are yet to be attracted to invest.

External institutions in their assessment of a country to determine whether they do business with it rely on the assessments given by the IMF.

And it has been calling for restraints in expenditures and more efforts towards revenue collections and growth.

A quick analysis of the economic situation raises the following issues – decline in SACU revenues which are to continue, loss of AGOA which has caused a closure of some textile companies, high unemployment, poverty and prevalence of HIV and AIDS.

The IMF says that “...Swaziland stands at a critical juncture to prepare for the upcoming SACU revenue fall, while promoting growth and meeting social and development needs.”

Growth

In addition, it suffers from low growth and weak private sector investment. This means the ability of the economy to create jobs is constrained and that will transform into low increases or no increases in revenue.

Has Swaziland reached a tipping point in revenue collections? The answer is probably yes. Then how is government going to finance its expenditures?

And which expenditures are priority and crucial? Is it investment or consumption? Swaziland has been pursuing an expansionary fiscal policy which has not brought about growth, employment creation nor improvements in service delivery.

Most of the expenditures went into consumption and growth not impacted as capital projects had to make the sacrifice.

Now it is time for contractor policy stance.

The IMF recommended cuts in expenditures and warned that the reforms should go beyond cutting capital expenditure, cut down parastatals, rationalising wage

bill and postpone the salary review over the medium term.

This was still seen as not enough to stimulate economic growth and bring fiscal stability. Cutting capital expenditure compromises growth potential into the long-term.

The projections into the future were not favourable and government was requested to take stringent reforms.

Looking at the proposals for a salary review and further announcing that it will be implemented in April 2016, sends wrong messages and indirectly sending signals that the economy is on auto-pilot.

Furthermore, the review report avoids looking into affordability issues and focuses its argument for salary increase based on fairness, equity and the 10-year lag.

Government is an institution or entity and it is not immune from adopting certain principles to make it sustainable and stable just like what the private sector does.

Suffered

It must talk about prudent macro-economic management and its soundness. Under the present circumstance with the economy having suffered two decades of slow growth, massive cuts in SACU, high poverty levels and running deficits, this does not appear sound or prudent.

This is also proposed at the time when the South African economy is undergoing serious challenges which will negatively impact on Swaziland.

The private sector is small and vulnerable. The sugar sector is facing challenges and it is the main export sector.

Without the reforms in place, Swaziland cannot take full advantage of the challenges. It is dependent on that economy. Government has to cut the dress according to the cloth.

According to the available data (projection), salaries and related spending is estimated at E6.3 billion and tax revenue around

E12.5 billion of which SACU is estimated at E5.3 billion.

This means salaries and related costs take about 50 percent of revenue currently.

Even SACU revenues are not enough to pay for such expenditures. At the end of the day, what will these civil servants be doing when there will not be enough funds for their work?

This is a case of many hands doing few jobs. As revenues contract, expenditures will increase inevitably.

The salary review report admits that the revenue base is fragile and declines have been experienced.

Further, it admits that the economy is fragile, government delivery is very weak, recruitment of staff is not done based on merit, qualifications nor are promotions.

At the same time, government has taken and implemented a decision to reduce and some instances cap salaries for executives in parastatals.

The message; government is implementing reforms. Then why bring this review? Will it mean policy reversal for parastatals? And what is meant by equity? Is it equality?

The main objective is to attract and retain certain skills. But which skills and will that be achieved with this approach?

Unless we have a competitive civil service, it is not advisable to equate salaries of parastatals with civil servants.

The mandate is different and the performance standards very different. Unless government has done a skills audit, the argument for attracting and retaining maybe misdirected.

Scarce

For those scarce skills, government has to formulate its own remuneration package.

It will be advisable for government to postpone implementation of the salary review and embark on reforms. It can target those skills which are missing in the service crucial for growth and improved service delivery.

It has to start by improving productivity and service delivery. Otherwise, the current fiscal crisis will worsen and can cause instability in the country.

Swaziland's wages are already viewed as the 5th highest in the continent yet it has a small population.

The Swazi population is also watching the next step and may not be happy with the decision to implement.

Improvements should be made on delivery of services, policy formulation and implementation. Funds should go into growth enhancement to stimulate growth, create jobs and reduce poverty.



1. It is impossible for a man to learn what he thinks he already knows. Epictetus.

2. You really can change the world if you care enough. Marian Wright Edelman.

3. If you don't like the way the world is, you change it. You have an obligation to change it. You just do it one step at a time. Marian Wright Edelman.

4. I am not an advocate for frequent changes in laws and constitutions, but laws and institutions must go hand in hand with the progress of the human mind. As that becomes more developed, more enlightened, as new discoveries are made, new truths discovered and manners and opinions change, with the change of circumstances, institutions must advance also to keep pace with the times. We might as well require a man to wear still the coat which fitted him when a boy as civilized society to remain ever under the regimen of their barbarous ancestors. Thomas Jefferson.

5. Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future. John F. Kennedy.

6. Some men see things as they are and say, 'Why?' I dream of things that never were and say, 'Why not?' George Bernard Shaw.

7. When we blindly adopt a religion, a political system, a literary dogma, we become automatons. We cease to grow. Anaïs Nin.

8. There is no greater crime than to stand between a man and his development; to take any law or institution and put it around him like a collar, and fasten it there, so that as he grows and enlarges, he presses against it till he suffocates and dies. Henry Ward Beecher.

9. A good marriage is one which allows for change and growth in the individuals and in the way they express their love. Pearl S. Buck.

10. If you want things to be different, perhaps the answer is to become different yourself. Norman Vincent Peale.

11. If you want to make enemies, try to change something. Woodrow Wilson.

12. Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. Nelson Mandela.

13. All conservatism is based upon the idea that if you leave things alone you leave them as they are. But you do not. If you leave a thing alone you leave it to a torrent of change. G. K. Chesterton.

14. I am always doing that which I can not do, in order that I may learn how to do it. Pablo Picasso.

BUSINESS UPDATE

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CONTACTS

Manqoba Makhubu
(7670 4606)
business@observer.org.sz
Linda Dlamini
(7844 2025)
Tel: 2404 9600/1
Fax: 2404 5503
2404 6463

VITALS

Prime Rate 9.75%
First National bank

Inflation Rate 4.9%
Central Statistical Office

Mortgage Rate 8.75%
Swaziland Building Society

Bank Rate 6.25%
Central Bank

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

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES



Correct as at 04 March 2016

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	15,5834	15,6334
British Pound/SZL	22,0668	22,1376
Japanese Yen/SZL	7,2844	7,3046
Swiss Franc/SZL	15,7154	15,7499
Botswana Pula/SZL	1,3807	1,3929
Australian Dollar/SZL	11,4756	11,5202
Canadian Dollar/SZL	11,6198	11,6519
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	3,0481	3,2303
Euro/SZL	17,0653	17,1201
Gold	1,262.2000	
Oil	35.8400	

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



Moving Forward

DEBT STOCK UP BY E400 MILLION IN ONE YEAR

By Manqoba Makhubu

THE country's debt stock has increased by E400 million to E6.9 billion in a space of a year.

Finance Minister Martin Dlamini said as of December 2015, total debt stock stood at E6.9 billion compared to E6.5 billion in December 2014.

Speaking during his unenviable task of his third budget of the 10th Parliament of the Kingdom of Swaziland, Dlamini said the current debt levels were somewhat healthy.

However, he warned the country against future borrowing.

"But we must exercise caution in future borrowing," he said.

He said currently, total public debt stood at 17.3 percent of GDP and comprised of E3.2 billion of domestic debt and E3.7



MONEY TALKS: Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini.

billion of external debt.

A low debt GDP ratio indicates an economy that produces and sells goods and services sufficient to pay back debts without incurring further debt.

The minister said 54 percent of domestic debt was in Treasury Bills, whilst 46 percent were government bonds, adding that 60 percent of the Treasury Bills were in short term papers with

less than one year of maturity.

"Given the volatility of short term borrowing, government ought to focus more on long term sources of financing which are appropriate for long term investment," he said.

He said with the budget deficit for the coming financial year projected to increase to 13.7 percent of GDP compared to 6.8 percent estimated for this financial year,

their aim was to bring the deficit back to single digit levels, in line with Southern African Development Community (SADC) macroeconomic convergence targets, supported by improved revenue collection.

Debt

"To avoid an increase in relatively expensive external borrowing and reduce the fiscal burden of debt payments over the medium term, a larger share of the fiscal deficit will be financed through domestic borrowing. External borrowing will be considered only for the financing of highly productive fixed capital investments," he said.

To underscore his deliberation, he retaliated that the budget was about 'growth for all with all through optimising, innovating, boosting domestic revenue and spending efficiently.'

Swazi Spa Holdings total revenues up 14 percent

DESPITE difficult trading conditions, Swazi Spa Holdings Limited asserts to have achieved satisfactory results with total revenues increasing by 14 percent to E102.4 million during the six months year ended December 31, 2015.

Swazi Spa Holdings Limited is a public company listed on the Swaziland Stock Exchange (SSX). Shareholders include All Saints (Pty) Ltd (50.6%), Tibiyo Taka Ngwane (39.7%) and minority shareholders (9.7%).

The group owns and operates the Sun International hotel and casino resorts in Swaziland.

These comprise the Royal Swazi Sun Hotel & Casino, Lugogo Sun Hotel and Ezulwini Sun Hotel.

In a statement endorsed by the Group Secretary G J Ritcher, the company said in general the casino industry experienced a slowdown in business mainly as a result of pressure on disposable income.

"The company's casino revenues increased by 11 percent to E44.1 million," disclosed the group. The 16 percent growth in hospitality revenue was attributed to an increase in corporate, national sales

and individual business which grew by 34 percent, 69.4 percent and 11.9 percent respectively.

However, the group said international business declined by 23.6 percent and the decrease was directly attributed to the new South African and foreign nationals travelling with children under the age of 18.

The legislation requires adults travelling with children under 18 to produce unabridged birth certificates.

The group said its direct costs increased by 8 percent, and was a result of an increase in complimentary and promotion expenditure to attract gaming revenue, compounded by additional spend on guest and operating supplies attributable to the increase in room occupancies.

"Indirect costs were up on last year by 15 percent due to increases in rates and taxes (66%) and utility costs (30%) as well as cost relating to the introduction of limited free internet access to the guests," said the group.

As a result, the company said the increase in revenue together with increases in the direct and indirect costs resulted in an EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortisa-

tion) of E8.3 million compared to the prior year's EBITDA of E5 million. Meanwhile, the group incurred capital expenditure worth E3.8 million due to renovations of the Royal Swazi lounge, heat pumps to replace the Royal Swazi coal boiler, slot machines and computer equipment.

Adding, the group said as of December 2015, the company had bank facilities of E25 million, which was E5 million increase on the previous year.

"Given the high level of borrowings and the volatile trading conditions the directors are reviewing the company's funding requirements on ongoing basis," reads the statement in part.

Going forward, the group noted that trading was expected to remain difficult, with steep increases in commodity prices due to the prevailing drought and the fluctuations in foreign exchange rates.

"The company will continue focus on gaming promotions and improving its customers offering. It is expected that cost control will result in a marginal reduction in costs. It is anticipated that the company will generate positive operating cash flows in the second half," said the group.

SWAZISPA HOLDINGS LIMITED



International

...Sun International prepares to flake 40.48 % shares

SUN International Limited is in the progress of flaking 40.48 percent of its shareholding to Minor International Public Company Limited (MINT).

"As previously advised to Swazi Spa Holdings Limited shareholders, Sun International Limited (Sun International) has entered into an agreement with Minor International Public Company Limited (MINT) that will result in Sun International's effective shareholding in the company decreasing from 50.6 percent to 10.12 percent with MINT acquiring an effective 40.48 percent interest in the company via St Vincent Investments Limited. However, the group notified shareholders that the MINT acquisition remained pending and was subject to the fulfilment or waiver of certain conditions precedent.

"As previously advised to Swazi Spa Holdings Limited shareholders, Sun International Limited (Sun International) has entered into an agreement with Minor International Public Company Limited (MINT) that will result in Sun International's effective shareholding in the company decreasing

Funds should collaborate to maximise local investment

Stories by Linda Dlamini

FINANCIAL Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA) Chief Executive Officer Sandile Dlamini says the 30 percent regulatory requirement was not being ploughed back enough for the economy to reap the rewards of the investment.

"I was very happy to hear from the Speech from the Throne that pension, retirement and insurance funds as a source of capital should be used to drive the economy of Swaziland in light of slowing economic growth," he said.

Dlamini was speaking during the Standard bank insurance cover for small medium enterprises (SMEs) launch held last week.

The 30 percent local asset requirement is a stipulation by the Insurance and Retirement Funds Act of 2005, which calls upon all pension, retirement and insurance funds to invest at least 30 percent of their asset holding

● The collaboration of a bank and an insurance company is a perfect fit as both organisations feed off each other, they complement each other



COLLABORATE: FSRA CEO Sandile Dlamini.

within the country.

"There is no point in flourishing the market with cash if it will not be invested. Investments that yield good

returns needs to be identified," he said.

There have been increased partnerships within the non-banking financial institutions sector such as the Dairy Board project of Swaziland National Provident Fund (SNPF) and Old Mutual.

Adding, Dlamini said organisations should not only compete, but also collaborate as through collaboration, synergies could be created and subsequently economies of scale would be maximised to boost revenues for both competing organisations.

The collaboration of a bank and an insurance company is a perfect fit as both organisations feed off each other, they complement each other.

"More collaboration is needed to maximise the investment funds available," he said.

Mbabane councils urges govt to develop properties

THE Municipal Council of Mbabane has urged government to improve its properties within the city as this would change the landscape of the town.

Chief Executive Officer Gideon Mhlongo said government owned a lot property around Mbabane in the form buildings, houses and vacant land.

He said a number of real estate developers had already had their real estate developments slated because there was not enough space within the city.

Over the years, Mbabane has seen large companies and embassies that were resident in Mbabane move to more specious areas like Ezulwini. Some of these companies that relocated to Ezulwini are Swaziland Water Services Corporation (SWSC) and MTN, the Embassy of the United States of America.

"If you look at Ezulwini, most of the land is in private hands and so the sale of the property to the intending real estate developer is an easier process than Mbabane as here most of the land is owned by government," Mhlongo said.

"We encourage government to form

... 'WE STOPPED MOTSA FROM FENCING OLD BUS RANK'

MUNICIPAL Council of Mbabane Chief Executive Officer Gideon Mhlongo says the council stopped business magnate Moses Motsa from fencing his plot at the old bus rank because his development was against the objectives of the council.

"We can confirm that we have instructed the developer to halt building as we had environmental concerns and further, the developer has not submitted all the necessary documentation to allow him to continue with his development," he said.

public private partnerships (PPP) in a bid to renovate and develop their properties." Recently, institutional investors such as insurance funds, pension and retirement funds have been cited as the reservoirs of capital that could be unearthed to invest in the local economy.

"A number of these funds have been involved in property deals such as the Public Service Pension Fund Hilton Hotel.



Mbabane Council CEO Gideon Mhlongo.

"The Council has engaged these institutional investors to invest in the city as there is strong existing infrastructure.

"There are other vacant properties within the central business district (CBD) of Mbabane that are an eyesore which do not belong to government; we are constantly in negotiations with the owners to encourage them to develop these vacant properties."

Monoculture has failed Swazi farmers

Stories by Sikhulile Vilakati

THE traditional diet of maize has seen extensive amounts of land dedicated to this crop even though the ministry of agriculture has been advising farmers to diversify their production.

The situation had been worsened by the ongoing drought, especially because marginalised communities with limited access to water for even basic needs have no capacity to irrigate their fields and often rely on inadequate rains.

Winile Dlamini from Dlangeni, who is also a vendor at the Mbabane Market, said she was also a victim of not diversifying her crops.

Dlamini said she could not adhere to the guidelines that were given to them by the ministry of agriculture because she was used to growing maize.

"We are used to growing maize, and we always hope that the rains would come soon," she said.

She said she was not the only one, as most of the farmers around her area also did not diversify.

"After realising that there were no rains, I decided to venture in crops that would withstand the drought situation. I

decided to grow sweet potatoes, peanuts, tindlebu and emathapha," she said.

Dlamini said diversifying and growing crops that could stand the ongoing heat wave was the best option for farmers at the moment and for more coming years.

She said growing sweet potatoes was a new opportunity since they were now experiencing increasing demand from bakers who use their products for baking.

"We as farmers should support one another and adhere to the system and guidelines that are given by the ministry of agriculture and other supporting organisations," she said.

In 2009, it was reported that one of the major achievements that was covered by the ministry of agriculture was that it was able to convince Swazi farmers to practise crop diversification.

According to the ministry of agriculture annual performance report of 2009/2010 financial year, farmers moved from growing conventional crops such as maize to tuber /roots crops legumes vegetable and herbs.

However, that seems to have changed a lot lately as Swazis now have gone back into growing maize.

Demand for second hand clothes booming

THE market for bargains is booming, fuelled by the economy as consumers seemingly prefer second hand clothes to maximise their return on income.

This trend is predominantly visible in the clothes second hand markets popularly known as, 'kadobhaphasi.'

A second hand clothes vendor, Orlando Come claimed that they have experienced an overwhelming demand of second hand clothes of late.

He even asserted that he was making enough money to survive and take care of his family.

Asked if the consumers were only low income earners, he responded negatively, stating that even high income earning consumers were their regular customers.

"To be frank, our customers include high profile individuals and we are very humble for their support," he said.

"It's like a huge factory shop here where anyone regardless of who he or she is can get anything they want," he added.

Adding, he also said they were also getting support from tourist.

He said though their trade was lowly rated, it made a different in their lives and they would appreciate if it could be formalised.

"We are making clean money

to earn a living, which is far better than making money from immoral and illegal means," he said.

He said they sell high quality clothes, fancy shoes, blouses, sports gears and many other clothing lines.

"They last longer and they do not wear out easily," he asserted.

Just when Orlando was elaborating to this reporter, a group of fine ladies came to look for some things to buy.

One of the ladies, who said she was a university student, said they frequently passed by the vendors to see if they could get something.

Support

Orlando urged Swazis that they should support each other, especially at the current situation of high inflation.

"People should learn to balance the two, thus it could really help them if they buy cheaper quality clothes and then be able to save for food," he said.

However, he said the biggest challenge they were facing was that they did not have shelter; hence on rainy days, they faced challenges and that reduced their business operations and affected returns.

He also complained about customs duties at the border posts, claiming that they were somewhat high.



Swaziland Competition Commission receives COMESA accolades

By Manqoba Makhubu

THE Swaziland Competition Commission has received accolades from the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) Competition Commission.

Speaking during the last day of the national stakeholder workshop and training seminar on the COMESA competition regulations held last Thursday at the Happy Valley Hotel in Zulwini, COMESA Competition Commission Director and Chief Executive Officer George Lipimile says the SCC performance was very impressive.

He based his conclusion from the commission's implementation of competition regulations in Swaziland.

"If the commission's performance was not impressive, I would have found a nicer way to say it, but honestly based on the implementation of competition regulations in Swaziland, the work of the commission is very impressive," he said.

Adding, Lipimile said it was imperative for the country to ratify the COMESA treaty provisions for



REMARKS: Reyneck Matemba making his presentation during the COMESA Competitions Regulations workshop for stakeholders. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

implementation and enforcement of the regulations, including the control of mergers involving different states, but within the same region as the region embraces integration.

With regards to assessment of mergers under the regulations COMESA Competition Commission Willard Mwemba said the objective of the commission's



CONCENTRATION: Participants listening to presentations during the workshop.



PARTICIPANTS: COMESA Director of Competition Commission George Lipimile was also among the participants of the workshop.

merger policy was to promote and encourage effective competition in

order to enhance consumer welfare. "Most mergers do not harm com-

petition, as a matter of fact most mergers result in pro-competitive effects such as reduced costs and the introduction of new and improved products or services," he said.

However, some mergers can substantially weaken incentives of undertakings to engage in competition and result in higher prices, lower output, and reduced variety or reduced innovation and could resultantly lead to an adverse effect on consumers.

"It is such mergers that the Commission seeks to regulate in order to avoid these negative outcomes," he said. They don't care about mergers only because they would result in monopoly, but also as they were likely to reduce competition in the market.

"Reducing competition in a market can lead to harmful effects on price dimensions, quality dimensions, and innovation dimensions," said Mwemba. Article 23 of the COMESA Competition Regulations and Rules, 2004 a merger means direct or indirect acquisition or establishment of a controlling interest by one or more persons in the whole part of a business competitor, supplier, customer or other person whether that controlling interest is achieved as a result of;

- (a) The purchase or lease of the shares or assets of a competitor, supplier, customer or other person;
- (b) The amalgamation or combination with a competitor, supplier, customer or any other person.

SBIS's Sigwane joins FNB

By Sikhulile Vilakati

FORMER Swaziland Broadcasting and Information Services (SBIS) journalist Sibusile Sigwane has joined the First National Bank (FNB) as a Communications specialist.

Sigwane duties, amongst other things would be to enhance the bank's relationship with the media, liaise with the bank's clients and be useful in internal communication.

Introducing Sigwane to members of the media last Thursday at the Ramblas, FNB Marketing Manager Buyile Nxumalo said her appointment

would greatly help the bank manage its continued relationship with the media.

Nxumalo said they also wanted Sigwane to enhance their internal communication.

Meanwhile, Sigwane said she was grateful for the chance to work with the bank and was looking forward to working with the country's media.

Sigwane, a journalist herself having worked with SBIS for about two years, said she was humbled and very grateful to be working for such a reputable bank adding that she would learn a lot.

"I am looking forward to working at the bank and have

quite a handful initiatives planned for this year as we want to strengthen the relationship with the bank's clients," she said.



HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?: FNB Communications Specialist Sibusile Sigwane. (Pic: Facebook)

MTN launches partnership executive programme

By Manqoba Makhubu

IN a bid to ensure best possible customer service, Swazi MTN has launched a programme called partnership executive programme (PEP) which allows customers to have direct access to the company's executives.

Under the programme, customers would also get VIP invitations to the company's events and have cards that would allow them access to any MTN shop and get services as soon as possible without joining queues.

Speaking during the partnership executive dinner held last Thursday at The Royal Swazi's, Gigis Restaurant Swazi MTN Head of Enterprise Business Unit (EBU) Thandazile Dlamini said the core objective of the PEP was to continually improve customer's experiences.

"If you don't have a relationship with your customer they stop supporting you," she said.

Dlamini said their aim was to enforce collaboration of the company's executive with customers to safeguard service quality for the company.

The company invited close to 66 customers who each had direct access to an executive as they were strategically placed in each table.

Meanwhile, Swazi MTN Chief Executive Officer Ambrose Dlamini added that the dinner was meant to



IMPROVING CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE: Swazi MTN Head of Enterprise Business Unit (EBU) Thandazile Dlamini making her remarks. (Pic: Manqoba Makhubu)

understand customer's needs and interests, in the context of the services that the company provides to its customers.

"Through this interaction, our message to you is that you are a valued customer to Swazi MTN. Additionally, we take special delight in addressing your concerns so that you get exceptional quality service at all our touch points. Today you will get to interact with senior executives from Swazi MTN, who are committed to listen and work with you to respond to all your ICT challenges," he said.

The event was graced by MTN General Manager of Global Sales for Business Elia Tsouros who provided

a global perspective with regards to MTN business solutions.

Tsouros said the company had three pillars; collaboration, communication, and connectivity.

"We are working on technology and infrastructure development to enable you to grow with us," he said.

Therefore, there would be more announcements going forward of new services as the company intensifies its cloud services.

He congratulated Swazi MTN for being the first organisation to launch the PEP programme.

"For 21 years we have grown out of nothing, and are very serious about dealing with our customers," he said.

Leaders of the pack in 2016

BM2 M2 (From £44,070, available: April)

LONDON - This is one of the most eagerly awaited cars of 2016.

For the first time, BMW's high-performance 'M' division has given a complete makeover to one of the company's compact cars and granted it a hallowed 'M' number. The combination of a powerful, turbocharged 365-horsepower three-litre engine and a small, lightweight body make the M2 a riot to drive. Unlike its compact high performance Mercedes and Audi rivals, it is rear-wheel drive, not four-wheel drive, giving it greater appeal to petrolheads.

First UK deliveries start next month, but if you haven't already put a deposit down, expect to wait until next year before your BMW dealer can find you one.

VAUXHALL MOKKA X (From £19 000 (est) available: September)

Vauxhall's Mokka compact crossover has proved a huge hit since its 2012 launch, with half a million sold in Europe and over 100 000 in the UK.

The latest version was revealed last week at the Geneva Motor Show, with a bold new look from British designer Mark Adams.

The cabin has a new dashboard design and more tech, including Apple's CarPlay system giving you full hands-free use of your iPhone on the move.

But the basic recipe which has made Mokka such a hit remains unaltered: a compact footprint for easy parking, with just enough SUV style and rideheight to elevate you above mere hatchback drivers.

RENAULT SCENIC (From £21 000 available: November)

The Renault Scenic invented the compact MPV segment 20 years ago this year.

Other carmakers rushed to copy it and sales boomed, but since then our heads have been turned by crossovers such as the Nissan Qashqai, which ape the style of offroaders.

But with their more efficient design and configurable interior, mini-MPVs make a lot of sense for families. With its new Scenic, just unveiled at the Geneva Motor Show, Renault aims to win them back.

It stretches striking concept-car styling over its spacious, flexible five-seat cabin. Huge 20in wheels are standard for the first time in this class - you would expect to find them on high-end sports cars - and they add to the Scenic's dynamic new look.

FORD KUGA (From: £20 000, available: December)

Ford says crossovers like the Kuga

... From a 177mph Porsche and a tiny BMW packed with 365 horsepower to a Prius that's greener (and cleverer) than ever

ON TOP: One of the most eagerly awaited cars of 2016, the M2 is a combination of a powerful, turbocharged 365-horsepower three-litre engine and a small, lightweight body. (Daily Mail)



CLASS: Tech highlights of the E-Class include optional semi-autonomous driving aids and an aerodynamic body, which helps cut fuel consumption to a claimed 72mpg.



WOW: Mini's new range of convertibles feature a strong range of three and four cylinder petrol and diesel engines and more space in the cramped rear seats and boot.



will account for more than a quarter of car sales in Europe by 2020.

It's a fast-growing market, but the competition is tough with talented new entrants such as the Seat Ateca and revised Vauxhall Mokka. So Ford is giving its most popular crossover a makeover focusing on tech. There's a new 8in central touchscreen which allows you to pinch and swipe like a smartphone, and you can integrate phone and car seamlessly with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto.

Clever new voice-control tech means you can tell your Kuga you need coffee and it will plot a route to the nearest Caffè Nero. And once there, it will even parallel-park itself into a space right outside.

VOLVO V90 (From £34 000, available: August)

We're going to have to rethink our years from boxy to rakish notion of Volvo as a maker of dowdy, boxy estate cars used to haul antiques and labradors around the Home

Counties.

The new Volvo V90 is a triumph of sexy Swedish design; an estate car that's as rakish and desirable as a sports car.

Those sharp lines have compromised the Volvo's previously van-like load bay: boot space is down slightly, but it's worth it.

Power comes from a choice of super-efficient four-cylinder petrol and diesel engines, but with over 400 horsepower available from the rangetopping 'TwinEngine' plug-in hybrid, the V90 will offer pace to match its looks. Still want that big SUV?

MERCEDES-BENZ E-CLASS (From: £35 935, available: May)

Mercedes-Benz has seen huge UK sales growth, thanks partly to a rapidly expanding model range that seems to cover every style short of a pick-up.

But the E-class saloon is still at the heart of the range, and this new tenth-generation version makes a fine standard-bearer.

Its exterior styling echoes the smaller C-class and the big S-class limo, both recently revised and rapturously received.

As does the cockpit, which is beautifully made and designed with surprising exuberance for a solid German saloon.

Tech highlights include optional semi-autonomous driving aids and an aerodynamic body, which helps cut fuel consumption to a claimed 72mpg. An estate version will follow soon and will be hugely popular. Talk to your dealer now.

MINI CONVERTIBLE (From £18 475, available: April)

It's 15 years since BMW rebooted the Mini, and the latest sales figures reaffirm how brilliantly the Germans reimagined this British icon.

Last year, more than 300 000 Minis found homes around the world and the vast majority of those were made in Oxford.

Mini is celebrating with this new version of the popular Convertible.

It doesn't mess with the cute looks, but there's a strong range of three and four cylinder petrol and diesel engines and more space in the cramped rear seats and boot.

You won't be considering one of these if you have a family to haul, but if you want a soft-top with strong image and a reasonable price, it's perfect.

SEAT ATECA (From: £18 500 (est) available: September)

Spanish brand Seat has suffered for not having a crossover in the range. Cars like the Nissan Qashqai and Ford Kuga marry the looks, image and visibility of an off-roader to the efficiency and running costs of a conventional hatchback.

This breed of car is now the fastest-growing in Europe, and Seat is planning to catch up, with three on the way.

The Ateca comes first: deliveries start later in the year but you can register your interest online now.

As with most crossovers, there's a wide range of engine options, starting with a tiny but powerful 1-litre petrol.

You can choose front-wheel drive for maximum efficiency or four-wheel drive to cope with the occasional muddy field or snowfall.

TOYOTA PRIUS (From: £23 295, available: Now)

The fourth generation of the world's first (and bestselling) hybrid has just reached the UK.

The Toyota Prius has always majored on fuel economy and this all-new version promises the biggest improvement yet, with fuel consumption and emissions cut by up to 18 per cent. But the on-board tech is just as impressive.

Even the most basic model gets active cruise control which automatically maintains a safe distance to the car in front, and a system that warns if you're drifting out of your lane.

Spend a bit more and you'll get self-parking and wireless phone-charging. And all models can sense which seats are occupied and alter the air-conditioning accordingly.

PORSCHE 718 BOXSTER (From: £41 739, available: April)

Porsche's hugely successful, almost affordable Boxster turns 20 in 2016. To mark the occasion,

Porsche is making the single most radical change in the model's history. Out go its charismatic six-cylinder engines, and in come new, seriously downsized four-cylinder engines. Fuel economy and emissions both improve, as you'd expect. But the Boxster isn't being neutered. The smaller engines use turbochargers to produce even more power than the engines they replace, cutting the 0-60mph dash by nearly a second and increasing top speed to 177mph.

The new 718 badge marks the change, and references a classic four-cylinder Porsche race-car from the 1960s in a bid to appease Porsche purists who might disapprove of downsizing.

Daily Mail

programme



Swazi MTN Head of

Focus on SA scene

NOW, HAWKS TAKE AIM AT NEL

JOHANNESBURG -

Controversial Hawks boss Berning Ntlemenza is gunning for top prosecutor Gerrie Nel, who is largely credited with ensuring Oscar Pistorius was convicted for Reeva Steenkamp's murder.

Ntlemenza is understood to be implicating Nel in the controversy over the alleged "rogue" unit at the South African Revenue Service.

The Sunday Independent has been told that the Hawks have launched a probe into Nel for possible contravention of the Public Finance Management Act.

It is alleged he approved a payment of R1.5 million to a member of the unit to install spying equipment in the offices of the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) offices.

Nel scored a major victory when the Constitutional Court agreed last week with his arguments that Pistorius was guilty of murder.

He now has to mount a defence against possible charges that he contravened the Public Finance Management Act.

The name of the SARS unit member is known to The Sunday Independent.

Another top former Scorpions investigator, Andrew Leask, is also



WANTED OUT: Top prosecutor Gerrie Nel.

under investigation for the same offence.

NPA spokesman Luvuyo Mfaku said: "Kindly be advised that we do not comment on investigative issues. Kindly contact the Hawks in that regard."

Investigators have discovered that the R1.5m, approved by Nel and Leask, was not paid to the unit member's account but into his wife's Absa account.

A senior government official, who wanted to remain anonymous, ques-

tioned how a member of SARS obtained work from the NPA.

"That is a conflict of interest," said an official.

The highly sophisticated spying equipment, which was meant to ensure there was no breach of security in the offices of Scorpions investigators as well as the then-national director of public prosecutions (NDPP), Vusi Pikoli.

They were dealing at the time with sensitive investigations against then-police commissioner Jackie Selebi and convicted drug dealer Glenn Agliotti.

Pikoli this week said he did "authorise the upgrade of security in my office and the offices of the investigators".

He said it had been decided to implement counter-measures because of the sensitivity of the case they were dealing with.

Pikoli said the CCTV cameras and other equipment were installed to pick up if there was any breach of security. Asked if he was aware that Nel and Leask had possibly contravened the Public Finance Management Act, Pikoli said: "I was not involved in the procurement processes. I did not think it was necessary," he added. *Times Live*

DA calls Zuma's registration comments sexist

JOHANNESBURG - The Democratic Alliance has charged that comments reportedly made by President Jacob Zuma while registering as a voter in Nkandla on Saturday are "outrageously sexist" and an insult to every single woman in the country, especially those who are survivors of violence and sexual abuse.

Zuma was reported as saying that modern women were too quick to say they were being harassed when men were innocently complimenting them. "But when men compliment you innocently, you say its harass-

ment. You will miss out on good men and marriage," he was quoted as saying.

"It is precisely this patriarchal attitude that allows for women to remain the subjects of high levels of violence and sexual abuse throughout our country. It is also this sort of thinking that keeps women locked out of the economy, and out of jobs that could bring a much needed income to their family," DA National Spokesperson Phumzile Van Damme stated.

She said the DA would report these comments to the South African

Human Rights Commission.

"We will also write to Jacob Zuma and the ANC Women's League President, Bathabile Dlamini, and ask that they issue an apology - without delay - to the women of South Africa for their blatant disconnect from their lived reality across our country.

"South Africans must join the DA in rejecting this blatant sexism. The best way they can do this is to register for change this weekend.

"This is change that will end sexism, create jobs, and build an inclusive South Africa for all her people, men and women alike," Van Damme added.

Times Live

Anti-white students flirt with race war, warns Blade

JOHANNESBURG - Higher Education Minister Blade Nzimande has warned that "anti-white" sentiments among protesting students could lead to "racial conflict".

He has also cautioned against attacks on Afrikaans as a language of instruction at some universities, pointing out that it is an official language whose "largest [group of] speakers ... is the working class in the Western

Cape". Nzimande this week lambasted as "reckless and irresponsible" students who refuse to go to class. In an interview with the Sunday Times on Thursday, after a meeting with university vice-chancellors, Nzimande spoke out against anti-white slogans used by some protesting students recently. "The danger is that you can have racial conflict [because of antiwhite chauvinism]." *News24*

Gordhan slams 'dirty tricks' campaign

CAPE TOWN - Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan has lashed out at "dirty tricks and smear campaigns" after the latest attack on his integrity questioning his qualifications as a pharmacist.

In the same week, Police Minister Nathi Nhleko and State Security Minister David Mahlobo gave a press briefing in which they tried to justify questions sent to Gordhan by the Hawks relating to the work of an alleged "rogue" intelligence unit at the SA Revenue Service (SARS), controversy

qualification, according to his government profile, was a bachelor of science degree in pharmacy.

"We have been unable to confirm this with the university, however, but will keep trying," researcher Lebohang Mojapelo wrote.

Gordhan, who had been the subject of news reports relating to the "rogue" unit before the Hawks stepped in, mostly flowing from leaked versions of a KPMG probe ordered by SARS Commissioner Tom Moyane, said the smear campaigns were



NOT HAPPY: Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan.

broke out on social media after an EFF MP, Sentletse Diakanyo, mentioned on his Twitter feed that Africa Check had been unable to verify Gordhan's qualifications.

The NGO, based at the journalism department at Wits University, checked on Gordhan's qualifications as part of an article responding to President Jacob Zuma's claim that the man he appointed as finance minister in December, Des van Rooyen, was the most qualified among the finance ministers he had hired.

Africa Check found Van Rooyen indeed sported the most qualifications in the field, whereas Gordhan's highest

"endangering the work of government to increase confidence and investment in our economy and putting at risk the wellbeing and future of 50 million people, especially the poor, small business, the unemployed and big business". "I urge those in the shadows who can't come forward and put the

facts in a transparent manner to cease." Referring to a statement by the presidency this week, in which Zuma said his job was not under threat and that steps were being taken to address the tensions between Moyane and himself "responsibly and amicably, for the benefit of all", Gordhan said these measures should be supported. *News24*

Lily Mine: A month later, operations suspended again

JOHANNESBURG - Saturday marked exactly one month since three workers were trapped underground at Lily Mine near Barberton in Mpumalanga.

It's bad news for the families of Pretty Nkambule, Yvonne Mnisi and Solomon Nyirenda because mine officials say operations to reach the trio have been suspended once again.

The workers were in a lamp room when a mine shaft collapsed on February 5. More than 70 other miners were also trapped, but were rescued just hours after the incident.

Officials have been working for four weeks to reach the three workers using experts and specialised machinery.

The mission was dealt a major blow about two weeks ago when there was a second rock

fall which meant a complete halt to the recovery operation.

"When we started the rescue process it was still complex but much simpler than now because we still had the main shaft available to us so the rescue workers could use the main shaft to get into the mine and start their work. Then we had the second rock fall - the shaft fell in and become inoperable which meant there was only one way in and out of the mine which is the ventilation shaft," said mine spokesperson Coetzee Zietsman.

A new emergency shaft had to be drilled using specialised equipment that was brought in.

Now, after 10 days of drilling and experts doing a stability and safety assessment, the operation has been dealt yet another blow. *Citizen*



BE WARNED: Higher Education Minister Blade Nzimande.



TOUGH COMPETITION: Judges were left scratching their own modest beards while trying to consider who displayed the best facial hair. (Daily Mail)

Who will win (by a whisker)?

BERLIN - Gentlemen from around the world took to Germany the past weekend to showcase their flamboyant and eccentric facial hair in the World Beard and Moustache Championships.

The competition, which took place in Schoenberg, attracted more the 300 hopefuls sporting everything from handlebar moustaches to impeccably groomed beards.

The event, first held in 1990, takes place every few years at different locations around the world and competitors this year showcased some of the best examples of facial hair yet.

Silver beards manipulated into rigid spokes, incredible foot-long handlebars and pointed moustaches were all on display.

And judges were left scratching their own modest beards while trying to consider whose facial hair stood out from the crowd.

Among those in attendance, Dieter Besuch sported an amazing ten ringlets from his beard as well as an additional two from his moustache.

While one of the younger competitors, Benny Reinhold, showed off his immaculate moustache alongside his clean shaven cheeks.

Participant Norbert Topf dazzled

- 300 immaculately groomed men descend on Germany to compete in the World Beard Championships
- The competition, first held in 1990, attracted more the 300 hopefuls and took place in Schoenberg, Germany
- Eccentric participants sported handlebar moustaches and impeccable beards manipulated into rigid spokes
- Judges were left scratching their own beards while trying to consider who displayed the ultimate facial hair



ECCENTRIC: The competition attracted more the 300 hopefuls sporting handlebar moustaches and impeccably groomed beards.

with a beard that looked like it would have taken more than a few hours in

front of the mirror to perfect.

And Karlheinz Hille looked incredibly dapper with his silver moustache, which he accompanied with a similarly coloured top hat and suit.

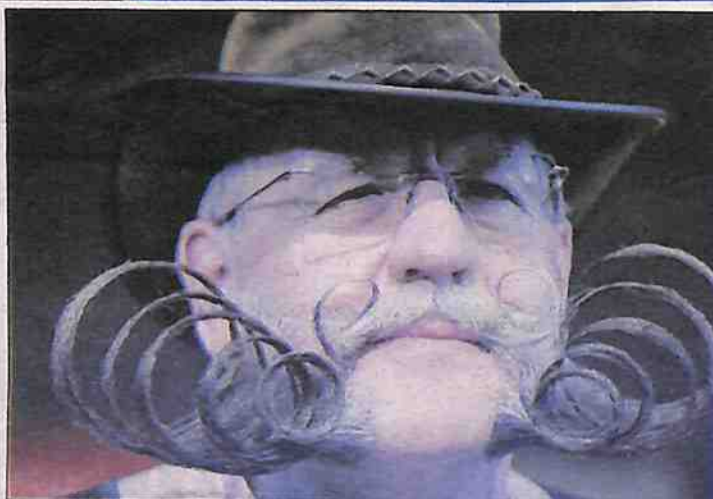
The gentleman displayed their facial fuzz by competing in different categories in three vital groups - moustache, partial beard and full beard.

The moustaches include the 'English' - long and thin hairs pulled to the side - and the 'Dali' - long and narrow tips that arch or go up at the end, in the style of the Spanish surrealist painter.

While the partial beard category includes the 'Musketier' - a pointed beard accompanied by a long and narrow moustache.

The final full beard group includes 'Freestyle', which is showcased in the many eccentric efforts that has helped make the competition so popular.

Daily Mail



DAPPER: Participant Karlheinz Hille looked incredibly dapper with his silver moustache, which he accompanied with a similarly coloured top hat and suit.



FLAMBOYANT: The event takes place every few years at different locations worldwide and competitors this year showcased some rather flamboyant examples of facial hair.



DISPLAY: Silver beards teased into rigid spokes, majestic foot-long handlebars and pristine pointed moustaches were on show this year.

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BRIEFS

Man dies after drowning

BOKSBURG - An unidentified man was pronounced dead after he fell in the Boksburg Lake, in the East Rand, on Saturday afternoon. Fire fighters, paramedics and police officers responded to a drowning incident at the lake just before 4pm, Boksburg Advertiser reported. Ekurhuleni Emergency Services spokesperson William Ntadi said the man was sitting with his friends under the tree at the lake when the incident occurred. The exact details leading to the incident are not yet known. Ntadi said specialised rescue divers were called to the scene and immediately retrieved the man from the water.

News24

Gujarat on high alert

GUJARAT - India has rushed elite security forces to its western state of Gujarat after an intelligence report that some 10 militants may have crossed over from Pakistan, police said yesterday. Security has been strengthened at all major installations in the coastal state following a warning from the central intelligence authorities, the state police director-general said.

AFP

Sri Lanka goes to war on gangs

COLOMBO - Sri Lanka's police

yesterday re-introduced war-time road blocks and random checks on vehicles following a surge in gang-related shootings in the capital, a

spokesman said. More than 100 police stations in Colombo and its suburbs have been asked to erect snap blocks, a common practice during the island's separatist war that ended nearly seven years ago, police spokesman Ruwan Gunasekera said. "The objective is to prevent serious crime and drug smuggling as well as to catch those committing serious crime," the spokesman said.

News24



Black mambas invade suburbs

DURBAN - The hot weather has seen an infestation of black mambas in Durban with 12 snakes caught in residential areas in the past 10 days and one man bitten. Snake catcher Jason Arnold said he had removed seven snakes from suburban homes around Durban in the past three days. Alwin MacNamara, 45, was standing next to his car outside his Reservoir Hills home on Saturday when a black mamba struck him on his leg.

News24

Ex-rangers in court for poaching

HARARE - Two former employees of Zimbabwe's state parks authority have appeared in court on charges of ivory poaching, the state-controlled Chronicle newspaper has reported. In a case that will spark fresh worries about the possible involvement of rangers in Zimbabwe's growing poaching crisis, Bakani Khumalo, Givemore Makosa and four accomplices are accused of shooting and removing the tusks of three male elephants near Shangani in the south of the country in November last year.

News24



Pope Francis tells of his 'profound shock, sadness'

ROME - The Vatican-Pope Francis has condemned the killing of 16 people, including four Catholic nuns, at a home for the elderly in southern Yemen.

He called the attack in Aden an "act of senseless and diabolical violence".

Officials and witnesses said gunmen entered the facility run by a charity established by Mother Teresa and handcuffed the victims before shooting them in the head.

The attackers allegedly pretended they were visiting their mothers to get access to the home.

A nun who survived and was rescued by locals said she hid inside a fridge in a storeroom after hearing a Yemeni guard

shouting, 'Run, run.'

Two of the nuns killed were Rwandan, one was Indian and one was from Kenya, the Vatican said in a statement. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack, although Yemeni officials have blamed the Islamic State.

Pope Francis "prays that this pointless slaughter will awaken consciences, lead to a change of heart, and inspire all parties to lay down their arms and take up the path of dialogue", Vatican Secretary of State Pietro Parolin said.

"He sends the assurance of his prayers for the dead and his spiritual closeness to their families and to all affected from this act of senseless and diabolical violence."



ALSO HUMAN: Pope Francis.

Sunita Kumar, a spokeswoman for the Missionaries of Charity in the Indian city of Kolkata, said the members of the charity were

'absolutely stunned' at the killing.

"The Sisters were to come back but they opted to stay on to serve people in Yemen", she added.

The bodies were transferred to a police station and then a hospital run by the Doctors Without Borders (MSF) aid organisation.

An unnamed Yemeni presidency source in Riyadh said those behind such "treacherous terrorist acts" are individuals who have "sold themselves to the devil," in a statement on the official sabanew.net website.

Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), also known as Ansar al-Sharia, denied "any links to the attack on the elderly care home".

Daily Mail



DINNER TIME: The predatory skua was seen biding its time before it dived towards a flock of penguins at Volunteer Lagoon, on the Falkland Islands, with deadly precision. Within moments the seabird had plucked a defenceless young chick from the flock (pictured main) and carried it into the air as the adults squawked loudly in desperation. Pictured inset, the skua with the penguin chick in its beak. (dailymail.co.uk)

Mugabe fires another minister

HARARE - Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe has fired defiant War Veterans Minister Christopher Mutsvangwa and within hours replaced him with his deputy Tshinga Dube.

Tshinga, a former head of the Zimbabwe Defence Industries, was sworn in on Saturday at State House in Harare.

Principal Director in the information ministry Regis Chikwore told journalists at State House on Saturday:

"He [Mutsvangwa] was relieved of his duties yester-

day [Friday]."

Mugabe fired Mutsvangwa a day after he had suspended him from ZANU-PF for three years during the party's politburo meeting. The politburo is Zanu-PF's supreme decision-making body.

Allegations against Mutsvangwa are that he was undermining the authority of the first family. Until Friday, Mutsvangwa also served as the Zimbabwe National Liberation War Veterans' Association chairman.

ZANU-PF is locked in factional wars, with one side, 'Generation-40', having the

likes of first lady Grace Mugabe, Higher and Tertiary Education Minister Jonathan Moyo, Mugabe's nephew Patrick Zhuwao, who is also Indigenisation, Youth, and Empowerment Minister, as well as Vice-President Phelekezela Mphoko among its rank-and-file.

There is also the other faction, said to be led by Vice-President Emmerson Mnangagwa, going by the moniker 'Team Lacoste', named after Mnangagwa's nickname 'Ngweni' which means crocodile. M

AFP

Republican Cruz wins two states, stakes claim as Trump's chief rival

WASHINGTON - US Republican presidential candidate Ted Cruz won nominating contests in Kansas and Maine on Saturday, staking his claim to be the prime alternative for Republicans bent on stopping front-runner Donald Trump.

Trump won Louisiana and Kentucky, taking another step toward the Republican nomination in the November 8 presidential election on a night when five US states voted in nominating contests.

It was a bad night for the other Republican candidates, with US Senator Marco Rubio of Florida and Ohio Governor John Kasich shut out in the day's four Republican contests and falling behind Cruz in the battle to lead the party's anti-Trump forces. The next big contest, and a crucial one, will be tomorrow's primary in the industrial state of Michigan.

Republicans in three other states, Mississippi, Idaho and Hawaii, also will vote tomorrow. Puerto Rico Republicans voted yesterday. On the Democratic side, front-runner Hillary Clinton won in Louisiana, and her rival Bernie Sanders, a US Senator from Vermont, won in Kansas and Nebraska in results that did not substantially change Clinton's big delegate lead. Cruz, a first-term US Senator from Texas who has promoted himself as more of a true conservative than Trump, said the results showed he was gaining momentum in the race to catch the billionaire real estate mogul. "The scream you hear, the howl that comes from Washington, D.C., is utter terror at what 'We the People' are doing together," Cruz told supporters in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, after his early win in Kansas. AFP



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ROCK OF LIFE CHURCH HOSTS PHENOMENAL LILLY MILLION GOSPEL SHOW

Stories by Tenele Dlamini

THE Rock of Life Tabernacle, a thriving church in Fonteyn, Mbabane, on Friday evening hosted a phenomenal and spirit filled gospel show, which featured South African gospel sensation, Lilly Million and her talented gospel rap artist husband, Blaque Nubone of Fresh Impressions.

The show was themed 'The

Greater Harvest Concert'.

The relatively small but fast growing ministry played host to the who's who of gospel music in both Swaziland and South Africa.

Add

To add to the A-list star-studded line-up, was none other than the organiser of the show, Pastor Chris Shabangu, a Pastor at the Miracle Centre in Mbabane, who is an extremely gifted recording gospel artist. The man of God has already

travelled extensively in the last couple of years to the United States of America and Europe (United Kingdom, France and Belgium), on invite, to perform for large crowds.

The concert began relatively later than anticipated, at around 8pm, however the mood was that of high expectation as members and visitors began streaming in to fill up the seats.

The show began with the powerful sounds of the host church's Family

Worship Choir which consisted of likes of lead singer, Yvette Chambers. Young ushers took their position as early as 7pm, in preparation for the guests.

HOST: Pastor Chris Shabangu, minister of God's Word and recording artist singing on stage with the Family Worship Choir at the Rock of Life church.



...Lilly Million captivates the crowd

VISITING guest, South African gospel musician Lilly Million, who most people had been waiting for, captivated the crowd with her vocal ability and guitar skills, right from the beginning.

The musician sang her much loved songs, 'Sinful Ways', a song on God's amazing love, which was followed by 'Saviour', a piece on redemption at the cross.

"He came for the weak and tired," she sang as the audience cheered her on shouting "Come on Lilly!" as audience members applauded to 'Saviour Jesus is alive.'

This song was followed by a well-known hymn, 'How great thou art', which proved to be a familiar rendition.

'I ain't got no money', a track that seeks to encourage people to be more giving and generous.

"I would really like to thank all the people here who are supporting me through buying my music," Lilly said, referring to the CD stand by the entrance, which consisted of current albums by the couple and branded T-shirts on display.

'Crazy' was yet another music track which was generally directed at the crazy, irrational behaviour of artists. 'change is gonna come' referred to the millions of people that travel to the city of Johannesburg each day and she explained that many of them may never know Jesus as their Lord and saviour.

POWER COUPLE: Lilly Million and husband Blaque Nubone of Fresh Impressions from South Africa, singing together on stage at the Rock of Life church on Friday evening, in Mbabane. (Pics: Tenele Dlamini)

...Blaque Nubone does duet with Lady Million

ONE of the highlights of the night was the duet done by Lilly Million and husband, Blaque Nubone.

As she strung the strings of her guitar and used her vocal ability, Blaque Nubone complimented the song with a hip hop inspired sound, much to the appreciation of the overly zealous crowd.

Blaque Nubone gave his best rap rendition of 'Gravity', a track describing his years growing up in the township of Tembisa, South Africa and 'Sushine' performed by both artists, a song that gave out a very loud and clear message that, "Anything else other than God, that promises hope is fake."

...Pastor Chris Shabangu a marvel to watch

CHRIS Shabangu a Pastor at the Miracle Centre in Mbabane and a recording artist of note, was certainly a marvel to watch on

stage, during the concert organised by his company Crispasallo Music and the visiting duo's company Fresh Impressions.

Influential

Shabangu was very influential in making the event a success, through his professional delivery of

songs as he performed various tracks from his live recorded current CD.

These songs included praise and worship tracks, 'Sikunika', 'Nkazimulo' and the audience's hot favourite, 'Africa', which had a reggae feel to it. More songs came

pouring down from the pull-pit area, as the Man of God continued delivering other songs, 'Ofanana no Jesu', 'Wethembekile' and 'Pour down', a worship song and lastly, 'I hear a sound', which was described as a prophetic lyrical song.

Up and coming Fez shines at first show

By Phesheya Kunene

UPCOMING Afro-pop singer Fez rendered a convincing performance during her first ever show which drew a remarkable crowd at Cuba Nora Restaurant.

Dressed in an all-white outfit with a nicely done maroon doek on her head, Fezile Mnisi, who goes by the name Fez on stage, was ready to make a lasting impression on the day.

The up and coming artist outshone herself as she delivered two captivating sets of performances in front of the about 200 people, a record crowd for the place.

The vocally-gifted young musician

...While Kwanele Magongo's golden voice steals the show

announced her set with a medley of two songs 'Ego' by Beyonce and 'Roar' by Katy Perry before proving her vocal abilities with a song by Fantasia.

Speaking during an interview, the singer said she opted to perform the medley just for fun. This was true fun for the audience as they loved every second of her performance such that they gave her a standing ovation after her first set.

Fez had two sets on the night and her performances were characterised by screams of joy from the amazed crowd. When she finally sang her songs, the musician did not hold back

as she sang her lungs out and danced up a storm. Before she even knew it, the supportive crowd joined her as they showed off their dance skills on the floor.

The song 'Hamba' was well-received by the audience such that they even asked her to perform it again. The upbeat song is an African inspired tune but has a hint of pop and RnB infused on it. The three-piece band playing on the night added to the great performances as they gave it their all on the instruments.

Fez spent less than 30 minutes for each set but her performances were enough to get the crowd talking as

they kept praising her ability to sing and capture the attention of everyone while on stage.

The proud musician said she was honoured to see an impressive crowd to support her adding that as this was her first show, it was far from being easy hosting it.

"The show was more difficult to host than anticipated but I am grateful to Ivan Peterson the owner of Cuba Nora who gives artists that platform to showcase their stuff at the place firstly.

We really got way more people than we anticipated which was indeed amazing and personally I am humbled by that," she said.

On her first set, Fez really got the crowd warmed up when she performed the songs 'Dedicated' and she

closed her first with a soulful piece titled 'Lose to win' which saw the crowd being glued on stage as the singer unleashed her golden voice while the band on the other hand spiced things up with the skills they dished out using the instruments.

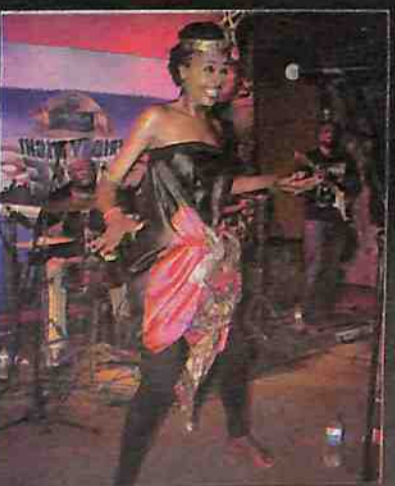
Before she climbed on stage, the open mic session saw a number of aspiring artists giving colourful performances on stage as they sang one song each. Amongst the over six acts that performed about three acts, outshone the most and these are Kwanele Magongo, Philiswa Ginindza and Dat Guy.

This trio were a marvel on stage as Kwanele, who was the second act to perform, sent the audience into frenzy with his infusion of Nathi's Nomvula with Maxwell's Pretty wings.



SIBEBE FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE 6TH EDITION

PACHANGA'S CORNER



YOUR MONEY'S WORTH: Pachanga performing for the revellers who came through for the 6th edition of the Sibebe Night Live.

PACHANGA IS A BALL

● She brought fire to the House on Fire

Stories by Samukelisiwe Ginindza

PACHANGA Matsenjwa proved to everyone who attended the 6th edition of the Sibebe Friday Night Live that she possesses pure and natural energy.

After taking some time off, the Reggae and African Jazz artist is back with a bang and her break to heal her soul, as she said, seems to have made her a better musician.

She took to the stage just before 11pm and left a mark at the revellers' memories. She introduced her band with a song titled 'Call Me Tyrone' before she rocked the stage, clad in a black satin boob tube maxi dress with red and brown detailing on the side and black leggings, accessorised with a gold metal Cleopatra head-

band.



SING WITH ME: Ashton singing to Pachanga's 'Memeza' as she was performing. (Pics: Samukelisiwe Ginindza)

The energy that she brought on stage was magnificently backed by her excellent band, which in turn made her climb to a level, where only her energy set the pace up high.

Her next track was titled 'Etinkhomeni' and was followed by 'Utsi Zulu Ayihlome',

which was the crowd's favourite, as they danced for their lives with her.

Some of the revellers could not contain themselves as they got to the stage to dance next to her as she continued with her performance. Not forgetting to interact with her fans, she taught them a few dance

moves and lyrics.

Dismay

After owning the stage for about 45 minutes of good music and dance, the energetic musician announced that she would be performing her last song, much to the crowd's dismay, who asked for an encore and she obliged to their

MAGAYA GIVES THEM KWAITO

KWAITO artist Magaya proved to many that no genre is inferior than the other, as he brought kwaito to the House on Fire.

This was during the Sibebe Friday Night Live. The artist was the first to perform on stage. Even though the show started two hours later, the revellers still enjoyed his per-

formance.

His first track was titled 'Mashisindlu'. He then performed another song dedicated to lovers present. Its lyrics made some of the revellers to reach for the hands of their lovers, as they sang along.

"Cela kukujela kutsi ngitiva kanjani ngawe, anginako lokwanele, Lutsandvo lwakho

luyakhula until size sife silahlane, asibe yi family, sit-sandzane noma kunini," he sang.

Appreciated

Even though none of the patrons were keen enough to dance, he still proved to most that kwaito was alive in Swaziland. This was Magaya's first time to perform at the House on Fire and he appreciated the platform as he believed it was something that

artists like him needed the most. He was followed by Reggae artists Ras Ritchie and Ras Reggie, who literally brought Ethiopia to the House on Fire during their performance.

Heart

With Ethiopian flags and evident admiration of their Messiah Haile Selassie, they performed from the heart, for the revellers, who most of them were Rastafarians.



IN THE BUILDING: Afro Jazz artist Nomsa M striking a pose on arrival.



ATTENTION: Smiles Makama came clad in bright colours and prints for the occasion.



FIRE: Ras BD and Ras Joe posing with Ras Reggie and Ras Ritchie before they hit the stage.

SIBEBE FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE 6TH EDITION

OF FIRE

requests.

She went on to perform her track 'Memeza', and then 'Knock Knock', which she dedicated to the late phenomenal guitarist Lolo Bandze.

"Pachanga is a true artist. She performs for the crowd and she is lively on stage as she dances like she is alone. Her sweat showed that she was doing something that she adored and enjoyed, which is key," Ashton said.

A patron from Germany named Tim stated that not only did he enjoy the location but Pachanga also made him feel the sense of belonging and brought real reggae.

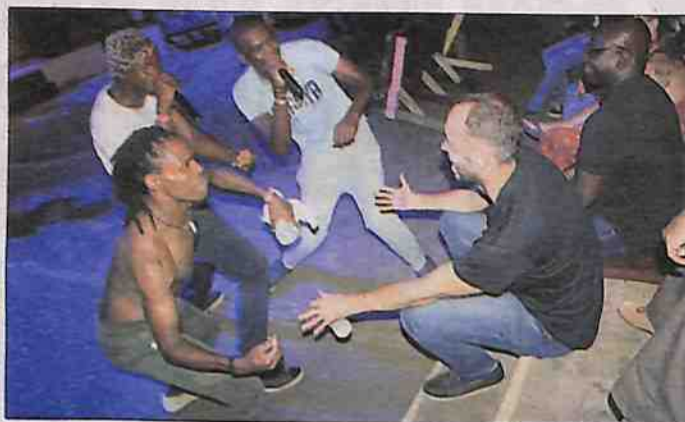
Festival

"She was just pouring pure energy and I am looking forward to seeing her on stage during the festival. She will win and I am definite about that," Alba from Venezuela said.

In an interview after her performance, Pachanga mentioned that she believed her energy was natural.

"I never went to school for music and I bring to the stage me. What you witness at the stage was me doing something that I love and I am only happy that people were entertained," she said.

"This is a message to the murders, consciousness is all what we need for people. You can take the money and the car, but spare the soul," Reggie said as he performed a song titled 'Gun Man'. While they made it evident that they love to praise Jah, they still stated that since Haile Selassie originated from Ethiopia, they believed the whole African continent was Ethiopia. Some of the songs they performed were 'My Reggae Style', 'Because I love you too much' and Rastafarai *Unami Njalo*.



GET DOWN: Magaya and his back up singer Zolani and 'Toothless' performing for House on Fire Director Jiggs Thorne during the Sibebe Friday Night Live.



GOOD TIMES: Fun lovers dancing up a storm.



JAH GUIDE: Ras Ritchie and Ras Reggie singing praises to Haile Selassie.



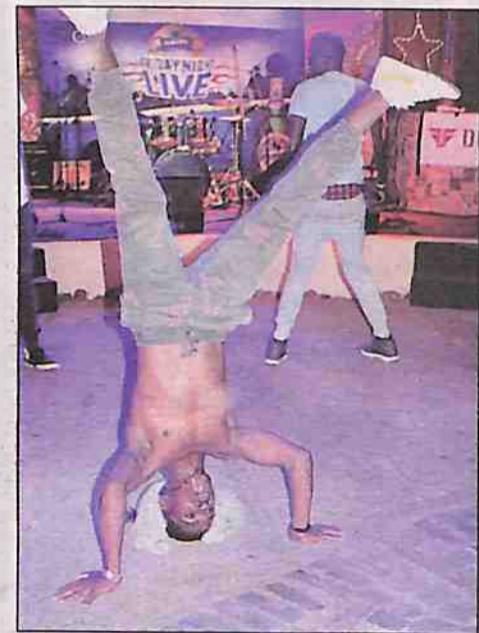
DANCE WITH US: Ashton, Alba and Tim displaying some dance moves as Pachanga looks on.



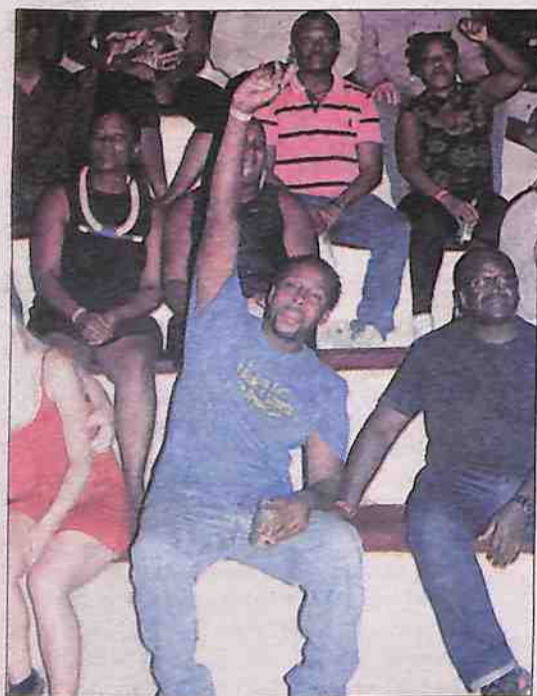
MORE FIRE: Ras Joe raised the Ethiopian flag during Ras Ritchie and Ras Reggie's performance.



MR DJ: After all it was said and done, DJ MBO had the last word with his selection of music.



ACROBATIC: 'Toothless' demonstrating his flexibility.



ENJOYING THE SHOW: Revellers reacting to the performances.



FEELING THE VIBE: Revellers having a good time.



ALL EARS: Some of the fun lovers who attended the show.

HIGHLIGHTS

The Criselda Dudumashe Show
Tonight, 19:55
Channel ED (190)

CRISELDA is joined by a panel of experts as she discusses issues concerning health, providing professional advice for you and your family. Helping you make healthier lifestyle choices. Got a concern? She will address it.



Married To Medicine
Tonight, 20:30
Vuzu Amp (114)

"S3/E1 - Background Check Yourself". Simone and Toya's friendship is on the fence, but

when Toya decides to throw a Halloween party to show off her new house, her husband Eugene insists she invites Simone to bury the hatchet. In season three of *Married to Medicine*, Simone and Toya's friendship is on the fence, but when Toya decides to throw a Halloween party to show off her new house, her husband Eugene insists she invites Simone to bury the hatchet.

Murdoch Mysteries
Tonight, 20:00
ITV Choice (123)

"S9/E1 - Nolo Contendere". As Crabtree serves hard time for the murder of his sweetheart's abusive husband, Murdoch investigates the stabbing of an inmate who might be connected to the case.



Quantico
Mon 07 Mar 2016, 20:31
Vuzu Amp (114)

"S1/E12 - Alex". A diverse group of the best and the brightest recruits has arrived at the FBI Quantico Base for training. It seems impossible that one of them is suspected of masterminding the biggest attack on New York City.



"S9/E190 - The Shortcut Tutor Sauce".

SPONGEBOB tries to take a shortcut to work, but becomes lost along the way. After failing his driver's test again, Mr Krabs decides to teach *SpongeBob* how to drive himself. GUESS WHO'S BACK?! He has a pet named Gary, his best friend is a pink sea star and he makes Krabby Patties in the Krusty Krab which is the best job in the world!!! Does this ring a bell? You're right! *SpongeBob SquarePants* is here! With brand new episodes where you won't stop laughing out loud! *SpongeBob* trying to take a shortcut to work, but becomes lost along the way!



Pearl, D'Banj host Lip Sync Battle Africa

VIACOM International Media Networks (VIMN) Africa announced the hosts for *Lip Sync Battle Africa*, the first localised format of the multi-platform, pop-culture phenomenon to air on the continent.

South African entertainment superstar Pearl Thusi and Nigerian music legend D'Banj will host *Lip Sync Battle Africa*. Pearl Thusi will serve as all around host and 'master of ceremonies', while Koko Master and Oliver Twist star D'Banj will step up as the 'colour commentator', adding his lively observations to the proceedings.

Lip Sync Battle Africa will premiere in April 2016 on MTV Base (322).

The critically acclaimed and award-nominated *Lip Sync Battle*, originally created for Spike, features celebrities going head-to-head, lip-syncing the song of their choice, battling for the coolest bragging rights on the planet.

Multi-talented actress, radio DJ, model and television personality Pearl Thusi is a fixture on the South African entertainment



HOSTS: D'Banj and Pearl Thusi.

scene.

Musician, wit and virtuoso harmonica player D'Banj, best known for his mastery of the contemporary Afrobeats genre, first catapulted to fame in 2005 following the release of his debut album, *No Long Thing*, and has subsequently enjoyed success with global hits such as *Oliver Twist*, *Fall in Love* and *Suddenly*.

His latest release, *Emergency*, is grabbing headlines and notching up radio airplay around the continent. Among his many accolades and awards, D'Banj has won Best African Act and Artist of the

Year at the MTV EMAs and MTV Africa Music Awards (MAMA) and was named Best International Act (Africa) at the BET Awards.

Pearl Thusi commented: "Lip Sync Battle is such an incredible social, cultural and media sensation, I am so excited to be a part of bringing it to African audiences."

Added D'Banj: "It's an honour and a privilege to be hosting *Lip Sync Battle Africa*. I'm excited, willing and ready to entertain the continent on such a great platform."

I am looking forward to seeing

how well my fellow celebrities battle each other and entertain the world."

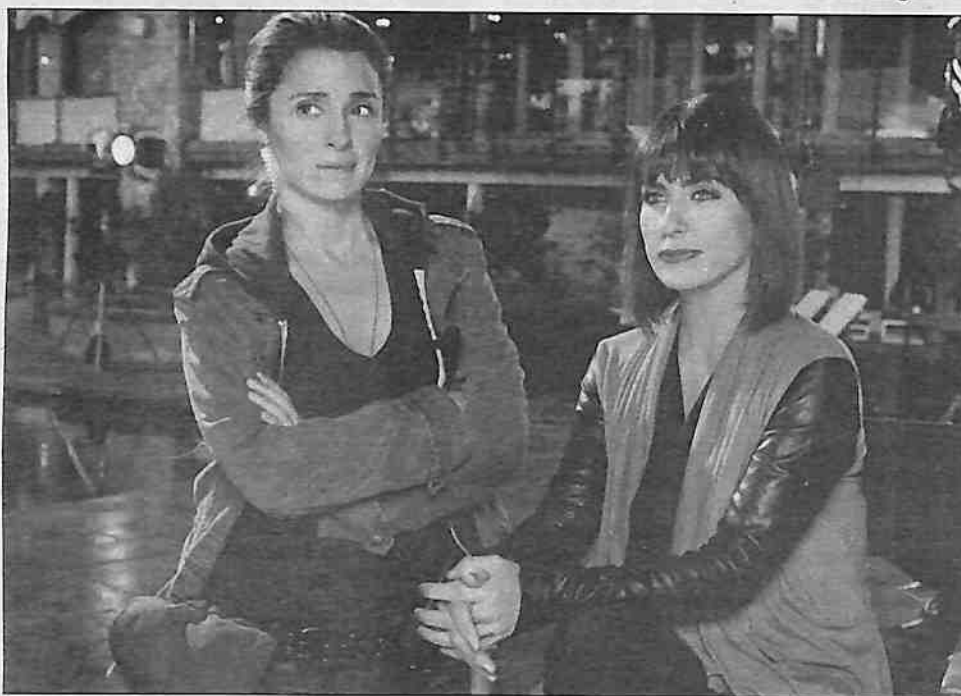
Alex Okosi, Senior Vice President & Managing Director, VIMN Africa, commented: "We are thrilled to translate this global hit franchise to Africa for the first time."

With huge personalities such as D'Banj and Pearl Thusi at the helm, *Lip Sync Battle Africa* cannot fail to emulate the success of the franchise in the United States, and spin-offs in other territories such as the United Kingdom, Canada and Chile."

Speaking on behalf of MTV Base, Ifeoma Williams, said:

"With great chemistry between our hosts and a fantastic line-up of contestants from across the cultural spectrum, *Lip Sync Battle Africa* is guaranteed to capture the attention and affection of our audience in Africa."

Whether you are 15 or 55 years old, you'll be "lip syncing" in the car, with your friends, or in the shower. We hope and expect that people will take to social media and tag each other to start battling each other with #LSBChallenge."



UnREAL is back

UnREAL, the hot A+E Studio drama that dishes up a fictitious behind-the-scenes glimpse into the chaotic world of reality TV, returns for a second season to Lifetime (131) later this year.

Set against the backdrop of hit dating competition show *Everlasting*, *UnREAL* follows the daily working lives of the crew, proving just as much drama happens off-camera as it does on-camera.

It is the sole job of Rachel Goldberg (Shiri Appleby), the show's young and talented producer, to play puppet master with the show's con-

testants. She manipulates them to capture the vital dramatic and outrageous footage that viewers want – and demand. Fighting against her own dark past and tired of the programme's dispassionate executive producer Quinn (Constance Zimmer), Rachel is not sure how much more backstabbing and games is she willing to take.

Also returning for series two are: Craig Bierko as *Everlasting*'s creator, Chet, who is on a quest to reclaim his full power on set; Josh Kelly as Jeremy, *Everlasting*'s director of photography and Rachel's ex-

boyfriend and Jeffrey Bowyer-Chapman as Jay, a field producer whose ambitions run far beyond the show. In the new series, the producers are casting for *Everlasting*'s new suitor Darius Hill, an all-American football star. We also meet the new contestants including Yael, a gorgeous upscale hipster; Tiffany, a daddy's girl and football player's dream; Ruby, a shrewd contestant, not at all interested in being a puppet for the producers; Bethann, an Alabama born and bred patriotic girl and Chantal, a prim and proper southern debutante.

Toni Braxton movie

LIFETIME's original movie, *Toni Braxton: Unbreak My Heart*, starring newcomer Lex Scott Davis as the seven-time GRAMMY® Award-winning R'n'B icon, premieres on Sunday March 27, at 8pm.

Toni Braxton executive produces the two-hour film, which is based on her popular memoir, *Unbreak My Heart*.

The movie follows the singer's journey from her discovery by mega producers L.A. Reid and Kenneth 'Babyface' Edmonds, to her battle with Lupus. The movie also delves into how she made it through her public divorce all while navigating her son's autism and family struggles.

Fans may not know, though, about the intense guilt Braxton once felt when she accepted her first recording deal that excluded her sisters. This decision haunted her for years and tainted the enormous fame she experienced.

Despite her early accomplishments, Braxton's world also crumbled when she was forced to file for bankruptcy twice and was left alone to pick up the pieces.

Toni Braxton: *Unbreak My Heart* is more than the story of Braxton's difficult past though – it is a story of hope, healing and triumph.

Toni Braxton: *Unbreak My Heart* also stars Debbi Morgan as Braxton's mother Evelyn; Gavin Houston as Babyface, Courtney Scott Wright as Traci Braxton, Skye P Marshall as Towanda Braxton, LaToya Franklyn as Trina Braxton and Tiffany Hines (Devious Maids) as Tamar Braxton.

Toni Braxton, Craig Baumgarten, Erik Kritzer and Marcus Grant serve as executive producers. Kenneth 'Babyface' Edmonds produces. Vondie Curtis Hall (Abducted: The Carlina White Story) directs from a script written by Susan McMartin (Mom, Two and a Half Men).

★ Celebrity ★ Watch ★

Orlando Bloom looks delighted

NEW YORK - It's been just a few short weeks since they enjoyed a romantic break to Hawaii, where they confirmed their romance with a series of amorous gestures. And Katy Perry, 31, and boyfriend Orlando Bloom, 39, were back to being a jet-setting couple as they touched down at London's Heathrow airport together on Saturday. Despite keeping at arm's length on their way out of New York city's JFK the previous evening, the lovebirds seemed less fazed about being pictured together as they arrived in the British capital the following morning.



INLOVE: Katy Perry and Orlando Bloom.

But while Katy's visit to the UK may have had some speculating that she was to be introduced to her British beau's family, their time on English soil was in fact very brief. *Mail Online*

Alexandra Daddario, Zac Efron get flirty

MIAMI - It was just another tough day at work for Zac Efron, who found himself shooting scenes for the new Baywatch movie with a skimpily-clad Alexandra Daddario. The photogenic pair clearly share on-screen chemistry and some of it spilled over into some playful flirting as they hung out between takes.

The actress and model, 29, and the former High School Musical star, 28, exchanged meaningful glances and pulled funny faces as they went through their lines and joked around on the location set on Miami Beach. Daddario stars as Summer Quinn, played in the original TV series by



FLIRTING: Alexandra Daddario and Zac.

Nicole Eggert, while Efron, 28, is reprising David Charvet's role as Matt Brody. *Mail Online*

Calvin Harris declines collabo with Taylor Swift

LOS ANGELES - They're both experts in their musical fields and regularly dominate the charts. But fans shouldn't expect to see a collaboration between Calvin Harris and girlfriend Taylor Swift anytime soon as The Sun claims the DJ has 'politely declined' the opportunity to work with the Style singer. It's believed the 32-year-old far too smitten with Taylor to take the risk, especially after his previous team-up with ex-girlfriend Rita Ora ended in disaster. "Calvin's next single is ready but the label is keen for him to get a big female US star to collaborate on it," a source told the publication. "They floated the idea



SERIOUS: Calvin Harris.

of him working with Taylor but he politely declined it. Calvin has seen how sour things can turn when working with someone he's dating." But there is one lady who Calvin has reportedly set his sights on, as it's claimed the How Deep Is Your Love hit-maker would leap at the chance of working with Beyonce. *Mail Online*

Star in stripes

MIAMI - She always turns heads when she hits a red carpet. And Friday was no different for Malin Akerman as she stepped out for Ocean Drive Magazine's celebration of their March issue at W Hotel in Miami Beach, Florida. The 37-year-old cover girl commanded attention at the bash as she flaunted her figure in a shimmering, multicoloured dress. Malin sported a spaghetti strap number that hit at just below her knees and featured a plunging front. The shimmering dress featured sequined, horizontal stripes in bright shades of pink, purple, yellow, gold, green and blue.



HEAD TURNER: Malin Akerman.

The low-cut back of her dress also showed off her lotus flower tattoo, which she revealed to the magazine she had gotten on a whim when she was 24 years old. *Mail Online*

Madonna left 'utterly bereft'

AUCKLAND - It is the one day of the year when every mother should be able to count on the company of her children, or at least look forward to receiving a card or a call. But for Madonna, Mother's Day will be filled with the pain of knowing her son Rocco is never coming home. For The Mail on Sunday can reveal that the pop star has conceded defeat to her ex-husband Guy Ritchie over the custody of their 15-year-old son. The singer has told friends she has 'lost the battle' after finally admitting her son does not want to live with her. This comes after she broke down on stage during the New Zealand leg of



CAUGHT IN BETWEEN: Madonna and Rocco.

her Rebel Heart tour on Friday, emotionally professing love for her son to the crowd. The mother-of-four burst into tears on the Auckland stage as she told fans: "There is no love stronger than a mother for her son," before dedicating her song La Vie en Rose to him. *Mail Online*

Kylie Jenner, Karrueche tease joint cooking project

LOS ANGELES - He's shared everything from her makeup routine to her collection of wigs on her website. And now it seems a cooking demonstration with Karrueche Tran may be next. On Saturday, Kylie Jenner and Karrueche teased their latest project on Snapchat, including a video of themselves mic'ing themselves up as they stood in front of a stovetop. The girls were barely audible as they greeted their audience. As the ladies cosied up together sporting mismatching crop tops, the girls greeted their viewers with a wide and flirty smile.



JOINING HANDS: Kylie and Karrueche.

'Hey guys,' Karrueche is heard saying as she adjusts the microphone at the back of her pink top. 'We're putting mics on!' Kylie said. "Yeah it's like awkward," Karrueche giggled as the audio became crystal clear. *Mail Online*

Barefoot beauty! Melissa Whitelaw cuts a stylish figure

SYDNEY - She's the brunette beauty that was linked to one of the stars of One Direction while they were in Australia. And Melissa Whitelaw flaunted her slender frame as she strode across the waterfront at Rose Bay beach in Sydney on Saturday. The 22-year-old opted to go barefoot and carried her high heels in one hand, while lifting the hem of her dress with the other to not drag it along the ground. Melissa wore a white frock by Australian designers Bec & Bridge that featured an intricate cut out across her ribs and pattern throughout. Her dark brown locks



SEXY: Melissa Whitelaw.

were slicked back into a neat ponytail that was tied at the base of her neck as she strutted along in the sunshine. She juggled holding her beige clutch, a pair of stilettos and the hem of her dress in one hand while holding her phone in the other. *Mail Online*

The Weeknd gives surprise performance on SNL

LOS ANGELES - Two-time Grammy winner The Weeknd was the secret surprise performer joining first-time musical guest Future on Saturday Night Live this week. The 26-year-old R&B belter - born Abel Tesfaye - sang along with the 32-year-old rapper - born Nayvadius Wilburn - on his new track Low Life. The trap/PBR&B song came off of the Atlanta hip-hop star's fourth studio album, EVOL, which dropped last month. Future was certainly no animal activist, donning two different fur-hooded mink/suede coats on the



SURPRISE: The Weeknd.

late-night sketch series. During his second performance, the former fiancé of Ciara rocked a graffiti-strewn Army jacket for an auto-tuned rendition of March Madness from his 2015 mixtape 56 Nights. *Mail Online*

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA

TODAY

Iris must figure out how to pay Pope back. Fezile and Qondi break a cardinal traditional rule. S'bu must face the repercussions of his decisions.



MAKES A PLAN: Iris.

ISIDINGO

TODAY

With Mama Mokoena's support, Katlego drops a bombshell on the Sibekos. Calvin becomes ever more estranged from Aphie and S'khu after the hotel incident. Brad has a chance to make waves at HI, but a scorned Sam isn't interested in helping.



BOMB-SHELL: Katlego.

Muvhango

TODAY

Mfungelwa accuses Vusi of hiring him to kill Imani. Thandaza realises that she's going to face a tough challenge when Mam-Phphet sends her to Joburg on an errand. Mulimisi performs the cleansing ritual on Muvhango but something goes wrong.



IN FOR A SURPRISE: Mulimisi.

RHYTHM CITY

TODAY



ARTISTIC: Emmanuel.

Suffocate gets into more trouble. Mapula discovers Gadifele's shebeen plans. Emmanuel gives Sifiso a CD of their beats.

Bayern Munich stay clear after holding Dortmund

MUNICH - Bayern Munich protected their five-point lead at the top of the table on Saturday, drawing 0-0 at second-placed Borussia Dortmund to stay on track for a record fourth consecutive Bundesliga title.

The game, broadcast to 208 countries, lived up to its big billing with a frantic pace and a goal was the only thing missing from an entertaining encounter.

The visitors wasted a golden chance early on when Thomas Mueller's effort went narrowly wide and Arturo Vidal followed suit a little later.

Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang then missed a good opportunity for Dortmund as he was denied by keeper Manuel Neuer.

The best scoring chance fell to Bayern's Douglas Costa who raced clear with only keeper Roman Buerki to beat but the Swiss stood his ground to deny the winger.

Bayern, chasing three trophies this season, kept up the pressure in the second half as Dortmund lost some of their early momentum.



BLOCK: Arturo Vidal (right) wrestles with a Borussia Dortmund player as Lukasz Piszczek and Julian Weigl watch the ball fly wide of the goal. (Daily Mail)

Buerki made the save of the game on the hour, tipping a thunderous Vidal shot on to the bar.

The result lifted the Bavarians, who lost 2-1 to Mainz 05 in mid-week, to 63 points from 25 games with Dortmund on 58.

Substitute Franco Di Santo sealed Schalke 04's 3-1 victory at Cologne to help the Gelsenkirchen side move into the top four, boosting their hopes of a

return to the Champions League next season.

The Argentine, who has had a disappointing first season after joining from Werder Bremen, scored three minutes after coming on in the 73rd minute to give Schalke a two-goal cushion.

Bayer Leverkusen fought back from 3-0 down to snatch a 3-3 draw at Augsburg with three goals in the last half hour.

Hakan Calhanoglu's stoppage-time penalty completed their revival after Koo Ja-Cheol had scored a hat-trick for the hosts.

Rejuvenated Claudio Pizarro was on target again, three days after his midweek hat-trick, as Werder Bremen crushed bottom club Hanover 96 4-1 to climb further away from the relegation zone.

Reuters

PSG keep powder dry before Chelsea clash

PARIS - With numerous stars rested, Paris Saint-Germain settled for an uninspiring goalless draw at home to Montpellier on Saturday ahead of their crucial Champions League return clash with Chelsea.

PSG's enormous lead at the top of Ligue 1 and determination to progress in Europe meant this game was never the priority for coach Laurent Blanc, although things could have been very different had Edinson Cavani found the net rather than the bar early on.

The draw allowed the defending champions to restore their 23-point lead at the top over second-placed Monaco, who drew 2-2 at Caen on Friday, and means they could still secure a fourth straight title when they host the principality club at the Parc des Princes on March 20.

By then they will hope to have confirmed their place in the last eight of the Champions League for the fourth year running, but all depends on the second leg of their last-16 tie with Chelsea in London on Wednesday, into which they take a 2-1 lead.

"There is no reason to be satisfied, that game could have been won. We weren't efficient going forward, it's a shame there was no goal," said Blanc.

"The most important thing, though, and what makes me the happiest is that we didn't lose anyone to injury. We decided to let some players play and others rest. Overall, it was satisfactory."

Supersport

Bloemfontein Celtic sale off

JOHANNESBURG - The sale of Bloemfontein Celtic has been cancelled.

This comes a week after the club's Chairman, Max Tshabalala, announced that he will be putting the club on the market and that he wants out.

He further confirmed his intentions of selling Celtic on Monday morning at Siwelele Park in Bloemfontein during a press conference.

On Friday morning, it transpired that there was an alleged leaked staff letter revealing that the club was

not for sale.

According to the alleged letter it said the club was not for sale and will no longer be sold "under any circumstances".

However, the club's spokesman, Sello Nduna, has confirmed that Celtic is no longer for sale.

Yesterday the club held a meeting at the Pax Nova Hall in Botshabelo, where they engaged with their supporters and members of the community to discuss the events of the past week.

The club's founding father,

Dr Petrus Molemela, was in attendance at the supporters' general meeting and even addressed the packed hall.

One of the key issues Celtic conceded is that there is a clear communication gap between the management of the team and the sides' faithful supporters, something that they feel needs to be remedied.

The team's lawyer Cobus Bredenkamp also produced documentation verifying the purchase of the team and ownership to the Tshabalala family. *Daily Mail*

Watson beats Caroline Wozniacki in Monterrey Open

NEW YORK - Heather Watson is through to the Monterrey Open semi-finals after a stunning victory against former world NO.1 Caroline Wozniacki.

The British NO. 2, who has dropped to 84th in the rankings after a poor start to the year, produced a dominant display to beat the second seed 7-5, 6-4.

But British NO. 1 Johanna Konta will not join Watson in the last four after she lost in three sets to Belgium's Kirsten Flipkens. Watson's clash with Wozniacki remained on serve for the first 10 games before the Brit broke and then served out the



THROUGH: Heather Watson.

set. Wozniacki broke early in the second but Watson hit back immediately, then picked up another game in the fifth before going on to

serve out the match.

Watson will face the winner of an all French clash between Caroline Garcia and Pauline Parmentier in the last four. Konta earlier was beaten by world number 73 Flipkens in just over two hours. The fourth seed fought back from the brink of defeat to take the second set but was blown away in the decider to lose 6-3, 6-7 (2/7) 6-1.

Konta trailed 5-4 in the second but broke serve before easing through the tie-break.

But Flipkens responded in style in the third set, racing into a 5-0 lead and securing victory with a comfortable hold of service. *Daily Mail*

Hamilton slams 'Halo' design as the worst looking modification

LONDON - World champion Lewis Hamilton has hit out at Formula One's new 'Halo' concept, describing it as the 'worst looking' modification in the sport's history.

The controversial design, first pioneered by Hamilton's Mercedes team, was given its inaugural outing during winter testing in Barcelona on Thursday.

Ferrari's Kimi Raikkonen completed two laps with the halo-shaped device, which is aimed at improving driver head protection, before his team-mate Sebastian Vettel also trialled the concept on Friday.

But Hamilton, who initially told reporters he did not want to comment on the Halo, moved to clarify his position in a message posted to his Instagram account late on Thursday evening.

Alongside a picture of Raikkonen's car with the Halo attached, Hamilton wrote: "Please no! This is the worst looking mod in Formula 1 history."

"I appreciate the quest for safety but this is formula 1, and the way it is now is perfectly fine."

Hamilton, speaking after getting back into his Mercedes for a stint on Friday, added on his initial comments.

He told reporters: "I love this sport and F1 cars are so unique in how they look. I feel they have lost the cool look they used to have in the 1980s and 1990s and this part is just too drastic."

"It is not F1 for me. If they do implement it, I hope we have a choice of whether we have to use it and are not forced to, because ultimately it is our safety."

Daily Mail

FIFA must now be more open - Merkel

BERLIN - German Chancellor Angela Merkel says she hopes football's senior figures, including world football's governing body FIFA, will demonstrate the transparency they have pledged in the wake of recent scandals.

"I hope that the world of football, and also FIFA, really enters into transparency," Germany's leader said in her podcast published on Saturday.

"Sport is inextricably linked to fairness."

"If the relevant

organisations do not reflect that, then it will ultimately lead to disappointment and will also harm the sport overall."

Merkel said those guilty of corruption in sport ruin the efforts of the numerous athletes, coaches and administrators who act fairly.

"So officials have a very big responsibility," she added.

Her comments were aimed at both the German FA (DFB) and FIFA.

Merkel was speaking a day after an independent inquiry said it could not rule out that Germany bought votes to secure the 2006 World Cup.

Daily Mail



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Ministry of Public Works and Transport

ADVERTISEMENT FOR INVITATION TO TENDER INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF NEW TYRES, TUBES AND ACCESSORIES

Tender Reference NO.37

Central Transport Administration in the Ministry of Public Works and Transport now invites sealed Tenders for the Supply and Delivery of New Tyres, Tubes and Accessories.

Tenders must be accompanied by an original general receipt for E 500.00 (Five hundred) which should be paid at Mbabane Revenue Office (Account no. 911/1101/21990) payment is non-refundable.

Tenders must be enclosed in a sealed envelope.

The Outer envelope must be marked as follows:

"The Secretary to the Tender Board"

Treasury Building

The Envelope must be clearly marked with the following words; "Central Transport Administration" Tender No.37 Supply And Delivery of New Tyres, Tubes and Accessories;

Do not open before 09:00 Hours on the 1st April, 2016.

Tenders must be delivered to the offices of Tender Board, Treasury Building, P. O. Box 38, Mbabane, Swaziland, by the 1st April, 2016 at 09:00 Hours and deposited in the Treasury Tender Box.

A Compulsory pre-tender meeting will be held at Mbabane CTA Body shop on 16th March, 2016 at 10:30-13:00hrs.

Tenders received in time for submission will be opened at the Treasury Building on the 1st April 2016 at 09:00hrs. Late, telegraphic, electronic and faxed tenders will not be considered. Tenderers may attend the opening procedure.

The documents specified in the Instructions to Tenderers must include certified copies of current Government Tax Clearance Certificates, Trading Licence, Form C, Form J, Labour Compliance Certificate, Swaziland National Provident Fund Certificate, Original Government General Receipt and Tender Security of E50.000.00 must be enclosed in the tender envelope.

Tenderers must have the same Company owner's name/s on all documents. If it is not the same, the tender document will be rejected.

Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

For further information contact the following: email address simelaneabe@gov.sz or swanedlamini@yahoo.com

Tender documents to be collected from CTA, General Transport Manager's Office Dlanubeka Building 4th Floor Mbabane Headquarters. Original general receipt must be produced in order to obtain tender documents.

SECRETARY TO SWAZILAND GOVERNMENT TENDER BOARD

Doc.10011



MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORT

ADVERTISEMENT FOR INVITATION TO TENDER INVITATION TO TENDER FOR LUBRICANTS, OIL, GREASES

Tender Reference NO.36 OF 2016/17

Central Transport Administration in the Ministry of Public Works and Transport now invites sealed Tenders for the Supply and Delivery of Lubricants, Oil and Greases.

Tenders must be accompanied by an original general receipt for E 500.00 (Five hundred) which should be paid at Mbabane Revenue Office (Account no. 911/1101/21990) payment is non-refundable.

Tenders must be enclosed in a sealed envelope

The Outer envelope must be marked as follows:

"The Secretary to the Tender Board"

Treasury Building

P.O. Box 38

MBABANE

The Envelope must be clearly marked with the following words; "Central Transport Administration" Tender No.36 of 2016/2017 Supply and Delivery of Lubricants, Oils and Greases"

Do not open before 09:00 Hours on the 1st April, 2016.

Tenders must be delivered to the offices of Tender Board, Treasury Building, P. O. Box 38, Mbabane, Swaziland, by the 1st April, 2016 at 09:00 Hours and deposited in the Treasury Tender Box.

A Compulsory pre-tender meeting will be held at Mbabane CTA Body shop on 16th March, 2016 at 14:00-15:00hrs.

Tenders received in time for submission will be opened at the Treasury Building on the 1st April, 2016 at 09:00hrs. Late, telegraphic, electronic and faxed tenders will not be considered. Tenderers may attend the opening procedure.

The documents specified in the Instructions to Tenderers must include certified copies of current Government Tax Clearance Certificates, Trading Licence, Form C, Form J, Labour Compliance Certificate, Swaziland National Provident Fund Document, Original Government General Receipt and Tender Security of E40.000.00 must be enclosed in the tender envelope.

Tenderers must have the same Company owner's name/s on all documents. If it is not the same, the tender document will be rejected.

Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

For further information contact the following: email to: simelaneabe@gov.sz or swanedlamini@yahoo.com

Tender documents to be collected from CTA, General Transport Manager's Office Dlanubeka Building 4th Floor Mbabane Headquarters. Original general receipt must be produced in order to obtain tender documents.

SECRETARY TO SWAZILAND GOVERNMENT TENDER BOARD

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Ministry of Public Works and Transport

ADVERTISEMENT FOR INVITATION TO TENDER INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF CENTRAL TRANSPORT ADMINISTRATION (CTA) PRINTED STATIONERY.

Tender Reference NO.35

The Central Transport Administration under the Ministry of Public Works and Transport now invites sealed Tenders for the provision of Supply and Delivery of Central Transport Administration (CTA) Printed Stationery.

Tenders must be accompanied by a receipt for E 500 (five hundred) which should be paid at Mbabane Revenue Office. (Account no. 911/1101/21990) payment is non-refundable.

Tenders must be enclosed in a sealed envelope

The Outer envelope must be marked as follows:

"The Secretary to the Tender Board"

Treasury Building

P.O. Box 38

MBABANE"

The Envelope must be clearly marked with the following words; "The Supply of Central Transport Administration (CTA) Printed Stationery Tender No.35"

Do not open before 09:00 Hours on the 1st April, 2016"

A Compulsory pre-tender meeting will be held at Mbabane CTA Body Shop on the 16th March, 2016 at 15:00 - 16:00 Hours.

Tenders must be delivered to the offices of Tender Board, Treasury Building, P. O. Box 38, Mbabane, Swaziland, by 09:00 Hours on the 1st April, 2016 and deposited in the Treasury Tender Box.

Tenders received in time by the latest date and time for submission will be opened at the Treasury Building at 09:00 Hours on the 1st April, 2016. Late, telegraphic, electronic and faxed tenders will not be considered. Tenderers may attend the opening procedure.

The documents specified in the Instructions to Tenderers must include certified copies of current Government Tax Clearance Certificates, Trading Licence, Form C, Form J, Labour Compliance Certificate, Swaziland National Provident Fund Certificate, Original Government General Receipt and Tender Security of E40.000.00 must be enclosed in the tender envelope.

The Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender. For further information contact the following email: simelaneabe@gov.sz or swanedlamini@yahoo.com

SECRETARY TO SWAZILAND GOVERNMENT TENDER BOARD

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MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORT

ADVERTISEMENT FOR INVITATION TO TENDER INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF NEW BATTERIES AND ACCESSORIES

Tender Reference No.34 of 2016/2017

The Central Transport Administration now invites sealed Tenders for the provision of the Supply and Delivery of New Batteries and Accessories for Vehicles and Motor Bikes.

Tenders must be accompanied by a receipt of E 500.00 (Five Hundred Emalangeni only) which should be paid at Mbabane Revenue Office. (Account No. 911/1101/21990) payment is non-refundable.

Tenders must be enclosed in a sealed envelope

The Outer envelope must be marked as follows:

"The Secretary to the Tender Board"

Treasury Building

P.O. Box 38

MBABANE"

The Envelope must be clearly marked with the following words; "The Central Transport Administration Tender No.34 of 2016/2017. The Supply and Delivery of New Batteries and Accessories for Vehicles and Motor Bikes".

Do not open before 09:00 Hours on the Friday of the 1st April, 2016.

Tenders must be delivered to the offices of Tender Board, Treasury Building, P. O. Box 38, Mbabane, Swaziland, by 09:00 Hours on the 1st April, 2016 and deposited in the Treasury Tender Box.

A Compulsory pre-tender meeting will be held at Mbabane CTA Body shop on 16th March, 2016 at 08:30-10:00hrs.

Tenders received in time by the latest date and time for submission will be opened at the Treasury Building at 09:00 hrs on the 1st April, 2016. Late, telegraphic, electronic and faxed tenders will not be considered. Tenderers may attend the opening procedure.

The documents specified in the Instructions to Tenderers must include certified copies of current Government Tax Clearance Certificates, Trading Licence, Form C, Form J, Labour Compliance Certificate, Swaziland National Provident Fund Certificate, Original Government General Receipt and Tender Security of E30.000.00 must be enclosed in the tender envelope

The Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

For further information email the following: simelaneabe@gov.sz or swanedlamini@yahoo.com

Tender documents must be collected from C.T.A. at GTM'S office Dlanubeka Building Mbabane Fourth Floor, after producing an original government receipt.

SECRETARY TO SWAZILAND GOVERNMENT TENDER BOARD

Doc.10011

Jose's United U-turn

LONDON - Jose Mourinho is resigned to NOT getting the Manchester United job.

The 'Special One' is the short-priced bookies' favourite to replace Louis van Gaal at Old Trafford.

But the Sunday Mirror yesterday claimed that Mourinho think he's out of favour with United chiefs - and that he won't get the gig.

The 'Special One' is desperate to get a chance to return to management with United but the board have other ideas.

Old Trafford chiefs reportedly feel Mourinho can't be trusted to get the best out of the young players.

Instead, it's claimed United will stick with their plan for Ryan Giggs to eventually take over from Van Gaal.

The Dutchman on Saturday hinted he was set to stay when he said: "There are a lot of players coming to Manchester United next season because

...Mourinho gives up on Red Devils



GOOD-BYE: Jose Mourinho.

they know I give them a chance."

It comes days after Mourinho's close friend and confidante Eladio Parames - who describes himself as being like an

older brother to Mourinho - took a clear swipe at Van Gaal.

Parames said: "Does anybody really think that Van Gaal would play with Donald Love if Antonio Valencia, Matteo Darmian and Phil Jones weren't injured?"

"Or does anybody believe that Rashford would play if Wayne Rooney, Anthony Martial and Marouane Fellani weren't also in the Carrington Hospital?"

"If there are 15 injuries in a 22-man squad, the club either plays with young boys from the academy or has to play seven-a-side!"

"So, it's important to point out Rashford is very lucky that Manchester United don't play in seven-a-side tournaments."

Daily Star

John Terry admits becoming manager no longer interests him

LONDON - John Terry has gone off management and reiterated his desire to play for at least another two years, with the Chelsea captain angling for a contract at Stamford Bridge.

The 35-year-old joined Chelsea in 1995 but made no secret in January that the Barclays Premier League club had not offered him a new deal, much to his disappointment.

In 2014 he might have brushed it off and become a boss instead. Now, though, Terry plans to play into his late thirties, even if it is likely to be in China, Italy, USA or Qatar rather than England. Asked whether his ambition was to get into management, he said:

"It probably was a couple of years ago. It's taken a bit longer than I expected."

"But for me it's changed. I'm not sure I want to go into that. I've had so many

managers and learned so much. Basically if I don't dip my toe in at some point in my career..."

"While I've got a couple of years left, the main thing for me is to fully focus on that and give everything."

Terry was unable to play against Stoke City on Saturday, with the centre-back hamstrung as the club fight for European football under interim manager Guus Hiddink. *Daily Mail*

Steve McClaren insists he is going nowhere

LONDON - Steve McClaren says he will not quit as manager of Newcastle United but admits he does not know if he will survive a barbaric afternoon in which supporters called for him to be sacked.

Fans turned on the former England boss in poisonous fashion during Saturday's 3-1 defeat at home to Bournemouth, singing "Steve McClaren, he's taking us down."

The loss - their ninth in 12 matches - leaves the Magpies second from bottom and one point from safety.

McClaren denies that he has lost the dressing-room - his players released an ill-timed statement before the game saying they backed him - but he admits that a repeat of performances such as this will send them down to the Championship.

And when asked if he would now quit, McClaren said: "No way. That is for other people to decide."

"I've had chants like this quite a few times. That's the perils of being a manager, and especially manager of this team this season."

"But I can understand that



WON'T QUIT: Steve McClaren.

(fans' reaction). I can understand the frustrations, damn right I do. I've thought that all season.


"There have been ups and downs, and I talk about this team being the most frustrating I've ever had."

Does he, then, expect to be sacked if he won't walk?

"You will have to ask them (club hierarchy)," he said. "I can't control that."

McClaren, who has won just nine of 43 games at both Derby and Newcastle in the past year, added: "We can't stay up if we keep playing like that. To be brutally honest that was not good enough."

Daily Mail



Public Service Pensions Fund

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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - EXTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES

The Public Service Pensions Fund is a Statutory Fund established by the Pensions Fund Order of 1993 to administer pensions for the public service.

The Public Service Pensions Fund extends an invitation to interested audit firms, registered in the Kingdom of Swaziland, to submit an expression of interest, for consideration for appointment as the Fund's external auditors.

Interested parties should apply and enclose supporting documentation to demonstrate the following qualities:

- Reputable and established auditing practice with a proven track record
- Expertise and experience in auditing Public Sector, Pensions Funds or other Financial Institutions
- Registered as a practicing Auditor with the Swaziland Institute of Accountants
- Availability of specialty service resources including:


1. Information Technology
2. Investment expertise
3. Local and international taxation including the Republic of South Africa tax

Submission of Tenders

Documents are to be clearly marked as indicated below and deposited in the Tender Box at the Ground Floor Ingcamu Building, Mhlambanyatsi Road, Mbabane, clearly marked:

External Audit Services
The Chief Executive Officer
Public Service Pensions Fund
Mhlambanyatsi Road
Mbabane

Closing Date: 09 March 2016 at 12h00 Noon
No telegraphic, electronic or mail tenders shall be accepted.
The Fund is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender.



SWAZILAND SUGAR ASSOCIATION

JOB VACANCY

CANE TESTING OFFICER POSITION

Applications from suitably qualified individuals are invited to apply for the job of Cane Testing Officer in our Technical Services Department.

The Job: The key responsibilities of the job are:

- (i) Scheduling and overseeing calibration and testing of sugar industry mass meters
- (ii) Planning and executing audits of cane testing and laboratory processes in the sugar industry
- (iii) Reviewing the effectiveness of corrective actions from audits
- (iv) Reviewing the accuracy of reports from Laboratory Information Management Systems (LIMS)
- (v) Receiving and investigating queries from growers on laboratory results
- (vi) Maintaining the SSA quality management system
- (vii) Compiling various reports for different sugar industry stakeholders


The Person: The ideal candidate shall have the following minimum attributes:

- (i) A Bachelor's Degree in Science with Chemistry as one of the majors.
- (ii) Possession of a Certificate in Sugar Technology would be an added advantage.
- (iii) Knowledge and experience of ISO 9001 and ISO 17025 management systems.
- (iv) At least two years Laboratory experience, preferably in the sugar industry
- (v) At least two years supervisory experience
- (vi) General computer literacy with specific emphasis on competence in IT database, spreadsheets, word processing and MS PowerPoint.
- (vii) Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- (viii) Good analytical, report-writing, planning and organising skills
- (ix) Ability to work under minimum supervision

Remuneration: Competitive remuneration package commensurate with the responsibilities of this position is offered.

Applications: Applications, including a detailed curriculum vitae and the names of three referees, should be addressed to Recruitment, Swaziland Sugar Association, and posted to P.O. Box 445, Mbabane, or hand delivered to SSA offices at Nkhosfotjeni Building, Fourth Floor, Corner of Msakato and Dzeliwe Streets, Mbabane, or sent by e-mail to recruitment@ssa.co.sz. Applications should be received by 9 March 2016.

(Only short-listed applicants will be responded to)



'I've made a huge mistake'

...convicted child sex offender Adam Johnson tells friends of his shame as he faces up to jail - and says he hopes it is 'fast'

LONDON - Adam Johnson has admitted to making a 'huge mistake' over his child sex crimes, telling friends he hopes his jail time will go 'fast'.

The convicted child sex offender also opened up about his doubts that he will ever play football again and spoke of how his life had now become a 'mess'.

The former England and Sunderland star made the remarkable admissions during a chat with Danish model and friend Julie Hall following his conviction last week, the Sunday Mirror reported.

The 28-year-old was speaking for the first time since he was found guilty of sexual activity with a minor, as it was revealed he had been pouring his heart out to Hall for 10 months.

He told Ms Hall: 'It's my own fault. I made a huge mistake. Now I need to do what I need to do - hopefully it will be fast.'

"I just need to be occupied and think about something else, and hopefully I will come out having learned from my mistake."



ADMITTED: Adam Johnson.

The shamed star met Hall during a stag do in Dubai last May, two months after his arrest which would eventually reveal his lust for a girl aged 15.

The pair were seen cosying up and attending parties in photos posted on social media, with Johnson confiding in the model about details surrounding his involvement with the 15-year-old.

Hall revealed how Johnson called his meetings with the youngster 'a mistake' and in discussions they had after his conviction, he told her that he hoped his sentence 'would be fast'.

She also told of how Johnson didn't expect to serve jail time for his interactions with the underage minor, as they hadn't had sex and had only kissed.

Despite Johnson's guilty plea and conviction, Hall said she would continue her relationship with the disgraced footballer.

Stacey Flounders, mother of Johnson's 13-month old daughter Ayla Sofia, showed no emotion as the verdicts were returned after the jury spent more than nine hours deliberating.

Previously she gave evidence to the court and insisted she would 'remain friends' with her ex.

She wiped away tears as she described how the 28-year-old had told her 'everything' about kissing a 15-year-old girl when he returned home after being questioned by police.

Daily Mail

CHELSEA TARGET CONTE HEADS FOR TALKS WITH ROMAN ABRAMOVICH

LONDON/MILAN - Antonio Conte is edging closer to clinching a deal at Chelsea and is set to meet with Roman Abramovich in Monaco next week.

The Italy manager would take over at the club after leading his national team in Euro 2016 and is understood to be due talks with Chelsea's Russian owner in the coming days.

Sources in Italy have indicated that Conte is fully focussed on his current job, but wants a new challenge when the tournament in France ends in July.

Guus Hiddink, who replaced Jose Mourinho in December, has repeatedly stated his

desire not to extend his stay at Chelsea beyond the end of this season after honouring his interim agreement, despite the majority of players wanting him to remain there. Even the Dutchman has urged the club to sign a replacement quickly and insisted he would not feel his

position undermined if a successor was named before the end of the campaign.

Chelsea have been considering a number of targets to replace him, including Juventus boss

Massimiliano Allegri and Atletico Madrid's Diego Simeone. *Kickoff*



DEAL: Antonio Conte

Tinkler praises Orlando Pirates response in Nedbank Cup win

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates coach Eric Tinkler saluted his charges for responding to his instructions at half-time of their Soweto Derby victory over Kaizer Chiefs.

Pirates were under pressure in the opening stanza of their Nedbank Cup opener at FNB Stadium on Saturday. However, Bucs striker Tendai Ndoro hit two unanswered goals after the break to send his team through to the last-16 of the lucrative competition.

"I thought we started well but we

didn't capitalise on our chances," Tinkler told his club's official website. "Gift (Motupa) had a very good opportunity but couldn't finish up. We had a couple of more chances... in fact, I think we could have scored more than one goal in the opening 15 minutes however as the first half went on, Chiefs had the ascendancy and began causing problems. "They were creating chances and they were entering into the final third too often and that was a big worry for us on the bench. *Kickoff*

SAFA throw rule book at top referees

JOHANNESBURG - The South African Football Association announced that its Referees Review Committee has suspended several Premier Soccer League referees and assistant referees for poor performances in recent matches.

"The Committee was unanimous that the new match officials' disciplinary code stipulates that acts of poor performance that have been committed through blatant refereeing mistakes by not interpreting the Laws of the Games accordingly, must be sanctioned," read a SAFA statement.

The statement then quoted the following from said code of conduct: "The Referee or the assistant Referee that has committed an incident affecting the outcome of the game shall immediately cease to be appointed for matches until such time that the matter has been dealt with and finalised," reads part of the code of conduct.

SAFA has issued the following sanctions:

● In the match between Kaizer Chiefs and Bidvest Wits (19 December 2015), assistant referee Johannes MOSHIDI was deemed to have performed poorly and will not be appointed for National Soccer League matches for a period of 6 weeks. He will also forfeit his stipend for a period of one month.

● Referee Phillip Tinyane will also be missing from action

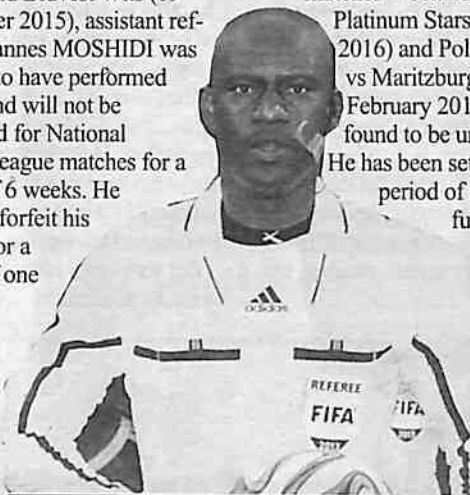
for a period of four weeks after his performance was deemed not satisfactory in the clash between Bidvest Wits and Platinum Stars (3 February 2016)

● In the Free State Stars vs Bloemfontein Celtic (31 January 2016) encounter and the highly publicised top of the table clash between Kaizer Chiefs vs Mamelodi Sundowns (9 January 2016), assistant referee Sandile DILIKANE was found to have officiated poorly. He will not be eligible for appointments for the National Soccer League matches for a period of 4 weeks and will also forfeit his stipend for one month.

● Referee Daniel VOLGRAAFF will have his fitness reassessed before he can be allowed back on the field following a string of poor decisions including incorrect interpretation and application of the Laws in the Mbombela United vs Black Leopards (31 January 2016) clash.

● Referee Victor HLUNGWANI'S several decisions in two matches - Orlando Pirates vs Platinum Stars (9 January 2016) and Polokwane City vs Maritzburg United (3 February 2016) - were found to be unsatisfactory. He has been set aside for a period of 6 weeks and further hit in the

pocket with the forfeiture of his stipend for a period of one month. *AFP*



RULED: Referee Victor Hlungwani.

FIFA gets video technology approval from IFAB, changes laws

ZURICH - New FIFA President Gianni Infantino has announced his excitement that video technology will be used to assist referees from at least the start of the 2017/18 season.

After a meeting on Saturday with the International Football Association Board (IFAB), football's law-making body, Infantino announced that changes are coming.

The IFAB - which is 18 years older than FIFA and comprises four FIFA members and one member from each of the four British associations - has approved a two-year trial period for technology to be used in four cases: to determine if a goal has been scored, sendings off, penalties and mistaken identity.

"We have taken a really historic decision for football. IFAB and FIFA are now leading the debate and not stopping the debate," Infantino said at a news conference.

"We have shown we are listening to football and applying common sense. We have to be cautious but are taking concrete

steps forwards to show a new era has started in FIFA and IFAB."

There will also be changes to the laws of the game: referees can now send-off players for pre-match fights, the ball can go in any direction at kick-off rather than only forwards and players can be treated on the field for injuries rather than having to leave it and wait for a signal to return.

One of the most significant changes will apply to last-man fouls in the penalty area to deny obvious goalscoring opportunities; if the defending goalkeeper or defender makes an obvious challenge for the ball the punishment is downgraded to a yellow card rather than an automatic red one.

Penalty-kick rules are also modified; if a kicker tries to deceive the goalkeeper by stopping and starting in his run-up, the right to have a retake is removed. Instead, the defending team is awarded an indirect free-kick and the attacking player is yellow-carded. If goalkeepers move off their line they will also be yellow-carded. *AFP*

Kyrgios fires back at Bernard Tomic on Twitter

SIDNEY - Australia's controversial tennis bad boys are in a fiery row after Nick Kyrgios hit back at Bernard Tomic for accusing him of faking an illness to get out of playing.

Tomic fired the verbal serve at his fellow bad boy star while talking with Lleyton Hewitt during his during Australia's Davis Cup clash with the US in Melbourne yesterday.

"Nick's sitting down in Canberra. Bulls*** he's sick... that's twice he's done it," the 23-year-old was heard saying on Channel Seven's broadcast.

Kyrgios bit back on Twitter yesterday night in a series of angry tweets.

"Heat of the moment, not gonna take it personally. India Wells a week away, plenty of time," he became diplomatically before taking aim at Tomic. *Daily Mail*



CONTROVERSIAL MOMENTS: Tomic and Kyrgios have both had a number of controversial moments throughout their career, yet seemed to defend each other through turbulent times and scandal. (*Daily Mail*)

RESULTS

Yesterday

English Barclays Premier League
Crystal Palace 1-2 Liverpool

French Ligue 1

Marseille 1-1 Toulouse

Italian Serie A

Torino 1-1 Lazio

Spanish La Liga

Real Betis 2-0 Granada CF

Saturday

English Barclays Premier League

Watford 0-1 Leicester City
Swansea City 1-0 Norwich City
Newcastle United 1-3 Bournemouth
Chelsea 1-1 Stoke City
Everton 2-3 West Ham United
Southampton 1-1 Sunderland
Manchester City 4-0 Aston Villa
Tottenham Hotspur 2-2 Arsenal

French Ligue 1

Bordeaux 1-1 GFC Ajaccio
Angers 0-0 St Etienne
Nice 2-1 Troyes
Bastia 0-0 Lorient
Lille 2-0 Reims S
Paris Saint-Germain 0-0 Montpellier

German Bundesliga

Borussia Dortmund 0-0 FC Bayern Munchen
FC Augsburg 3-3 Bayer 04 Leverkusen
VfL Wolfsburg 2-1 Borussia Monchengladbach
1. FC Koln 1-3 FC Schalke 04
SV Werder Bremen 4-1 Hannover 96
VfB Stuttgart 5-1 TSG 1899 Hoff
Eintracht Frankfurt 1-1 FC Ingolstadt 04

Italian Serie A

Napoli 3-1 Chievo
Verona 0-3 Sampdoria

Nedbank Cup

University of Pretoria 5-0 Polokwane City Rov
Ajax Cape Town 1-2 Free State Stars
Orlando Pirates 2-0 Kaizer Chiefs
Golden Arrows 2-1 Milford FC
EC Bees FC 1-2 Magesi FC

Spanish La Liga

Deportivo de La Cor 3-3
Getafe 1-1 Sevilla Coliseum
Villarreal 0-1 Las Palmas
Real Madrid 7-1 Celta de Vigo

Christian Benteke scores stoppage-time penalty

LONDON - Liverpool left London empty-handed last weekend when they lost on penalties at Wembley - but they flew north with three points from Crystal Palace, gift-wrapped by goalkeeper Alex McCarthy and referee Andre Marriner.

Palace had led through a sweet strike by Joe Ledley and the Merseysiders were down to 10 men because James Milner was dismissed for two yellow cards.

Eighteen minutes remained when McCarthy, making his first appearance since September, because of injury to Wayne Hennessey, made a complete hash of an attempted clearance and set up Roberto Firmino for the equaliser.

Liverpool went for the winner and it came in the fourth minute of stoppage time from a penalty converted by substitute Christian Benteke.

It was Benteke who had fallen over as he chased a ball into the penalty box, pursued by Palace centre-half Damien Delaney.

Television replays showed there was no contact, but Marriner's assistant raised his flag for a foul and a penalty was awarded.

Benteke coolly stroked it into the corner and Liverpool celebrated.

It was a spirited fight back with 10 men, but Palace boss Alan Pardew was fuming. He tore off his coat and hurled it into the dug-out.

His team have not won since December and they are plummeting into relegation

CRYSTAL PALACE 1-2, LIVERPOOL



SCORES: Christian Benteke celebrating his winning goal in stoppage time from the penalty spot. (dailymail.co.uk)

trouble and this was a game they really should have won.

Pardew will reflect on how his team opened with purpose and a flurry of chances, with Emmanuel Adebayor central to most of the key incident.

Adebayor, with his dreadlocks woven into an elaborate bun, seemed up for this one, offering for passes from midfield and linking up well with Yannick Bolasie, in particular.

An early cross forced Simon Mignolet into a brave save, smothering the ball at Bolasie's feet. Liverpool 'keeper Mignolet also made a fine stop, low to his right, to keep out a crisp effort by Adebayor, who then

thumped a header against the bar.

The Togo international was unmarked and ought to have done better with a fabulous cross from Pape Souare but could not keep it down.

Worryingly for Palace, Adebayor was causing problems in the other penalty area. He headed one corner kick from the grasp of his goalkeeper Alex McCarthy and flicked on another at the near post.

Liverpool grew into the game but created very little in a chaotic first-half featuring lots of energy, some full-blooded tackling and three yellow cards, one for Milner for a late challenge on Yohan Cabaye. *Daily Mail*

Black Aces smash United Rovers in cup tie

GWK RUGBY STADIUM - Mpumalanga Black Aces dominated United Rovers in a 7-0 victory in their Nedbank Cup clash yesterday afternoon.

Amazayoni broke the deadlock in the seventh minute when Nonyane tapped it in after Aubrey Modiba set it up for him with a good pass.

The PSL outfit were two goals clear in the 14th minute. Aubrey Ngoma was brought down in box, giving Aces a penalty. He then stepped up and slotted the spot kick for a 2-0 lead.

Aces were well in control of proceedings as they netted a third goal.

It was Ngoma who was in position again to produce a

calm finish and complete his brace on the day.

The goals kept flowing as Bongo Jayiya found the back of the net nine minutes into the second half.

The visitors could have been even further ahead but Oliphant made a great double save to ensure the scoreline doesn't get out of hand completely.

In the 78th minute the Mpumalanga outfit scored a fifth goal as Mulenga found

his first for Aces.

A sixth goal arrived in the last few minutes as Jayiya completed his brace before getting to his hat-trick moments later to cap off a one-sided game.

Soccer Laduma



Extra time goal hands Sundowns win

PRETORIA - Mamelodi Sundowns were made to work hard after a goal five minutes into extra time handed them a 1-0 win over Highlands Park in a Nedbank Cup Last 32 match at Makhulong Stadium yesterday afternoon.

Regular time ended 0-0 with both Sundowns and Highlands Park unimaginative in front of goal. It took a single goal from Keegan Dolly to see the Brazilians into the Last 16 of the cup competition.

The first half was dominated by the Absa Premiership team, but their decision making in the final third was poor.

The Brazilians had an early shot on goal in the eighth minute, but Khama Billiat fired wide of goal from the edge of the box.

In the 13th minute Themba Zwane should have given

Sundowns the lead when he worked himself into space 16-yards out, but his shot on goal was weak and the keeper made a good stop.

Highlands Park offered very little in attack in the opening half and never really threatened the Brazilians' goal.

The first half ended 0-0.

The NFD side started well in the second half and almost took the lead seven minutes after the restart when Simphiwe Tshabala broke through on goal, but he was denied

in a one-on-one with Dennis Onyango. In the 62nd minute some great defending by Highlands' Rudi Isaacs saw him clear a Katelgo Mashego shot off the goalline. Neither side could find a goal before the end of regulation time which ended 0-0.

Backpage TXT

LOGS

Absa Premiership LOGS

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Mamelodi Sundowns	22	16	4	2	41	15	52
Bidvest Wits	21	13	3	5	36	19	42
Kaizer Chiefs	21	10	9	2	31	17	39
Black Aces	21	10	6	5	27	19	36
Platinum Stars	20	9	7	4	28	20	34
Chippa United	22	10	2	10	30	33	32
Orlando Pirates	21	8	5	8	25	22	29
Golden Arrows	20	8	4	8	19	21	28
Free State Stars	21	8	4	9	22	28	28
Ajax Cape Town	21	7	6	8	29	29	27
SuperSport United	22	7	6	9	24	30	27
Bloem Celtic	21	5	7	9	16	19	22
Polokwane City	21	6	4	11	23	34	22
Jomo Cosmos	21	4	5	12	15	27	17
University of Pretoria	21	4	4	13	14	28	16
Mantzburg Utd	20	2	6	12	22	41	12

English Barclays Premier League

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Leicester City	29	17	9	3	52	31	60
Tottenham Hotspur	29	15	10	4	51	24	55
Arsenal	29	15	7	7	46	30	52
Manchester City	28	15	5	8	52	31	50
West Ham United	29	13	10	6	45	33	49
Manchester United	28	13	8	7	37	26	47
Liverpool	28	12	8	8	43	37	44
Stoke City	29	12	7	10	31	34	43
Southampton	29	11	8	10	36	29	41
Chelsea	29	10	10	9	43	39	40
Everton	28	9	11	8	51	39	38
Watford	29	10	7	12	29	30	37
West Bromwich Albion	28	9	9	10	29	36	36
Bournemouth	29	9	8	12	35	45	35
Crystal Palace	29	9	6	14	32	39	33
Swansea City	29	8	9	12	28	37	33
Sunderland	29	6	7	16	35	54	25
Norwich City	29	6	6	17	31	54	24
Newcastle United	28	6	6	16	28	53	24
Aston Villa	29	3	7	19	22	55	16

Spanish La Liga

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Barcelona	27	22	3	2	74	22	69
Atletico de Madrid	27	19	4	4	39	11	61
Real Madrid	28	18	6	4	81	27	60
Villarreal	28	15	8	5	33	19	53
Sevilla	28	12	9	7	39	29	45
Celta de Vigo	28	12	6	10	40	51	42
Athletic Club	27	12	5	10	42	36	41
Eibar	27	10	6	11	40	36	36
Valencia CF	27	8	10	9	32	30	34
Real Sociedad	27	9	7	11	36	38	34
Real Betis	28	8	10	10	26	36	34
Malaga	28	8	9	11	27	28	33
Deportivo de La Coruna	28	6	15	7	37	39	33
Las Palmas	28	8	6	14	30	40	30
Espanyol	27	8	4	15	26	53	28
Getafe	28	7	6	15	27	45	27
Rayo Vallecano	27	6	8	13	37	58	26
Granada CF	28	7	5	16	29	53	26
Sporting de Gijon	27	6	6	15	30	48	24
Levante	27	5	5	17	25	51	20

German Bundesliga

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
FC Bayern Munchen	25	20	3	2	59	13	63
Borussia Dortmund	25	18	4	3	59	25	58
Hertha BSC	24	12	6	6	33	24	42
FC Schalke 04	25	12	5	8	37	32	41
Borussia Monchengladbach	25	12	3	10	50	42	39
1. FSV Mainz 05	24	12	3	9	34	30	39
VfL Wolfsburg	25	10	7	8	38	32	37
Bayer 04 Leverkusen	25	10	6	9	36	33	36
FC Ingolstadt 04	25	8	8	9	19	26	32
VfB Stuttgart	25	9	4	12	40	49	31
1. FC Koln	25	7	9	9	26	33	30
Hamburger SV	24	7	7	10	28	34	28
SV Werder Bremen	25	7	6	12	35	48	27
FC Augsburg	25	6	8	11	30	38	26
SV Darmstadt 98	24	6	7	11	25	38	25
Eintracht Frankfurt	25	5	9	11	28	40	24
TSG 1899 Hoffenheim	25	4	9	12	26	42	21

Italian Serie A

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Juventus	27	19	4	4	48	15	61
Napoli	28	18	7	3	58	23	61
Roma	28	16	8	4	59	29	56
Florentina	28	16	5	7	49	31	53
Internazionale	27	14	6	7	34	25	48
Milan	27	13	8	6	39	28	47
Sassuolo	27	10	11	6	34	31	41
Lazio	28	10	8	10	35	37	38
Bologna	27	10	5	12	29	31	35
Empoli	27	9	7	11	33	40	34
Chievo	28	9	7	12	33	39	34
Torino	28	8	9	11	34	35	33
Sampdoria	28	8	7	13	42	46	31
Atalanta	27	7	9	11	26	31	30
Udinese	27	8	6	13	24	40	30
Genoa	27	7	7	13	27	32	28
Palermo	27	7	6	14	27	47	27
Frosinone	27	6	5	16	26	53	23
Carpi	27	4	9	14	24	44	21
Verona	28	2	12	14	24	48	18
Hannover 96	25	5	2	18	22	46	17

French Ligue 1

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Paris Saint-Germain	29	23	5	1	68	15	74
Monaco	29	13	12	4	42	32	51
Nice	29	12	8	9	41	33	44
Caen	29	13	4	12	32	38	43
Lyon	28	12	6	10	40	30	42
St Etienne	29	12	6	11	33	32	42
Rennes	28	10	11	7	36	33	41
Nantes	27	10	10	7	26	24	40
Lorient	29	9	11	9	40	41	38
Bastia	28	11	5	12	27	29	38
Bordeaux	29	9	11	9	38	44	38
Lille	29	8	13	8	23	23	37
Marseille	27	8	12	7	37	28	36
Montpellier	29	10	6	13	36	33	36
Guingamp	28	8	8	12	33	40	32
Reims	29	8	8	13	32	41	32
GFC Ajaccio	28	6	11	11	29	39	29
Toulouse	28	4	10	14	27	47	22
Troyes	29	2	8	19	21	59	14



MTN Premier League 2015/16

PICTURES


WHOSE BALL?: Sea Birds' Sicelo Simelane and Royal Leopard's Sikhumbuzo Ntibane in a tussle for the ball during their MTN Premier League match at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. The game ended in a 1-all draw. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)

SEA BIRDS 1-1 ROYAL LEOPARD



SIMPLE: Leopard coach Sifiso 'Nuro' Ntibane issuing instructions to his charges.



CHALLENGE: Sea Birds' Thabo Langa being challenged by Leopard's Richard Bazombwa.



STOP FIGHTING: Leopard and Sea Birds players being separated by referees as they engage in a scuffle.



DO NOT DISTURB: A soccer fan taking a nap.



CHALLENGED: Leopard's Sabelo Sangweni being challenged by Thabo Langa.



CATCH ME IF YOU CAN: Sea Birds' Muzi Tsabedze being chased by Leopard's Machawe Dlamini.



OOPSI! Sea Birds' Muzi Tsabedze winning the ball from Leopard's Machawe Dlamini.



IT'S OVER: Leopard officials shaking hands with the referees.



TIGHT MARKING: Muzi 'Mzoro' Dlamini marking a Sea Birds player.



MTN Premier League 2015/16

PICTURES

MANZINI WANDERERS 2-0 MBABANE HIGHLANDERS



HEADER: Mbabane Highlanders' Patrick Meso and Manzini Wanderers' Aladeon Kola in a heading duel during their MTN Premier League match at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. Wanderers won 2-0. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



GWAZWA NKUNZI: Mbabane Highlanders supporters cheering their players on.



TEAM SPIRIT: Wanderers and Highlanders coaches shaking hands.



CLEAR: Wanderers' Gcina Mazibuko clearing away the ball from Lungelo Tsabedze.



FROM BEHIND: Mbabane Highlanders Colani Sikhondze chasing Manzini Wanderers' Sidumo Shongwe



YES: Themba Makhubu and Sidwell Shongwe celebrating Wanderers' first goal.



SAVE: Wanderers goalkeeper Mbongeni Motsa making a save.



NOT THIS ONE: Highlanders goalkeeper Mduduzi Shongwe making a save.



CHALLENGE: Wanderers' Sidumo Shongwe challenging Highlanders' Celani Shongwe.



GREETINGS: Wanderers players waving to the crowd.



DULA WESELI: Sizwe Dlamini and Thula Simelane celebrating Wanderers' second goal.

Mbhamali the hero as Pirates held to a stalemate

Stories by Sanele Jele Moneni

Pirates..... (0)0
Madlenya..... (0)0

SOCCER - MADLENYA goalkeeper Mphakatsi Mbhamali denied Moneni Pirates their automatic qualification to the elite league when he made spectacular saves in their National First Division encounter played at Manzini Club yesterday.

The keeper was outstanding between the poles as he made a number of great saves to deny the Buccaneers the maximum points.

Three points could have earned the Sea Robbers promotion back to the premier league.

The game itself started on a low note with both teams failing to find their footing in the first 20 minutes.

Pirates eventually created a meaningful opportunity in the half hour mark when the on-form Fanelo 'Order' Mamba took defenders on a sole run, before unleashing a rasping shot that was punched away for a fruitless corner by the impressive Mbhamali.

Madlenya managed to contain the marauding former Premier League team for the better part of the first half as the match went to a breather with both teams locked at 0-0.

Charges

The Mlamuli 'Sputla' Zwane-led charges came back a revamped side in the second half as they threatened to score an opening goal but the keeper was again up for the challenge.

Pirates' Doctor Mabote, who replaced Mfanzile Fash Ndzimamdze after he was injured, saw his timely header go just over the bar in the hour

mark. Clear cut chances were few and far as both teams pushed forward in search for an opening goal. Mbhamali was forced to make another great save in the 63rd minute after he was tested by 'Order'.

Peter Chukwudi received a through pass from Junior Magagula before unleashing a thunderbolt shot just outside the box but again Mbhamali was equal to the task.

Madlenya's Muzi Dlamini was also at his best and he would now and again win balls in the middle of the park.

His positioning and tackles were on point and timely as he frustrated the opposition.

Pirates continued to pile pressure as the match became a one-sided encounter.

Madlenya almost conceded 10 minute before the end of the match after Mthetho Simelane handled the ball inside the box, but the referee waved play on.

Over 1 500 Pirates fans were left disappointed after the referee blew the whistle to end the match. In another match played on the same day at the same venue Amalanda beat Sikhalo Africa 5-2.



WE MISSED A LOT:
Moneni Pirates head coach Mlamuli 'Sputla' Zwane.

'SPUTLA' RUES MISSED CHANCES

SOCCER - MONENI Pirates head coach Mlamuli 'Sputla' Zwane said they missed a lot of scoring chances in their National First Division match against Madlenya FC at Manzini Club yesterday.

The coach said they could have easily won the match but his players were not clinical in front of goal.

"They squandered a lot of clear cut chances. We literally failed to get the needed three points in this match."

Zwane said it was not acceptable to miss such chances in a match like this one.

"Look, this is like a loss to us since we created numerous clear cut chances, but failed to convert them. In the first stanza

they parked the bus and it was not easy to penetrate their defence. We were all over them in the second half and that is when we should have wrapped up the match."

Mandate

Zwane went on to say their mandate was to finish the league on top of the table.

"We will not relax, it's not over as we will fight until the end of the league. We are only a point away from the Premier League, so yes it's all better now but finishing in the top spot would be a great achievement for the team."

He said three of his key players in 'Karas', Thabo and 'Fash' picked up injuries, which affected his game plan.

"The players tried but it was just one of those games."

Meanwhile, Madlenya coach Baggio Gamedze said the draw was like a win to them.

"Pirates are a big team and playing to a goalless draw against them is an achievement for us."

"The draw is a win for us. I commend my players for coming to the party although most of them are inexperienced. Our plan was to contain them for the better part of the game and we did just that."

"A win would have been a bonus for us as we were targeting a draw."

"This one point will help us a lot as we are fighting against relegation."

SGU to announce national team next week

By Sabelo Majola

GOLF - THE Swaziland Golf Union has begun trials aimed at selecting the national squad that will represent the country in the Region 5 Golf Championship.

The championships will be hosted by the country and deserving candidates will be announced next week.

The first round of the trials was held at Royal Swazi Spa Golf Course yesterday.

Championships

The championships will be held at the same venue from April 11-16.

Secretary of the Union Harry Nxumalo said the second round of the trials would be held at the same venue this coming weekend and it was only then that they would select the national team.

The last round would be held on the last

weekend before the start of the championships and it will be a battle between those that have been selected.

"The national team will consist of eight players in total and as hosts, we are eager to emerge victorious in the championships hence we want to select the cream of the crop to represent us well," Nxumalo said.

Among those who did the trials yesterday was Willard Mkhwanazi, who has made a name for himself in the sport as a prominent player, winning the recently held MTN Champs of Champs.

Another golfer present was Sanele Myeni, who represented the country when the championships were held in Uganda.

A total of 12 countries are expected to participate in the tournament, including Kenya and the defending champions, Uganda.

Correctional close gap on Macembe

By Sibusiso Masilela

DARTS - SECOND placed Correctional's title dreams were kept alive after they beat Giant Clothing 21-2 on Friday.

This was during the Swaziland Royal Insurance Corporation (SRIC) E50 000 league match played at the Zakhele hall.

The Matsapha-based side's win has reduced the gap between them and defending champions, Macembe, who were not in action over the weekend. In the other match played on Friday night, Ecco Water got the



The results

Correctional
Ecco Water

21
19

Giant Clothing B
Mbabane City Council

2
2

'Bull', 'Weslians' share the spoils in Reserve League

By Sabelo Majola

Mbabane Highlanders..... (0)1
Manzini Wanderers..... (0)1

SOCCER - MBABANE Highlanders and Manzini Wanderers settled for a draw in the PLS Reserve League as the two juniors of the giant teams' game ended in a 1-1 draw yesterday at Somhlolo National Stadium.

Both teams came to the party and it was a wonderful display of soccer at its best as the youngsters knocked the ball around, playing quick passes and frequently adding flair on their moves, much to the amusement of spectators whose attendance is growing by each game. As much as both sides were frequenting one another's final third, the first half produced no goals as they were all solid at the back. Wanderers were forced to make a substitution towards the end of the first stanza after Ayanda Nhleko got a knock in the knee. Highlanders were able to salvage a point from the clash after cancelling Banele Simelane's goal 15 minutes from time through Melusi Dlamini, whose strike went past goalkeeper Lungelo Dlamini.

The black and white ensemble is now second from basement with a single point in three games. Wanderers are second on the log, even on points with defending champions Young Buffaloes, but separated by a goal difference.

Both teams have seven points. Buffaloes triumphed 1-0 over Red Lions yesterday at the same venue and they are third on the table with six points after losing one game.

Royal Leopard are sitting at the summit of the log and have won two of their three matches while drawing the other. The police juniors have scored six goals so far; two more than Mbabane Swallows, who have four goals and currently occupying fifth position on the log. They thrashed Bad Boys 3-0 to earn their first win in the campaign.

PLS Reserve League standings

Teams	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Royal Leopard	3	2	1	0	6	1	5	7
Manzini Wanderers	3	2	1	0	3	1	2	7
Young Buffaloes	3	2	0	1	2	1	1	6
Sea Birds	3	1	2	0	2	1	1	5
Mbabane Swallows	3	1	1	1	4	2	2	4
Red Lions	3	1	1	1	2	1	1	4
Manzini Sundowns	3	1	1	1	4	4	0	4
Malanti Chiefs	3	1	1	1	3	3	0	4
Green Mamba	3	1	1	1	2	2	0	4
Midas City	3	0	1	2	1	3	-2	1
Mbabane Highlanders	3	0	1	1	1	5	-4	1
Bad Boys	3	0	0	3	1	6	-5	0

Results

Malanti Chiefs	1	Midas City	1
Mbabane Swallows	3	Bad Boys	0
Young Buffaloes	1	Red Lions	0
Mbabane Highlanders	1	Manzini Wanderers	1
Royal Leopard	0	Sea Birds	0
Green Mamba	1	Manzini Sundowns	1

better of the inconsistent Mbabane City Council as they beat them 19-2 to continue climbing up the ladder in the standings. Swaziland National Darts Association Public Relations Officer Mduduzi Masango confirmed the results.

"We had only two games taking place over the weekend as the rest of the fixtures were called off indefinitely due to the Buganu national ceremony at Hlane. The league will continue this coming weekend and we will soon release the log for this round. We are happy with the manner in which the teams are behaving as all the games have been violence-free," he said.

Leopard survive Sea Birds scare

By Sibusiso Masilela

Royal Leopard (0)1
Sea Birds (1)1

SOCCKER - ROYAL Leopard development product Phumlani 'Kina' Shabangu scored a late equaliser to help the defending champions salvage a point against Manzini Sea Birds in an MTN Premier League match at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

The 20-year-old 'Kina' came in for Mathokoza 'Tokyo' Tfwala in the second half to earn a hard fought point for the police service side in referee Leticia Viena's two minutes added time.

The goal proved to be the heart-breaker for Sea Birds, who matched the star-studded opponents with their spirited performance throughout the scorching afternoon.

Sea Birds started off the first half brightly but they fluffed away their early chances through their speedy striker Muzi Tsabedze in the first quarter.



CATCH ME IF YOU CAN: Sea Birds' Muzi Tsabedze being chased by Leopard's Machawe Dlamini.

The coach Van Rooyen Magagula-led side took the lead just before the half-hour mark through a Bhekimuzi Mamba header as he connected well a Sicelo 'Junior' Simelane free kick.

Sea Birds dominated the game

in most instances with Leopard failing to play their normal game.

Sea Birds goalkeeper Mlungisi Mamba was equal to the task in the 33th minute when he saved a Sifiso 'Sushi' Nkhambule ground shot taken at the edge of the box with Leopard wanting a quick

The teams:

Leopard - Mbhonyo, Machawe, Chaka, Sicelo, Rocco, Sushi (Mkhoriya), Nyasa, General, Barry, Richard (Mzoro), Tokyo (Kina)

Sea Birds - Mlungisi, Bheki, Sibusile, Thabo, Colani (Theminkhosi), Gcinizwi, Muzi, Muzi, Junior (Sanele), Bhekimuzi, Wandile (Jabulani)

response after the opposition's goal.

The match went to the break with Sea Birds sitting on the driver's sit.

Sea Birds continued to be a threat in the second stanza with their skillful player Wandile Nhleko taking control.

Nhleko failed to connect a Gcinizwi Dlamini low cross in the hour mark as they searched for their second goal.

Leopard mentor Sifiso 'Nuro' Ntibane then made a double substitution bringing in Muzi 'Mzoro' Dlamini and Phumlani Shabangu in the place of Richard Mbazombwa and 'Tokyo', respectively.

The changes paid dividends at the stroke of death as 'Kina' forced the match into a stalemate much against the run of play.

Soon after that the referee blew the final whistle.

Leopard have revived their title hopes despite their second consecutive draw as they have leapfrogged Young Buffaloes at the summit of the log.

League title race becoming tougher – 'Nuro'

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCKER - ROYAL Leopard coach Sifiso 'Nuro' Ntibane has admitted that they were now feeling the pressure of the MTN Premier League title race.

He said this soon after watching his charges play a 1-all draw with Manzini Sea Birds at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

"The race is now getting tougher as all teams are now giving their best at this crucial stage. However, credit should go to my players for their fighting spirit as they never gave up until the final whistle to get something out of the match. It is not over yet in the race for the title as we will keep on fighting until the last match of the season," he said.

'Nuro' said they would treat every match with caution.

On the other hand, his Sea Birds counterpart Van Rooyen Magagula said they were punished in the dying minutes of the match.

"We played well but then lost it in the last minute as we failed to defend a throw ball. We got punished in a match we should have won. All is not lost after this result. This is a good learning experience for my players and we are now aiming to get three wins out of the remaining four games in order to secure a respectable finish at the end of the campaign," Magagula said.

Goals from Bhekimuzi Mamba and Phumlani 'Kina' Shabangu ensured that the two sides share the spoils in front of 2 000 fans, who watched the match.

Loss to Wanderers painful - Mwase

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCKER - MBABANE Highlanders coach Meck Mwase has described their 0-2 loss to Manzini Wanderers as painful.

Speaking after the game played at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday, the coach said he was disappointed not to have collected the maximum points as anticipated.

"We didn't play well and lost concentration, which resulted in us failing to get the points we needed so

badly," he said.

The coach also attributed their loss to injuries, which he said contributed to their not so good performance on the day.

"Most of our guys are playing with injuries and this was a disadvantage to us," he said.

The coach said they would not lose hope in as far as their title aspirations are concerned but would continue to fight until the end.

Meanwhile, Manzini Wanderers coach Anthony Mdluli said he was happy with the performance displayed by his charges during

the game.

The coach said they also needed to collect the three points in order to ensure that they meet their mandate, which was to save the team from relegation and also finish in the top eight.

"We will do our best to carry out our mandate as the technical bench but we are looking to improve. Our wish is push for the top five and if we can continue playing in this way then we can achieve that objective.

"I am really happy with the way the boys played today (yesterday) against Highlanders," he said.

E90 000 collected at Somhlolo yesterday

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCKER - OVER E90 000 was collected during the MTN Premier League double header played at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

The co-hosting teams in Mbabane Highlanders and Royal Leopard received E37 000 and E27 000, respectively after deductions.

The agreement was that Highlanders would get 50 percent from the gate collections with Leopard settling for 40 percent.

PLS Chief Executive Officer John Mazibuko confirmed the



CONFIRMED: PLS Chief Executive Officer John Mazibuko.

figures when contacted last night.

"We would like to thank all the fans for attending the games in great numbers to support their respective teams.

They were well behaved throughout the afternoon and we commend that as PLS. We hope to see this kind of behaviour prevailing in the upcoming games," he said.

Mazibuko also applauded the teams for displaying great performances.

"All the teams were well prepared for the games and the fans were treated to exciting football. This is true testimony that the standard of football in the country is growing."

Manzini Sea Birds played to a 1-all draw against Royal Leopard while Manzini Wanderers beat Mbabane Highlanders 2-0 in front of over 2 000 football lovers.



MINE: Wanderers goalkeeper Mbongeni Motsa making a save.

'Bull' lodge protest over Mbongeni's registration

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCKER - MBABANE Highlanders have lodged a protest over the registration of Manzini Wanderers goalkeeper Mbongeni Motsa.

Highlanders, who are questioning the number of moves by the former Mbabane Swallows and Malanti Chiefs goalkeeper, lodged the protest with about 10

minutes remaining on referee Mbongiseni Fakudze's watch at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

The black and white outfit, which was trailing 0-2 to the hub giants, argued that the player had moved around three teams in one season thus contravening the rules and regulations of the National Football Association of Swaziland (NFAS).

Worth noting, however, is that Article 10 (2) of the Premier

League of Swaziland (PLS) rules and regulations states that any protest involving defaulters shall be duly made immediately after inspection of both teams at the dressing rooms or such allocated point of inspection in terms of these rules, otherwise the protest shall be null and avoid.

The protest was signed by both teams captain in Highlanders' Xolani 'Choco' Sibandze and Lwazi 'Shana' Maziya of Manzini Wanderers.

Sought for comment, Wanderers PRO Sandile 'Ntofo' Dlamini said there was nothing much he could say on this matter.

"Highlanders are within their right to lodge a protest. All I can say is that our goalkeeper is properly registered, just like the rest of our players," he said.

Motsa, who displayed a brilliant showing during the game, started ahead of regular Wenzile Khumalo between the poles.

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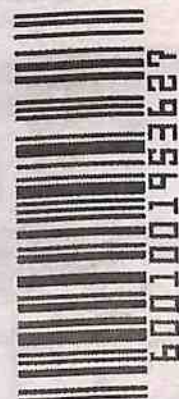
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WANDERERS EASE RELEGATION WOES...



MAHHALA HHA!

- Revamped 'Weslians' dent 'Super Buddies' title hopes
- Bitter 'Bull' lodge protest
- Race still wide open

By Qondile Ntiwane

Highlanders..... (0)0
Wanderers..... (0)2

SOCCER - NOT only was the 'Bull' dehorned but Mbabane Highlanders also had their league title contention hopes dented after suffering a painful 0-2 defeat at the hands of Manzini Wanderers at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

The capital city giants failed to collect the maximum points in order to boost their chances of winning the MTN Premier League title as Wanderers had other plans for the game.

Despite the loss, the black and white ensemble still remains on the third position on the log table with 35 points, two points behind log leaders Royal Leopard and one behind Young Buffaloes.

It was goals from Kola

Oladeon and Sidumo Shongwe scored in the second half that transported the hub giants to the much deserved victory.

Oladeon registered his name on the scorer's chart a minute into the second half when, on a solo run, sliced through the Highlanders defence, dribbling his way past goalkeeper Mduduzi Shongwe before rattling the net.

Cross

Sidumo added salt to the 'Bull's' open wound 30 minutes before time when he connected a cross from Kola inside the box, a volley any goalkeeper would have difficulty saving.

Highlanders did not start the game well as their first choice goalkeeper Sidumo Vilakati was substituted about five minutes into the game after he picked an

ankle injury.

The 'Black Bull' created a number of scoring chances through the impressive twins in Lungelo and Fanelo

Tsabadze whose efforts were, however, in vain as they failed to find the back of the net.

Equaliser

Lungelo could have found an equaliser for his side a few minutes into the second half but his shot went slightly over the woodwork. Fanelo could have scored 11 minutes before time but his shot was saved by the advancing Mbongeni Motsa at the Wanderers goal posts.

With their victory Wanderers have toppled Manzini Sundowns from the seventh spot on the log with 22 points in 18 games played.



MTN PREMIER LEAGUE LOG

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Royal Leopard	18	10	7	1	27	13	14	37
Young Buffaloes	18	11	2	4	30	15	15	36
Mbabane Highlanders	18	11	2	5	27	15	12	35
Mbabane Swallows	18	9	6	3	39	16	23	33
Midas City	18	8	3	7	18	17	1	27
Green Mamba	18	5	8	5	27	23	4	23
Manzini Wanderers	18	5	7	6	19	24	-5	22
Manzini Sundowns	18	5	6	7	15	17	-2	21
Manzini Sea Birds	18	4	5	9	17	29	-12	17
Red Lions	18	4	5	9	13	29	-16	17
Bad Boys	18	4	4	10	18	32	-14	16
Malanti Chiefs	18	1	6	11	12	32	-20	9

MTN PREMIER LEAGUE RESULTS

Friday		
Midas City	2-2	Malanti Chiefs
Red Lions	0-5	Young Buffaloes
Saturday		
Green Mamba	2-1	Manzini Sundowns
Mbabane Swallows	1-1	Bad Boys
Yesterday		
Royal Leopard	1-1	Sea Birds
Mbabane Highlanders	0-2	Manzini Wanderers

MTN PREMIER NATIONAL FIRST DIVISION LOG

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Tambuti	18	16	0	2	47	10	37	48
Moneni Pirates	18	14	3	1	43	9	34	45
RSSC United	18	10	3	5	28	19	9	33
Sikhalo	18	7	5	6	28	23	5	26
Ubombo Flyers	18	8	0	10	25	40	-15	24
Mbabane Citizens	18	6	5	7	24	29	-5	23
Madlenya	18	6	4	8	20	28	-8	22
Amalanda	18	5	6	7	27	28	-1	21
Hellenic	18	6	1	11	15	25	-10	19
L. Brothers	17	4	6	7	18	27	-9	18
Manchester United	17	3	5	9	16	25	-9	14
Kontshingila	18	1	2	15	18	44	-26	5

RESULTS

Saturday		
Manchester United	1-0	Hellenic
Ubombo Flyers	1-3	Tambuti
Ludzeludze Brothers	0-0	Mbabane Citizens
Yesterday		
Amalanda	5-2	Sikhalo
Moneni Pirates	0-0	Madlenya
RSSC United	1-0	KoNtshingila

NB: Ludzeludze Brothers and Manchester United have a pending fixture