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HIGH COMMISSIONER SHOWS RESPECT FOR KING

YOUR MAJESTY: His Majesty King Mswati III welcoming Ethiopian High Commissioner to Swaziland, Mulugeta Kelil Beshir who presented his letters of credence to the King at Lozitha Royal Palace yesterday. The King also received French Ambassador, Bruno Clerc, who also presented his letters to the King. (Pics: Simon Shabangu) **MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 4**



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TEACHERS RUN AROUND...

DE-WORMING: 28 PUPILS RUSHED TO HOSPITAL, SCHOOL CLOSED

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FINANCE MINISTER FACES VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE

Stories by Sabatha Dlamini
Lobamba

FINANCE Minister Martin Dlamini will face the wrath of parliament for illegally releasing this year's budget for the Swaziland Broadcasting and Information Services (SBIS).

Public Accounts Committee (PAC) members were yesterday taken aback that the public broadcaster was running its operations smoothly and unhindered despite parliament having suspended its budget.

PAC member Owen Nxumalo, a legislator representing Manzini South Constituency, said a motion would have to be moved to demand answers from the finance minister on why he defied parliament's resolution and released the funds.

The consequences of the motion would be the passing of a vote of no confidence against the minister.

Mbabane West MP Johane Shongwe put it simpler: "If indeed he unlawfully released the money, we would throw him into the deep end of the sea. We have doubted his capacity to run the ministry and now that he has clearly shown that he undermines parliament, he has made matters worse for himself."

The matter was triggered by a question from Nkwene MP Sikhumbuzo Dlamini who wanted to know from the Information, Communication and Technology Principal Secretary Sikelela Dlamini on how the ministry was able to run its affairs in view of the suspension of the budget by parliament.

The SBIS is a department under the ICT ministry. Manzini North MP Jan Sithole said the minister had some explaining to do regarding the matter.

● If indeed he unlawfully released the money, we would throw him into the deep end of the sea. We have doubted his capacity to run the ministry and now that he has clearly shown that he undermines parliament, he has made matters worse for himself



GRILLED: Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini and PAC member Owen Nxumalo.

MP Sithole decried that all their efforts that were put in debating the matter that resulted in the suspension of the department's budget was a waste.

Wastage

He moaned about the wastage of taxpayer's money as well that went into the payment of their sitting allowances on the day-long debate that took place in the House over the matter. Sithole said parliament's resolution was until there was a response on the concerns of the MPs from the ICT minister, nothing would have unlocked the budget, hence Minister Dlamini has some explaining to do.

The SBIS budget was put to Head 60 of the government budget, an item responsible for general transfers where suspended budgets are placed



until such time when they were released. PAC Chairperson Thuli Dladla said ICT Minister, Dumisani Ndlangamandla, was supposed to request the release of the ministry's budget through his ministerial portfolio committee.

MP Dladla said if the SBIS continued to run its operations normally, it would mean that the parliament resolution to put the ministry's budget under the Central Transfers was not done.

Dladla said the matter would have to be taken up by parliament through a motion.

Nkwene MP Sikhumbuzo Dlamini said he would be shocked should it transpire that indeed the finance minister released the budget, especially because other departments' budgets remained frozen.

Govt might abolish renting houses for civil servants

PUBLIC Service Principal Secretary Evart Mfan'mpela Madlopha says government is considering completely doing away with renting houses for civil servants.

Madlopha told the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) that government intends paying her employees housing allowance instead, particularly because government houses were in a terrible state.

Madlopha said the matter of housing allowances was now a subject for negotiation between government and the public sector unions. The intended plan by government received support from some of the parliamentarians who were concerned that government was subjecting her employees to unequal treatment.

Madlopha concurred with the MPs that there were discrepan-

cies in the manner government issued out housing benefits to her employees.

The PAC members were shocked to learn that some civil servants were living in spacious houses which government provided to them at commercial rates of up to E5 000.

Under Secretary in the ministry Felton Mhlongo expressed similar sentiments, adding that housing allowances were a result of government and public sector negotiation in 1992.

He said it was for that reason that the matter should be put on the negotiating table for debate and agreement.

Mhlongo further said at that time teachers occupying community build school houses and those in the estate companies did not pay any rental fees for the houses they occupied.

Two PSs hauled before PAC over E700 000 renovations

TWO government principal secretaries were hauled before the PAC to explain an outrageous E700 000 they spent renovating a three-bedroom house in Mbabane.

The PAC members were livid, demanding answers from Public Service Principal Secretary Evart Mfan'mpela Madlopha and Public Works Principal Secretary Makhosini Mndawe on how so much money could be spent only on renovations.

Madlopha was further grilled for lying before the PAC that the house in question had been completed and was only waiting for the handover of keys so that he could allocate it to a civil servant.

It however turned out that the house has not been completed. Seeing that Madlopha and his officials were giving contradictory statements, the PAC resolved to conduct a site visit on the property to satisfy itself on the status.

The actual costs of the renovations for that one house stands at E707 886. Madlopha said it was because the house was in a very bad state.

The PAC chairperson MP Thuli Dladla, realising that Madlopha and his team were not coming

forth with answers, ordered that the public works officials be summoned as well so that the matter could be discussed jointly to expose the real culprit who should be penalised for subjecting the taxpayer to such huge losses.

Meanwhile, the public works controlling officer Mndawe told the committee the contractor was now withholding the house keys because government was failing to pay for the work done. MP Thuli Dladla wondered why the ministries were not engaging the government developmental wing, Micro-projects, which implemented various government projects successfully at reasonable costs.

Shocked

Some MPs said they were shocked that the cost of the renovations was so high that even a completely new structure could have been completed using that amount.

Madlopha further infuriated the MPs when he told them their proposals and demands for accountability and transparency amounted to an attempt to reinvent the government. He was asked by the PAC chairperson to repeat that statement and explain what he meant.

Madlopha was shifting blame to the public works ministry saying once they give a house key to an officer they forget about that house.

Mbabane West MP Johane Shongwe said that was the reason why civil servants were renting out government houses while at the same time paying as little as E156 rental for those houses.

'PS Sikelela has no respect for Parliament'

PARLIAMENTARIANS were flabbergasted at the manner in which ICT Principal Secretary Sikelela Dlamini allegedly showed disrespect for the legislature.

Appearing before the PAC yesterday, Dlamini was questioned on how the ministry, SBIS in particular, managed to run its affairs in view of the suspension of their budget.

Dlamini's response was that he was not aware that his ministry's budget was suspended, prompting outrage

APOLOGY

IN our yesterday's edition we erroneously referred to the Director of Education Sibongile Mtshali as the acting executive secretary of the Teaching Service Commission (TSC). Infact, the acting executive secretary is Ncamsile Mtshali. We would like to unreservedly apologise to the director of education, the TSC and all concerned for the regrettable error. **OMBUDSMAN**

amongst the MPs that Dlamini's response was indicative of the contempt with which parliament was viewed. An infuriated Manzini South MP Owen Nxumalo retorted: "Parliament is not taken seriously here. The controlling officer is laughing at us, contemptuously wondering what is before him. He has no regard for the PAC and no regard for parliament."

MP Nxumalo said even the responses Dlamini gave to the committee, were so casual they clearly demonstrated he had no respect for the August House.

In a rather remorseful manner, Dlamini concluded the day's discussions by telling the committee that they were learning a lot from it. He said the PAC also helped them improve in terms of efficiency.

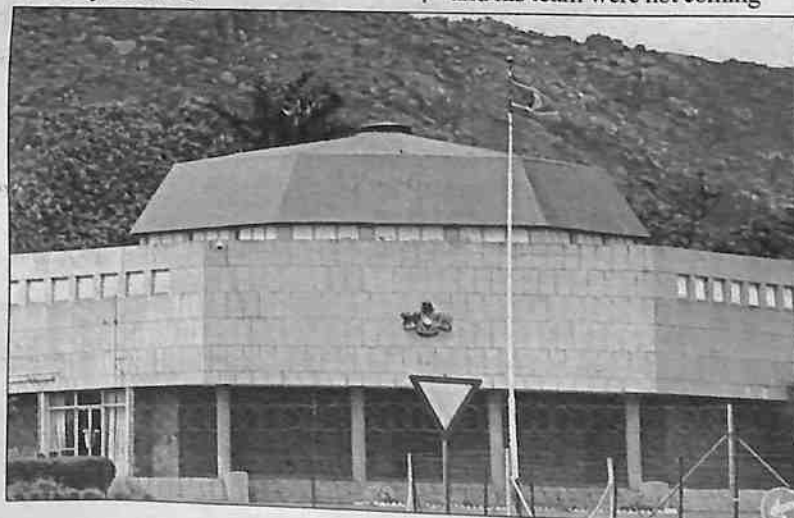
Meanwhile, a civil servant, Beauty Fakudze, says she was under extreme pressure when she fraudulently and corruptly obtained a government scholarship.

Fakudze was employed by the justice and constitutional affairs ministry as a clerical officer when she flouted

all government procedures and obtained for herself a pre-service government scholarship to pursue her law studies at the University of Swaziland.

The officer has now been hauled before the PAC over the matter, together with all those who helped her to obtain the scholarship through illegal means.

Fakudze is now repaying the money due to government following a resolution by the PAC.



THE SCENE: Parliament building where the hearing took place.

DE-WORMING; 28 PUPILS ADMITTED, SCHOOL CLOSED

COVER STORY

By Nozipho Sibiya
and Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

THE ongoing de-worming exercise went wrong as 28 pupils from KaMkhweli High School were rushed to a health centre after taking the de-worming tablets.

Authorities at the school were left with no option but to shut it down after the incident on Wednesday morning. The 28 pupils collapsed and teachers ran around trying to organise transport to ferry them to hospital. This was after they had taken the de-worming tablets.

They were taken to Sithobelweni Health Centre. In a picture sent to this newspaper, the pupils are seen sprawled in one of the classrooms apparently in pain.

The pupils are said to have complained of discomfort after taking the de-worming tablets during school assembly on Wednesday morning.

One parent of the affected pupils confirmed the incident.

"After taking the tablets, the pupils started complaining of severe stomach pains while some complained of nausea," said the parent.

The parent said some of the pupils started vomiting and complained of dizziness at the same time. There was another section that complained on severe headaches.

These are known side effects of the de-worming tablets and health experts say their severity depends on the level of infection in that particular person who consumed the tablets.

It is said classes had to be suspended

There may be some mild side effects like dizziness, nausea, headache, and vomiting, all likely due to the worms being passed through the child's body. These side effects disappear after some time. Side effects are usually experienced by children with high infections

...Over 180 000 pupils de-wormed thus far

A nursing sister under the Emergency Preparedness and Response department in the ministry of health Xolisiwe Dlamini said the de-worming teams have so far covered over 360 schools.

Dlamini said as of Wednesday (June 8, 2016), over 180 000 school aged children have taken the tablets.

She further confirmed that about 300 children countrywide out of the 180 000 have reported experiencing

some minor side effects due to the medication. She said no serious adverse incidents have been reported so far adding that medical teams are on standby and ready to attend to any reports of adverse eventualities.

The pills are being given by trained nurses, supervisors who do follow up and management of the side effects. The public is advised to call 977 in case of any serious side effects.



DOWN AND OUT: KaMkhweli High School pupils waiting to be rushed to hospital after they were given de-worming tablets on Wednesday during morning assembly. (Courtesy pic)

ed as teachers had to take the pupils to a nearby health centre for treatment. The school head teacher Lomathemba Mabuza when sought for comment on the matter said she

was still trying to get to grips with the situation.

"I cannot comment for now as I am still trying to understand the situation," she said.

ABOUT DE-WORMING

SIDE EFFECTS OF DE-WORMING TREATMENT

Xolisiwe Dlamini, nursing sister at the Emergency Preparedness and Response department at the ministry of health said the de-worming treatment has very few side effects.

"There may be some mild side effects like dizziness, nausea, headache, and vomiting, all likely due to the worms being passed through the child's body.

These side effects disappear after some time. Side effects are usually experienced by children with high infections. If symptoms do not go away within 24 hours, or if they are very severe, the child is probably experiencing something unrelated to the treatment and should be taken to the nearest health facility" she said. She said the discomfort due to the deworming-pills can be reduced by taking the pills after food. Therefore the children are encouraged to eat well not more than four hours before taking the medication.

DE-WORMING IS SAFE, EASY, CHEAP

"All the common worm infections in school-aged children can be treated effectively with two single dose pills: one for all the common intestinal worms (hookworms, roundworms, and whipworms) and the other for schistosomiasis (bilharzia). The treatment is safe, even when given to uninfected children" said Xolisiwe Dlamini.

She revealed that the most commonly used drugs for the treatment of common intestinal worms are albendazole (400 mg) or mebendazole (500 mg). They are administered as a single tablet to all children, regardless of size or age.

"Praziquantel is the drug of choice to treat schistosomiasis. Praziquantel is given as a single dose, but the number of pills has to be adjusted to the height or weight of the child. The preferred method for schoolchildren is

an inexpensive "dose-pole" that uses the height of the child to estimate the dosage," she revealed.

Dlamini further revealed that there is no need to examine each child for the presence of worms. Individual screening offers no safety benefits. It is not cost-effective it costs four to ten times more than the treatment itself. Regular de-worming will help children avoid the worst effects of infection even if there is no improvement in sanitation.

BENEFITS OF DE-WORMING

Rigorous studies have shown that de-worming has a significant impact on the health, education and livelihoods of treated children. Outcomes of de-worming can include:

- » Decreases anaemia and improves nutrition
- » Increases growth and weight gain
- » Improves cognition and mental and physical development
- » Increases resistance to other infections
- » Supports more frequent school attendance
- » Improves children's ability to learn better and be more active in school
- » Increase hours worked and wages earned in the long-run in adulthood

De-worming also has important spill over effects, meaning that other members of the community who do not receive treatment benefit, as there are fewer worms in the environment. This is especially important for children who are too young to be treated but for whom worms can greatly impair cognitive development.

INTESTINAL WORMS AND BILHARZIA

Intestinal Worms and Bilharzia infect more than one third of the world's population, with the most intense infections in children and the poor. In the poorest countries, children are likely to be infected from the time they stop breast-feeding, and to be continually infected and re-infected for the rest of their lives.

UNISWA results out next month

By Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane

THE much awaited University of Swaziland examination results are expected to be released next month.

UNISWA Registrar Dr Salebona Simelane confirmed this. He said the exact date will be communicated to the students through the media. This follows a number of questions posted on the Facebook page that is used as a communication platform by the students from all three campuses. The students were evidently agitated by the fact that there was no communication over the past few days as to when they should expect their results.

In a telephonic interview with Dr Simelane, he confirmed receiving calls from worried students enquiring about their results.

"The information circulating on social media that results will be out next week is not true," he said. Meanwhile, Simelane said the Dean of Students' Affairs office Affairs was responsible for examination results.

He therefore urged the students to inquire from the Dean of Students office rather than relying on social media.

"As a University we should follow proper channels before releasing the results," he said.

'Temperatures to drop to 5°C'

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

THE public should expect a cold weekend, forecasters have said.

"Temperatures will drop drastically from tomorrow with temperatures dropping to 5 degree

Celsius on Sunday. Today, it will be sunny and warm and hot in the Lowveld," said the forecaster.

Today's high temperature will hit up to 30 degrees Celsius in the Lowveld while the Highveld will hit up to 24 degrees Celsius.

Temperatures are expected to further drop to 3 degrees Celsius in Mbabane on Monday.

WEATHER UPDATE

Mbabane Mankayane Manzini Siteki Mhlume Big Bend

9/24 10/25 10/27 11/26 12/29 13/30

Today it will be sunny and warm to hot in the Lowveld.

Mbabane Mankayane Manzini Siteki Mhlume Big Bend

9/14 10/15 10/17 11/16 12/19 13/20

Tomorrow, it will be cloudy and mild but cold in the Highveld.

Mbabane Mankayane Manzini Siteki Mhlume Big Bend

5/13 6/14 6/16 7/15 8/18 9/19

On Sunday, there will be morning fog at places, otherwise cloudy and becoming partly cloudy and cold mainly in the Highveld.

Mbabane Mankayane Manzini Siteki Mhlume Big Bend

3/18 4/19 4/21 5/20 6/23 7/24

On Monday, there will frost at places, otherwise fine and mild becoming warm in the Lowveld.



NOTICE

All members of the Law Society of Swaziland are informed on the Annual General Meeting, which has been scheduled for the :

DATE: 9TH JULY 2016

VENUE: MBABANE CLUB

TIME: 10:00 AM

AGENDA

1. WELCOME REMARKS BY PRESIDENT
2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
3. 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTE
4. MATTERS ARISING
5. FINANCIAL REPORT
6. SUB - COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - (i) DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL REPORT
 - (ii) FEES ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE REPORT
 - (iii) ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE REPORT
 - (iv) LEGAL PRACTITIONERS COMMITTEE REPORT
7. ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS
8. A.O.B.

Secretary

DOC10652

KING MEETS ETHIOPIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER, FRENCH AMBASSADOR



BAYETHE: His Majesty King Mswati III posing with French Ambassador to Swaziland Bruno Clerc and his delegation, Defence Attache Arnaut Lacote, First Secretary Counsellor Dietmar Petrausch, Alliance Francaise Director Valirie Muwier and Alliance Francaise Chairman Chevalier Archie Magwaza. This was during the Envoys' presentation of letters of credence to the King at Lozitha Royal Palace yesterday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



ETHIOPIAN CONNECTION: His Majesty posing with Ethiopian High Commissioner Beshir and his delegation, Yifredew Getnet Dessie and Amaltias Zewdu Shiferaw.



CHIT CHAT: Ambassador Clerc, Minister Tsandzile, Deputy Chief Officer at the King's Office Mbongeni Simelane and Chief Officer Dr Vincent Mhlanga during the event.



CHEERS! Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs Princess Tsandzile and the Ambassador leading the toast.



POSING: A section of the Libandla who were present to support the King.



GUARD OF HONOUR: French Ambassador Bruno Clerc inspecting of the guard of honour.

Thank You



HRH Lomangisi S Dlamini-Shabangu

To those who supported us. For those who we got closer to, those who we stuck around with, and unfortunately, become distant from- thank you. Thank you for being there for us when we needed you the most.

We would like to take this opportunity to also thank the following The Royal family, Assemblies of God, Ngwenya, Wonfor & Associates, Observer, Nedbank, Parliament, B3, Baka Tembe and thank you to everybody who supported us financially and spiritually.

Special thanks also goes to the doctors and staff from the following hospitals: Mbabane Clinic, Manzini Clinic, Mbabane Government Hospital, Good Shepard and Smart Clinic.



WELCOME TO ESWATINI: Also present were Emazinyane Sicalo, Lindani, Acting Prime Minister Paul Dlamini, Acting Foreign Affairs Minister Princess Tsandzile, King's Office Chief Officer Dr Vincent Mhlanga and his Deputy Mbongeni Simelane and Indvuna TV Mtetwa.



IN THE MIX: Also spotted at the palace were Indonesian Consular Kareem Ashraff, Defense PS Andreas Mathabela and Finance Minister Martin Dlamini. They were at the palace for other matters.

Truck driver nabbed with 67 bags of dagga, cash

By Phesheya Kunene

POLICE stationed at Ngwenya border gate arrested a driver after they found 67 bags of dagga in the truck he was driving.

The man, only identified as Mabuza, was arrested at around 1pm yesterday while trying to smuggle the bags out of the country into South Africa.

It is said the man was let down by the strong smell of the dagga coming from the trailer of the truck.

The suspicions of the police were soon confirmed after they searched the truck and discovered 67 bags loaded with dagga.

"We commend the swift response from the police because as soon as they suspected that something was amiss they took action. We are happy to see people found breaking the law being arrested swiftly. The message is clear, *sivutsa bhe!* I urge people to stay away from illegal acts because we really mean business," Assistant Police Information and Communications Officer (PICO) Phindile Vilakati said in an interview last night.

The man was then taken in for questioning at the Mbabane police station. Vilakati said that is where the bags will be weighed and the street value calculated.

The truck driver was also found in possession of a stash of money.

"We have launched investigations to find out everything concerning this matter and the man found with the dagga will appear in court tomorrow (today)," she added.

One of the police officers found at

● We have launched investigations to find out everything concerning this matter and the man found with the dagga will appear in court tomorrow (today)



AT WORK: A police officer counting the 67 bags stuffed with dagga after being unloaded from the truck at the Mbabane police station, while the driver of the truck and other officers look on. The Truck driver was arrested at Ngwenya border gate after the truck was searched. (Pics: Phesheya Kunene)

the station, where the truck was detained said the man was from Maputo headed for Durban when he was nabbed by the long arm of the law.

It is said the 67 bags of dagga were picked up at Matsapha by the truck driver. Interestingly, all the dagga bags had names written on them and police suspected that they referred to the people who were to receive the consignment.

The truck driver was in a calm mood as he was found being questioned about the bags and he constantly joked with the police and even asked them not to disappear with his money.

"I am worried you guys will disappear with my money, you will have to count it in my presence," he jokingly said, when the police said they needed to count the money found in his possession.



CONVERSATION: The truck driver being questioned by plain-clothed police officers.



THE MULE: The truck driver freely conversed with police officers as they conducted their investigations.



ALL THIS: Some of the bags filled with dagga lying on the ground.



ILLEGAL CONSIGNMENT: A team of police officers busy with investigations near the truck nabbed with the bags full of dagga.



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Woman suspect kidnapper gets E50 000 bail

By Linda Jele
High Court

THE 26-year-old Swazi woman, who was arrested for kidnapping Mbabane based businessman Asif Rana and demanded E100 000 ransom, has been admitted to E50 000 bail.

Mumcy Mbalenhle Nhlabatsi of Mathendele in Nhlanguano was co-charged with Sizwe Lushaba and Thulani Trompies Madlenya, all from Mathendele Township. She yesterday appeared before high Court Judge Siphon Nkosi.

She was represented by lawyer Sifiso Jele in the matter while Stanley Dlamini represented the Director of Public Prosecutions.

The judge called in the investigating officer in the case, Detective Constable George Mahlele to shed light on the circumstances of the case to enable him to reach a decision on whether to grant Nhlabatsi's application or not.

Mahlele told the court that the police got a report from Rana's employee that he had been kidnapped on June 2, 2016 and they commenced investigations.

He claimed that later that night they got a report from Nhlanguano police alerting them that there had been a motor vehicle accident at

Mbangweni and Rana was found on the scene. He claimed to have been kidnapped by Faizel Kotwal and three others, being the accused.

It was alleged that Kotwal and Nhlabatsi were known to Rana as they once had business dealings. "We proceeded to Nhlanguano and Faizel called Rana's wife using the latter's phone and demanded E100 000 for the release of her husband. We had put the phone on loud speaker and we also told Faizel that we, as police officers were in the company of Rana's wife. We asked him to tell us of their location, but he hung up the phone," Mahlele said.

He said after learning of the presence of the police, Faizel hung up but called again after a few minutes and threatened to kill Rana because the wife had involved the police. He threatened to shoot to death Rana or take him to Johannesburg.

Mahlele said Nhlabatsi had been present when Rana was kidnapped from Mbabane along Gwamile Street. "She was arrested at the Mahamba border on her way to the country. I cautioned her according to the judges' rules and she said something which led to the arrest of the two other suspects. Faizel Kotwal is still on the run," Mahlele said.

He also claimed that Rana claimed that the suspected kidnappers assaulted him.

The judge said this was a serious offence, but since the crown was not opposing the bail



PRESIDING: High Court Judge Siphon Nkosi.

application, he would grant it. He said there had to be two sureties because Nhlabatsi was a scholar in a college in South Africa, Ermelo where she needs to go and write examinations.

Bail was fixed at E12 000 cash and she was ordered to provide surety to the value of E38 000 which included property as well as personal surety.

"There has to be personal surety so that if she does not return to the country, that person will be arrested. She is ordered to surrender her passport on her return from South Africa on June 25, 2016," Judge Nkosi said.

SA businessman masterminded kidnap plan

SOUTH African Businessman Faizel Kotwal was allegedly the mastermind behind the kidnapping of Mbabane Businessman Asif Rana.

It has been alleged that Rana was kidnapped because he owed Kotwal E70 000 and had promised to pay him on the day.

This caused Kotwal to travel from Piet Retief in South Africa to the country.

It has been alleged that the two had entered into a sale

transaction, where Rana bought a fish and chips business from Kotwal for E290 000. He allegedly paid E220 000.

On the day in question he had promised to pay the balance.

Changed

However, when Kotwal arrived, he changed tune and said he would not pay because Kotwal had involved attorneys.

This is contained in an affidavit filed by Kotwal's wife

Mumcy Nhlabatsi before the high Court where she had filed an application to be admitted to bail.

She claimed that she had been driving the car they used to travel to Mbabane. She has been arrested and charged with two others. It has not been ascertained why Thulani Madlenya and Sizwe Lushaba came into the picture because they were in the car that transported Asif Rana and over-turned in Nhlanguano,

How safe are we from Asians? – Judge Nkosi

JUDGE Siphon Nkosi has expressed worry on the violent activities involving Asians living in the country that seem to be on the increase.

"We are not safe on the country's streets anymore. Recently there was a Pakistan who was attacked at Siteki and now they are including Swazis. There seems to be feudalism and gangsterism among the Pakistanis," he said. He also expressed worry that releasing the female accused might expose her to being attacked by friends and colleagues of the Mbabane businessman who was kidnapped by Nhlabatsi, her husband Faizel Kotwal and two others from Mathendele Township.

'SD HAS BEST WITCH DOCTORS, DAGGA'

By Sizwe Dlamini
Piggs Peak Magistrates Court

"SWAZILAND has the best witch doctors and marijuana, which is why I came to the country," said 24-year-old Kenyan Muni Ishmael at the Pigg's Peak Magistrate's Court.

Ishmael was arrested at the Matsamo Border gate for carrying 3kg of dagga, which was hidden inside a bag and for being in the country illegally without documentation. The incident happened on Tuesday afternoon.

Ishmael told the court that he was visiting the country for the first time after a friend of his informed him that Swaziland has the best witch doctors and marijuana.

Ishmael said: "I had a very deep rooted problem so I needed a witch doctor. My religion is Islam but in this case I needed a Swazi witch doctor to help me." "I also thought I



LOVES MARIJUANA: Kenyan Muni Ishmael.

would buy some marijuana to sell in Kenya because Swaziland has the best marijuana, unfortunately, I was arrested when I wanted to go to South Africa. I also lost my passport at the time the police were arresting me," he added. Senior Magistrate Siphosini Dlamini sentenced Ishmael to two years in a correctional facility for marijuana possession. He further sentenced him to five months in jail or E500 fine for being caught in the Kingdom of Swaziland without valid

MTN brings joy at Ekwetsembeni

By Nomfundo Sifundza
Mbabane

SWAZI MTN has joined forces with Edit Microsystems, a company based in Cape Town, South Africa to improve the lives of pupils at Ekwetsembeni.

Edit Microsystems is a company devoted to finding alternative and cutting edge technology for learners of all abilities to improve curriculum delivery.

The company sponsored a programme called 'Clicker 7'. This is a literacy development programme that makes it easier than ever for teachers to provide differentiated curriculum resources and create a classroom of independent, enthusiastic learners.

The programme will enable pupils with special needs to develop vocabulary and spelling with word prediction. It will also allow pupils who have difficulty with speech to electronically

capture thoughts and rehearse sentences with voice notes. Voice notes are said to be a powerful way for children to capture their thoughts and ideas.

Swazi MTN CEO Ambrose Dlamini reminded attendees once again of this year's theme, which is 'Investing in education'.

Dlamini said: "This time we needed to do something for physically challenged people because they are part of us too."

The implementation of the 'Clicker 7' programme at Ekwetsembeni Primary opens doors as MTN and the ministry of education and training are yet to discuss another partnership which will give birth to the expansion of the programme to other special needs schools.

Minister of Education Phineas Magagula pleaded with Ekwetsembeni teachers to love the children they were teaching. The min-

PAC stops rent from civil servants living in shacks

By Mbono Mdluli
Lobamba

THE Public Accounts Committee (PAC) does not want civil servants living in shacks to pay rent.

This was a resolution taken by the PAC during its session in which the ministry of natural resources and energy appeared before it yesterday.

It is said the ministry submitted to the audit general that the workers were not paying rent yet they were receiving housing allowances.

The problem came up when it was discovered in parliament that the shacks were not fit to be occupied by human beings, let alone renting while one was living in them. Some of these shacks are said to be in Sidvokodvo where they are occupied mainly by workers from the water affairs department. Some are said to be found in Mbabane.

What seemed to be the problem for Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy Principal Secretary (PS) Winnie Stewart was whether it was right for government to continue to take rent from these workers or not. She described these shacks as not suitable for human habitation.

She said the workers would be forced to sleep, bath and eat in the same room and the shacks were made of sheets of corrugated iron.

Members of the PAC were of the view that government should not take rent from these workers because the shacks were not fit for human occupation in the first place. They said it was fine for them to continue receiving housing allowances so that they could be able to seek better accommodation for themselves.

PAC Chairperson Thuli Dladla said the problem here was that the auditor general was not given sufficient information when she was informed about workers who were not paying rent yet they got a housing allowance.

She urged government ministries not to withhold certain information when they submit to the auditor general.

"We also urge the auditor general not to make conclusions on a matter which was taken at face value. We urge her to investigate matters submitted to her so that she takes informed decisions," Dladla said.

She said if they were not aware that these people were living in shacks, they would find themselves ordering that they should pay the rent, not knowing that they actually lived in shacks.

ister emphasized the importance of patience when dealing with children with special needs. "We want every pupil's emotional, physical and academic aspect catered for," said Magagula.

"Every child is from God, these children are God's gift to us and we ought to give them as much opportunities as possible," he added.

The minister then donated a sum of E1 000 to the Ekwetsembeni pupils for a cake the principal has to buy and celebrate each pupil's birthday at once much to the delight of the pupils who sprung out of their seats in appreciation of the gift.

"The MTN 21 days of Y'ello Care campaign has achieved yet a milestone even before it comes to an end." These were words of Ekwetsembeni Primary Principal Thembi Khoza-Dlamini who was at a loss of words to explain her joy.

Edit Micro Systems will host a training session for special needs teachers at Ekwetsembeni primary School tomorrow.

SD BENEFITS E8.4M FROM BECKHAM FUND

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

SWAZILAND has shared spoils of about E8.4 million from the 7: The David Beckham UNICEF Fund.

Swaziland has received about E8.4million (£400 000) so far through the 7 fund with the aim of raising E21million (£1million) in a 3 year period.

UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador David Beckham travelled to Swaziland to see how his fund (7: The David Beckham UNICEF Fund) is helping UNICEF to support and protect HIV-positive children in the country. During his visit, Beckham

heard how the worst drought in decades - now taking hold of vast swathes of Eastern and Southern Africa - is threatening to wreak havoc on the lives of children and families already made vulnerable by HIV.

Poorest

UNICEF Communications Specialist Nonhlanhla Hleta-Nkambule said Beckham met mothers and children who are living with HIV in some of the poorest homesteads in the Lubombo and Shiselweni regions.

He saw how his fund is helping UNICEF to provide children with life-saving treatment and care and learned how over the next three years the 7 Fund is committed to contributing

27% of UNICEF Swaziland's annual budget for HIV/AIDS.

Malnutrition associated with the drought complicates the situation of children particularly those living with and affected by HIV.

During his visit he met with children who are HIV-positive and saw how UNICEF and its partners are helping to protect vulnerable children.

Asked on why the organisation kept Beckham's visit under wraps, Nkambule said Beckham had asked that they do not create a hype about his visit.

Beckham jetted out of the country on Wednesday afternoon after spending two days.

Accident victim loses E375 000 lawsuit against AG

By Linda Jele
High Court

A motor vehicle accident victim has lost a E375 000 lawsuit against the Attorney General Majahenkhaba Dlamini.

Moses Shongwe, a beneficiary of the Sincephetelo Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA) Fund, after he was involved in an accident, had been paid E402 000 and it was deposited into his law firm's trust account. The money was paid into the now defunct Bheki G Simelane and Associates, but Shongwe did not get even a cent of it because the account was found to be in deficit.

He then instituted legal proceedings against the attorney general seeking an order holding him civilly liable to pay him the amount because he had failed to examine the law firm's trust account as required by law. He demanded E374 087, an amount less to the costs that were due to his then attorneys from the figure paid out by the fund.

The matter was heard by High Court Judge Nkululeko Hlophe and the Deputy Attorney General Sifiso Khumalo appeared on behalf of the AG's office in the matter. Shongwe was represented by lawyer Mangaliso Nkomondze. He had argued that the attorney general was civilly liable to pay him the damages because he failed to perform his duties in terms of the Legal Practitioners Act. He argued that the



IN COURT: Deputy AG Sifiso Khumalo.

attorney general may inspect books of account of any such attorney, notary or conveyancer to satisfy himself that the accounts are in order.

Khumalo argued that the section of the act was not couched in a manner that suggested that it was an obligation on the part of the attorney general.

He said the section made it discretionary on the part of the AG to inspect the books of account for legal practitioners' trust accounts. He also said the act did not specify under what circumstances was the AG supposed to inspect the trust accounts for legal practitioners, therefore, he was not liable to pay Shongwe the damages.

Nkomondze, on behalf of his client, argued that the AG had a duty to examine an attorney's book of account in order to ascertain compliance.

The judge observed that the specified section suggested that

the AG needed to exercise discretion. It did not expressly provide under what circumstances the said discretion might be exercised by the attorney general, judge Hlophe said.

"It further does not put in place the time frames within which the said discretion should be exercised. It is no doubt couched in very wide terms with the attorney general being the one to decide when or under what circumstances he is to exercise the said discretion," Hlophe said.

He said section 24 of the Legal Practitioners Act placed an obligation to legal practitioners practicing in the country to cause their books of account to be examined at his own expense, at least once a year by an auditor registered under the Accountants Act of 1985. The judge said since the act placed discretion on the part of the attorney general, it followed that, in such case, there was no liability against him for failure to exercise it.

He said the act placed an obligation against the attorneys to cause their accounts to be inspected and further placed a penalty for failure to comply, therefore there was a remedy. Such remedy, according to the act, Judge Hlophe said was payment of E500, suspension or struck off the roll of attorneys. "It may be that the legislature needs to revisit the applicable provisions and create a duty in that regard if in its wisdom that is what would be required to resolve the problem concerned," Hlophe said.

E1m copper stolen at Matsapha warehouse

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

COPPER thieves (Timbungulu) have struck again as this time around copper wire valued at approximately E1 million was reportedly stolen from a warehouse situated near the Sigodvweni Police station in Matsapha.

Information gathered is that the copper was stored in one of the warehouses. Officers at Sigodvweni Police Station were called to investigate the matter, however, it was later found that it seemed like the theft was a result of an inside job.

Deputy Police Information and Communications Officer (PICO) Phindile Vilakati stated that indeed a matter of stolen copper was reported at Sigodvweni Police station.

The Deputy PICO said there has been no arrests in connection to the theft yet. She confirmed that the value of the missing copper wire was close to E1 million.

The stolen cable is alleged to be of high quality and it was safely stored in the warehouse which was closely guarded by security guards.

Guards

It is said the guards stated that they did not see anyone loitering around the warehouse, which is why the person who is suspected of having been involved is someone who knew about the copper. Such an act comes at a time when SPTC, police together with other companies affected by the theft have declared war on copper thieves as the practice was crippling their service delivery.

Companies that are usually affected by copper theft include the Swaziland Post and Telecommunications Corporations, Swaziland Water Services Corporation, Swaziland Electricity Company and other companies.

Copper theft not only affects the companies as the impact is hugely felt by the members of the public. In a bid to scale down copper theft, SPTC has even put up incentives for those who report copper thieves so that they are brought to justice.

The copper that was stolen in Matsapha, however, did not cause any disruptions as it

was still not used but was in storage.

Neighbouring countries such as South Africa have intensified the fight against copper theft by passing an Act which came into effect this month, stating that copper thieves can be sentenced to between five and 30 years in prison, while scrap dealers can face a fine of up to R100 million.

The Criminal Matters Amendment Act came into effect on June 1, 2016.

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21 DAYS OF Y'ELLO CARE



everywhere you go



EVERYONE CAN DO IT: Minister of Education Phineas Magagula hard in action yesterday as they were building a guard house at Ekwetsembeni Special School during the MTN Yello Care Campaign. (Pics: Thandeka Ndlangamandla)



WE ALSO CARE: Ekwetsembeni headteacher Thembi Khoza-Dlamini posing for a picture with Afrisam staff members next to the material they donated to build the guard house. **RIGHT - HAPPY PEOPLE:** MTNers with Ekwetsembeni pupils in a jovial mood after the event.



LIKE THIS: Macmillan's Nomcebo Dlamini briefing the pupils about their Talking Stories Programme also available on DSTV.



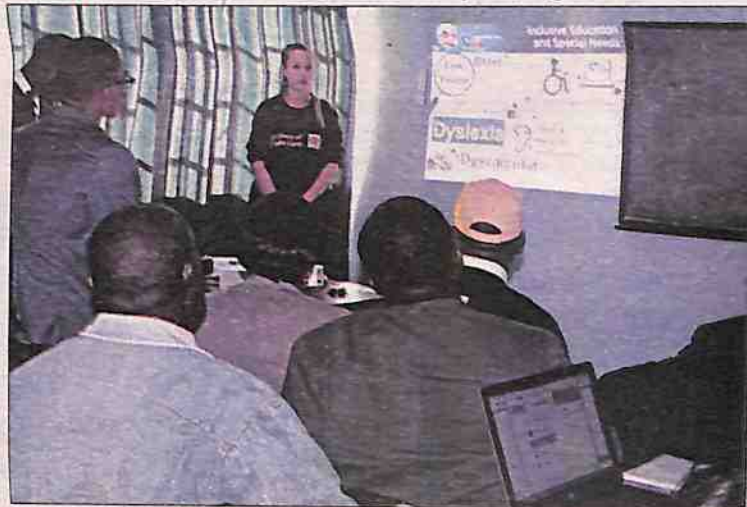
ALWAYS HAPPY TO HELP: Swazi MTN CEO Ambrose Dlamini making his remarks during the campaign.



RIGHT - ADDRESS: The minister speaking at the event.



ENTERTAINERS: The school's ummiso was a marvel to watch.



MAKING LIFE EASIER: Edit Microsystems's Education and Public Relations Specialist Tessa Venter making a presentation on how the Clicker 7 programme works and how it helps children with difficulty in speaking.

SHOW ME WHAT YOU GOT: Thobeka Kunene from Family Life Association of Swaziland (FLAS) made sure the pupils were entertained.



THE TEAM: MTN'S Bongani, Nkosivile, Mavaya, Lungelo posing for a picture.



SIBEBE SURVIVOR 2016 CHALLENGE LAUNCH



FOR YOU: NEDBANK Managing Director Fikile Nkosi handing over the E200 000 cheque to the Mbabane/ Mbuluzi Rotary Club at Mountain Inn during the Sibebe Survivor Challenge 2016 launch on Wednesday. (Pics: Nozipho Sibiya)



SHARED VIEWS: NEDBANK Managing Director making her remarks.



FOCUS: The audience listening to the proceedings during the launch.



PRESENT: Mbabane/ Mbuluzi Rotary Club President Carol Ngcobo, Nedbank MD Fikile Nkosi and Dlangeni Community Chairperson Innocent Gama listening attentively during the proceedings.

PUPIL TRAGICALLY KILLED BY SPEEDING GOVT TRUCK

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

A pupil of St Boniface Primary School died tragically after a speeding government truck knocked her down just after dropping off from a bus.

The accident, which has left other pupils traumatised, occurred near the gate of businessman Moses Motsa's home yesterday just before 3pm.

It happened in full view of other pupils and a younger brother of the deceased who were aboard the bus on their way from school.

The pupil, who is estimated to be 10 years old, was crossing the road towards Motsa's home when the truck belonging to the ministry of public works and transport came from behind the bus and knocked her dead on the spot.

According to eyewitnesses, the bus was being followed by a sedan which was closely followed by the truck. When the child attempted to cross the road, she was narrowly missed by the sedan which was able to avoid knocking her down.

The driver of the truck which was evidently at high speed at the zone of 40km/hour also attempted to apply brakes but



KILLER TRUCK: The government truck which was involved in the accident.



DARK DAY: The body of the child lying on the road. It was later taken to Good Shepherd Hospital by police.

it was too late as the truck hit the girl, cracking her skull open. Upon noticing that the child had been hit by the truck, the driver of the bus reportedly sped off from the scene, presumably avoiding being a witness.

Paramedics were the first to

arrive at the scene but only to find that the child was already dead as she lay motionless in the middle of the road.

Moments later, the police also came and recorded statements before taking the body of the child to Good Shepherd Hospital.

Death Notice



Thandi R. Nxumalo

Friends and relatives & the entire Christian fraternity are notified that Thandi R. Nxumalo has gone to be with the Lord.

Thandi popularly known for the "The Rough Road" column in The Swazi Observer will be laid to rest on the 12th of June at Sidwashini Cemetery Memorial Service at Mbabane Miracle Centre (Industrial Site) on 11th June 2016, starting at 2pm.

There will be no night vigil but a short prayer at her home in Manzana at 7pm.

Rest In Peace

Announcement by family.

Loyiwe Primary teachers almost exchange blows

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

THE issue of the shortage of houses for teachers in many schools around the country has now taken an ugly twist at Loyiwe after teachers almost exchanged blows over the sharing of houses.

A female teacher, who occupies a two-bedroom house, had to lock herself in after other teachers attempted to forcefully move her out to give way for a male teacher who is currently sharing another house with female teachers.

Roommate

Apparently, the female teacher was left occupying the house alone after her roommate found greener pastures in a new school early this year.

A source close to the matter disclosed that the male teacher is currently sharing a three-bedroom house with three female colleagues.

He is therefore occupying the sitting room and utilizing it as a bedroom while his colleagues occupy the actual bedrooms. They are also sharing one kitchen and bathroom.

Following this awkward arrangement, the teachers are said to have been of the view that the teacher who occupies a house alone must move in with the other three teachers, allowing the male teacher to move into the two-bedroom house.

According to the source, the

...PUPILS NOW FED EMANCOBO AS SCHOOL RUNS OUT OF FOOD

PUPILS at Loyiwe Primary School are currently being fed boiled maize (emancobo) as the school has run out of food.

The school is situated near Magwanyana in the belly of the lowveld, an area which has been greatly affected by the recent drought.

Children of the area, mainly those who attend school, heaved a sigh of relief when schools opened as they were guaranteed that at least they would have a meal provided at their various schools.

However this is not the case for pupils at Loyiwe as they are compelled to take lessons on

empty stomachs. This has been the situation for about three weeks after the school reportedly ran out of food.

In an effort to try and alleviate the situation, the school has opted to prepare emancobo and serve to the children so that they can have something to put in the stomach during break time.

Solution

The serving of *emancobo* is said to have been found as the only solution to keep the school running and allow pupils to continue with their classes.

The pupils would then have to carry enough drinking water from home as this kind of a

meal requires one to take plenty of water after eating.

The unavailability of water in the area is however another serious challenge which is faced by the entire community.

Principal of the school, Simangele Nxumalo confirmed that the school ran out of food for the children, which is known as *zondle*.

Nxumalo said, however, they have already reported the shortage of food to the kitchen officer in the ministry of education and training. She stated that they were hoping to receive food for the children any time soon.

teacher would also accommodate another male colleague who is currently commuting from home on a daily basis.

Negotiations between the teachers for a better arrangement is said to have been futile as the teacher who was asked to do the necessary 'favour' and move out of the two-bedroom house vigorously refused.

On Monday, after school hours, some teachers are said to have visited the teacher who stays alone with the intention to ask her to move out of the house but she locked herself inside.

This resulted in a brief exchange of heated words as the other teachers labelled her selfish.

Meanwhile, other teachers at the school are currently accommodated at an old building which was abandoned by the ministry of health some years ago.

The house reportedly has no glass in its windows and is in such a state it has been deemed a health hazard.

"The situation of teachers' accommodation here is very bad as it has also created enmity amongst the teachers," said a

source, who is also a teacher at the school.

When reached for comment, Regional Education Officer Wellington Mdluli said the situation has not been reported to his office.

Mdluli stated even though many schools in the region had shortages in teachers' houses, a situation where female and male teachers share the same house had not been reported to him.

"I am hoping that if there is anything of this nature, the principal of the school shall inform me about it," said Mdluli.

Loyiwe school committee member loots food

A member of the school committee at Loyiwe Primary is being accused of helping herself to the children's food for her personal benefit.

Pupils at the school are currently being fed boiled maize (*emancobo*) after the school ran out of food about three weeks ago.

The shortage of food, which is known as *zondle*, has also been confirmed by the school's principal, Simangele Nxumalo.

In an interview, Nxumalo stated that they were currently waiting for the delivery of food from the ministry of education and training.

Lubombo Regional Education Officer Wellington Mdluli was also contacted on the issue of food shortages at the school and he expressed shock at how a school could run out of food for a number of weeks without the knowledge of his office.

Mdluli said his office had not been informed about any shortages of food at the school. Moreover, the REO stated that principals were well aware of the procedures to be followed to prevent situations whereby a school would run out of food for a number of weeks.

Uncovered

Further investigations by The Swazi Observer uncovered that a member of the school committee was reportedly looting food from the school under the pretence that she was taking it to a children's care point in the Sibovini area. A number of parents from the school were interviewed and they gave similar information which implicates the said member of the committee who is behind the food shortage at the school.

The committee member is said to be a regular figure at the school as she would make visits for no particular purpose.

Information gathered is to the effect that the committee member would then demand a bag of either beans or maize from the kitchen assistant, saying she wanted to give it to other children at a care point situated not too far from the school.

This is said to have led to the school running out of beans much earlier than expected.

Man busted with 2 000 dagga plants

By Jozane Maziya

A 44-year-old man from Kufikeni has been convicted after 2 000 dagga plants were found growing in his yard.

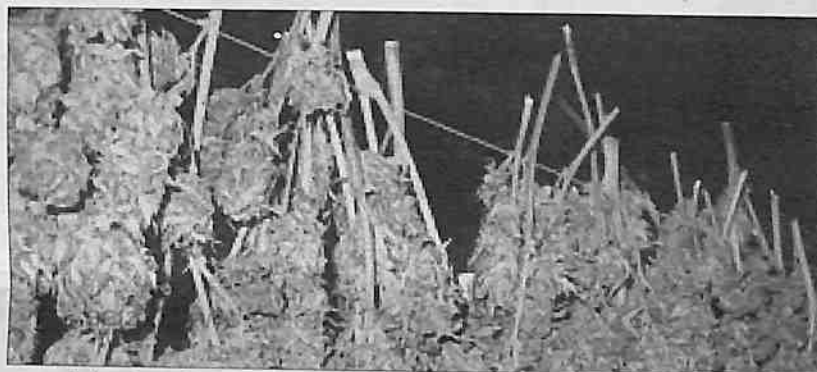
Mthunzi Alex Matsebula appeared before Mbabane Magistrate Sifiso Vilakati to answer to two charges of unlawful possession of the prohibited substance.

The accused was charged with possession after he was caught with a meagre 1.6kg of dagga on June 8 at Kufikeni, he pleaded guilty to this charge.

He faced a second possession charge after a plantation in his home-stand was discovered to be growing 2 000 dagga plants, he also pleaded guilty to this charge.

As per his plea Mthunzi was found guilty and convicted for the crime of possessing the prohibited plant.

Given the opportunity to mitigate before his sentence was handed down, the accused apologised for



committing the crime.

Matsebula told the court that he had been caught in a prevalent activity.

"I was also just being naughty I got caught, however, and I am endlessly apologetic," he said.

The magistrate informed the man that he would be fortunate as his sentence could have been stiffer.

"The High Court has indicated that first offenders who plead guilty must be given the option of a fine. You are lucky that the crown has opted not to lead evidence otherwise the sentence would be stiffer," the magistrate said.

The magistrate further warned the accused to stop cultivating dagga, informing him of the wider implications of the cultivation of such a plant.

Matsebula was fined E2 000 for the first charge or two years in default of payment, the second charge also got him a fine of E2 000 or two years in default of payment.

The two sentences would run consecutively meaning that Matsebula must pay a total E4 000 fine or spend four years in a corrections facility in default of payment.

Monday is International Day of People Living with Albinism

BY Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

PEOPLE living with albinism in the country will commemorate the International Day of People Living with Albinism.

This day is commemorated annually on June 13.

Public Relations Officer Stukie Mamba said they had noted with concern the discrimination and myths surrounding people with albinism. "We are therefore working on a two-man theatrical play to educate and protrude the plight of people liv-

ing with albinism.

This will also run concurrently with a campaign to drum up support, donations and assistance to people with albinism in Swaziland," she said.

On The Run

"On the night there will be a play, poetry and many more. People must come and be informed."

#Price Tag is now working on a methodology that will put Swaziland on a standstill and award the general public an opportunity to rethink opinions held about this minority group of people. The organisation of people living

with albinism will on June 17 have a show where they will be sensitising the nation about albinism. "On the night there will be a play, poetry and many more. People must come and be informed," she said.

SNIP

TEMPORARY TEACHERS TO SMILE TO THE BANK

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane

TEMPORARY teachers who remain unpaid their salaries since January this year will finally get their pay this month.

This was disclosed by the Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) Secretary General, Muzi Mhlanga when quizzed by this newspaper yesterday.

Mhlanga, stated clearly that the issue did not only affect temporary teachers but all teachers. "There are

some permanent teachers that have not been paid as well," Mhlanga said.

The secretary general said about five teachers had not been paid last month. He emphasised though, that these teachers were the ones that had reported the matter to the SNAT.

He said they would take the matter up with the Teaching Service Commission (TSC), with an aim to get the teachers paid.

Most of the temporary teachers had not been paid since January this year. This has led to SNAT engaging in protest actions, in an effort to address the matter with the TSC and the min-

istry of education and training.

In some instances, the association even had meetings with the Ministry of Education and Training Principal Secretary (PS) Pat Muir.

The meeting between Muir and SNAT took place at the ministry of education offices in Mbabane in April this year.

Mhlanga confirmed that they had a meeting with Muir to discuss the issues affecting the temporary teachers, which had begun to disturb school operations. He was of the view that the meeting was fruitful

because the teachers were expected to be paid in April. Teachers are paid on the 21st of each month, while temporary teachers are usually paid at the end of each month.

This meant they would enjoy their first term holidays relieved, but that was not meant to be as they ended up not being paid.

This led them to march to the ministry of education and training to deliver a petition. The march protest took place at the beginning of May this year.

The TSC recently apologised for the unfortunate situation that befell the teachers.

The apology was made by TSC Chairman Simanga Mamba last week Thursday during a workshop organised by Swaziland Principals Association (SWAPA).

Mamba promised the teachers that the situation would improve.

He highlighted that the issue of payment of teachers was not theirs alone as TSC because other min-



AT LAST: SNAT Secretary General Muzi Mhlanga.

istries were involved as well. He mentioned the ministry of public service as being involved, together with the treasury department. He stated that this was not meant to push the blame to other ministries and that was why they were apologising to the teachers because they were the ones responsible for teachers.

Beckham has left the country

BY Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

DAVID Beckham has left the country, after accomplishing his duties as the UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador. He jetted off on Wednesday afternoon.

UNICEF Swaziland Communications Specialist Nonhlanhla Hleta-Nkambule said Beckham's visit was a 24 hours mission. Asked on why the organization kept the soccer legend's visit to the country under wraps, she said Beckham had specifically requested privacy.

Beckham had travelled to the country to see how '7 The David Beckham UNICEF Fund' is helping support and protect HIV - positive children. During his visit Beckham heard and saw how the worst drought in decades - now taking hold of vast swathes of Eastern and Southern Africa - is threatening to wreak havoc on the lives of children and families already made vulnerable by HIV.

Nkambule said during his visit to the country, Beckham met mothers and children who are living with HIV in some of the poorest homesteads in Lubombo and Shiselweni regions. One of the places he visited was the Siphofaneni Clinic where he also spoke to children and mothers living with HIV.

Fund

He saw how his fund is helping UNICEF to provide children with life-saving treatment and care and learned how over the next three years the 7 Fund is committed to contributing 27% of UNICEF Swaziland's annual budget for HIV/AIDS.

The global footballer continued to voice his concern over the children who are already incredibly vulnerable because of HIV, and were now at risk from a new crisis that could have a devastating impact on their lives. He said across Eastern and Southern Africa millions of children are at risk from hunger, water shortages and disease.

The UNICEF Goodwill ambassador further urged the global community to do all they could to assist UNICEF in delivering the life-saving food, medicine and clean water that the children desperately needed. "I am speaking out for these children to make sure they are not forgotten at a time when they so desperately need our help," he added.

In 2015 Beckham marked his tenth anniversary as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador by launching 7: The David Beckham UNICEF Fund and made a commitment to speak out and raise vital funds to protect some of the world's most vulnerable children.

NOTICE TO IMPORTERS & EXPORTERS



ASYCUDA World Introduction of an Electronic Manifest

The Swaziland Revenue Authority kindly reminds all Commercial Importers, Exporters and Transporters, that in accordance with Section 39(1) (a) of the Customs and Excise Regulations, 1976, a Cargo Manifest forms part of documents required to clear goods into and out of Swaziland.

With the introduction of ASYCUDAWorld for processing Customs declarations, the Manifest is now in Electronic form (e-Manifest) and is a mandatory requirement for ALL Commercial Importers, Exporters and Transporters.

This notice serves to inform traders that with effect from the 13th June 2016, the SRA will cease to accept the manual manifest for commercial declarations and will instead be processing these on the system as per Section 39(1)(e) of the Customs and Excise Act, 1971 (as Amended). Your cooperation in this regard will be highly appreciated.

All queries relating to the e-Manifest may be directed to: info@sra.org.sz or call **24064050**.

DUMISANI E. MASILELA
Commissioner General

email: info@sra.org.sz

website: www.sra.org.sz

'Raising The Standard'

"The stationery industry is worried that such will continue to the high school tender as the ministry contemplates that. This really affects us so we need to have a meeting with government," the member added.

He said they have written to the ministry and the tender board as regards the matter.



3.3. System Closure and Overview at 18:00h

Set top boxes are gadgets that help convert analogue signals to digital signals. It enables television sets to display quality pictures, which are very clear. Set top boxes are currently sold in places like Mbabane, Ezulwini, Matsapha, Manzini, Nhlangano and Buhleni, with the main vendor being Pick and Pay.

DE-WORMING STARTS IN SCHOOLS, PUPILS FALL SICK

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlango

THE deworming exercise started off on a rather bad note as some pupils reportedly fell sick after taking the tablets at Ebenezer High School.

The pupils are said to have vomited and had diarrhoea.

It is understood that the deworming exercise which is currently ongoing in schools around the country has caused serious tension as parents now feel the tablets are dangerous to their children.

Ebenezer High is believed to be leading in the Shiselweni schools when it comes to enrolment.

Vomited

While it could not be ascertained as to how many pupils fell sick after taking the pills, claims were that a huge number of them vomited within the school's premises.

As lessons were put on hold to give way to the deworming team, it is said pupils on their way back home had to use forests and bushes to



ONLY HEARD: Mtsambama Member of Parliament Mphaya Simelane.

answer the call of nature.

It is said some pupils complained of being weak, while others said they were feeling dizzy and some had terrible headaches.

"Labanye bashekile baphindze bahlanta," said one of the pupils who claimed to have taken three of the tablets at once.

Another pupil estimated about 50

pupils vomited, while many others had to find their way to the toilets as they had running stomachs.

Worried

Parents were said to be worried and concerned in the manner the deworming exercise was affecting the health of their children.

A concerned resident Sincdzile Simelane said she met some of the children on their way home and she suspected that they did not take the tablets as per the prescription.

Rushing

The area's Member of Parliament Mphaya Simelane said he only heard that pupils in the school vomited and others were seen rushing to the toilets after they were given the tablets. "Ngive batsi bahlantile incumbi yabo labanfwana labanye bahanjiswa tisu," said the MP.

Efforts were made to get a comment from the principal of the school Dumisani Shabangu but his phone was not available on the MTN network.

... the area's MP, Mphaya Simelane said he only heard that pupils in the school vomited and others were seen rushing to the toilets after they were given the tablets

UNICEF says de-worming pills are safe

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Matsapha

AMIDST reports of children being admitted to hospital after taking de-worming pills, UNICEF says the pills are safe.

The United Nations' International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) is the organisation behind the deworming exercise.

UNICEF Representative Rachel Odede said they appreciated government for launching the national de-worming programme and assured the nation that the medication was safe.

"We want to re-iterate this very important message, and emphasise the fact that the medication for mass

drug administration for bilharzias and intestinal worms has been used for many years and is very safe," said Odede who was represented by Tanya Radosavljevic at the launch of the day of the African Child held at Esibayeni Lodge on Wednesday.

Radosavljevic said the treatment was safe, even when given to uninfected children. The representative said such a programme was a major milestone towards ending neglected tropical diseases in Swaziland mainly bilharzias (Schistosomiasis) and intestinal worms (soil transmitted helminthiasis).

These diseases have killed many children around the globe. On another note, Radosavljevic said working with government and development partners, the United

Nations family had re-committed itself to supporting the country in dealing with the drought.

She said by declaring the drought a national emergency, the country took a very important step which led to mobilising everyone to urgently respond to the situation.

She added that the drought situation continued to put pressure on the very limited resources at the organisation's disposal in their efforts to bring the much required services. Radosavljevic said the drought created a desperate emergency situation, which has had a more severe impact on children.

She thus called for everyone to double their efforts in honouring commitment to protecting the interest and rights of children.

Culpable homicide driver, cautioned and discharged

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

A driver who was involved in an accident which saw his motor vehicle overturning and resulting to the death of his brother who was a passenger was cautioned and discharged after telling the court that he was obstructed by a snake.

Muzi Jele appeared before Principal Magistrate Dumsani Magagula after he was charged with culpable homicide.

According to the charge sheet, Jele wrongfully and unlawfully drove the motor vehicle in a negligent manner,

thus it overturned several times.

A passenger, one Daniel Jele sustained serious injuries and eventually died while undergoing treatment at the RFM Hospital.

Prevent

The indictment included that the accused failed to prevent the accident from occurring.

He was said to have failed to apply brakes in time.

The matter had been dragging in court for over a year, after the accused person was remanded out of custody.

When it eventually took off on Tuesday, the accused pleaded guilty to the charge while conducting his

own defence. The crown also accepted the plea without leading evidence.

On mitigation, Jele told the court that he was obstructed by a snake which he saw crossing the road.

He said he was actually taking his brother to the hospital as he was ill.

Jele said the snake terrified him to the point that it was the last thing he saw before he found himself waking up in hospital.

Jele said he did not know where the snake came from as he only saw it already at a very close range.

The court extended its leniency and cautioned and discharged the accused person after finding him guilty of the offence.



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Thank you



The Simelane and Zwane families would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to all those who supported and contributed spiritually, financially, physically and otherwise during the sad and untimely loss of Sibongile Simelane nee Zwane.

May the almighty God bless you all.

Announcement by the Simelane family.

TSC TO FIRE TEACHERS PROPOSING LOVE TO PUPILS



RIOT ACT: TSC Chairman Simanga Mamba.

Stories by Mbono Mdluli
Matsapha

TSC Chairman Simanga Mamba says the commission will continue to fire teachers who are found to be in romantic relationships with pupils.

He said such was destructive to a teacher's career.

Mamba said it did not matter whether that teacher was still proposing to the pupil or not, but the attempt to entice the pupil into a romantic relationship was enough to send him (teacher) packing.

"One teacher told us that he had not even got anything from the child.

Consequences

"We do not care whether that was the case or not but if the pupil had consented to his advancement, she would have suffered the consequences," he said.

Mamba said even if the teacher fell in love with a pupil from another school, it

did not matter because that would still be a pupil.

He said teachers should take it upon themselves to find out the right background of people they fall in love with. He said this was because in some instances, teachers would propose to pupils outside the schools, not knowing that they were pupils.

Tendency

The chairman also touched on the issue of absenteeism by principals. He bitterly complained about principals who are always not in their work stations.

Some principals, especially those in rural areas, had a tendency of attending school once or twice a week. Mamba said such a tendency disturbed the progress of the schools.

"A principal who does this cannot be able to condemn late-coming in his or her school. Discipline is instilled in the way you present and behave yourself as a principal," he said.

Principals should stop dressing shabbily

TEACHING Service Commission (TSC) Chairperson Simanga Mamba says principals who dress shabbily at work are a disgrace and they set a bad example to pupils.

Mamba, speaking during a workshop organised by the Swaziland Principals Association (SWAPA) at Esibayeni Lodge recently, made an example of SWAPA Vice President Welcome Mhlunga when he demonstrated how school principals should dress.

Mhlunga was wearing a navy-blue suit, with a formal shirt and a necktie.

"Even if you head a school in the rural areas, you should always be presentable so as to command the respect you deserve from the members of the community where you serve. A teacher should always be formal and presentable," he said.

He said there was a certain teacher who had to be promoted to a higher level and had to be interviewed by the TSC.

"When the teacher appeared for the interview, he was not in a formal dress code like a person attending an interview

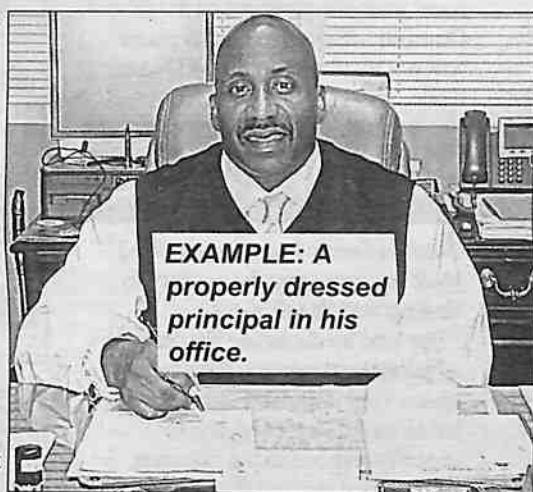
should. Before the interview started, the teacher was told to go outside the office where the interview was taking place and see if there was someone in a casual gear. He found that there was none," Mamba said.

Mamba said the teacher was already feeling out of place and he failed the interview.

Apply

This, according to Mamba, was because the teacher had not paid attention to the dress code. Mamba also made an example of St Mark's High School Principal Zanele Zwane, who did not apply for the principal's position in that school.

Mamba said he saw Zwane one day at



the offices of the ministry of education and training in Mbabane, where she was talking to a certain official and she was displaying a no-nonsense attitude which showed that she took her work seriously. "At that time, St Mark's

needed a principal and we suggested that Zwane should take over," he said.

Before joining St Mark's, Zwane principal at Siphocosini High School for about 10 years. Before that, she had been in charge of Sigangeni High School. She then joined St Mark's last year, where she succeeded former Principal Dominic Nxumalo, who retired.

MP TITUS 'DRESSES DOWN' BUCOPHO

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlengano

ZOMBODZE Emuva Member of Parliament (MP) Titus Thwala is reportedly not happy with the area's Bucophu who has been quoted numerous times by the media on the constituency's development.

Bucophu, Vusi Mkhwanazi has been quoted in this newspaper discussing developmental issues, other matters and activities in his community. He was also drawn to comment on few other issues pertaining to the Inkhundla and was also featured in the weekly column, --- Shiselweni News.

This then irked MP Thwala and some members of the constituency team as they noted that they were being 'de-campaigned'.

At a recent weekly meeting for the inkhundla team, it is alleged that the MP dressed down Mkhwanazi for having turned himself the area's 'mouthpiece'.

A source close to the matter said Thwala sounded worried as to what Mkhwanazi's intention or motive was discussing developmental issues with the media.

"The recent meeting was so tense. The MP came carrying the newspaper with articles where Mkhwanazi is quoted. Mkhwanazi tried to explain or clarify some things but that fueled the MP further," said an insider.

According to the source, as Mkhwanazi was

dressed down for his 'wayward' actions, tears filled his eyes and decided to storm out of the meeting.

"As the MP continued attacking him, he could not control himself but cry and decided to leave the meeting," said the source. Some members of the constituency team could not comment when contacted by this newspaper on what really transpired during the meeting.

Others said they never noticed anything as they made their submissions and started concentrating on other things.

Meanwhile, when reached for comment Mkhwanazi confirmed how he was verbally attacked during the meeting by the MP over articles where he was quoted.

Defence

"No one came to my defence and it looked like I resembled a lamb before its slaughter. The MP was armed with newspapers when he confronted me, telling me I was not the right person to say anything about the constituency. I tried justifying something but no one wanted to listen," Mkhwanazi said.

On the other hand, MP Thwala said what was discussed had nothing to do with the media. He said he would not delve on any issue discussed at the meeting as it was only for the Inkhundla council.

"What we discussed was at council level and has nothing to do with the media. The discussions were behind closed doors and therefore I cannot comment," said MP Thwala when contacted.

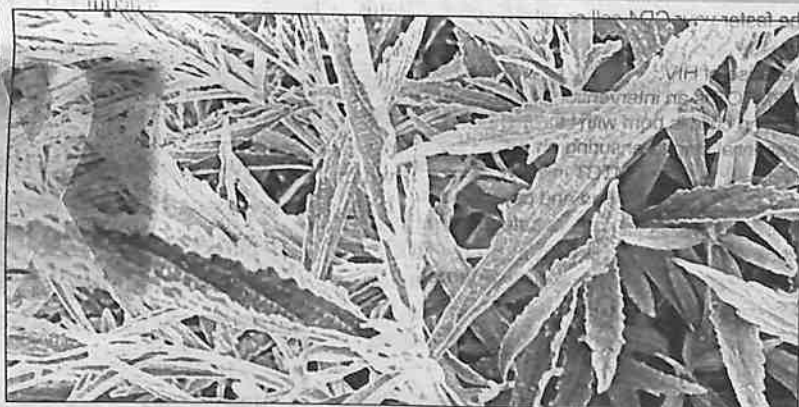
Woman (78), son nabbed for dagga possession

By Sizwe Dlamini
Buhleni

MEMBERS of the Royal Swaziland Police Service at Buhleni uncovered dagga at a homestead belonging to a 78-year-old woman at Matfundini in the northern Hhohho region.

This was during a raid by the police consisting of Sergeant Dumisani Du Pont, Constable Zulu, Constable Mazibuko and Constable Ngwenya.

The dagga weighing 13 kilograms was found hidden in four different areas in the old woman's homestead and it was concealed in



bags.

The old woman, Betty Hlophe, shared the homestead with her last born son, 32-year-old Jabulani Hlophe.

They were both arrested and appeared before Senior Magistrate Siphosini Dlamini charged with dagga possession.

Betty pleaded guilty to the

charge, whilst her son pleaded not guilty as he claimed the illegal herb belonged to his mother Betty.

Tried

The court informed Jabulani that he was not being tried for ownership of the dagga but for possession as it was found within the Hlophe homestead.

The crown then brought a witness, Constable Ngwenya who informed the court that they responded to a tip off from residents of the area.

Ngwenya further informed the court that Betty did not waste any time but admitted to knowing the dagga while her son distanced himself.

Jabulani took the stand under oath and made two very important omissions and provided conflicting evidence leading the crown to determine his guilt.

Woken

Jabulani first told the court that he was woken up by the police, and then he changed and told the court that he was outside and saw the police.

He said he was unemployed so he practised gardening but did not see the two white bags in the garden.

After a lengthy deliberation, the court found both Jabulani and his mother guilty of dagga possession.

Magistrate Dlamini sentenced both mother and son to three years with a one year suspended sentence in a correctional facility if they failed to pay a E3 000 fine.

CHILDREN SHOULD BE PRIORITISED IN THE DROUGHT EMERGENCY - DPM

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

DEPUTY Prime Minister (DPM) Paul Dlamini has urged the nation to also prioritise children in the drought emergency.

He said since Swaziland declared the drought as a national emergency, it has become apparent that there would be a need to protect children during the drought season.

"Children are particularly vulnerable in this emergency, as they lack the ability to fend for themselves. Therefore, when responding to children's most basic needs during emergencies, it is important to recognise the range of risks they are exposed to.

"These risks includes home displacements, human trafficking, sexual exploitation, economic exploitation, recruitment for child labour, gender-based violence, physical harm, psychosocial distress and other forms of harm," he said during the official launch of the 'African child month' at Esibayeni Lodge.

The event was themed; "Protecting children in emergencies".

Dlamini said the theme has been adapted from the African Union's theme "Conflict and crisis in Africa: Protecting all children's rights.

He said everyone had the obliga-



MY POINT: DPM Paul Dlamini delivering his speech during the launch of the Children's Month at Esibayeni Lodge. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)

tion to take care of the African child.

DPM said children were forgotten during the emergency response, from its start. The protection of children and the engagement of families and communities should be prioritised so as to ensure that their rights to care and protection were upheld.

"It is our obligation to ensure that no child dies from preventable cases. All children should have access to quality basic education and violence against children will no longer tolerated," he said.

Dlamini said children tend to be the first victims not to have access to a decent meal, be it at school or in the household.

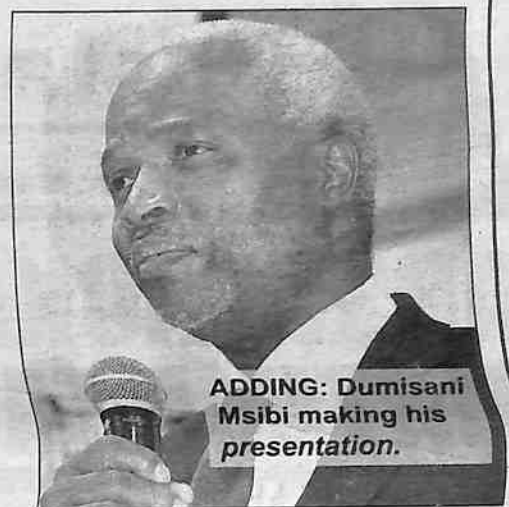
"This exposes them to poor health, malnutrition, poor school performance and premature death. As we launch 'Children's Month', we therefore urge all partners, including development partners, to assist government in strengthening the systems and mechanisms that will respond immediately to child protection violations during these emergencies. Such should involve working with the community structures including traditional leaders, community based carers, schools, faith based organisations, the private sector and community based organisations," he said.

He said government should be assisted in ensuring that the Children's Protection and Welfare Act and its regulations were operationalised as some of the prevention and response mechanisms were flagged in the act.

They should be a strengthened coordinated response approach at the national level. He said this would enhance comprehensive safety nets for all children across the country.

"We all have the responsibility to safeguard and keep children and young people safe during disasters and this forms the basis of our work as the DPM's office. We need whistle blowers at the community level who will promptly report any violations to children's basic rights," he said.

(BELOW) PRESENT: Dlamini receiving a gift from Mother Two Mothers' Delie Khanyile and Maserame Mntshali.



ADDING: Dumisani Msibi making his presentation.

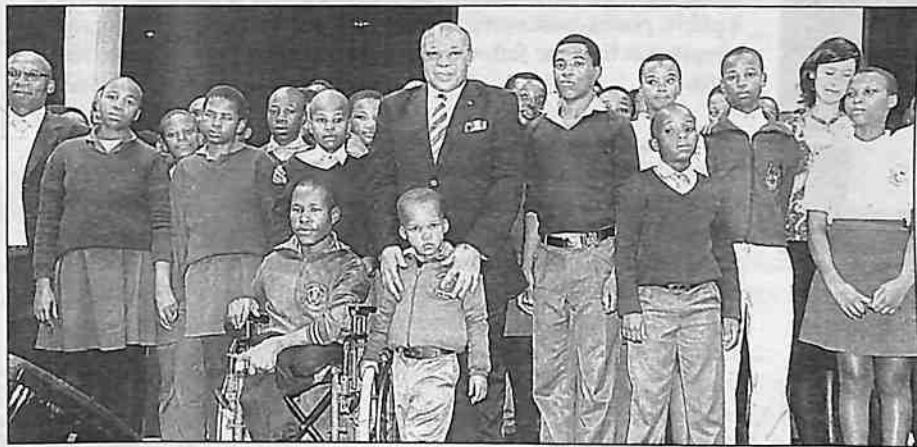


TOUR: DPM being briefed by SWAGAA's Vuyisile Broadwell and Senamile Makama at their stand.



(L) PROTECTING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN EMERGENCIES: DPM Paul Dlamini posing with the children at the launch.

(R) CONTRIBUTION: Former minister Stella Lukhele making her contributions.



Ministry of Health aims to end new infant HIV infections

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

THE ministry of health is on a mission to eliminate new HIV infections in children after birth.

Research has revealed that at birth an estimated two percent of infants aged between six to eight weeks are born HIV positive.

However, the estimated rate of vertical transmission at 18 months of age is at 11 percent.

Asked on the contributing factors that cause the rise of the infection rate, the Ministry of Health MNCH Technical Advisor Dr Simangele Mthethwa said seroconversion was the major cause for a child to be infected after birth.

"In simpler terms this means that during child birth both the mother

MEDICAL TERMS

HIV seroconversion is the time in which a person first develops antibodies for HIV. They will not yet test positive on an HIV antibody test. The word just means that your sero status is converting from being HIV antibody negative to HIV antibody positive.

Viral load is the term used to describe the amount of HIV in your blood. The more HIV there is in your blood (and therefore the higher your viral load), then

the faster your CD4 cell count will fall, and the greater your risk of becoming ill because of HIV.

PMTCT is an intervention to ensure that no child is born with HIV and it is an essential step to ensuring an AIDS free generation. The PMTCT initiative provides drugs, counseling and psychological support to help mothers safeguard their infants against the virus.

(source internet)

and the child test HIV negative but during the period of breastfeeding the mother contracts the HIV virus and infects the child through breast feeding. This has proven to be the most notorious form in which the children get infected. In the past the ministry had no proper means of dictating whether the mother is still HIV negative or if she has contract-

ed the virus. A new HIV infection carries a high viral load and this puts the child at a high risk of contracting the virus during breast feeding," she said.

Mthethwa said poor compliance to medication rules is one other reason that increases the chances of babies being born without the virus only to end-up being infected.

"Mixed feeding before the child is six months also contributes to the child being vulnerable in acquiring the virus," she said.

She said the ministry of health had come up with initiatives to help reduce the rate at which the virus was being passed on to the children.

Adapting

Mthethwa said the ministry would be adapting the Life Long ART for pregnant and lactating women (LLAPLA).

"This means that once a women, pregnant or lactating, starts taking the HIV medication she must not stop taking the medication, even other birth.

This is a lifetime commitment

that the mother has to make for her child," she said.

She added, the ministry would introduce the 'mother baby pair' (MBP) initiative.

Required

When a child goes for regular clinic checkups, only the mother would be required to take the child to the clinic not anyone else so that the mother can have regular HIV tests.

She said this would help monitor both the child and the mother and in the event where the mother has contracted the virus then the child will immediately stop breastfeeding.

"All children will be tested for the HIV virus at the age of nine months. Lastly, the ministry of health has created a package that will make sure that the negative stay negative. We will be advocating for woman to have planned pregnancies," she said.





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Outside Cap Rate (incl. Vat)	E0.10	E0.10	E0.10	E0.10	E0.10	E0.10

POSTPAID PACKAGES									
	HOME				BUSINESS				
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Copper Voucher	10.00	17.00	20.00	42.00	50.00	70.00	127.00	200.00	917.00
SPTC Package (incl. Vat)	E029.00	E010.00	E009.00	E020.00	E010.00	E021.00	E021.00	E021.00	E021.00
Outside Cap Rate (incl. Vat)	E0.10	E0.10	E0.10	E0.10	E0.10	E0.10	E0.10	E0.10	E0.10



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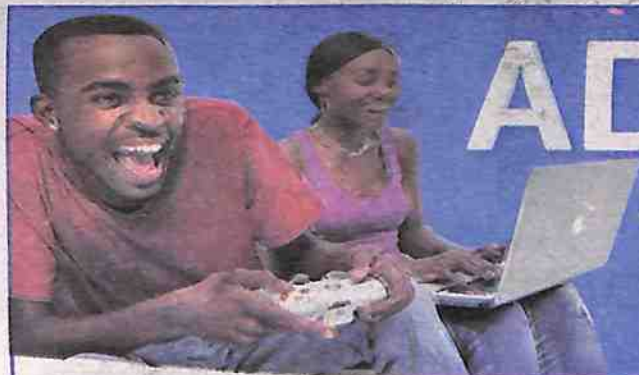
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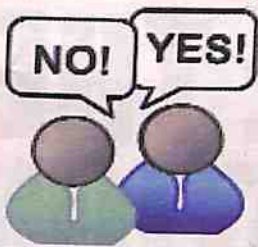
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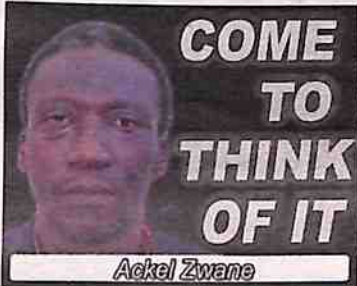
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FEATURES & OPINION

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CERTAINLY what constitutes heaven to one religious grouping actually constitutes something else to another and therefore there is no consensus on how the journey to heaven should be travelled.

Interestingly government wants to play the arbiter in the event of squabbles by offering what it understands to be religious tolerance in the kingdom which is also responsible for the much talked about peace and harmony.

What government did not tell the religious groupings, though, was its ever advancing moves to go just beyond regulation into the tapping on the commercial side of these formations.

Government is more akin on taxes to finance the peace than the other way round.

In order for the church to tap on government services it must also make contributions towards the upkeep of government more especially because religious groups do collect money from the public they claim to serve.

If they amass resources like other establishments in the name of heaven or moral correctness, then they must be able to give back to society in the form of taxes since government is the only plausible medium through which governance and service delivery is managed.

Already in neighbouring South Africa government has set up a body to regulate the operations of religious groupings especially after the proliferation of quacks in the latter day commercial churches who feed off congregants in the name of some divine power to heal all sorts of ailments, from physical to spiritual.

In order for our government to make its presence felt it has suggested mutual co-existence among the religious groups through the establishment of sound policies, codes and groundbreaking rules of order

RELIGIOUS GROUPS CHOOSE SEPARATE ROUTES TO HEAVEN

● If they amass resources like other establishments in the name of heaven or moral correctness, then they must be able to give back to society in the form of taxes since government is the only plausible medium through which governance and service delivery is managed

and operation that will ensure transparency for the sake of the much needed trust among followers.

This trust among followers comes with transparent fiscal conduct, that is, the books of accounts must be audited and certified clean by Dumisani Masilela of the Swaziland Revenue Authority if we are to know the sources and application of funds of these churches.

That is what the other Masilela, Anthony, at Home Affairs is talking about when he calls for regulation of religious groupings because "there is now more than one player in the market and that is the primary reason for the regulations. In order to formulate practices and have a data base of all the regions, this will help in the understanding and protection of their names, for example, cultural practices."

Matters

Religious groups have been known to divert from the mainstream matters of the spirit to indulge in political and other partisan and non religious practices to push the agenda of founders or to succumb to pressures from sources of funding in order to maintain the lifestyles of leaders.

We have seen other religious groupings declaring their support for certain political personalities or parties in order to secure their continued influence and existence in society and the sustenance of founding leaders all at the expense of the original mandate of charting a way to the heavens.

Shortly after the constitutional review process in Swaziland in the mid nineties, Christians wanted a monopoly of all things religious by claiming a prominent position in the constitution, a position that placed Christians over and above all other



ONE HOUSE: Bishop Nash Shongwe and traditional healer Nhlavana Maseko in a meeting recently.

religious persuasions. Muslims and other religious groupings screamed "unfair!"

Guru

In the early eighties another religious guru in the person of Peter Tosh who was born Winston Hubert McIntosh on October 19, 1944, in Grange Hill, Westmoreland, Jamaica came to the fore.

Tosh was a devotee of Rastafarianism, a complex set of mystical beliefs which holds that Emperor Haile Selassie I of Ethiopia (whose given name was Ras Tafari) is a modern-day messiah who will lead black people out of

oppression and into an African homeland (heaven).

To the devout Swazi Christian who was also influenced by a strong African ancestral belief system, Tosh was not more than a dagga smoker who could as well be mistaken for a mere rabble rousing mortal.

There were many who came before him to spur the Christian faith to other levels otherwise never before imagined in Swaziland; now the country is a host to a cocktail of Christian concoctions and other religions that has resulted in the debate on whether there is a unique path to the heavens where there is no

hunger and want but all day and night singing to mark the end of the earthly tribulations.

The so-called Christian faith has infiltrated itself into every aspect of the Swazi way of life.

Before a traditional healer, who in the yester year was dubbed a witch-doctor, attends to patients, he/she starts with prayer and asks Jesus Christ to lead the way while at the same time beating hard the drum to evoke the spirits of the dead for enhanced performance.

You may consider taking leaf from the red gown and some of the white gown sect Zionists groupings that often double (or is it triple) up as witchdoctors, healers or pastors with the powers to perform just about any miracle from getting rid of a competitor to guaranteed positive results of any undertaking.

They have since been joined by those who are fond of using image tricks by pretending to be floating in the air in the fashion of Christ himself when he walked on sea water.

They remind us of Isaiah Mloyiswa Mdliwamafa Shembe who, in his hallucinations, thought he would be lifted to heaven in the same fashion as Elijah and Christ but unfortunately he crashed to his death on the mountaintop but his followers say he was indeed taken to heaven because they could not access his cadaver, they call him *Unyazi lweZulu* (lightning vehicle from the heavens).

As for the Muslims, they are associated with the most complex forms of terror in recent history even though they deny it as smear campaign, not their faith. On the other hand the Jehovah's Witnesses speak a different calendar of the coming of the messiah.

Now given the voluminous defences of each of these groupings it is very much unlikely for all of them to travel on the same route, it still remains a valid question whether indeed the destination is the same.

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ON THIS DAY ...JUNE 10

1933 - Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow were in a car accident on a rural road in north Texas. The third-degree burns suffered by Parker resulted in a pronounced limp for the rest of her life.

1935 - Alcoholics Anonymous was founded by William G. Wilson and Dr. Robert Smith.

1940 - Italy declared war on France and Britain. In addition, Canada declared war on Italy.

1943 - Laszlo Biro patented his ballpoint pen. Biro was a Hungarian journalist.

1943 - The Allies began bombing Germany around the clock.

1944 - The youngest pitcher in major league baseball pitched his first game. Joe Nuxhall was 15 years old (and 10 months and 11 days).

1946 - Italy established a republic replacing its monarchy.

1948 - Chuck Yeager exceeded the speed of sound in the Bell XS-1.

1954 - General Motors announced the gas turbine bus had been produced successfully.

1967 - Israel and Syria agreed to a cease-fire that ended the Six-Day War.

1970 - A fifteen-man group of special forces troops began training for Operation Kingpin. The operation was a POW rescue mission in North Vietnam.

1971 - The US ended a 21-year trade embargo of China.

1984 - The US Army successfully tested an antiballistic missile.

1984 - The United States and the Vatican established full diplomatic relations for the first time in 117 years.

1985 - Frank Sinatra was portrayed as a friend of organised crime in a "Doonesbury" comic strip. Over 800 newspapers carried the panel.

1990 - The Civic Forum movement won Czechoslovakia's first free elections since 1946. The movement was founded by President Vaclav Havel.

1990 - Bulgaria's former Communist Party won the country's first free elections in more than four decades.

1993 - It was announced by scientists that genetic material was extracted from an insect that lived when dinosaurs roamed the Earth.

1994 - US President Clinton intensified sanctions against Haiti's military leaders. US commercial air travel was suspended along with most financial transactions between Haiti and the US.

1996 - The Colorado Avalanche defeated the Florida Panthers in a 1-0 triple overtime game. The win ended a four-game sweep for the Stanley Cup.

1998 - The Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled that poor children in Milwaukee could attend religious schools at taxpayer expense.

1999 - NATO suspended air strikes in Yugoslavia after Slobodan Milosevic agreed to withdraw his forces from Kosovo.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



1978 - DJ Qualls
(Movie Actor)



1959 - Carlo Ancelotti
(Soccer Coach)

NOTHANDO HLOPHE: THE NEW GOSPEL SENSATION



**BY MACFORD WELCOME
SIBANDZE
(DIRECT DESCENDANT OF
ABRAHAM)**

THERE'S a new hot chick in town! She is damn hot! Not 'hot' in the way you think but 'hot' in furthering God's mission on earth.

As you will obviously know, God's army is under-siege and this lady does not miss the target, as she shoots with a strong bullet called 'voice.' And her velvet voice is like a lullaby that can sing you back to God! It evokes emotions just like the celestial voice of angels! She is the new gospel sensation! Ladies and Gentleman, may I present to you, gospel rock-star Nothando Hlophe!

While I like gospel music, most of the time I listen to popular culture sounds. Until recently, I had not known of a local gospel artist by the name of Nothando Hlophe. Someone sold me her CD and as a supporter of 'Buy Swazi' I bought it. For close to a week, it was neatly packed, still sealed in plastic because I had to replace Jonathan Butler, Adele, Sade, Aretha Franklin, John Legend, with her.

Since the frequent journey from Swaziland to South Africa can be long, sometimes one just needs to play something new. Around Carolina I said, 'let me just try her.' It has been 3 weeks now listening to only her! And I don't regret it.

I am not one swept by the tide of blind patriotism! Though 100% SD, I am selective musically and go for quality thus I take off my hat for the quality in Nothando Hlophe. I don't know her! I have never met her! I have not seen nor touched her! But I know one thing for sure: She is a game changer! A real deal where one can put his bet for a win! I don't know her previous undertakings but with the album 'Impilo Yami' she is stretching the boundaries full circle! And if this is her first album she has made a big bang, grand entrance!

As you listen to the 12 tracks in the album you ask yourself 'where was she all this time?' But if you have a deep-seated understanding of the biblical scriptures, you will know that she was waiting for God's time to manifest and surely it has! And if you check the time on your watches, it is Nothando time! Just like Deborah Frazer, who paid her dues as a backing artist, so is she, shining in the mar-

● I am not one swept by the tide of blind patriotism! Though 100% SD, I am selective musically and go for quality thus I take off my hat for the quality in Nothando Hlophe. I don't know her! I have never met her! I have not seen nor touched her!

gins. A life steeped in music, as a backing artist for her mentor, contemporary gospel pioneer, France Dlamini, she is now exiting the wings to the proscenium arch, to take centre stage! And this is a biblical story of spiritual resilience! The passion of the Christ! Because being a backing artist is to 'know that you will never be known.' Thus sincere gratitude goes to Leserato Events for staging a powerful gospel talent search! This was her spiritual unveiling! Had there been no talent search she would have enjoyed the luxury of the periphery! Thanks to France, for the warmth of an incubator in the cold world of the arts. And thanks to the judges, omission would have been a commission of error, for our cultural industries. Because by all stretch of imagination, this is an overdose of talent!

ACCOLADES

Within a short time as a leading performer, Nothando has built her brand, attracting local and cross border recognition. In the art world, a nomination is a half way station to destination! It is a sign that you crossed someone's mind somewhere and it is someone who counts, someone who can turn the tide! At the recent SAMAs, she was nominated for Best Traditional Faith Album. In the Crown Gospel, she was a nominee for Best Collaboration with 'Khulula Ugcobo'. And the song is going viral on YouTube with 370 000 viewers and still going. Locally, she was nominated in the SNCAC awards.

I listened to her interview on Ukhozi FM which has close to 10 million listeners a day. She handled the interview as a professional, thanks to management again. She seems to be on promotion mode as it was said that she will invade 23 Radio Stations in KZN, 2 newspapers and KZN TV.

In Gauteng, she will be doing 16 Radio Stations, Soweto TV and Newspapers. It was also mentioned that she will be part of the Spirit of Praise Volume 6 Live Recording at the prestigious Carnival City famous for hosting top class events like Miss South Africa. She will feature with stars such as Benjamin Dube, Dube Brothers etc. And each one will do two of their best songs. Moreover, she gets airplay from top radio stations such as Ukhozi and Ligwalagwala.

Such accolades are derived from the sufficient grace of God in this cutthroat business of gospel music. Music on its own features tough terrain and it is worse for women due to ritualised and naturalised

social inequalities. As Ellen Willis states, that what has historically been a male dominated vocation, dating as far back as the renaissance period, is now sidling towards a more equitable environment for women to display their talents. However, this concept of equitability comes with several clauses. Because the industry is historically and in some circumstances, currently ascended by men, women are consequentially subject to varying stigmas and prejudices. Women have to deal with this preemptive assumption that they will be incompetent as a player before even being heard.

Although they are essential ingredients of modern culture, female musicians have had a very difficult time breaking through and getting the credit they deserve.

But against all odds, women have done so well, with a degree of proficiency: Rebecca Malope, Deborah Frazer, Phathwakahle and Nothando's firmly putting her feet in the sands of time! And this road is rocky and thorny but through faith, just like the one of a blind man of Jericho, it is attainable! All you have to do is Pray, Play and Pray! And God will enrich your creativity!

SONGS

On her album, 'Impilo Yami', Nothando offers 12 tracks which can easily be album titles in their own rights. She opens with a rock classic gospel entitled AMEN.

This song is an excellent work of art! It is like an opening sequence of musical theatre! It moves you physically and spiritually! Just like Adele in 'Hello'...AMEN is the most over-used word in the bible but is musically engineered in such a way that it is sweet on the ear! The placing of the voice is out of this world! A friend of mine said she pitched it so high so that no one imitates her...LOL. According to me this song would have been the title of the album because of its uniqueness to mainstream faith music! Though it is not an album title it is cleverly placed as the first track on the album; a sign that it rocks!

But what should not be ignored, even if it is for a minute, which normally does though, is the quality of the backings; vocally and instrumentally! On all 12 tracks you can't fault them. A thumbs up

to the head of production!

In Track 2 'Thumela Imvuselo' she ropes in her fans into the gospel groove as she sings spontaneously about an invitation of spiritual revival. It is a 'Getting Happy' song while dancing in celebration. 'Khulula Ugcobo' which is highly promoted is musically rich especially its intro and closure.

There's debate on which one is the best between the one she sings in Women in Praise and the one on her album. The score is 2-1 in favor of the new version (my taste) though tastes are definitely not the same! In 'Amazwi', a collaboration with her mentor, France Dlamini, it is a reminder of Bebe and Cece Winans. In

this song I have to mention that it was after a glimpse of the narrative in the album that I found out that the 'American' powerful voice belongs to France Dlamini! Once again, Dlamini showcases a powerful rendition! Of rich vocal maturity!

There is also a powerful collaboration with 'Sbu' in *Madi a Konyana* which again is a display of vocal responsiveness! 'Surrender all,' a song that stood the test of time is so soulful and touching, it just reminds me of Mary Magdalene - a legendary example of God's mercy and grace! She closes with *Nkosi Sihlangene* made famous by Patience Africa where she serenades you with her soulful voice. All the songs in the album such as *Impilo yami*, *Madi a konyana*, *Sihamba endleleni*, *Thapelo*, *Sikufanele*, are a hit so much you wonder what will be on her next album because a lot has been put in this one. But it is simple: Ask God for unity! The group can reach greater heights if it can be united in its diverse talents from backings to production. Through its Musical Director Thapelo Makateng, it has put up a powerful production and it will never be judged less as more is expected. With aggressive marketing and promotions, as they are already doing, Nothando Hlophe, promises to be one of the best exportable cultural products in the country. All her management has to do is to learn the ropes quickly and know the politics of the business. They have to build solid relations with big industry players because it is not about a good song but about the gatekeeper who have power and control to decide the career pattern of an artist! They are the king makers who can make her a big star!

My exit take is that in her repertoire she should always include the song 'Amen' because it is her quick audience pleaser because of its uniqueness.

And this is free advice from a man who knows what makes a banana yellow!



your HEAL+H section

Blood cancer has 11 distinct diseases

A study in the New England Journal of Medicine found genetic differences explain why some patients respond much better to treatment than others.

The researchers say their findings should help with the development of clinical trials. Cancer Research UK says this type of study offers new insights into cancer.

The study focused on Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML) - there are around 3,000 new cases every year in the UK.

The disease is often aggressive, particularly in older patients - overall survival after five years is about 20%.

Treatment is predominantly chemotherapy and stem-cell transplantation but for many patients it can be difficult to tell how they will respond.

Clinicians currently rely on checks for chromosomal abnormalities and analysis under a microscope. In this study - involving more than 1,500 patients - researchers carried out a far more detailed genetic analysis of the cancer.

They looked at more than 100 genes known to cause leukaemia, and investigated how they interacted.

'Meaningful predictions' They found the patients divided into at least 11 major groups, each with their own set of genetic changes and clinical features.

Dr Peter Campbell from the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute, who co-led the research, said the findings would help doctors to make "very meaningful predictions" about what will happen to patients.

"I could have two patients who had what looked like the same leukaemia under the microscope and I could treat them with exactly the same therapy.

When you have the full genetic information about the patient's leukaemia you can make very meaningful statements about whether that patient is likely to be cured or or likely to die. Dr Peter Campbell, Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute

"One of those patients would be cured and one would relapse and die very quickly. What we can see in this data-set is that that clinical variability is strongly predicted by the underlying genetics." *DailyMail*

ANTI-DEPRESSANTS LEAVE WOMAN'S FACE ROTTING

● nearly dies after suffering horrific allergic reaction to newly-prescribed medication

A mother was left fighting for her life after suffering a severe allergic reaction just weeks after beginning anti-depressants.

Mpho Boadia, 36, was prescribed the mood lifters in January 2013 to help with depression and post-traumatic stress disorder following the sudden death of a friend in 2010.

But just weeks later she developed a rash all over her body and face.

Doctors believed she had chicken pox, but as the rash got worse and blisters began erupting all over her body, she was rushed to intensive care.

There, she was diagnosed with Stevens Johnson Syndrome - a rare condition where the immune system 'overreacts' following a trigger such as a mild infection or medicine.

Potentially fatal, it leads to blistering and peeling of the skin and surfaces of the eyes, mouth and throat.

Miss Boadia described how she became covered in a painful rash before she started losing sensation across her body and taste buds.

She also told of how 'bits of flesh would fall out' every time she blew her nose.

Then, in late February 2013, she was taken to intensive care at Klerksdorp Hospital, where she was put under general anaesthetic and had her body scrubbed raw.

'The rash was really itchy. I immediately realised something was wrong,' she said.

'As it progressed, it was like I had been burnt with an iron.

Blisters were spreading over me, so my skin was rubbed off.

'It was gruesome and painful. It was emotionally and physically



ALL ROT: Boadia, 36, nearly died after suffering a allergic reaction to her anti-depressants. Just weeks after taking the medication a rash developed and soon she said her face was 'rotting' (r).



LEOPARD: As the rash got worse Miss Boadia was rushed to intensive care and began 'burning from the inside out'. She was diagnosed with Stevens Johnson Syndrome - a rare condition where the immune system 'overreacts' following a trigger such as a mild infection or bad medicine.

difficult. My head was rotting. I was blistering from the inside out.'

Miss Boadia, mother to nine-year-old twins Emo and Tlhale, was hooked up to a drip where she was pumped full of antibiotics.

She was transferred to an isolation unit, where she spent the next

two weeks slipping in and out on consciousness.

After a fortnight, she was moved back into intensive care where her family - including her mother Mavis, 56 - were warned that she might not make it.

Gathered round her bed, a Catholic priest read Miss Boadia her last rites. *DailyMail*

Why you should consider taking multivitamin supplement

IF everyone ate healthy, nutrient - dense food such as fruits and vegetables regularly, and easily met their daily recommended amounts of essential vitamins and nutrients, then the use of a daily multivitamin may not be necessary - for most people.

Unfortunately this is not possible for most of us who don't have access to quality food or don't eat as well as we should. In fact, new research is showing that a multivitamin and mineral supplement could be necessary for all of us.

Giulia Criscuolo, pharmacist and expert in complementary medicine agrees and says, "In an ideal world, we would get all our nutritional needs from the foods we eat, but in reality there are several factors which makes it necessary to take a multivitamin and mineral (MVM) every day:

- The quality of food that is commercially grown, fresh fruits and vegetables, have low levels of essential nutrients due to the quality of soil and are sometimes picked before they are ready.

- Our lifestyles require higher levels of essential nutrients which the diet cannot sustain due to stress, too much sugar and processed foods." A study published in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition found that taking supplements helped adults meet the recommended daily intake of certain minerals, such as calcium and magnesium in men and women, as well as iron for women. Interestingly, the study also found that people who used supplements generally ate more nutritious foods too.

Another study published in the Journal of Pediatrics found that in children and teenagers between the

ages of nine to 18, supplement use added valuable nutrients to their diet that they would otherwise have been deficient in, such as magnesium, and vitamins A, C and E. In some cases the researchers found that even with the use of supplements, 'more than a one-third of children failed to meet calcium and vitamin D recommendations'.

Many South Africans suffer from "hidden hunger" - a chronic lack of vitamins and minerals, without which the body cannot function properly. These deficiencies often go unnoticed but have far-reaching consequences. As food prices increase, South Africans find it exceedingly difficult to afford healthy nutrient-rich foods. Studies show that the six important nutrients most of us are deficient in are: vitamins A, C, D, and E, calcium and magnesium. *DailyMail*

Wit and Wisdom

1. "Fortune crowns the bold before the worthy" - Agona Apell
2. "All great leaders find a sense of balance through their levels of reception. For instance, those who support a leader may soften him, those who ignore him may challenge him, and those who oppose him may stroke his ego." - Criss Jami
3. "If you don't know what you value in life, then you won't be able to make any meaningful decisions you can live with in the future." - Shannon L. Alder
4. "Yes, in all my research, the greatest leaders looked inward and were able to tell a good story with authenticity and passion." - Depak Chopra
5. "Our greatest limitation isn't the leader of the lives; it is the spirit within us." - John F. MacArthur Jr.
6. "Fear cannot be banished, but it can be calm and without panic; it can be mitigated by reason and evaluation." - Vannevar Bush
7. "How was your day? If your answer was 'fine,' then I don't think you were leading." - Seth Godin
8. "Don't say negative things about your spouse and children." - Jaachynna N.E. Agu
9. "The more you become aware of and respond to the needs of others, the richer your own life becomes." - Mollie Marti
10. "Freedom flourishes upon the bedrock of ethics and integrity." - Mollie Marti
11. "Create your world with God's Word in your mouth just say it and it will be accomplished!" - Jaachynna N.E. Agu
12. "The presence of the Lord destroys a life of struggle. You will struggle until you encounter His presence." - Jaachynna N.E. Agu
13. "Leadership, on the other hand, is about creating change you believe in." - Seth Godin
14. "To have reservations is to show true leadership. To have certainty without question, to lead people to battle with no qualms, or to prosecute without hesitation are qualities of a tyrant." - Laura Kreitzer
15. "Good ideas are not adopted automatically. They must be driven into practice with courageous patience." - Hyman G. Rickover
16. "If you are interested in equality at all costs, you should never have gone looking for your power in the first place. Holding authority with integrity is more important than making others feel good." - Anne Hill
17. "The essence of leadership is not giving things or even providing visions. It is offering oneself and one's spirit." - Lee G. Bolman
18. "One of the fundamental aspects of leadership, I realized more and more, is the ability to instill confidence in others when you yourself are feeling insecure" - Howard Schultz
19. "I believe it is the duty of each of us to act as if the fate of the world depended on him. Admittedly, one man by himself cannot do the job. However, one man can make a difference. We must live for the future of the human race, and not for our own comfort or success." - Hyman G. Rickover

BUSINESS UPDATE

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VITALS

Prime Rate	10.5%
First National bank	
Inflation Rate	8.5%
Central Statistical Office	
Mortgage Rate	9.5%
Swaziland Building Society	
Bank Rate	7%
Central Bank	
Petrol (u)	E11.00 per litre
Replacement	E11.05 per litre
Diesel	E10.95 per litre
Paraffin	E 7.15 per litre
Engen Garage	

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Correct as at 09 June 2016

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	14,7291	14,7791
British Pound/SZL	21,3844	21,4570
Japanese Yen/SZL	7,2244	7,2469
Swiss France/SZL	15,3668	15,4029
Botswana Pula/SZL	1,3566	1,3907
Australian Dollar/SZL	10.9909	11,0311
Canadian Dollar/SZL	11,6151	11,6499
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	3,9717	4,0375
Euro/SZL	16,7823	16,8393
Gold	1,261.5000	
Oil	50.5700	

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Moving Forward

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE NEEDS TO BE RESTRAINED

By Manqoba Makhubu

WITH a number of pessimistic factors faced by the domestic economy, the Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) says efforts should be directed at restraining government expenditure as well as broadening the revenue base.

Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) Governor Majozi Sithole said this would go a long way in safeguarding the market's confidence in the country's ability to meet its external obligations and to withstand external shocks.

The governor was speaking during his annual monetary policy statement address for 2016 themed 'equitable and sustainable economic growth through financial and price stability towards Vision 2022' held at the Royal Villas Hotel, Ezulwini.

He said the short to medium term prospects for the country's reserves remained challenging as the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) revenue was anticipated to fall substantially in the coming years.

"The bank will continue to monitor and provide appropriate advice to government to ensure that the reserves are sustained at a healthy position," said the governor.

The country's gross official



MY TAKE: CBS Governor Majozi Sithole.

reserves increased by 4.6 percent over the year ended March 2016 to reach E8.5 billion.

Sithole said the increase was mainly ascribed to revaluation gains accumulated from the notable depreciation of the rand/lilangeni exchange rate over the year.

As a result, he said import cover of the reserves increased from 3.5 months in March 2015 to 3.9 months at the end of March 2016.

"At this level, the import cover remained above the internationally acceptable level of three months,"

he said.

During the 2010/11 financial crisis, the country drew down its reserves to ameliorate the crisis to levels just above two months of import cover.

Sithole said as a result the bank had to assure markets and the business community that the peg was safe, hence government has indicated that during the 2016/17, the priority would be to maintain the reserve position above the recommended three months of imports, "to shore up business and consumer confidence in the cur-

rency."

In addition to the SACU receipts projected decline, the governor said estimates for 2016/17 indicated that government would run at a deficit of E6.5 billion, corresponding to 13.7 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP), the estimates also projected a decline of total revenue and grants by 2.7 percent from E14.6 billion to E14.2 billion, which he said was a worsened position from the original budget deficit of E1.3 billion or three percent of GDP presented in February 2015.

He said therefore, there was an urgent need for the country to broaden its revenue base.

"Domestic revenue is set to increase by 12 percent as a result of an improvement in domestic revenue collection, courtesy of the Swaziland Revenue Authority's (SRA) continued efficiency in tax collection and administration," said Sithole.

He said Value Added Tax (VAT) was projected to increase from E2.2 billion the previous year to reach E2.3 billion in 2016/17 accounting for 16 percent of total revenue. While corporate tax and Pay as You Earn (PAYE) were projected to increase by 13.3 percent to and 4.8 percent to E1.7 billion and E2.2 billion respectively.

EUROPEAN UNION SIGNS EPA TODAY

By Linda Dlamini

THE European Union (EU) today signed an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) that brings together six countries of Southern Africa and the European Union.

EU Commissioner for Trade Cecilia Malmström said this was the start of a new era in the trade relationship between the countries.

As of today, common goals on trade will unite the 28 nations of the EU with Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland.

"Today's signature is a sign of the joint willingness of the EU and these Southern African countries to strengthen the ties between us, while basing our

trade relations on a predictable business environment," said the commissioner.

"Today's Economic Partnership Agreement is of an entirely new species – it is the first trade deal that directly supports the economic integration of a specific region," said Malmström.

Much of the existing procedures for trade between the EU and several countries in the region were about to expire.

The commissioner said the signature marked the end of a long process – we are creating a partnership in the true sense of the word.

So together, we have shaped this economic partnership in a way that favours closer links within the six Southern African nations involved.

He said while negotiating this

deal they took full account of the economic and societal differences between the countries involved.

The overarching goal of the agreement is to spur sustainable development in the region.

"In doing this, we build on principles of rule of law, respect for human rights, and democracy enshrined in the Cotonou Agreement of 2000," Malmström said.

Signature

"After today's signature, we must make sure that the agreement actually delivers. The European Union is ready to assist its African partners to overcome challenges in putting this agreement in place," he said.

Malmström said the new joint institutions will ensure the smooth handling of all trade issues and support a deepened

dialogue between us.

One of the most common exports from Swaziland to the European Union is sugar. However, without an agreement, when Swazi sugar enters Europe, it immediately becomes more expensive with the addition of customs duties.

He said the same would soon apply for many important exports from the Southern African region to the EU, such as fish from Namibia or meat from Botswana; – customs duties of between 15 and 100 percent would have to be paid when these goods cross the border to Europe.

That would be bad news for both African producers and European consumers, and it's certainly not the relationship that the EU wants to have with Southern Africa.

BANKS 'TO BITE THE BULLET' ON CHARGES

By Manqoba Makhubu

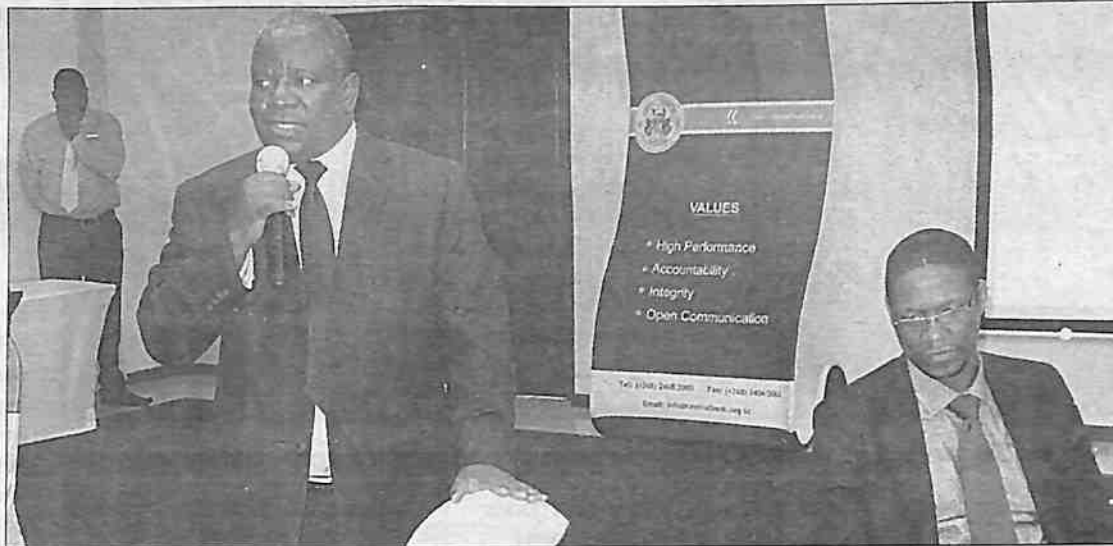
IT seems banks have no option, but to bite the bullet over the issue of bank charges.

With effect from July 1, 2016 banks are expected to no longer charge service fees for cash deposits for any product or type of account.

Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) Governor Majozi Sithole said the charges had been a contentious issue to the public and the bank was closely monitoring the behaviour of the financial institutions in this regard.

"Fatigue to save resulting from high banking charges deprive the economy of much needed saving and investment funds and encourages a culture of consumption," he said.

The governor was speaking during his annual monetary policy statement addresses 2016 held at the Royal Villas Hotel, Ezulwini yesterday.



NO OPTION: Central Bank Governor Majozi Sithole responding to questions during his Annual Monetary Policy Statement presentation at Royal Villas yesterday morning. Seated next to him Deputy Governor Mhlabuhlangene Dlamini.

Sithole said they conducted an exercise to analyse current practices with regards to bank charges and pricing, in the country, comparing local banks with their regional counterparts and further consulted the local bankers.

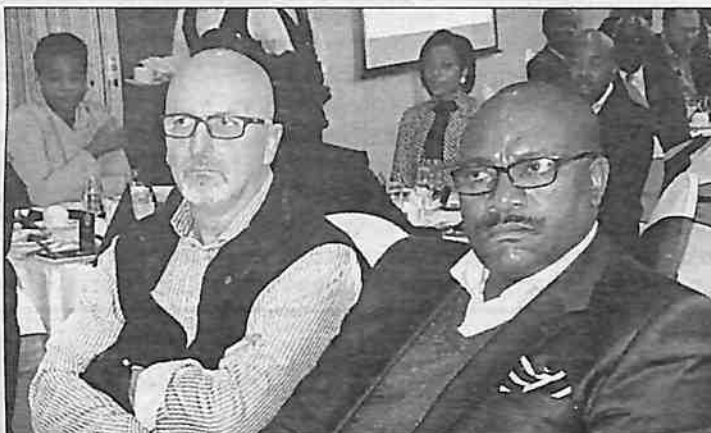
"From this exercise, it became apparent that there is indeed room for improvement in as far as cost of banking is concerned," he said.

Adding, the governor said in line with the provisions of the

law, certain measures needed to be applied to build public confidence and market discipline in the banking system as well as ensuring that the goal of financial inclusion was attained.



BOSS: Tibiyo TakaNgwane MD Absalom Themba Dlamini posing a question to the Governor while Businessman Tum Du Pont and SWACAA MD Solomon Dube look on.



ALL EARS: RSSC MD Nick Jackson and African Alliance Partner Sthofeni Ginindza listening to the presentations. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

CBS cautious of funding budget deficit amid inflationary environment

By Linda Dlamini

THE Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) is gearing up to finance the government's fiscal deficit in a controlled manner given the current high inflationary environment.

The infusion of capital into the Swazi economy, through fiscal stimulus, at a time of already high inflation could push inflation even higher as the economy could be flooded with capital through government spending.

Central Bank Governor Majozi Sithole during his annual monetary policy statement said the fiscal stimulus was expected to help resuscitate credit for business at a time when the Central Bank's monetary policy would likely be more biased towards controlling the hiking inflation to benefit long-term economic growth.

He said increased government



DRESSED FOR THE OCCASION: Some of the technical team members of the bank Acute Dlamini, Siphoskhosana, Vusi Mabilisa and Bongani Pointer Dlamini leaving the conference room after the meeting.

spending could come as a result of the government looking to fund a number of initiatives, through capital and recurrent expenditures, that were meant to foster economic growth for the country.

"The Central Bank is cautious of the fiscal pressures besetting government and the fiscal stimulus that could be delivered by the 13.7 percent deficit projected for the fiscal year 2016/17," Sithole said.

The Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini presented a budget of about E20.7 billion in March, with a deficit of E6.2 billion.

He said the deficit would be financed by money raised from the domestic market, loans, grants and Public Private Partnership (PPP) financing arrangements.

The spending by government comes at a time when the economic growth of the country is low

and thus needs to be increased for the economic prosperity of the country.

"The Bank will therefore continue to monitor the developments and endeavour to strike a balance between conserving price stability and supporting the sluggish economic growth momentum," the governor said.

"The CBS will ensure financial price stability through reasonable financing of the fiscal deficit," he said.

Sithole explained that the upward pressure on inflation is expected to be largely fuelled by surging food prices as a result of the severe drought situation domestically and within the region coupled with hikes in utility prices (water and electricity) as well as the sharp weakening of rand/lilangeni exchange rate and a 25 percent increase in transport prices that was affected in January this year.



'SSX a resource mobilisation tool' - FINCORP MD

By Linda Dlamini

INTERNATIONAL capital inflows coming into the region are increasingly diminishing and therefore there is a great need to harness domestic sources of funding and resource mobilization capacity.

This was an observation made by the Swaziland Development Finance Corporation (FINCORP) Group Managing Director Dumisani Msibi during a workshop on the Swaziland Stock Exchange (SSX) operations and latest developments for Senators at Happy Valley Hotel, Ezulwini.

"Given this situation strengthening the Stock Exchange will be critical going forward," he said.

Msibi said resource mobilisation was one of the biggest challenges faced by most developmental finance institutions in the region and seemingly this trend is going to continue into the future.

It has been observed by market participants that one of the constraints of the SSX is the lack of liquidity of the market.

"Stimulation of the secondary market for trading purposes on the stock exchange will also be crucial," Msibi said. Msibi said the SSX facilitated syndication of various investors thus achieving scale and scope.

Opportunity

He said listing in SSX presented an opportunity to attract a diverse mix of investors. "We took a bold decision in November 2012 to issue a E300 million bond," Msibi said.

Msibi explained how they engaged local brokers African Alliance (AA) to facilitate the transaction and after collection of all the information required for listing, they finally listed in March 2013.

"Immediately after publication of listing we received an overwhelming response so much so that we had to defer some of the offers from individual and institutional investors because we did not want to take funds at once and keep them in a bank account. After all we would not have used the E300 million once off, subsequently our E300 million bond was subscribed up to E252.0 million during the disbursement window," he said.

He said listing in the SSX branded FINCORP as a safe and secure investee company hence they ended up attracting more investors even outside the bond listing.

With regards to fixed income securities the MD opined that, the maturity and term of bonds allow for maximisation of the use of funds to generate returns for the business and reach the anticipated scale. "Upon the maturity presented, with an option to re-list and attract existing and new investors, we re-listed E200 Million which has also been oversubscribed," he said.

EU PARTNERING WITH SOUTHERN AFRICA

By Cecilia Malmström
EU Commissioner for Trade

ONE of the most common exports from Swaziland to the European Union is sugar.

However, without an agreement, when Swazi sugar enters Europe, it immediately becomes more expensive with the addition of customs duties.

If nothing is done, the same would soon apply for many important exports from the Southern African region to the EU, such as fish from Namibia or meat from Botswana; – customs duties of between 15 and 100 percent would have to be paid when these goods cross the border to Europe. That would be bad news for both African producers and European consumers, and it's certainly not the relationship that the EU wants to have with Southern Africa.

Goals

But change is underway. Today (Friday, 10 June 2016), we sign an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) that brings together six countries of Southern Africa and the European Union – the start of a new era in the trade relationship between us. As of today, common goals on trade will unite the 28 nations of the EU with Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland.

Today's signature signing validates the joint willingness of the EU and these Southern African countries to strengthen the ties between us, while basing our trade relations on a predictable business



SWEET TRADE: Sugar is Swaziland's most common export to the European Union.

environment. Commonly agreed rules include areas such as customs procedures, sanitary measures, and technical barriers to trade. That, in turn, prepares the ground for economic growth and sustainable development.

Getting rid of customs duties for African exporters, big and small, is one reason why it is so important to get this agreement in place – the free, long-term and stable access for Southern African products to the EU market. Much of the existing procedures for trade between the EU and several countries in the region are about to expire.

Priorities

A high priority of many countries in Southern Africa is also to diversify their economies – to broaden production to include a wider range of products and services. In this

process, imports of certain goods become vital – industrial parts, seeds and machinery, for instance. Now import duties of many so-called intermediary goods will be significantly reduced, becoming more easily accessible to Southern African entrepreneurs.

Today's Economic Partnership Agreement is an entirely new species – it is the first trade deal that directly supports the economic integration of a specific region. As we in Europe have experienced through trial and error over many years – the regional integration of markets is one of the most powerful drivers of prosperity, stability and growth that mankind has devised.

So together, we have shaped this economic partnership in a way that favours closer links within the six

Southern African nations involved.

Products

We have also agreed on flexible so-called "rules of origin" for the Southern African producers. It will make it easier to put together products from components from other countries without risking losing one's free access to the EU market. When producing and exporting canned fruit, for instance, the fruit can be now harvested in one country, then preserved and canned in another.

Products in these value chains can also come from other so-called less developed countries, such as Zambia and Tanzania.

At the same time, while negotiating this deal we took full account of the economic and societal differences between the countries involved.

This led us, from the EU side, to commit to eliminating much more of our customs duties than our Southern African partners. In short – the EU opens up its markets far more, and far faster, providing free market access to the African countries involved.

The markets of the six Southern African nations, meanwhile, are going to be only partially and very gradually opened to European products. The Southern African countries also retain their right to invoke protective measures – for instance to protect nascent, fragile industries or for food security reasons – safeguarding the region's right to pursue policies as it sees fit.

The overarching goal of our agreement is to spur sustainable development.

In doing this, we build on principles of rule of law, respect for human rights, and democracy enshrined in the Cotonou Agreement of 2000. A specific chapter upholds workers' rights and covers environmental protection, for instance by supporting best practices in forest management and sustainable fishing.

Civil society will have a special role in monitoring the impact of the agreement.

After today's signature, we must make sure that the agreement actually delivers.

The European Union is ready to assist its African partners to overcome challenges in putting this agreement in place. Going forward, our new, joint institutions will ensure the smooth handling of all trade issues and support a deepened dialogue between us.

Today's signature marks the end of a long process – we are creating a partnership in the true sense of the word.

Coca-Cola activates 'One Brand' campaign in Swaziland

By Manqoba Makhubu

COCA-Cola has activated its global 'Taste the Feeling' campaign in the country.

The activation marked the beginning of the company's significant shift in its marketing strategy local.

The campaign inauguration was held on Wednesday at Sibane Hotel, where customers practically tasted the drink and further expressed their opinion on how they thought Coca-Cola tasted like.

Coca-Cola Central African official representative Tamar Mbalo said the essence of the activation was that for the first time, Coca-Cola classic, Coke light and as well as Coke Zero will be marketed under one iconic brand, Coca-Cola.

Historically these brands have been marketed individually. Mbalo said this has resulted in consumers sharing the products for a discreet period of time before moving onto other brands.

"By us launching this one brand strategy, it allows us the opportunity to have a closer relationship with our consumers," she said.

Meanwhile, Swaziland Beverages (SB) Sales and Distribution Manager Faith Chaiva said they were fully motivated to roll out the campaign all the way, from the biggest supermarkets to community shops and every single place within the country.

"We want to make sure that the 'Taste the Feeling' campaign is visible, resonant, as well as to ensure that consumers embrace, understand, and enjoy the campaign," she said. "When we go out there, it will be 'Taste the Feeling' all the way, we will be saying that to everybody that we know, our friends, families and communities," she added.

On another note, Coca-Cola Swaziland Brand Manager Sanele Khumalo said they welcomed the activation of the

new one brand strategy in Swaziland.

She said last year Coca-Cola customers helped the local branch to perform well with regards to sales volume.

He said the evolution of the brand was critical, as an inert brand might end up struggling for existence.

"This is what Coca-Cola does and it does it very well," said Khumalo.

She said the brand was part of their consumers and as their consumers were continually changing the brand has to catch up.

She said therefore, they were moving away from the static brand to something that would be more embracing and a brand that would talk to consumers.

"In short this campaign is going to be bold, fresh, and very exciting," she said.

The campaign also underscores the company's commitment to choice, offering consumers whichever Coca-Cola beverage that suits their taste, lifestyle and diet, with or without calories, with or without caffeine. The event featured a performance from Siyinqaba, a local music group, depicting the nature of the brand which received a positive response from the audience.



REFRESHING TOAST: Swazi Observer Managing Editor, Mbongeni Mbingo sharing a toast with Swaziland Water Services Corporation's Nomahlubi Matiwane. (Pics; Lucky Simelane)



CHOICE BRAND: Some of the SB employees during the 'Taste the Feeling' campaign activation.





S. SUDAN PLANS SA-STYLE TRC TO PURGE HORRORS

SUDAN - The newly reconciled leaders of South Sudan have called for a South Africa-style truth and reconciliation commission to heal the scars of a gruesome war in the world's youngest nation.

President Salva Kiir and the newly appointed vice-president, Riek Machar, a former foe, said in a joint piece in The New York Times they were committed to ensuring that South Sudan never again went through a civil war. "Bringing South Sudan together can be truly guaranteed only

through one route: an organised peace and reconciliation process with international backing," they wrote on Tuesday.

"We intend to create a national truth and reconciliation commission modelled on those of South Africa and Northern Ireland," they said, ruling out punitive action for past misdeeds.

"Disciplinary justice - even if delivered under international law - would destabilise efforts to unite our nation by keeping alive anger and hatred among the people of South Sudan," they said.

After gaining independence from Sudan in 2011, South Sudan erupted into civil war in December 2013, when Kiir accused Machar of plotting a coup and sacked him as vice-president. That set off a cycle of retaliatory killings that split the poverty-stricken, landlocked country along ethnic lines. Tens of thousands of people have been killed and more than two million have been driven from their homes. The conflict has been characterised by horrific human rights abuses, including gang

rape, the wholesale burning of villages and cannibalism.

The US is pushing for the rapid creation of a special court backed by the African Union to try war crimes suspects.

Kiir and Machar said the truth and reconciliation commission would have sweeping powers and be able to investigate everybody from "the poorest farmer to the most powerful politician".

"Those who tell the truth about what they saw or did would be granted amnesty."

Timeslive

Six children drown during baptism in Zimbabwe

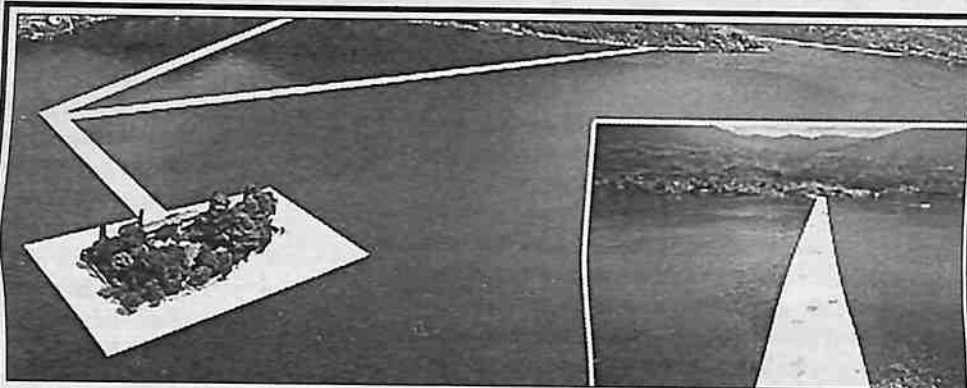
HARARE - Six children died while being baptised in a river in eastern Zimbabwe, police said on Wednesday, adding that the organisers of the event had tried to flee before being caught.

The two boys and four girls were among nine children aged between one and nine who were taken for baptism by two members of an apostolic church. "Six juveniles died during baptism in Muriwo village in Mashonaland East province on Tuesday,"

police spokesperson Charity Charamba said in a statement.

"We would like to warn members of the public to desist from engaging in dangerous practices under the guise of freedom of worship."

A 4-year-old boy escaped from the river shivering with cold and alerted a passer-by, she said. "After realising the children were dead, the culprits ran away from the scene but they were later arrested. They are being charged with culpable homicide." Local media said those arrested were two women aged 30 and 34. Apostolic churches and sects in Zimbabwe have grown in popularity in Zimbabwe, which has suffered from years of economic decline. *News24*



ODD - The 'Floating Piers' by artist Christo, is being set up over picturesque Lake Iseo in northern Italy and will allow visitors to appear like they are walking on water to an island in the middle of the lake. However, the project still awaits a final touch, the application of deep yellow fabric that the artist promises will dramatically shift from nearly red to brilliant gold under the effects of light and humidity. Once the installation opens on June 18, 150 volunteers, among them lifeguards, will be posted on the piers and on boats around the clock to ensure safety. (AP)

Congo frees U.S. security adviser

CONGO - A U.S. citizen working as an adviser to Congo's leading opposition presidential candidate has been freed six weeks after being arrested during a street protest and will return to the United States, the general prosecutor said.

Darryl Lewis, who was detained on April 24 along with three other members of Moise Katumbi's entourage in the southern city of Lubumbashi, has been hand-

ed over to the U.S. ambassador in the capital Kinshasa, Victor Mumba Mukomo told reporters.

Katumbi, the former governor of mineral-rich Katanga province in the south, was indicted last month on charges of hiring mercenaries as part of a plot against the state.

He denies the accusations, saying they are meant to derail his campaign to succeed President Joseph Kabila

in the vast Central African country's elections scheduled for November.

Congolese authorities said Lewis was arrested because he lacked a permit to work in Congo. He will return to the United States but his case will remain open, Mukomo said. Lewis's lawyer Azarias Ruberwa confirmed that Lewis would return home and said U.S. officials were looking into the case.

Reuters

BRIEFS

Officials accused of 'rape, tortured'

ERITREAN - The UN has laid claims of crimes against humanity that they say occurred over the past 25 years in the country. Crimes against humanity including rape, enslavement and torture have been carried out by Eritrean officials over the past 25 years the UN has reported. The report compiled by the UN Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in Eritrea found that the crimes were committed "in a widespread and systematic manner" in Eritrean detention facilities, military training camps and other locations. *Citizen*

Dropped Ministers Speak Out

UGANDA - President Museveni appointed 38 new persons to the Cabinet and dropped 35. In other cases, Mr Museveni transferred a minister from one ministry to another - as he did with his wife, Janet Kataha Museveni, whom he moved from Karamoja Affairs to the Education ministry. Some of those Mr Museveni dropped from the cabinet told Daily Monitor's Neslon Wesonga they saw it coming and that, fortunately, they have always had something to fall back to.

AllAfrica

Deadly air strikes hit Aleppo

ALEPPO - At least 20 people have been killed in air strikes in the northern Syrian city of Aleppo, a monitoring group has said. The UK-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR) said that at least 10 people were killed in strikes targeting the Bayan hospital in a rebel-held part of Aleppo city. Nine newborns were removed from their incubators after the aerial assault that also damaged equipment, according to the Independent Doctors' Association in Syria, which runs the hospital. *Aljazeera*



Kenya on the boil

NAIROBI - Kenya's main opposition party rejected a government ban on political protests and said it would intensify rallies calling for changes to the nation's electoral body. Interior Secretary Joseph Nkaissery outlawed demonstrations after at least five people died in weekly rallies by supporters of the Coalition for Reforms and Democracy that began in April.

He threatened to crack down on protesters until differences between the opposition and the government over the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission were resolved. The ban "doesn't change anything", Dennis Onyango, a spokesman for CORD, said. *Timeslive*

'Floating School' collapses

NIGERIA - Residents of Makoko, a community on the Lagos lagoon have started rebuilding their iconic 'Floating school' which collapsed during a heavy downpour. Although the school is said to have been built to withstand storms and floods, it succumbed to Tuesday's heavy rains.

The three-storey pyramid-shaped school with room for up to 100 pupils was built from locally sourced wood and sits on recycled plastic barrels. *Timeslive*

Migrant dies trying to enter Spain via sewer

RABAT - The Moroccan state news agency says a migrant from sub-Saharan Africa has

died after trying to cross from Morocco into the Spanish enclave of Melilla through the sewage system.

The MAP news agency reported the man was evacuated from the sewer by local authorities along with three other migrants.

He was hospitalised in the Moroccan border town of Nador and died.

MAP said the other three migrants were treated and released.

The Moroccan government did not comment on the unusual

incident.

Nador is a magnet for thousands of migrants who travel north across Africa to try to cross into Europe in Spain's North African enclaves of Melilla and Ceuta, by hiding in cars or ships. *News24*



Focus on SA scene



© picture-alliance/abaca

PRESIDENCY RESPONDS TO US TERROR ALERT

JOHANNESBURG - The Presidency has issued a statement on the terror alert for South Africa after the International Relations Department said the United States which issued the warning - handled the matter badly.

The US has stood by its decision to issue the warning.

However, the Presidency says the two countries continue to enjoy cordial relations and will discuss the matter as part of on-going cooperation on security.

Over the past few days the United States, Britain and Australia have issued travel advisories, urging their citizens to avoid tourist hot spots in South Africa.

The US says it has information

pointing to a possible terror attack, in either Johannesburg or Cape Town.

International Relations has issued this statement in response, saying it's unhappy with the manner in which the information was handled.

It's describing the information as dubious, saying it was provided by a walk-in source.

It's also accusing some countries of trying to manipulate and control South Africa's counter-terrorism efforts. The statement follows reports that a discredited East African businessman was the source of the alert, but the State Security Department will not confirm this.

The US Embassy in Pretoria is sticking to its original line.

US Embassy Spokesperson, Cynthia Harvey said, "There is no change in status of the Security Message issued on June 4, 2016. It was based on specific, credible, and non-counterable threat information. We have been, and continue to be, pleased and impressed with the high level of professionalism and transparent cooperation with the government of South Africa throughout this period." ANC Secretary General Gwede Mantashe accused the US of trying to destabilise South Africa. NGO's such as the Media Review Network and Cage have also spoken out against the warnings, saying they are an attempt to increase security and surveillance around Muslim communities in the country.

eNCA

Two ANC leaders gunned down in Pietermaritzburg

DURBAN - Two ANC leaders in Moses Mabhida region were shot on Tuesday evening while returning from a party meeting around 8pm.

One of the leaders died on the spot while the other is recovering in hospital.

The MEC for Community Safety and Liaison Mxolisi Kaunda, visited their homes yesterday morning.

The SA Human Rights Commission says it's concerned at the increasing number of political killings.

The commission says it's also

worried that few arrests and convictions have been made.

It's welcomed the establishment of a police task team to probe the killings.

But warns that parties need to do more in order to put a stop to the scourge.

More than 10 people have been shot dead in politically motivated killings over the past eight months ahead of the August 3 polls. Most of the shootings occurred in KwaZulu-Natal, with several cases reported in Mpumalanga.

eNCA

Wake up Mzansi and get with it - Gordhan

JOHANNESBURG - At the Gauteng Economic Indaba, the finance minister said the state could attract investment without being 'captured' by interests.

There is a lack of urgency from South Africans to bring investment into the country, says Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan.

"We lack urgency, we lack thirst, we lack this absolute burning desire to get people to come into this country, put their money in and work together as government, labour and business - so that we can indeed create jobs and lift the '0.7, 0.8, 0.9' number to beyond 2% in another year or two." Gordhan was speaking at the first session of the Gauteng Economic Indaba which entered its second and final day yesterday.

He spoke as GDP figures for the first quarter of the year showed a contraction of 1.2%. Gordhan said: "We can't just have more and more millionaires and fewer and fewer people benefiting on the ground. The new formula we need to find is how all sectors of society benefit and what are the mechanisms that will ensure that those benefits accrue. "As we look at the reports of the rating agencies and the lessons arising from interactions with them is that people who have an interest in

South Africa, including ourselves, don't want any more plans. They want action.

"They don't want to hear promises. They want to see what the milestones are that they can watch." What was missing in our case was scale, he said.

"We need to increase the scale of investment, both from South African-based capital and foreign-based capital as well. So the question, whether you are a local government politician or bureaucrat, or a provincial one or a national one, is how do we as South Africans invite investment?"

"How do we become more friendly towards investment, without being - and this is a dangerous word in South Africa at the moment - 'captured' by various interests?"

"You can be friendly and independent, you can be welcoming and still stick to the line of the law." Jobs had also been lost, he said, and "broken promises" to the youth were also a big concern. eNCA

Deputy President urges more youth employment

JOHANNESBURG - The economic potential of Gauteng won't be fulfilled until the youth is able to acquire skills and find employment, deputy president Cyril Ramaphosa said on Wednesday.

Speaking at the Gauteng Economic Indaba, Ramaphosa said young people must be recognised as dynamic agents of change who are capable of finding diverse, innovative and creative solutions to problems.

"We must harness young people's ingenuity, energy, courage, impatience and appetite for progressive change. We must encourage innovation and entrepreneurship. We must build an economy that restores the wealth of this province and this country to its people," said Ramaphosa.

He said Gauteng has a number of interesting opportunities and possibilities.

"It is the manufacturing hub of the country. There are great opportunities for upgrading the contribution of manufacturing to the GDP of Gauteng beyond the 16 percent to 25 percent and beyond." eNCA

DA set to launch 'censored' campaign ad

CAPE TOWN - The Democratic Alliance (DA) will launch the local government election campaign TV advert it says the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) tried to censor.

The launch of the commercial, which will take place in Crossroads in Nyanga, comes a day after the DA said it had "been reliably informed that SABC chief operations officer Hlaudi Motsoeneng has now banned the reading of newspaper headlines on all SABC radio stations".

"The reading of the morning's newspaper headlines is a practice on radio and TV stations worldwide, particularly on news and talk radio, as a method to review stories currently in the news cycle," the party said.

"The banning of the reading of newspapers can only be viewed as yet another attempt by Motsoeneng

to censor any negative news stories about the African National Congress (ANC) on SABC radio stations ahead of the local government election."

This, the party claimed, "is part of an on-going programme driven by Motsoeneng to only portray 'sunshine news' about the ANC on SABC stations".

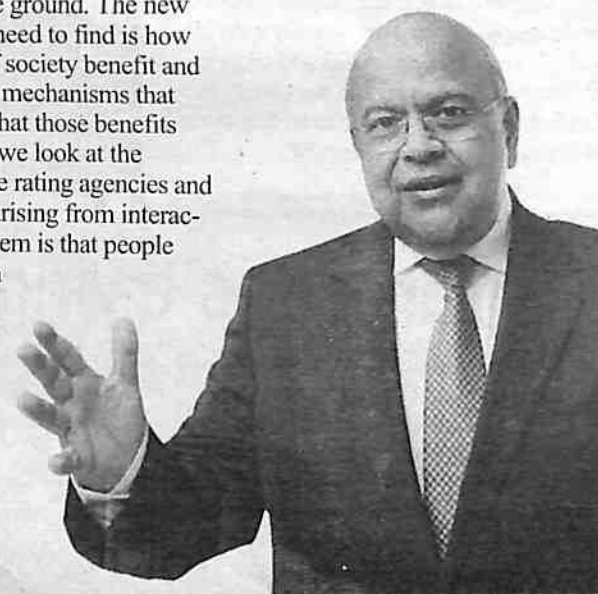
Other actions claimed by the party include the "attempted banning of call-ins; the canning of Vuyo Mvoko's talk show, the canning of 'The Editors' on SAfm; banning of footage of violent protests; and censorship and delaying of opposition TV adverts".

The public broadcaster had said it would not flight the DA's advert until all parties participating in the August 3 polls had been confirmed by the Independent Electoral Commission.

Timeslive



WAKE UP MZANSI:
Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan.



THE BOY SLOWLY TURNING INTO STONE

- Ramesh Darji suffers from Ichthyosis which causes scales to grow on his body
- His parents searched everywhere for a cure - but were told it was too costly
- Ramesh, 11, has not got any friends as his condition scares other children
- He has been given new hope by a British singer, who is paying for his treatment

BAGLUNG - WHEN Nar Kumari held her little boy for the first time, he couldn't have been more perfect.

Smiling back at her, Ramesh looked like any other bouncing baby boy.

But just 15 days after she got him home, her son's skin began to peel and was replaced by thick, black scales which have been slowly and painfully entombing him since.

His rare skin disorder that is slowly turning him into a stone statue has robbed the 11-year-old of his ability to walk and even talk.

Ramesh's scaly appearance meanwhile terrifies other children, leaving him isolated and with no friends.

"It hardened and turned black, we had no idea what to do about it. No one helped us."

In fact, doctors in Baglung, the remote Nepalese region where the family live, seemed bemused by what they told them was a 'fungal infection' and said they couldn't help. All the while, Ramesh was getting worse.

"By this fifth birthday he began to say his body was in pain and he couldn't walk," said Nanda. "He's never really been able to explain anything to us either."

"He is only able to inform us when he's hungry or wants to use the toilet. He used to sit and cry but we didn't know what was hurting him or how to help him."

"Any young child would see him and run away crying. It was hard for him and us to watch."

By age six, the condition had left him unable to walk, and so he has never been to school.

Even when Nanda, 35, and Nar,



CONSTANT PAIN: Ramesh Darji suffers from Ichthyosis, an extremely rare condition which causes his skin to grow quickly and thickly - giving the appearance of having scales, or turning into stone. (Daily Mail)



PAINFUL: As he got older, it simply got worse. At five, he complained to his parents of pain all over his body.



26, did discover the cause, an extremely rare condition called Ichthyosis, they were unable to do anything to ease their son's suffering. Nanda is a labourer who earns just 7 000 Nepalese Rupee (£44) a month, and it is not enough to cover the cost of the hefty medical bills.

He explained: "We took him to a few doctors in our district but we were told that treatment was costly and only available in private hospi-

tals.

"We did not have enough money and had no choice than to keep Ramesh home and do our best."

But then help came from an unexpected source - British singer Joss Stone. Ramesh's luck changed when a video of him struggling was shared on social media - and it was spotted by the acclaimed Nepalese singer Sanjay Shrestha, who happened to be helping Stone organise

a concert.

"I got an email from Joss' team saying they wanted to perform here and said they wanted to support a local charity. 'In the meantime, I saw a video on social media about this poor boy so I sent them the link and she immediately decided to help him.' The concert in Kathmandu raised £1 375 for his treatment through the Joss Stone Foundation.

Sanjay said: "Joss was extremely moved by Ramesh's plight. She got really emotional seeing him. She spent a long time playing and interacting with him. Ramesh was overjoyed by the presents."

For his parents, the help has been a blessing - both for their son, and the wider family.

Nanda said: "We've never known how to help him."

"His mother spends the entire day with him, which makes it difficult for her to focus on our other kids."

"She cannot work either and she used to cry alone feeling bad for him." Ramesh is now receiving treatment at the Kathmandu Medical College, where doctors remain hopeful they may be able to make his life easier.

Dr Sabina Bhattarai an assistant dermatology professor, explained: "People with his condition suffer from dry, thick, scaly or flaky skin. In many cases, people have cracked skin which resemble the scales on a fish. 'He was in a really bad state when he was admitted. We had to remove the scales from his body and it was painful. 'Over a period of two weeks we gave him antibiotics to avoid infections and applied drugs and moisturiser on his body to remove the dead skin.' But the delay in getting help has made his condition all the worse, she added.

"His inability to move is because he's been left for too long," Dr Bhattarai said. "But since his bones and muscles were not weak by birth we can try to work on them and with some physiotherapy I'm hopeful we can make him stand again."

"We will have some x-rays and other tests done and start physiotherapy sessions." Already, there are signs of improvement, which increases Nanda's guilt at not being able to do something sooner.

"I feel really sad and helpless to have failed him. Since the layers of skin have been removed he's even able to speak better. As parents we failed him. My only wish is to see him walk again now."

Daily Mail

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BRIEFS

Four dead in Tel Aviv shooting

ISRAEL - Two Palestinians opened fire at a popular Tel Aviv nightclub near Israel's military headquarters on Wednesday, police said, killing four people in one of the worst attacks in a months-long wave of violence. The shooting spread panic, and video posted on social media showed a uniformed officer firing a handgun, though his target could not be seen. Police said one of the attackers was arrested, while the other was wounded by gunfire and undergoing surgery.

eNCA

Israel revokes Ramadan permits

JERUSALEM - The Israeli military says it has revoked all permits for Palestinians to visit Israel and travel abroad during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, after two Palestinian gunmen killed four Israelis and wounded at least five others in Tel Aviv. COGAT, an Israeli defense body, said that all 83 000 permits have been frozen for Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza to visit family in Israel, attend Ramadan prayers in Jerusalem or travel abroad via Israel's Tel Aviv airport.

News24

Fiancé gets sold down the river

NEW YORK - A woman accused of sabotaging her fiancé's kayak, causing him to drown, allegedly told a detective she had "pulled the plug" on him. Sky News reported that Vincent Viafore, 46, died in New York's Hudson River on April 19 last year after his boat capsized in the icy river. Angelika Graswald told an emergency services operator: "Oh my God. I'm in a red kayak, but he fell in, I couldn't swim to him. He's getting further and further away from me. He's going to drown. Please call somebody." Rescuers found no trace of Viafore. *Daily Mail*



Heist dampens Japanese city's spirits

TOKYO - Officials at the local chamber of commerce in a northern Japanese city have been left red-faced after hundreds of umbrellas left for visitors to use while they were in town vanished. The mass brolly theft - about 900 disappeared - has left historic port city Hakodate's feel-good tourism scheme in tatters, and triggered an angry response from some local taxpayers, who slammed it as a waste of money.

Citizen

'It's not about the money'

CANADA - After almost a week on the fire line in Alberta, Canada, South Africa's crew of firefighters report back on what the conditions, and overall experience has been like. On Tuesday we spoke to Working On Fire's Trevor Wilson over Skype from Winnipeg, Canada. We also asked Trevor about reports of SA firefighters receiving a salary raise. On Wednesday however news broke of SA firefighters protesting over a pay dispute. Last week a 301-strong team of South African firefighters and their management arrived in Canada to assist authorities there in fighting a wildfire in a province that has been burning out



SANDERS UNDER PRESSURE TO QUIT AS DEMOCRATS LOOK TO UNITE

WASHINGTON - Under mounting pressure from Democratic leaders to abandon his presidential campaign, Bernie Sanders returned home to Vermont on Wednesday following dispiriting losses to Hillary Clinton.

He vowed to fight on for a political revolution but showed signs he would bow to the inevitable and bring his insurgent effort to a close.

For Sanders, as his remarkable White House bid runs out of next stops, the only question is when.

Just as important for Sanders is how to keep his campaign alive in some form, by converting his newfound political currency into policies to change the Democratic Party, the Senate or even the country itself, on issues including income inequality and campaign finance reform.

To that end the senator was to travel to Washington yesterday to meet with President Barack

Obama and Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid and speak at a rally.

Obama is expected to endorse Clinton as soon as yesterday after his meeting with Sanders, and Reid is prepared to discuss with Sanders how the self-described democratic socialist might advance his goals back in the Senate.

Neither Clinton nor Republican Donald Trump had public events on Wednesday, both preparing for the next big hurdle between themselves and the White House - a five-month head-to-head race to November.

Clinton told The Associated Press in an interview, "I think it's time that we move forward and unite the party and determine how we are going to defeat Donald Trump, which is our highest and most pressing challenge right now."

She said of Sanders: "He has said that he's certainly going to



UNDER PRESSURE: Democratic presidential candidate Senator Bernie Sanders speaking during a campaign event in Milwaukee.

do everything he can to defeat Trump. I'm very much looking forward to working with him to do that." Ahead of yesterday's meetings, Sanders' Democratic colleagues were growing increasingly outspoken in nudging him to wind down his campaign and throw his support behind Clinton. However, most stopped short of

calling on him to drop out right away. "Let him make that decision. Give him time," Vice President Joe Biden said when asked if it was time for Sanders to halt his effort. Biden was arranging calls with both Sanders and Clinton to discuss the race before making a public endorsement of his own. *Daily Mail*

Clinton, Trump White House war started

WASHINGTON - The protagonists are set: Hillary Clinton versus Donald Trump.

The battleground? Fifty states. Voters are set for a historic, bruising spectacle as two of America's most polarising figures wage war for the White House.

On the Democratic side is a candidate with more than three decades of political experience, a pioneering if controversial stateswoman determined to shatter the ultimate glass ceiling and become the nation's first

woman commander-in-chief.

The Republican standing in her way is the brash billionaire and political neophyte who rewrote the campaign playbook as he vanquished his many rivals for the nomination with a mudslinging unparalleled in modern American politics.

The ferocity of the primaries, few people around the world have seen a modern US presidential race characterised by such insulting and denigrating attacks, promises to be just a preview of what is in store for the

general election. Clinton, the former secretary of state, euphorically seized the Democratic Party mantle Tuesday, seizing the nomination in dramatic fashion with primary wins in four of six states including the grand prize, California.

On perhaps the biggest night of her political career, as she declared a historic milestone for women, she assailed Trump for his divisiveness and his trademark slogan, "Make America Great Again."

eNEWS



CHANGING FACES: Rose Geil, 39, from Oregon, started sprouting facial hair at just 13 and, desperate to hide it, she shaved her face and chest every day for more than 20 years. Now she has gone natural, growing a full beard, and is happier than ever. Rose is pictured now, and before she stopped shaving. (*Daily Mail*)

Thailand celebrates 70 years of King's reign

BANGKOK - The bespectacled image of King Bhumibol Adulyadej dominates public space in Thailand, from billboards on high-rises to portraits that flank leafy boulevards.

After seven decades on the throne, King Bhumibol is seen by many Thais as a pillar of stability, and accorded semi-divine status. But the kingdom marked his platinum jubilee yesterday amid anxiety over his health and at a critical political juncture.

Celebrations will include a morning religious ceremony presided over by 770 Buddhist monks, a figure seen as auspicious. The festivities will serve as a reminder to Thais of their relationship to a king who is regarded as integral to Thailand's identity and a father-figure to the nation. It may also jangle nerves about the succession, as most Thais have known no other monarch. The king received heart treatment on Tuesday and has been in hospital for more than a year.

Crown Prince Vajiralongkorn, the king's 63-year-old son, is the heir apparent. He has not achieved the same level of devotion that his father enjoys.

"The relationship between Thais and the king is deep, more than one can actually begin to explain," Colonel Winthai Suvaree, a spokesman for the royalist junta, told Reuters.

"He is a father to the land."

The monarchy has not always been held so highly in Thailand. In 1946, at the age of 18, King Bhumibol inherited a throne that had barely survived the upheaval of the end of absolute monarchy in 1932.

eNCA



Compiled by Tenele Dlamini

IT'S hard to read each and everyone's mind and mood this weekend. Will people really be 'stepping out' at all....yikes the weather is chilly these days!

I was quite disappointed to note that the Swaziland Theatre Club is relatively quiet these days. Hoping all the artists and performers have not migrated with the birds as the seasons have changed.

However you can be sure that the most happening night and day spots will be more than busy this weekend! Check out our gig guide and the happenings at the venues listed such as The Finesse Restaurant in the capital and The White House in Manzini amongst others.

However, the Sibhaca and the Swazibank Schools Music Competitions, which are both national competitions, will certainly capture the hearts of those who appreciate local arts and culture. Also look out for the Miss Swaziland application and selection process happening down the valley. Here's to a great weekend ahead!

● THE ALL BLACK AFFAIR @FINESSE RESTAURANT

What: The All Black Affair, with MasterMind from Uzalo
Where: Finesse Restaurant
When: Tonight

About: This show promises to be a sophisticated affair as those who will attend are encouraged to dress

WOZA WEEKEND!

smartly. The Mbabane restaurant will feature performances by Kangaroo, Mx_SD, Affores, Marcus, CEEJay, Sleek Ace, Rhythm Crew, Dopest Crew Rockaz and Revolution.

The DJ line up is just as impressive with DJs; So What, Wacko, Castle, Sbuda, Rylo, Quanyaty and Ntobuys on the ones and twos. Don't miss out!

● SIBHACA/INGADLA NATIONAL COMPETITION 2016

Where: Maseyisini Inkhundla
When: Tomorrow
About: The nationwide Sibhaca/Ingadla National Competition which is already underway was held in Ehkhukwini last weekend will be hosted at the Maseyisini Inkhundla in the Shiselweni region tomorrow.

● SWAZIBANK SCHOOLS MUSIC COMPETITION 2016

What: Swazibank Schools Music Competition 2016
Where: Kaboyce High School, Mbabane
When: Today
About: High school pupils are very busy these days as the competition for the best choir underway.

Kaboyce High School will battle it out in the Hhohho eliminations at an event that begins at 8am. May the best school win.

● LAZY BUTT CRAZY "SEXY RED" & "NO SUGAR ADDED"

What: Lazy Butt Crazy "Sexy

Red" & "No Sugar Added"

Where: White House, Manzini
When: Tonight and Tomorrow night

About: - Those Dressed according to the theme, which is strictly smart casual, will get free entry at this event.

Entrance: is also free before 9pm and will be E20 afterwards. Drinks will be on special.

Tomorrow, the theme is; What You SEE is What YOU get "No Sugar Added"

Entrance is free for the ladies and gents are to pay E20. Drinks on special from E15 while Shooters from E10.

Music will be rendered by; The Scientist, DJ Stitch, Froggsz, LORD F, Likwid

VVIP Treatment (For Bookings Only) @ 76387013 "MasterMind"

● MISS SWAZILAND APPLICATION @ HAPPY VALLEY

What: Miss Swaziland Application
Where: Happy Valley, Ezulwini
When: Tomorrow
About: The one day joining process to be held at the hotel will start at 3pm and end at 5pm.

The application process will remain the same as the other application processes, as applicants are expected to bring with them all necessary certified documentation. Good luck to all the aspiring beauty queens this year!

By Simon Shabangu

Locals joyful at SA's Jet Music initiative



THE local music industry has reacted with joy at the news that they will now be able to sell their music at an even bigger scale around South Africa, following the purchase of the Jet Music franchise by a promoter of Swazi music, Johannes Sibiya.

The reaction comes after news that JSM Promotions has announced that they want local music to be sold from the over 14 branches they now own all over South African provinces.

Jet Music which is a popular music distributor is now owned by the Mpumalanga business tycoon who bought it for millions from the previous owners.

In an interview at his offices in Nelspruit recently, Sibiya said he is opening up an opportunity for locals to sell their music from his shops. He said he is interested mainly in Siswati music with the main aim of promoting the Siswati language. Sibiya is no stranger to supporting local music as he has contributed to ACASWA and SWAMA in many different ways.

ACASWA and SWAMA PROs have congratulated Sibiya on this acquisition, saying he has made a great investment which will also benefit the music industry in South Africa and Swaziland. They said Sibiya has

always been a great supporter of local music and feel this deal will benefit many local musicians. They both encouraged their members to take advantage of this opportunity and send their music to South Africa.

They said they are still going to meet with the businessman and get more details on how best the local artists can benefit from this deal. They pointed out though that they have not yet formally received this invitation from Sibiya but were excited at the news that he is keen to promote local music in his shops.

"This is great news to local music and we thank Sibiya for the continued support he has extended to local music. We encourage local musicians to now work even harder to produce quality so that it can make an impression in South Africa since they will now be able to reach an even bigger audience if their music is sold in Sibiya's shops, that are in the different provinces," said ACASWA PRO Ronnie Dlamini when sought for comment.

He said as an association they have always encouraged artists to consider

their talent as a business, hence this is yet another opportunity for them to earn a living out of their God given talent of singing. He said artists must also perfect their art to make sure that it makes the grade in South Africa since he was aware that much as he wants to sell local music he will also consider quality. "We thank Sibiya for throwing a lifeline to our artists and encourage them to take advantage. We are still going to look at the pros and cons of this deal to ensure that it benefits both parties," he said.

SWAMA PRO Menzi Mthethwa

said they are excited at the news and welcome the invitation with both hands. He said as an association they encourage artists to take advantage of such opportunities. He noted that South Africa has a big market, thus such opportunities bring hope for local musicians to be heard in South Africa.

"Firstly, one can congratulate Sibiya on this investment and wish him well. He has always been a good supporter of local music and has partnered with SWAMA in a number of projects and events. We are excited that he has bought these music outlets and are happy that he has shown interest in stocking local music. We encourage our artists to take advantage of this relationship and take their music to South Africa. We were worried about the introduction of 90% local content by SABC and thought we will not be able to penetrate the South African market. This now gives us hope," he said.

He however mentioned that they will also ensure that they see to it that the artists get good deals out of this relationship because they have an obligation to promote and protect their artists.

Botswana, South Africa jazz vocalists for Itallo Concert

By Phumelele Mkhonta

BOTSWANA jazz songstress, Kearoma Rantao, and South African-born jazz vocalist Vuyokazi Tshaya, have been included in the upcoming *Itallo and Friends Live in Swaziland* concert to be hosted by local jazz star, Itallo Dlamini.

This will be at the Convention Centre on June 24.

Rantao, an award-winning jazz vocalist, is looking forward to serenading local jazz lovers with her music, which has seen her win awards and performing alongside some jazz greats like veterans Ringo Madlingozi, Letta Mbulu, Caiphus Semenya, Tsepo Tsola and Freshly Ground, among others.

She has also performed at big stages in the Southern African region and the USA. She is a member of the Women of Jazz Botswana Ensemble and the Kalahari Roses International Music Collaboration Ensemble.

Kearoma Rantao released her first solo debut album titled, 'When the Music plays' at Botswana Craft Marketing in June 2012, much to the excitement of her already sizeable army of fans. The exciting, new-fan-



JAZZ: Botswana jazz songstress, Kearoma Rantao.

gled sound that she has made her own, has gained interest from across the world.

Having grown up in a talented musical family meant that Kearoma was always surrounded by different forms of music. Her first foray into learning how to sing came when she started to lead hymns at the age of 7.

Vuyokazi, on the other hand, is a familiar feature in the music careers of big South African stars such as Mafikizolo's Nhlhla Nciza, Neyi Zimu, Omega Khunou and James Okon for whom she was a backing vocalist. Her star started shining in 2013 when she began her new journey of rediscovery.

Vuyokazi, who has both Xhosa and Sotho family backgrounds, has tasted some glory in the jazz music scene.

These include being nominated to be part of the Standard Bank Joy Of Jazz

Discover Challenge in 2015, where she reached the top 5 stage. She started singing at restaurants and from there she started receiving bookings to sing at corporate events. She has had former South African president Thabo Mbeki,

Phumzile Mlambo Ngcuka, Nathi Mthethwa, Advocate Thuli Madonsela and many other business gurus dance to her songs.

Spokesperson for the concert Sibongiseni Mamba said the addition of the vocalists to the line-up presents a beautiful multi-cultural flavour to this event.

"Itallo has decided to break the borders of music and culture, by infusing his siSwati-influenced jazz music with other cultural influences from the Southern African region. Many will also recall that Itallo recently recorded a single 'Bhekiwe' with Hip Hop artist KRTC, which is quite exciting. In fact, people who buy tickets before the show will receive a copy of the single at the door when they present their tickets. There are other exciting elements to the show, including Itallo's fantastic young musicians, such as pianist Juda and his band," Mamba said.

Other artists to perform with Itallo on the night include bass guitarist Bheki Masina and sensational young guitarist Paseka. Both guitarists were a marvel to watch at Indibano's recent jazz session held at Riders' Ranch, which also featured South African icon Ray Phiri, Bhuloja and Nomsa M.

He added that this concept will revolve around different countries on the continent, and Swaziland was fortunate to be among the first countries to witness this ensemble, which will soon visit Botswana and parts of South Africa. He added that the night will be spiced up with some local entertainment items which will be released soon. The show will start at 7:30 pm and tickets are already available at E160 from Nandos in Mbabane, Manzini and Matsapha, as well as at Waterman Swaziland at the Gables in Ezulwini.

Somizi relives Swazi experience

By Phumelele Mkhonta

SOUTH Africa's flamboyant Somizi 'Somgaga' Mhlongo dedicated a whole episode on his reality show, 'Living the Dream with Somizi', sharing his experience while visiting the country.

Living the Dream with Somizi will chronicle the life of this flamboyant, sometimes 'wooshem' superstar.

What you see is exactly who he is: crazy, pacey, fun, fast, and loud; but more than anything, his laughter and inspiration in one pot.

In this season, Living the Dream with Somizi: Swazi Candles, the whole 30 minutes was dedicated to Somizi sharing his experience on his road trip

to Swaziland. According to Somizi, every Easter holidays he comes to the country to visit family and this time around, he was housed at Beverly Hills in Mbabane.

He visited Summer Fields Botanical Gardens, Swazi Candles, and House on Fire. He was partying up a storm the whole time popping champagne bottles. In the show, he also elicited that he had mainly come for a party that was hosted by his relatives in the country.

He confessed to loving the country and feeling at ease every time he is here.

"I love Swaziland. The place is nice, the people are calm and the scenery is beautiful. I always feel at peace when I am in Swaziland," said the enthusiastic Somizi.



GOOD TIMES: Somizi 'Somgaga' Mhlongo.

Imvelo Pumps in E40 000 for Sibhaca/Ingadla Competition

By Majaha Nkonyane

FOLLOWING a successful finale in the previous year, Imvelo traditional brew will once again host another Sibhaca/Ingadla National Competition on July 2, this year.

The competition is a nationwide competition that is run in the four regions of the country. Having started in the Lubombo region on May 28, the competition is almost at the final stages as it will be hosted in the Shiselweni region Maseyisini Inkundla tomorrow. Teams are working very hard as they battle for the grand prize of E10 000.

"The competition is getting tougher and teams are working much harder. Teams are putting in more effort as they battle to make it to the finals and eventually be crowned Swaziland's best in cultural dance. The competition has greatly improved from the previous year which is a good sign of more discipline and dedication from the teams, the public is encouraged to come and support their teams and enjoy a taste

of natural brew of Imvelo," Bheki Mntjali said.

Unlike the normal tradition for awarding the first, second and third prizes, Imvelo has widened their categories and accommodated positions up to twelve in the competition, as well as individual prizes. Categories include: SNCAC Sponsorship prize money (Individual Prizes) –

SIBHACA 28000

1st Position	10000
2nd Position	5000
3rd Position	3000
4th Position	2000
5,6,7,8th Position	4000
9,10,11,12th Positions	2000
Player of the series	500
Best Ligabazi	500
Best Media	1000

SNCAC Sponsorship prize money (Individual Prizes)

INGADLA	12000
1st	5000
2nd	2500
3rd	1500
4th	500
5th	500
6th	500
7th	500
8th	500
Best Ligabazi	500

Pageants SD gives extension for Miss SD Application

By Majaha Nkonyane

ASPIRING Miss Swaziland contestants now stand a better chance to enter the race for the pageant as the deadline has been extended.

Following the May 31 deadline, Pageant SD gave the Swazi girls a chance to enter the race and be crowned Swaziland's most beautiful. "Girls who may have missed the deadline for the application of Miss Swaziland 2016/17 now stand a chance to be enlisted to the group of girls who are in the race for the big title," Melissa Dupont said.

This opportunity is however a one day event that is scheduled for June 10, at the Happy Valley Hotel at Ezulwini, which will run from 3pm up until 5pm.

As a main sponsor and a host of the event, the Happy Valley Hotel will host open casting for the models again.

The application process will not differ for the late applicants as they are



COMMITTEE: Pageants Swaziland's Melissa Du Pont with Wahenda Mansoor and Gladys Rudd-Smith.

expected to bring with them all necessary certified documentation. The girls are expected to bring:

- Copy of ID
- Copy of birth Certificate
- Consent letter from parents for under 21 years applicants
- Copy of parents ID

In addition, Pageants SD will then on June 11 host the final selection of

the girls that will run for Miss Swaziland 2016/2017. This will also be held at The Happy Valley before the main event that is scheduled for August 13.

Aspiring girls are encouraged to bring their family and friends along for support on Saturday as the finalists are chosen for the race to compete for Miss Swaziland crown.

Swazibank Schools Music Hhohho eliminations at KaBoyce

By Tenele Dlamini

THE Swazibank Schools Music Hhohho region eliminations will be held at KaBoyce High school in Mbabane this morning at 8.

This was confirmed by PRO for the bank, Phesheya Vilakati, who voiced out the commitment the financial institution has to sponsoring this countrywide event.

Ensuring

"Swazibank is committed to ensuring that music is developed at the grassroots level and we



WITH A HEART:
SwaziBank PRO
Phesheya Vilakati.

have just completed sponsoring schools at primary school level.



The bank started sponsoring this competition in 2005 which has helped many people realize their talents," said Vilakati.

He added that many past competitors and winners have progressed to become conductors.

Other upcoming eliminations are as follows;

● SATURDAY 11 JUNE 2016
UNISWA, Kwaluseni (Manzini

and Lubombo regions eliminations) Finals

● WEDNESDAY 15 JUNE 2016

Soloists at Divine Healing Ministries, Manzini

● THURSDAY 16 JUNE 2016

Primary schools at UNISWA, Kwaluseni

● FRIDAY 17 JUNE 2016

High schools B at UNISWA, Kwaluseni

● SATURDAY 18 JUNE 2016

High schools A at UNISWA, Kwaluseni

● SUNDAY 19 JUNE 2016

Champ of Champus at UNISWA, Kwaluseni

LOCALS NDUDUZO, FRANS THRILL AT PEACE AND UNITY CONCERT



COLLABORATION: Sipho Makhabane and Thina Zungu collaborated in a performance. This was during the Peace and Security Concert at Mbalenhle Stadium in Secunda on Saturday night. The show was hosted by Big Fish Music. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



BACKING: Nduduzo Matse and Frans Dlamini's back-up crew in action.



KEEPING WARM: Despite the chilly weather at Mbalenhle Stadium gospel music lovers came through to watch their favorite artists.



ALL SMILES: SA Gospel Artist Jabu Ngcobo flanked by local Artists Nduduzo Matse and Frans Dlamini after their performance.



GET DOWN: Free State based Gospel greats, Imisingizane rendered a sterling performance during the show.



MY POINT: The host of the show Sipho Makhabane in conversation with Minister Mosebenzi Zwane who came with his group Imisingizane from the Free State.

Dzeli the Poet to perform in Soweto

By Tenele Dlamini

ONE of the country's most loved poets Dzeli 'The Poet' Mdluli joined many other local artists, who continue to make the nation proud, as she has been invited to perform at Inside Out Jazz Lounge in South Africa.

The venue is located in the heart of the city of Johannesburg, Soweto to be more specific, and the organisers of the poetry session are well known poets in South Africa, working on the Siza Nkosi Initiative.

According to the local poet she has been working with the well known poets since late last year on a stage play that will also be showcased in Swaziland sometime in the near future.

"The stage play is about Swazi and South African heroes and heroines who played a big role during apartheid. I completed an amazing show themed Women, Why Wine in March this year and I am currently working at Limkokwing

University under the film and television department," Mdluli said.

She added that the show is to be held on June 16, which is also Youth Day in South Africa.

"After that I will be taking the Women, Why Wine show to Nhangano, because that's where I was born and bred. I want the people from Shiselweni to get the opportunity to listen to my poetry and be inspired by my inspirational words especially because they are very close to my heart," stated the poet.

She further added that she is very much excited and will make sure that she delivers and makes Swaziland proud.



GOING FAR: Dzeli 'The Poet' Mdluli.



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NEWS

KING'S
SPEECH



DSTV

HIGHLIGHTS



Arranged
Tonight at 20:00 on Lifetime
(131)

Three couples from different cultural backgrounds have one thing in common, the belief in arranged marriages. This season we'll get to know an Orthodox Jewish couple from New York, a southern Christian couple living in Texas and an East Indian couple in California. However, these brides and grooms don't just marry each other, their unions include their entire family. Viewers will see each couple's relationship from the lead up to their weddings to the several months after the reality of married life sinks in. Ben, 22 and Vicki, 21 (New York City) The pair knew each other

growing up in Seattle. After high school they both took trips to Israel, independent of each other, and wound up in New York City. They met again at a charity event and were attracted to each other; one reason was how each embraced Orthodox Jewish culture. With their parents' approval, they began to date and after three outings decided to get married. David and Taylor are observing the tradition of not touching each other prior to the ceremony. David, 25 and Taylor, 25 (Fort Worth, Texas) This couple knew each other during their school days but went their separate ways. Taylor was friends with David's brother Jordan and kept in touch with him. It was Jordan that got the two together after many years.



Backcountry Justice
Tomorrow at 17:20 on Animal
Planet (183)

In *Backcountry Justice* the elite wardens of Wyoming Game and Fish have a big job to do - patrolling the state's 77 700 square kilometres of dangerous backcountry wilderness, to protect its big game and fish population. This one-off special follows the team when the threat to the state's wildlife is at its peak. It's hunting season, when thou-

sands of hunters converge on a state where 60% of the population is already armed. For the wardens, the days are long, the guns are many and the job is as dangerous as it gets. Illegal poachers had better watch out when the crack team of wardens are on the loose, and angry landowners are a force to be reckoned with when someone trespasses on their property. For the men and women of Wyoming Game and Fish, it's all in a day's work.

On Sunday at 21:00 on E!
Entertainment Television

'S1/E1 - Tiwa Savage shares

with E! an intimate view of her life as one of Nigeria's most successful recording artists and businesswomen.

On Sunday at 19:30 on
SuperSport 6 (206)

Grand Prix Main Race from
Circuit Gilles-Villeneuve -
Montreal, Canada. LIVE.

Formula One 2016 Canadian

THROWBACK SHOWS TO WATCH ON DSTV

THERE's nothing quite like taking a trip back to the nineties and early norties for its fashion, music and pop culture - and with these great shows on DSTV, we get that and so much more.

From fashionable and LOL moments, to appearances from stars before they made it to Hollywood's A-list, these throwback shows are a must-see!

Friends (weekdays at 15:45 on Comedy Central)

Grabbing a coffee and hanging out with your friends is a very good life, and for Chandler, Monica, Ross, Rachel, Phoebe and Joey, they get to live the good life every day. That's in between pitching up for work, falling in love, and for some, debating the age old question of if they were on a break or not.

Scrubs (weekdays at 16:10 on SONY)

Visiting a hospital has never been this much fun! JD and Turk are doctors at Sacred Heart, and with their colleagues, love lives and starting families, this is a comedy that definitely pulls on the heart strings.

Will and Grace (weekdays at 17:25 on Comedy Central)

It's a case of opposites attract with *Will and Grace* - they're each other's shoulders to cry on and to ask advice from. And they also fight. But it's all so entertaining, especially when their friends Jack and Karen add their two cents worth.

Charmed (weekdays at 17:40 on FOX)

The Halliwell sisters are uber cool! After finding out they descend from a long line of witches, they use their special powers to do good - coming face to face, and putting an end to some of the underworlds grossest creatures.

Walker, Texas Ranger (weekdays at 18:30 on CBS Action)

LIVING the celebrity life must be a struggle seeing as some stars have chosen to go under the knife or drop a few pounds all in the name of fame.

It's shocking to see what some celebs look like now compared to what they looked like when they first came into the industry.

The change is not always for the better because, in surgery, things don't always go according to plan as we've seen in *Botched*, Fridays at 21:00 on E!

From Mshoza and Lil Kim to Melissa McCarthy and Johan Hill, watch as Mish and Sips discuss



No throwback list is complete without adding some Chuck Norris! As Cordell Walker, Chuck made us want to take up martial arts - he always makes it seem so easy, while fighting the bad guys.

Sister, Sister (weekdays at 18:30 on CBS Drama)

Tia and Tamera may look identical, but these sisters, who were separated at birth are so different!

After they find each other in a shopping mall, the teens go through the ups and downs of a blended family, with school and love lives to deal with. And who couldn't love their nosy neighbour, Roger Evans.

Hangin' With Mr. Cooper (weekdays at 19:20 on CBS Drama)

Mr. Cooper is the coolest teacher on the block! And with Robin and Vanessa and his natural talent, he gets the hang of being a teacher and is a good advisor (sometimes) to the kids at Oakbridge High School.

Family Matters (weekdays at 20:10 on CBS Drama)

Before Roger, there was another curious neighbour we fell madly in love with. With his braces and quirky spectacles, it was difficult not to like Steve Urkel. And when he'd say his trademark line "Did I do that?", we still burst out with laughter and get warm and fuzzy all at the same time.

A Different World (Sundays at 17:35 on SONY)

A Different World is a classic! How could we not get (just a little) obsessed with this group of students, as they embarked on a new journey at Hillman College?

Not only could we continue to watch Lisa Bonet as Denise Huxtable, but it was also our first introduction to actors and actresses we'd fall in love with in later years, like Sinbad, Jada Pinkett-Smith, Halle Berry, Alfonso Ribeiro and Blair Underwood.

Hitlist: Celebs before and after



amazing celebrity transformations.

In keeping with the major body changes, see as ordinary people battle their weight issues in *My 600lb Life* Fridays at 20:00 on TLC

Entertainment and what happens to all the extra skin left over when people lose weight in *My Extreme Excess Skin* Fridays at 20:55 on TLC Entertainment.

★ Celebrity ★ Watch ★

Whitney's mum Cissy slams Bobby Brown

LOS ANGELES - Whitney's Houston's mother Cissy Houston has slammed the singer's ex-husband Bobby Brown over his recent comments about her daughter. The New Edition star, who was married to Whitney for 15 years, claimed he broke tradition on his wedding day before marrying the I Will Love you singer to discover her snorting a line of cocaine. In a tell-all interview with ABC's 20/20 which aired earlier this week, he went on to say that Whitney offered her groom some drugs before they



FIGHTING: Cissy and Bobby Brown.

exchanged vows at their wedding ceremony. The R&B singer also claimed he and Whitney would spend hours a day locked in a room in their mansion doing drugs while a nanny cared for their daughter Bobbi Kristina. *Mirror*

Is Khloe Kardashian pregnant?

LOS ANGELES - Khloe Kardashian could be pregnant, according to a US tabloid. The reality star, 31, is splashed on the front cover of this week's Life & Style magazine next to a coverline which screams 'I'm having a baby!'. Underneath the snap of the reality star are five potential baby fathers, including her most recent squeeze Odell Beckham Jr., ex-boyfriend French Montana, basketball player James Harden, estranged husband Lamar Odom and Scott Disick. Shortly after the cover appeared



SIBLINGS: Khloe Kardashian and Kourtney.

online, Scott decided to share a shot of the sensational cover on Instagram. Proving he's still got a great sense of humour when it comes to rumours, he wrote next to it: "Got my fingers crossed!" *Mirror*

AKA might get a role on 'Empire'

JOHANNESBURG - Aka might just be the next Empire star. This is after he hosted Terrence Howard and Taraji P Henson for their Mzansi tour. Aka, also known as Supermega posted a video on Instagram where he had a conversation with the empire stars "Cookie and Lucious" asking them if he could possible get a role on the show. Terrence Howard said that he would talk to Empire director Lee Daniels about bringing Aka onto the show. We wish him all the best!



SUPERMEGA: AKA.

Keep flying Mzansi's flag high AKA! *Daily sun*

Kim K forcing Kanye to seek professional help

LOS ANGELES - Kim Kardashian is reportedly worried about Kanye West's behaviour. It's thought that the reality star has become so concerned about her husband's acting out that she's forcing him to seek help. According to Radar Online, Kanye has "refused to attend regular therapy" sessions to help solve the issue. Kim's frustration with his alleged anger problems has reportedly led to her demanding the rapper seek professional medical help. "He has no other choice really, because he refus-



POWER COUPLE: Kim K and Kanye West.

es to go back to anger management and regular therapy hasn't stopped the problem," an insider revealed. "Kim's watched Kanye struggle for years, not just with his rage but also with a lack of focus that's causing major troubles at home." *Mirror*

Minnie's dress also a hot topic!

JOHANNESBURG - JUST days after Twitter went crazy over Boity Thulo's SAMAs dress, Minnie Dlamini's outfit has also attracted attention. She hosted the red carpet show for E! Beyond the Red Carpet: SAMAs which premiered on E! Entertainment television, DStv channel 124 on Tuesday night alongside SABC 3 Expresso host Katlego Maboe. Minnie wore a cream dress with a dramatic cape effect designed by Gert Johan Coetzee. Just before the end of the show, it became apparent that her sleeve had torn just



TRENDING: Minnie.

under her armpit. However, her outfit got a lot of positive comments from social media and fellow celebrities. It wasn't clear how Minnie's dress was damaged but speaking on behalf of Gert, public relations specialist Melinda Shaw said they would rather focus on how beautiful she looked. *Drum*

Bonang's sister: I'm also a celeb!

JOHANNESBURG - Bonang's half sister has spoken out about making her own way as a celebrity in the entertainment industry. According to Drum, Rambi Sechoaro (22) is determined to make it without using her famous older sister's brand to get ahead. The Miss South Africa 2016 contestant was quoted as saying: "I want to build my own brand and I never want to get jobs because of my half sister, I do however look up to her and respect her work ethic. "My sister gave me a few tips on having a thick skin in



RELEVANT: Rambi.

order to survive in the industry, and I have learnt a lot from her success." Rambi has her own buzz going already, with local and international modelling contracts, and charity work filling much of her time. This she juggles with the demands of studying accounting science through Unisa. *Drum*

Somizi, 'Cookie' are like besties!

JOHANNESBURG - Mzansi star Somizi had an awesome night with Empire stars Taraji P. Henson and Terrence Howard. He spent some time with Empire stars 'Cookie' and 'Lucious' On Tuesday night. This is what Somizi posted: "My cookie. They say the key to success is perseverance. I say and Humility." Even though Somizi and Bonang's friendship is over, it seems like making new friends comes easily and effortlessly to 'Somgaga'. *Drum*



BESTIES: Taraji P. Henson and Somizi.

Beyonce sneezes on stage

NEW YORK - The lively audience erupted with cheers for the sneeze as it were part of the singer's performance. Beyonce SNEEZES on stage and the 45 000-strong crowd just can't get enough. Beyonce really can't put a foot wrong in the eyes of her fans, can she? So much so that she had a 45 000-strong audience erupting with cheers when she sneezed during a concert on Tuesday. The songstress is no stranger to singing in front of capacity crowds, having kicked off her Formation World Tour in April.



SNEEZES: Beyonce.

But we don't think Queen Bey has ever experienced anything quite like what happened when she stormed the stage at Citi Field in New York. *Mirror*

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA TODAY

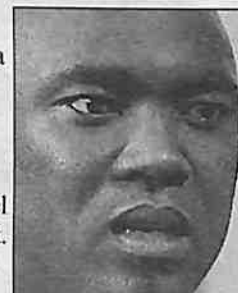
The Memel association returns to the negotiation table. Fezile's investigation bares fruit. Pam's attempts to get Kaone's help go horribly wrong.



WRONG TURN: Pam.

ISIDINGO TODAY

Gabriel is threatened by a dangerous mob. There's no running away for Zukisa. Gabriel sells Sizwe out. Bradley gets a confidence boost.



THREATENED: Gabriel.

Muvhango TODAY

Vusi, Sthe and Rendani change Malose's life for the better. Ndalamo finally finds his way to the love of his life. Vele and Teboho equally go out of line with the elections.



FINDS LOVE: Ndalamo.

RHYTHM CITY TODAY

Lerato sees Emmanuel as a threat to her deal with Fats. Bongsi has to talk Doc out of opening a case against Sakhile. Zinzi appears to come to her senses. Tensions escalate between Niki and Puleng. Cuba intervenes and makes Niki an offer she can't refuse.



PREVENTS A CASE: Bongsi.

OMG!!



THAT WASN'T A FART

TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn - You have great internal strength and lean toward independence, preferring to lean on yourself more than on those outside.



Cancer - New career opportunities may be the reason for a move soon. Fate sends opportunity your way if you listen to your instincts and give your natural sense of curiosity a free rein.



Aquarius - You have lots of energy for conversation, curious meanderings and possible research. You enjoy talking, speaking and writing and may be looking forward to a class in creative writing this evening.



Leo - Mysterious or mystical information fires your imagination and there is a good chance that there is more imagination than knowledge for now.



Pisces - This may be a frustrating day regarding practical or job-related activities. However, your key word is responsibility. You will be able to rise above these frustrations through your perseverance. You are able to find yourself in others, in relationships, rather than alone—a mirror or clear pool.



Virgo - Situations and people you thought you could rely on might not be so solid after all. Talk things over and find out what is really happening—you should be able to enhance your security.



Libra - Your physical vitality, psychological or spiritual goals are in good shape. Now is the time to weed through and eliminate or in some way control difficulties that have come to your attention. This could be a professional or personal task.



Aries - You are always out front and manage to spend a lot of time in the spotlight in social situations. However, it may be time to cool your entertaining urges and let others take the limelight for a while.



Taurus - You could be feeling rebellious and independent regarding your current situation. Patience will win out, however. Remember, there are times that others may have to be patient with you.



Gemini - You may be playing the role of healer, teacher or critic today. You will receive good news surrounding your business or your position within a company.



Sagittarius - You are very independent in appearance and communication. Your spontaneity and unpredictability make you interesting to any group.



BABY BLUES



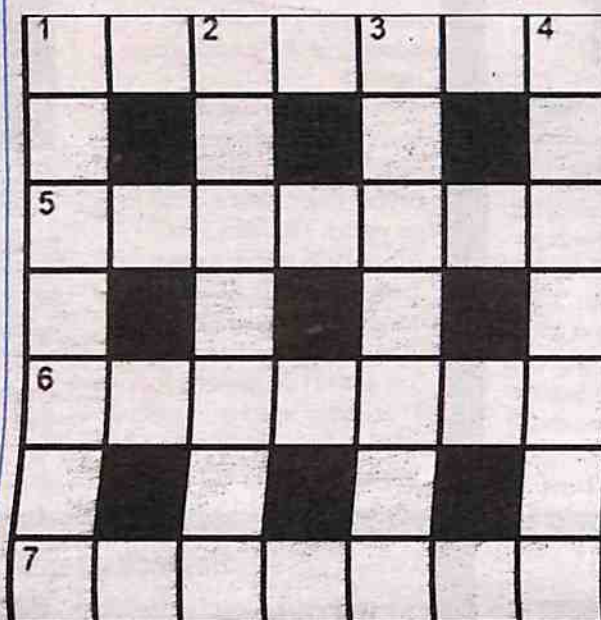
BUCKLES



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



PUZZLE CHOICE



Across

1. Assign a duty
5. Amazing or wonderful occurrence
6. Bane
7. Firedog

Down

1. Pungent nitrogen and hydrogen compound
2. Egyptian tomb
3. Tooth
4. Perfidy

PUZZLE CHOICE

Two ladies were fighting for a seat in a metro bus. One man suggested: Whoever is older should take the seat.



then..... both seats remained free. :)

USELESS FACTS

1. Hudson Bay is the largest bay in the world, (larger than England) bordering only one country Canada, and only two provinces and a territory.
2. There is a city called Rome on every continent. Source: David Katz-Doft
3. New York City is nicknamed the Big Apple after an early swing dance that originated in a South Carolina club (actually a converted church) called The Big Apple.
4. Devon is the only county in Great Britain to have two coasts.
5. There are four Commonwealths in the United States: Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Kentucky and Virginia — the rest are states.
6. Gilroy, California in Monterey County claims to be the "Garlic Capital of the World," but Fresno County now produces more Garlic. Fresno County is the largest agriculture producing county in the United States.

BRAINTEASERS
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Yesterday's Brain Teasers

1. The more you take, the more you leave behind. What are they?
A. Footsteps.
2. What has teeth but can't bite?
A. A comb

Today's Brain Teasers

1. He who builds me doesn't want me, he who buys me doesn't use me, he that uses me doesn't know he's got me. What am I?
2. What can you feed but if you give it water it will die?

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- 3 Travel with Sky World during the promotion and qualify for the draw.

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11 DEATHS

Kwatiswa bantwabenkosi baseMbelebeleni, tihlobo nebangani nelibandla lase Catholic kanye nebantwabakhe kutshi umntwanenkosi Mashamba Getrude Dlamini akasekho emhlabeni. Utawufihlwa eMbelebeleni ekhaya mhlathilumi nambili inhlabathi (12/06/2016). Inkonzo yekumkhumbula isemini ngensimbi yesitsatfu eLuvu esontweni lase Catholic base kuba nemlindzelo ekhaya eMbelebeleni. Simemetelo sikhishwa bantwabenkosi baseMbelebeleni.

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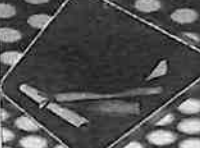

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ESTATE LATE: MONDLI HOWARD KHULU

ESTATE NO. EM 57/2016

Debtors and Creditors in the above mentioned estate are asked to lodge their claims and pay their debts with the under-signed within thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this notice.

SIBONGILE KHULU AND ZANDILE KHULU
P.O. BOX 456
MANKAYANE

REST IN PEACE

Family, friends and relatives of Samuel Mahawela Mkhwanazi are notified of his sudden demise. Funeral will be held at kaLanga on Sunday June 12th 2016 after a night vigil on Saturday 11/06/2016. Announcement by family

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(b) Bachelor of Technology in Business Administration	2 years	
(c) Bachelor of Technology in Logistics and Transport	2 years	
(d) Bachelor of Technology in Public Administration	2 years	
(e) Bachelor of Technology in Health and Safety Management	2 years	
(f) Bachelor of Technology in Education Management	2 years	

Date of Commencement First Saturday of July 2016

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Email: phindilelia@gmail.com | alphasandilepro@yahoo.co.uk Call / Whatsapp: 7687 8143/ 7691 2228 / 7816 4856.
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ESTATE LATE: MFANAWEMPI ALMON MAMBA

ESTATE NO. EL 26/2008

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 51 (2) of the Administration of Estates Act No. 28/1902 that the First and Final Liquidation and Distribution Account will lie open for inspection at the office of the Master of the High Court of Swaziland, Mbabane branch First Floor Miller's Mansion for a period of **Twenty One (21)** days from the date of publication of this notice.

Any person objecting to the account may lodge his or her objection in writing with the executor and with the Master of the High Court at any time before expiry of the said period.

SIPHIWE HLEZIPHI MAMBA
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11 DEATHS



Friends and relatives of **Mcebo Sydney Mkhonta**, son of Victor Skhumbuzo Mkhonta and Emmah Dlamini are notified of his sudden death. He was a student at Ngwane High School. He will be buried on Sunday 12 June 2016 after a night vigil at his parental home in Ntunja. The Mkhonta family of kaLamgabhi (Etiyeni) and the Dlamini family of Sigombeni (Sigilini) are also notified of his funeral. Rest in peace Hlungwane!!!!



The Ellison family with great sadness announces the demise of **Herschel Edwin Ellison**. There will be a requiem Mass at Good Shepherd Catholic Church on Saturday 11 June 2016 @10am. He will be dearly missed. May his soul rest in peace. Announcement by his family.



Relatives and friends of **Muzi Patric Gadlela** are notified of his untimely death. He will be laid to rest on Sunday 12 June 2016 kaBhudla after a night vigil on Saturday. Announcement by his mother.



Kwatiswa tihlobo, bangani nemndeni wa **Asiyena Lomjovo Dlamini** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Ufihlwa ngemgqibelo mhlaka 11 June 2016 kuMadosa esiyeniekhaya lakhe kaZwane. Kwatiswa baka Dlamini ekhaya kubo eSiweni kuMalindza nebakazwane ekhakhakhe kaPhunga. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Themba Zwane umntfwanake. Lala kahle Hlubi lomuhle, siyohlala njalo sikukhumbula.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba **Khanyisile fakudze laMaduna** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Inkonziso yesikhumbuto ingalwesihlanu mhlaka 10 June 2016 kuGege, afihlwe ngelisonfo mhlaka 12 June ngemvula kwemlindzelo. Ufihlwa ekhaya lakhe eKupheleni enhlonhleni. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumndeni.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba **Fihlwaphi Eldah Dlamini** (lobekatiwa ngekutsi ngu Nchinchu) kutsi akasekho

emhlabeni. Kwatiswa bakubo baka Sihlongonyane eGundwini, baka Bheembe ekhabonina, nalahlala nabo kakhulu eLwandle etincancweni nebaka Dlamini ekhakhakhe ka-Langa. Inkonziso yekumkhumbula ingalwesihlanu nga 11 am mhlaka 10 June 2016 e Cathedral, Manzini. Ufihlwa ngemgqibelo mhlaka 11 June emva kwemlindzelo ka-Langa ESiteki. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumkhulu wakhe James Dlamini egameni lemndeni.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba **Baphalele Maphalala** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Utawufihlwa ngelisonfo ekhaya kubo e Big Bend, siteshi kuse Zombizo emva kwemlindzelo. Usishiye emhlabeni mhlaka 3 June 2016. Utawufihlwa ngelisonfo mhlaka 12 June 2016, emva kwemlindzelo mhlaka 11 June. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngubabae wakhe Mcolisi Maphalala egameni lemndeni. Lala ngekuthula Nyandzeni, siyohlala njalo sikukhumbula.



Kwatiswa tihlobo ta **Muzie December Maseko** waka Zondwako kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Ufihlwa ngelisonfo ekuseni ekhaya kubo ka Zondwako (Bhunya). Kwatiswa baka Tsabedze ekhabonina nebaka Maseko kaZondwako. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Beleza Maseko egameni lemndeni.



Friends and Relatives of **Shadrack Qhwangu Mazibuko** are notified of his demise. Funeral will be at Kontshingila, Magagane on Saturday 11 June 2016 after a night vigil on Friday. Announcement by Sipho D Mazibuko.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni wa **Sibongile Sarah Masuku** lobekafundzisa e St Josephs Primary School kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Utawufihlwa e buseleni eMawelawela ekhaya kubo. Umlindzelo ungemgqibelo mhlaka 11 June 2016 emva kwemlindzelo ngalwesihlanu mhlaka 10 June. Kwatiswa nebasekhabonina ka Ntshangase eMkhuzweni ka Hhohho nalabekasebenta nabo e St Joseph's Mission. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Catherine Masuku, unina egameni lemndeni.



Relatives and friends of **Nobantu Yolanda Sukati** are notified of her sudden death. Requiem mass will be at St John Bosco Parish Church on the 11th of June 2016 at 1400hrs. Funeral will be on the 12th of June 2016 after a night vigil. Announcement by Charles Sukati (Father).



Kwatiswa tihlobo, umndeni, bangani na bofakazi bakaJehova kutsi **Alfred Khumalo** akasekho emhlabeni. Ufihlwa ngelisonfo mhlaka 12 June 2016 ekhaya lakhe eMbekelweni kabhodo next to kaShabalala. Kute umlindzelo. Inkonziso yekumfihla icala nga 6:00am. Lokokha simemetelo ngumntfwana wakhe Dumisani Raymond Khumalo egameni lemndeni.



Relatives and friends of **Elsie Fakazile Mdluli** (LaSimelane) are notified of her untimely death. She will be laid to rest on Saturday 11 June 2016 at Ngololweni after a night vigil. Memorial service will be at Jordan Church in Zion at Kwaluseni, Mbhuleni at 1300hrs. Announcement by his son Thulani Arnold Mdluli on behalf of the family.



Kwatiswa tihlobo, umndeni nebangani ba **Ronnie Sizwe sangweni** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Ufihlwa ngemgqibelo mhlaka 11 June 2016 kaSangweni ekhaya kubo eMbelebeleni (Luvu). Simemetelo sikhishwa nguyise Robert Sangweni.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba **Jeremiah Bhodo Mahlalela** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Ufihlwa ngemgqibelo mhlaka 11 June 2016 ekhaya lakhe kaS h e w u l a emvakwemlindzelo. Kwatiswa bekakhakhe ka Navis kuHhelehele, baka Nkhosi eMbikwakhe, baka Masuku eNhlango, baka Sikhondze eSinceni, baka Maseko eSigombeni nebanffwabakhe labatalwa nguLaFakudze nesive sakubo sakaMahlalela nelibandla lakhe bekakhonta nabo kuManzana. Simemetelo sikhishwa nguMagaba Mahlalela dzadze wabo egameni lemndeni.



Relatives and friends of **Thandeka Mumcy Dlamini** (nee Sukati) are notified about the calling to her Almighty Lord. Funeral on 12 June 2016 at 7am after a night vigil at her marital home E m p h i n i. Announcement by Sibusiso Spith Dlamini. May your soul rest in Peace M s i m e waseGodlwane. You will always be missed. There will be a short prayer at eVuvulane where she was staying at 2pm Saturday.



Friends and relatives of **David Mbilaneni Mamba** are notified of his death. There will be a memorial service at kaSchiele Lutheran Church starting at 1pm. Night vigil will be on Friday 10 June 2016 and the funeral will be on Saturday 11 June 2016 at Mantjolo. Announcement by his wife Jabulile Julia Mamba.



Relatives and friends of **Gugu Sibandze** of Mpolonjeni in Mbabane are notified of her sudden death. She will be buried at her parental home E n y a k e n i ka Ndwandwe on Sunday 12 June 2016 at 5:00am after a night vigil on Saturday 11 June 2016. Memorial service at John Wesley Methodist Church kaGogo, Msunduzi at 1:00pm. For further information, please contact 76043878



Relatives and friends of **Ntombikayise Dlamini** are notified of her demise. She will be buried on Sunday 12 June 2016 at her parental home at Nhlambeni after a night vigil. Memorial service will be on

Saturday at St' Stephens Catholic Church, Sidzakeni at 2pm. Lala ngekuthula Hlubi lomuhle. Announcement by Mduduzi Dlamini on behalf of the family.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba **Johannes Mloywa Mthethwa** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Ufihlwa ekhaya kabo eTimbutini, eVulamehlo ngemgqibelo mhlaka 11/06/2016, emva kwemlindzelo ngalwesihlanu mhlaka 10/06/2016. Kunenkonziso yesikhumbuto ekhaya lakhe kaMartiin ngalwesihlanu nga 12 emini. Kwatiswa bekakhakhe nebakaMtsetfwa kaNdinda, kaLanga, eLulwimini, kaDvokolwako, eSikhuphe. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Malungisa Mtsetfwa egameni lemndeni.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba **Mabandla Xolile Tsabedze** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Ufihlwa ngemgqibelo mhlaka 11 June 2016 ekhaya kubo eMpaka, eManyeveni emva kwemlindzelo ngalwesihlanu. Kwatiswa bekhabonina kaSfundza kaShewula nebakagogo wakhe ka Matsapa entalasifane eMiddleplaas nebelisonfo lake e Antioch kuMpaka nebasesikolweni sakhe eMangweni Primary School. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngubabae wakhe Tuesday Tsabedze.

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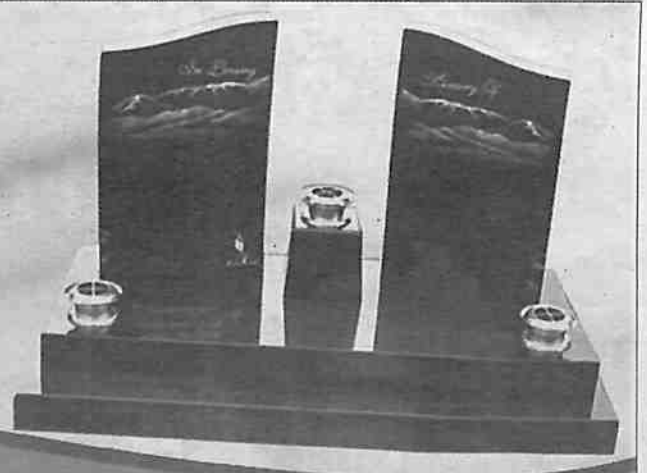
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ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



NO BUY-BACK OPTION

MANCHESTER - Manchester United do not have a buy-back option on Paul Pogba, according to Sky sources.

The France midfielder left Old Trafford for Juventus in 2012 after failing to secure a regular first team place in Sir Alex Ferguson's side. Pogba has blossomed into

one of the most sought after talents in Europe during his time with Juve where he has won four Serie A titles in as many years.

Claims

Several British newspapers claim United are in pole position to re-sign Pogba - but it is understood they did not include either a sell-on clause

or an option to buy-back the 23-year-old, meaning they would need to pay a fee widely reported to be around £80m.

Sky in Italy are reporting there is also interest from Real Madrid and that there has been contact between Real and Pogba's representatives - although not between Real and Juve. *skysports*

Cisse backs Jurgen Klopp

LIVERPOOL - Djibril Cisse has backed Jurgen Klopp to become a "legend" at Liverpool and believes his former paymasters can challenge for the Premier League title next season.

Klopp has become an instant hit amongst Liverpool supporters after leading them to the Capital One Cup and Europa League finals this season, despite falling short on both occasions.

The German replaced Brendan Rodgers at Anfield in October last year and is expected to make a number of changes to his squad this summer as he looks to build the club towards a push for more silverware.

And Cisse, who played for Liverpool between 2004 and 2007 and was part of their memorable 2005 Champions League-winning side, has lauded Klopp as a manager who "makes miracles" come true.

In an interview with Goal,

Cisse said: "I think Liverpool needs someone like him (Klopp), somebody passionate who is used to managing clubs with huge reputations. He makes miracles. If you let him build his team and make a real preparation, I think it can go very well."

"He has what it takes (to lead Liverpool), he returns to the philosophy of the club. He can become a legend."

The Premier League is gearing up for the mouth-watering clash between Pep Guardiola and Jose Mourinho, who have taken charge of Manchester City and United respectively this summer.

City and United have automatically become favourites for the league next season following Guardiola and Mourinho's respective arrivals, but Cisse believes Liverpool can join them in the mix for the title under Klopp.

"Yes, I will not forget him

(Klopp) in the title race," Cisse replied when asked if Klopp could have a say in next season's title race.

"I was at Liverpool a few days ago, they want to be back on top, where the club deserves to be. They will do anything to go back, they will use their financial means to do so. I know that."

Joining Guardiola, Mourinho and Klopp in England's top flight is three-time Serie A winner Antonio Conte, who will take over the reins at Chelsea after leading Italy at Euro 2016.

Conte will be one of several big names managing in England next season and Cisse believes there is no doubt that the Premier League is the best league in the world.

He added: "There was already no doubt. Imagine if (Zlatan) Ibrahimovic signs there... There will be even less doubt. The Premier League have the best players, they just needed the best technicians to improve the game and put it all in place." *goal*



SWAZILAND COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SWAZILAND COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Coutinho denies knowledge of PSG

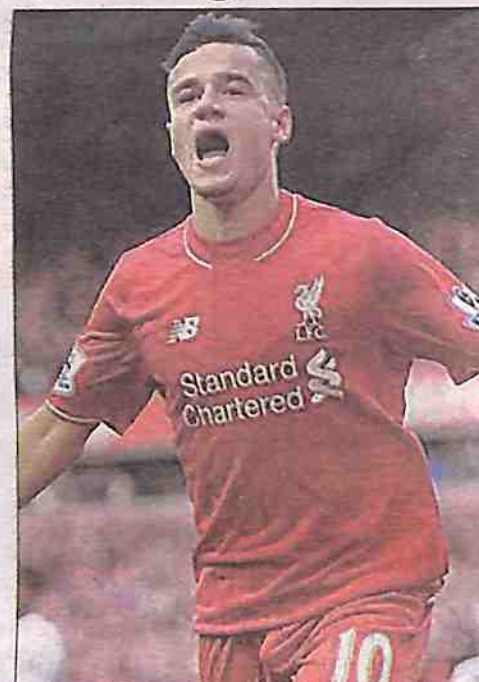
RIO - The Brazil playmaker scored a hat trick for his country and said afterwards that, as far as he knows, there has been no transfer bid.

Philippe Coutinho insists he knows nothing about a rumored 23 million pound (\$33.3 million) bid from Paris Saint-Germain for his services.

The Liverpool playmaker scored a hat trick as Brazil thrashed Haiti 7-1 in the Copa America Centenario on Wednesday, the same day it was rumored that the Ligue 1 champion has rivaled Barcelona in the race to seal his signature.

Reports indicate that PSG has made the first move by submitting a formal offer to Liverpool, but the player himself says he has not been informed of any interest. *goal*

NOT TRUE: Liverpool's Philippe Coutinho.



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France VS Romania

10 JUNE 2016

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sun
Swaziland in real time

GOING OUT EARLY WILL BE FAILURE - MODRIC

FRANCE - Real Madrid midfielder Luka Modric wants his Croatia team to have secured a place in the knock-out stages of Euro 2016 before they take on champions Spain in their final Group D clash.

Modric was part of the Croat side who went out in the group stages after a defeat by Spain four years ago. He believes it would be "a failure" for this country if they did not progress this time with four of the third-placed teams going through.

Ante

NO GOING OUT: Real Madrid midfielder Luka Modric.

Cacic's men open their account against Turkey in Paris on Sunday and take on the Czech Republic five days later in Saint Etienne before the big clash with Spain in Bordeaux on June 21.

"We have a very difficult group," Modric said in an interview with the Marca newspaper yesterday. "The key will be our first game, because if we win, it would ease our path. That was not enough for Croatia four years ago."

"It would be a failure for us not to progress from the group stages."

At Euro 2012, Croatia won their opening game against Ireland 3-1 and drew 1-1 with Italy. But they went out of the competition after a late Jesus Navas goal in a 1-0 defeat to Spain.

Modric, who played in that match, said: "It was Spain's most difficult game of that whole tournament. We played



well but we were unlucky.

"Spain are one of the top teams in the world. I hope that when we play Spain in our final group game, we are already through to the next round."

The midfielder made 44 appearances in all competitions to help Real finish runners-up in La Liga and win the Champions League this season. He is still looking for success with the national side.

"What I'm missing in my career is to do something big for Croatia and to win La Liga," he said.

supersport.

Pressure on hosts as Euro 2016 Begins

FRANCE - The first match of Euro 2016 begins as Les Bleus take on Anghel Iordanescu's experienced side in the opener.

Hosts France kick off Euro 2016 against Romania at Stade de France today, with Didier Deschamps' men rated as the favourites to win the tournament.

Two-time winners France are hoping to match Germany and Spain - teams who represent their main rivals for glory this year - by winning a third continental title.

Les Bleus are looking to become the first host nation to triumph in the competition since they achieved the feat themselves in 1984, but recent editions have seen them fail to make it beyond the quarter-finals since winning their last title in 2000.

France come into the event in fine form having won nine of their last 10 matches after rounding off their preparation with a 3-0 win over Scotland last Saturday.

Deschamps has a key selection dilemma in attack after star striker Karim Benzema was not considered for selection due to an

ongoing legal investigation into an alleged plot to blackmail fellow international Mathieu Valbuena.

Antoine Griezmann is almost certain to fill one of the three attacking positions, with Kingsley Coman, Andre-Pierre Gignac, Olivier Giroud, Anthony Martial and Dimitri Payet fighting over the other two spots.

Giroud has been receiving a negative reaction from some parts of the France support despite scoring seven goals in his last five starts, while Payet produced a trademark free-kick to seal victory over Cameroon on May 30 - form which perhaps gives that duo the edge.

"Griezmann is happy," Deschamps said to L'Equipe ahead of the match. "He had a long season with Atletico and our main priority was to give him some rest before the start of the tournament."

"Antoine has certain qualities that make him one of the best attackers around in Europe. He has always been a good player, but he has become more consistent. *goal*

Ronaldo urges Portugal to stay grounded

FRANCE - Portugal captain Cristiano Ronaldo has urged his teammates not to get carried away by the 7-0 romp over Estonia ahead of their campaign at the Euro 2016.

The 31-year-old forward, warming up for his side's Group F opener against Iceland on Tuesday in Saint-Etienne, made his first appearance with Portugal this summer in Lisbon on Wednesday night.

"It was just a friendly and even though we won 7-0, it doesn't mean anything," Ronaldo was quoted as saying by AS newspaper.

"We must keep our feet firmly on the

ground. The team played very well and we are all physically well.

"We are on the right path but we have to keep our feet firmly on the ground."

Ronaldo started and scored Portugal's opening two goals before being replaced by Nani in the 46th minute.

Played

"I would have liked to have played more but it was better to manage my time on the pitch and give others an opportunity to play," he said.

The Portugal captain was not fit at the World Cup in Brazil two years ago due to a tendonitis problem and his national team failed to progress from the group stages.

Ronaldo was bothered by muscular problems at the end of this season with Real Madrid yet helped his club beat Atletico Madrid in the Champions League final in Milan last month.

He finished the campaign with 51 goals in 48 games in all competitions for Real.

"I'm not at my best," Ronaldo admitted. "But there is still a week to go before we start Euro 2016 and I have time to improve."

Portugal reached the semifinals four years ago but were eliminated by Spain on penalties and Fernando Santos's men are looking to go all the way in France. *supersport.*



TOP PLAYERS: France players Paul Pogba and Antoine Griezmann.

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Maria Sharapova banned for 2 years

RUSSIA - Maria Sharapova has been banned for two years by the International Tennis Federation for using a prohibited drug.

The Russian was provisionally banned in March after testing positive for meldonium at January's Australian Open.

The heart disease drug, which 29-year-old Sharapova says she has been taking since 2006 for health issues, became a banned substance on 1 January 2016.

The five-time Grand Slam winner said she "cannot accept" the "unfairly harsh" ban - and will appeal.

Sharapova will challenge the suspension, which is backdated to 26 January 2016, at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (Cas).

In a statement, she said the tri-

...for failed drugs test but will appeal

bunal concluded her offence was "unintentional" and that she had not tried to use a "performance-enhancing substance".

But she claimed the ITF had asked the tribunal to impose a four-year ban, adding it "spent tremendous amounts of time and resources trying to prove I intentionally violated the anti-doping rules".

The tribunal ruling said Sharapova tested positive for meldonium in an out-of-competition test on 2 February, as well as in the aftermath of her Australian Open quarter-final defeat by Serena Williams on 26 January.

It treated both results as a single anti-doping violation.

The London 2012 Olympic silver medallist added: "I have missed playing tennis and I have missed my amazing fans... your love and support has gotten me through these tough days.

"I intend to stand for what I believe is right and that's why I will fight to be back on the tennis court as soon as possible."

The ITF will not appeal against the tribunal's decision.

However, the World Anti-Doping Agency (Wada) said it would "review the decision, including its reasoning" and decide whether to appeal.

Nike, which suspended its relationship with Sharapova in January, said it would "continue to



BANNED: Maria Sharapova.

partner" the Russian, based on the tribunal's findings.

Sharapova was Forbes' highest-paid female athlete for 11 consecutive years, until Williams moved above her this year. The American made £28.9m from winnings and endorsements to Sharapova's £21.9m.

Aged 17, Sharapova became the first Russian to win Wimbledon in 2004, added the US Open in 2006 and the Australian Open in 2008, before completing a career Grand Slam with the French Open title in 2012. **BBC**

Banned Platini allowed to attend EURO 2016

PARIS - Banned UEFA president Michel Platini will be allowed to attend matches at the coming European soccer championship providing he does not do it in any official role, the European governing body's acting general secretary said on Wednesday.

"We received a letter today [from Fifa] telling us Michel could attend matches as a person, providing he does not do so in any official function", Theodore Theodoridis told a pre-tournament news conference.

The European body had asked Fifa what the exact terms were for Platini's current suspension from football-related activities.

The executive committee of Uefa will now rule on a demand to invite Platini for the entire tournament, Theodoridis added.

"As for today, I don't expect he will be there," he said, referring to the opening game between France and Romania at Stade de France.

A Uefa official said Platini was not planning to attend any matches at this point.

Uefa will hold an election in September to choose a replacement for Platini, meaning the European body will not have a president during the showpiece from today to 10 July in France.

Platini, a former France international regarded as one of the finest players of his generation, was one of the sport's most powerful figures until he was engulfed by the soccer scandal that hit the sport's world governing body, FIFA. **ENCA**



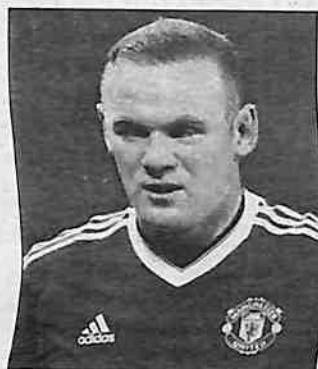
FREE PASS: UEFA president Michel Platini.

Rooney rules out Man United exit

MANCHESTER - England striker Wayne Rooney says it is highly unlikely that a scenario would arise causing him to switch allegiances to any Premier League side other than Manchester United or boyhood club Everton in the future.

The 30-year-old, who will captain his country at the European Championship in France, joined United as an 18-year-old from Everton in August 2004, in a move that drew criticism from sections of the Goodison Park fan base.

However, Rooney, who has



STAYING PUT: England striker Wayne Rooney.

won five league titles with United, thanked both the clubs for their support throughout his career.

"Manchester United and Everton are the only clubs I have played for as a professional footballer," he told United's club website (www.manutd.com).

"I am happy to say now that, whatever may happen in the future, I will never play for another Premier League club.

"Everton and United, along with my family, gave me the support and opportunity to help me achieve my goals and dreams.

Rooney's only two league clubs will face off in his testimonial at Old Trafford on August 3. **Supersport**

LeBron grows brighter while Curry seems to fade

CLEVELAND - All along LeBron James pushed back against the conventional wisdom from all corners: the all-knowing Phil Jackson, to the egg avatar seen in Twitter accounts.

You know the storyline, that LeBron had to dig deep and uncork another one of his instant classic playoff performances to get the Cleveland Cavaliers back into the NBA Finals. He'd tried it that way before, spent the past two NBA Finals trying to live up to those standards, and it failed to add to his ring collection.

Not even the news that Kevin Love would be held out because he had not cleared the concussion protocol for the head injury he suffered in Game 2 was enough to lure LeBron into hero mode. James has always attempted to involve everyone, even at times to his detriment, unless absolutely

necessary, and he remained in that mode. If the Cavaliers were going to get their first victory in these Finals it would have to be collectively.

J.R. Smith took the Cavaliers' first shot, a 3-pointer that missed. Kyrie Irving scored their first points, then 14 more in the first quarter. Somewhere in the mix LeBron made his first four shots and the Cavaliers were rolling, off to a 33-13 lead that left few moments of doubt before the 120-90 final score.

"I didn't change my approach and I didn't take over this game," James said. "Kyrie pretty much took over the game, especially early and late. He closed the game out. He started the game, and I just sprinkled in my production along the whole game." Irving broke into a smile at this, perhaps at the notion of the greatest force in

the game today merely dropping in his contributions like a worker in a frozen yogurt store adding toppings to a customer's order. The moment passed, the smile left Irving's face, and James had one more point to make before he finished: "I just try to lead these guys to victory." No doubt, this was about Tristan Thompson's pounding his way to seven offensive rebounds — one shy of the Warriors' collective effort — as strong an indication of how the Cavaliers simply had more want-to.

It was about Irving personally outscoring the Splash Brothers, 30-29. It was Smith making five of his 10 3-pointers while continuing the strong perimeter defense that has kept Klay Thompson and Stephen Curry in check. It was all of that in addition to LeBron's 32 points, 11 rebounds and six assists. **ESPN**

England call still seems unreal - Rashford

MANCHESTER - Manchester United's 18-year-old striker Marcus Rashford admits being a member of England's Euro 2016 squad still feels like a dream.

Rashford was the surprise selection in Roy Hodgson's squad after a rapid rise from United's youth team to first-team regular, having only made his debut in February.

"When I first went into the changing room and saw all of the players' names on the back of their shirts, it didn't seem real," Rashford said in an interview alongside club and national captain Wayne Rooney on the Football Association's website.

"I remember going home after and speaking to my brother about it, and he agreed with me. He didn't think it was real either. That's what it's like until you get used to it."

Rashford marked his Manchester United debut with two goals against Denmark's Midtjylland in the Europa League in February, then scored two more in his Premier League debut against Arsenal.

He scored again on his England debut in the first few minutes of a friendly against Australia last month.

"(At Christmas) I was actually trying to work my way into (United's) under-21s side and all of a sudden I appeared in the first team. You have to be ready when your chance comes," he said.

Supersport

Le Clos in top form on French tour

JOHANNESBURG - Chad le Clos' impressive performance on the latest leg of the Mare Nostrum tour saw the South African win the event in Southern France.

Le Clos set a new series record when he won the 100 metre butterfly touching the wall in 51.56 seconds to finish ahead of Steffen Deibler.

Another South African Myles Brown scored two podium finishes in the event, finishing second in the 200 metre freestyle behind Frenchman Yannick Agnel and third in the men's 400 metre freestyle final.

Cameron van der Burgh narrowly missed out on victory in the men's 100 metre breaststroke.

He was edged out by Brazil's Felipe Franca da Silva and had to settle for second place. **eNCA**



NEW RECORD: Chad le Clos.

Weekend Sports Fixtures

Compiled by Sanele Jele

COSAFA Castle Cup

Tomorrow at San Nujoma Stadium

Zimbabwe vs Swaziland 3pm

SRIC Darts League E50 000

Tomorrow at Zakhele Hall

Correctional vs Scandza 4pm

Kilowatts vs RSSC 4pm

Railway vs Ecco Water 4pm

Kilowatts B vs RSP 4pm

Tomorrow at Zakhele Hall

Scandza vs Kilowatts A 6pm

Ecco Water vs Correctional 6pm

Kilowatts B vs RSSC 6pm

Kilowatts Ladies vs Manzini CC 6pm

Milky Max Mbabane Juniors League E10 000

UNITED SPORTS- Tomorrow

Swallows vs Thembelihle (U13) 8am

PMT vs Dynamos (U13) 9am

Hellenic vs Umbelebele (U15) 10am

J Stars vs All Stars (U15) 11am

Mphalati vs Checkers (U15) 12pm

Mbabane East Knockout Juniors League

Tomorrow at Police Sports Ground

Hurricane vs Imbumba (U17) 8:30am

Dynamos vs SOS Brothers (U17) 9:30am

Hurricane vs Lusoti (U15) 10:30am

Hurricane vs Mphalati (U20) 11:30am

Hellenic vs Sivutsa (U20) 12:30am

Wailers vs Dynamos (U20) 13:30am

Tomorrow at Msunduzi Sports Ground

Umbelebele vs Dark City (U17) 8:30am

Umbelebele vs New Stars (U20) 9:30am

Mpolonjeni vs Super Sport (U15) 10:30am

Super Sport vs Red Stars (U20) 11:30am

Citizens vs All Stars (U17) 12:30am

Tomorrow at Sidwashini Sports Ground

Mpolonjeni vs M Celtic (U20) 8:30am

Volcano vs M Citizens (U20) 9:30am

Mpolonjeni vs Lophohlo (U20) 10:30am

Flying Stars vs Celtics (U20) 11:30am

All Out Lobamba Juniors League E10 000

Tomorrow at Lobamba Sports Ground

Emajukujuku vs Sunrise (U13) 9am

Vicious Lions vs F. Stars (U13) 9:50am

Real Masters vs SUB (U13) 10:35am

V. Lions vs Y. Bombers (U13) 11:20am

Tinyosi vs Gunners (U13) 12:10pm

Tomorrow at Lobamba Sports Ground

Ground A

Y. Bombers vs F. Stars (U15) 9am

Sunrise vs Majukujuku (U15) 10am

Fast Reaction vs F. Stars (U15) 11am

Tomorrow at Lobamba Sports Ground

Ground B

SUB vs Z. Aces (U15) 9am

Tinyosi vs Gunners (U15) 10am

Real Masters vs Power Stars (U15) 11am

Chaps Soka Nawe Soccer Challenge Hhohho Fa Cup

Northern Zone

Sunday at Killarney Sports Ground

Horo Spinners vs Black Swallows 1pm

Skom Boyz vs Vultures 3pm

SOUTHERN Zone

Tomorrow at Prince Of Wales

Tinyosi vs Mv. Invaders 1pm

Vovovo vs Sibuyeni 3pm

Hhohho Regional Play-Offs

Northern Zone

Tomorrow Killarney Sports Ground

Soccer Rose vs Pachanga 10am

Nkonjaneni vs Super Aces 12pm

Seven Stars vs Yong Rovers 2pm

Southern Zone

Sunday at Prince of Wales

Nhl. Cosmos vs shooting Stars 10am

Sunrise vs Burning Spear 12pm

PMT vs Billy Ocean 2pm

Sigcaweni Football League

Tomorrow at Enhlahlani Sports Ground

Sisonkhe vs T.K.Zee 12pm

Wizards vs Heroes 2pm

Tomorrow at Sigcaweni Sports Ground

Lubhuku vs Emashekeshe 12pm

Classic vs D.XI 2pm

Sunday at Enhlahlani Sports Ground

Choppers vs P.G Rangers 10am

XI Experience vs Thuluzobona 12pm

Kasi Warriors vs Bombers 2pm

Sunday at Sigcaweni Sports Ground

Mdumezulu vs Tech-spurs 12pm

Young Aces vs Lovers 2pm

Schools battle it out in Futsal tournament

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCER – SCHOOLS in the Manzini region will battle it out in the Futsal tournament to be hosted by the National Football of Swaziland (NFAS) today.

The games will be played at LaMvelase Tennis Courts in Manzini, starting at 12noon. The first game of the tournament will see Mjinggo High take on Ngwane High school. In their second game, Mjinggo will lock horns with rivals St Michaels at 1.20pm while Ngwane have a date with Swazi National at 2pm in the men's category.

Futsal is a fast-paced 5-A-Side soccer game that is widely played across the world and is officially recognized by FIFA. This is one of the development programmes that the NFAS uses in the development of football in the country. The skills



FACILITATOR: Bhekisisa 'Bizzah' Mkhonta.

and techniques of Futsal are directly transferable to the 11-A-Side game while also incorporating the principles of attack and defence. The fixtures are as follows:

NFAS Muzi Hadebe said the association would also be conducting coaching courses in the region, starting on Monday.

He said the courses would be held at the Manzini Regional Football Association (MRFA) offices.

"These courses are License D which will be facilitated by TD Bhekisisa 'Bizzah' Mkhonta while the NFAS Certificate Phase 2 will be facilitated by Anthony Mdluli. The target audience for the License D course are phase 2 holders nationwide while the phase 2 course will require the phase 1 holders to attend without fail," he said.

The fixtures

Women

Mjinggo	vs	Ngwane	12noon
Ngwane	vs	St Michaels	12:40pm
St Michael's	vs	Mjinggo	13:20pm

Men

Swazi National	vs	Ngwane	2pm
Ngwane	vs	St Pauls	2:40pm
St Pauls	vs	Swazi National	15:20pm

Schools' women tournament at Tambankulu

SOCCER – FOOTBALL lovers in the Lubombo Region will be treated to some action when local schools battle it out in the Women Football tournament tomorrow.

The tournament hosted by the National Football Association of Swaziland through the Women Football Association (WFA) will be played at the Tambankulu Stadium, starting at 10am.

NFAS Media Officer Muzi Hadebe said the main purposes of these games were to introduce and popularize football to young girls in the country.

He urged the nation to take advantage of the football development programmes as this would contribute to them having successful careers in football and also enjoy healthy life styles.

"Lastly, the business community is



IT'S ON: Women football players during a previous game.

also encouraged to invest in these football development programmes

as football is the perfect vehicle for brand exposure," he said.

The fixtures:			
Vuvulane	vs	Mhlume	10am
Mafucula	vs	Nkalashane	10am
Dlalilile	vs	Lusoti	11:15am
Mhlume	vs	Mafucula	11:15am
Nkalashane	vs	Dlalilile	12:30 pm
Lusoti	vs	Vuvulane	12:30pm

Mbabane Raiders netball team off to Katlehong

By Qondile Ntiwane

NETBALL – MBABANE Raiders Netball Club will represent the country during an international netball tournament to be held in Katlehong, South Africa.

Over 10 players were selected to be part of the tournament to start on June 16 to 19.

Interviewed yesterday, the team's senior coach Themba Dlamini said their mission as a club was to expose and have their players compete at the highest level.

He said the tournament was one of the platforms in-line with their calling.

The selected players include Nonkululeko Sihlongonyane, Zinhle Dlamini, Lindokuhle Nyawo, Phindile Malambe, Thusi Bhembe, Twin Sibandze and Kate Magongo, among others.

"Our club has been working to provide new opportunities to young netballers within Mbabane which is one of the most vulnerable areas in terms of drugs and substance abuse, teenage pregnancy and HIV and AIDS. We also organise local and national

level competitions and try to include more youngsters in this game.

"Throughout various competitions our players become strong and stand for the difficult situations in future life. We have a simple philosophy of building to help young generation become healthy in both mental and physical level."

The Mbabane Raiders Netball Club (MRNC) was founded in 1999 and currently is a team composed of 31 players aged between 14 to 35 years old playing in the Swaziland National Netball Association A League. MRNC has built the team in collaboration with the schools around Mbabane through promoting the game of netball and encouraging youngsters to participate in various netball competitions in the country.

The squad:

Nonkululeko Sihlongonyane
Twin Sibandze
Thusi Bhembe
Pholiswa Kunene
Zinhle Dlamini
Lindokuhle Nyawo
Phindile Malambe
Kate Magongo
Mbali Gwebu
Ntsiki Hlatjwako
Nomsa Mthupha



ACTION: Netball players in action. Mbabane Raiders Netball Club will represent the country during an international netball tournament to be held in Katlehong, South Africa.



DU'S CORNER

'THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT'

WITH
DUMSANE SIBANDZE

PLS Youth Development
Communications Manager



WHAT A GREAT FOOTBALL SHOW!

FROM the King's Super Cup to the SwaziTelecom Charity Cup, followed by the Castle Premier Challenge, the Ingwenyama Cup and the SwaziBank Cup.

All this nail biting action is experienced at the heart of the ever pulsating MTN Premier League.

Yes, Swazi soccer fanatics were treated to a real show this year and we are ecstatic with all the great performances and show-downs that we had. From the directors of the teams, who dug deep into the reserves to make this happen at the clubs, we salute that spirit.

We have seen young and upcoming football administrators maturing like wine and coming onto the big stage, claiming a stake like they have been around for a long time.

We thank you directors and your management committees for ensuring that every football weekend was worthwhile throughout the season.

We also salute the players, who religiously went out to the battle field to display heart-warming performances. We are happy to see that our players have indeed come of age. It was really exciting to see the boys tear at each other on the field much to the appreciation of the crowds. The players have earned back the reputation that Swazi football once had and we are proud of them.

Finally to the supporters, you were a marvel to watch and in fact you added the much desired colour to the whole show.



I know that at times you had to take things with a heavy heart, but believe me the live-wire in the game is a result of your presence in the stadiums. You continued to grow in your numbers and indeed our stadiums were a warm place all the time you were there.

Now continue carrying the baton and graduate from being a fan and be a supporter as we look forward to attaining professional status, come 2022. You are a great asset to the game and once again thank you football family. To the match officials, we are grateful for the decisions that you took in all the games. You stood there with integrity and all the time displayed great sportsmanship and we are happy to have you in the game.

THE PLS SPONSORS

For the first time in a long while, we had five tournaments in our football calendar and that kept us busy until the last day. First I must shout Bayethe Wena Waphakathi to His Majesty King Mswati III, the host of the King's Super Cup and Ingwenyama Cup. What a spectacular show.

Indeed the king lived up to his name, Makhosetive when he brought the entire world to Somhlolo National Stadium in the King's Super Cup where for the first time we saw Orlando Pirates and Kaizer Chiefs playing in a tournament outside their country.

Where we saw the ministry of sports, culture and youth affairs operating in

... The curtain has fallen...what a spectacular show

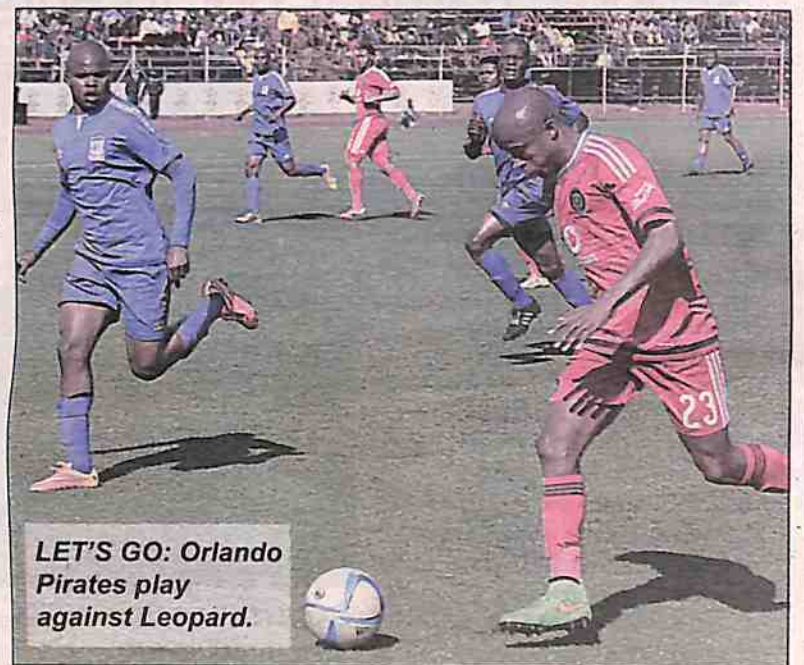


BAYETHE: King Mswati III posing with Orlando Pirates and Kaizer Chiefs officials.

its totality, for the first time in history of the new ministry, we saw sports and culture in one venue. Only the King could achieve such a feat and we are proud of you Mbangazitha.

Thank you Swazi MTN for the 15 years of yellow football fever, thank you Swazi Post and Telecommunications for the 13 years of great football and we hope usatosi setha mo!!! All hail the SwaziBank for 13 years of great spectacles indeed 'NgiyoNgiyo'. We salute Swaziland Beverages for the three years of mouth-watering competition and indeed with them siyinqaba. We welcome the Ingwenyama Cup into the great football family and hope that their first year in the beautiful game was worth it, indeed we have buckled up for more.

We are grateful to Esibayeni Lodge, who decided to go against the odds and invest in the future of the beautiful game. Our children are playing and they are happy to do that and that is courtesy of Esibayeni Lodge. We are happy to have Swazis, who invest in the



LET'S GO: Orlando Pirates play against Leopard.

future and together we will make sure we have great football stars.

THE PLS EXECUTIVE

May I also take this opportunity to thank the PLS executive for such a wonderful football season.

We know that it has not been an easy thing to do and some of you have spent sleepless nights, trying to ensure that we have a great season. You have delivered the best season ever in the history of our football and we hope it can only get better from here. We are honoured to have men of such great wisdom

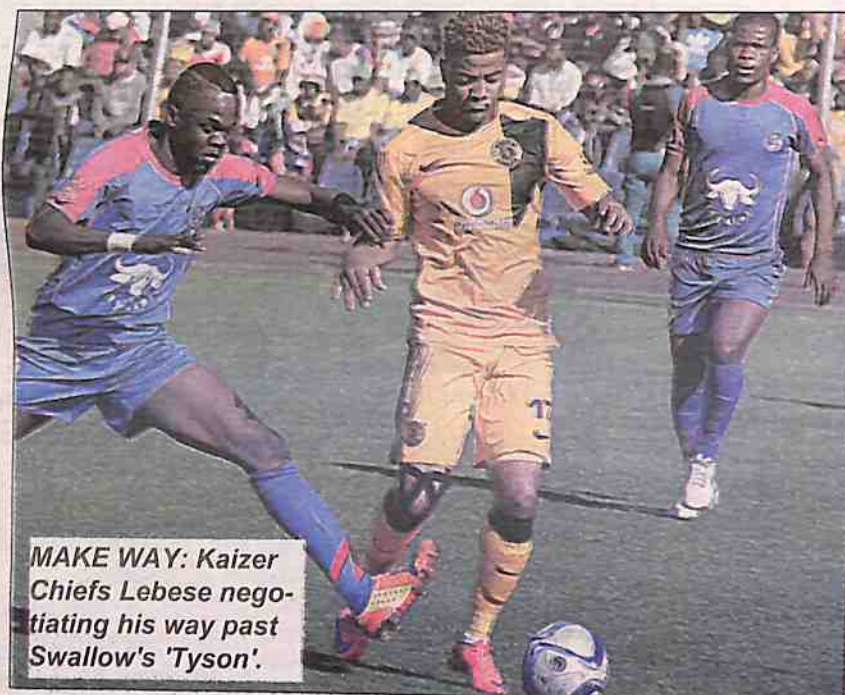
in our game, who have made it a point that we as supporters of the beautiful game are served with an exciting game of football everytime we come to the stadiums.

THE PLS CEO

Now that the games are over, may I take this opportunity to advise both the players and supporters to take their much deserved break from football.

Replenish their energy and wait for the start of the new season. Avoid things that may compromise your career. This message is also relevant to my hardworking staff at the premier league.

I thank you all.



MAKE WAY: Kaizer Chiefs Lebese negotiating his way past Swallow's 'Tyson'.

Official Sponsor

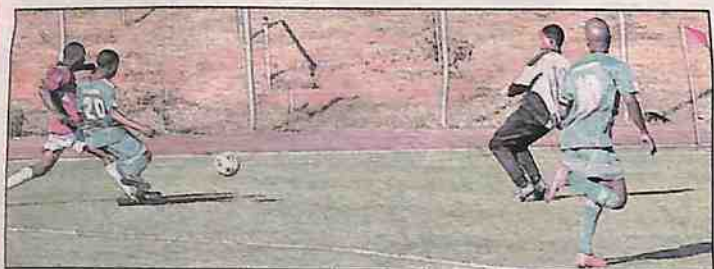
SCHOOLS BALL GAMES CLASH AT SOMHLOLO STADIUM



POUND FOR POUND: St. Francis striker battling for the ball with Elangeni defender.



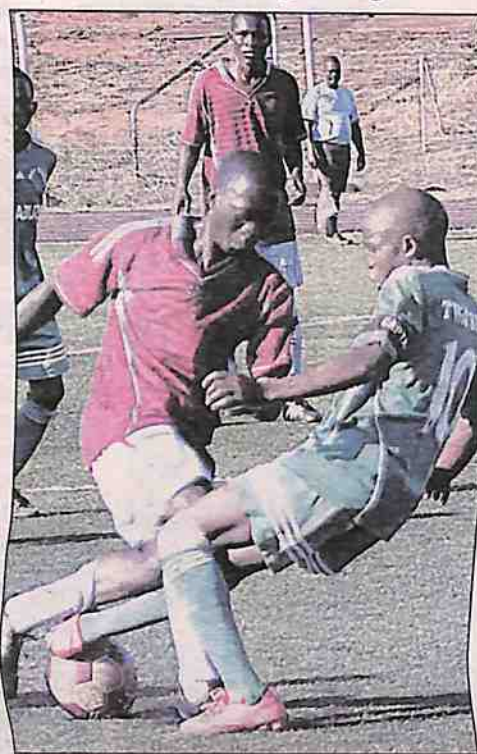
GAME ON: Both teams looking ready before the start of the match. This was a game played at Somhlolo National Stadium between St. Francis and Elangeni High.



GOAL: Wandile Mabuza of Jubukweni scoring the 4th goal during their game against Londunduma and the final score was 4-2.



(R) DANGEROUS PLAY: Londuduma defender almost broke the opponent's leg. This kind of tackles are not allowed in a match.



TIGHT MARKING: Jubukweni mid fielder trying to get the ball from his opponent. (Pics: Dumisani Mnyakeni)



SAMBA JIVE: Jubukweni players celebrating one of their goals during their game with St Francis.

THE PENALTY SHOT



SAVE: The goal-keeper trying to save a penalty.



OH NO: He let the ball slip in his hands.

SECOND CHANCE: The goal-keeper trying to catch the ball for the second time.



POACHER: The striker eventually got the ball and scored.

OFF TO THE SEMIS: A Jubukweni player celebrating their victory.



DEJECTED FACES: St. Francis pupils didn't get enough smiles as their team got a severe 6-0 thrashing from Elangeni.



HAPPY PEOPLE: Elangeni pupils were in jovial mood throughout the game during their quarter finals against St. Francis.

football talk

all your latest world football news

■ Manchester United may have to pay a British-record £78m to sign 23-year-old Juventus midfielder Paul Pogba - four years after the France international left Old Trafford for £800 000. (*Daily Mirror*)

■ Manchester City have ended their interest in France international Pogba. (*Guardian*)

■ Liverpool could table a late bid to rival Arsenal's in the chase for Leicester striker Jamie Vardy, 29. (*Daily Star*)



■ Chelsea forward Diego Costa, 27, wants to return to Atletico Madrid this summer, according to the Spanish club's president. (*Antena 3 Sports, via Metro*)

■ Antonio Conte wants to make Juventus right-back Stephan Lichtsteiner, 32, his first signing as Chelsea manager. (*Sun*)

■ The Blues are considering a move for £31m-rated Marseille striker Michy Batshuayi, 22. (*Daily Mirror*)

■ Roma midfielder Radja Nainggolan, 28, has spoken to Conte about moving to Chelsea and says his Belgium team-mates Eden Hazard and Thibaut Courtois have urged him to move to Stamford Bridge. (*Daily Telegraph*)

■ Manchester City boss Pep Guardiola is not allowed to sign any players from Bayern Munich, according to the German champions' midfielder Douglas Costa, 25. (*Globo Esporte, via Manchester Evening News*)



■ City are considering activating the £40m release clause in 22-year-old defender Aymeric Laporte's Athletic Bilbao contract. (*Daily Mirror*)

■ Southampton are prepared to offer former Ajax boss Frank de Boer a £3m annual salary to stave off rival interest from Italian side Lazio. (*Daily Express*)

■ After signing 22-year-old Eric Bailly from Villarreal, Manchester United want to recruit another defender. (*Manchester Evening News*)

Minister of sports to grace Emakholo final on Sunday

Stories by Dumsani Mnyakeni

SOCCKER - MINISTER of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs, David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala is expected to be part of the dignitaries to grace the 3rd edition of Emakholo E75 000 Lubombo knock-out final pitting Illovo against Rail United slated for Mayaluka Stadium on Sunday.

Interviewed on Wednesday morning, Competitions Committee Chairman, Mduduzi Vilakati, said the minister had been invited to grace the final alongside NFAS President, Adam 'Bomber' Mthethwa, NFAS CEO, Frederick Mngomezulu and Mahle

Emakholo Company Managing Director, December Mavimbela amongst the dignitaries.

Vilakati thanked all the relevant stakeholders for the relentless effort in ensuring that this tournament reached this stage without any problems. He assured that everything had been put in place for the big day on Sunday.

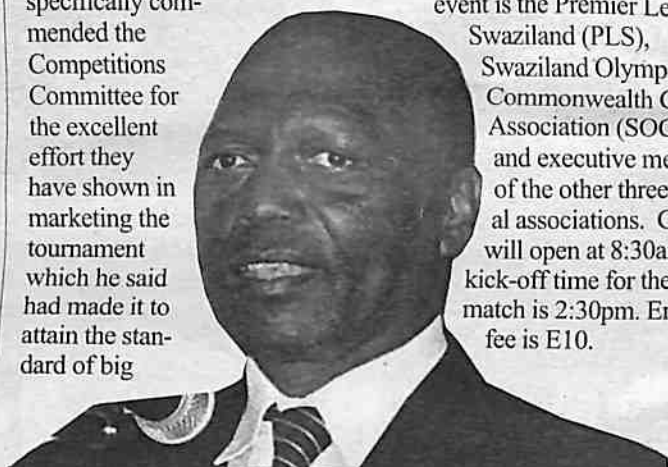
"The fact that the tournament has been violence-free is a testimony that everything has been going smoothly in as far as running the competition is concerned."

He further commended the teams for demonstrating good behaviour throughout the tournament in that they also followed the rules of the game to the letter. While in the same vein, the

chairman urged the finalists to continue showing such good behaviour even on Sunday. He specifically commended the Competitions Committee for the excellent effort they have shown in marketing the tournament which he said had made it to attain the standard of big

competitions like the SwaziBank Cup.

Also invited to be part of the event is the Premier League of Swaziland (PLS), Swaziland Olympic and Commonwealth Games Association (SOCGA) and executive members of the other three regional associations. Gates will open at 8:30am and kick-off time for the main match is 2:30pm. Entrance fee is E10.



GUEST: Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs, David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala.

Fierce competition by teams commended

SOCCKER - A fierce competition by the participating teams has been witnessed in this year's Emakholo Knock-out tournament as compared to the last edition.

According to Competitions Committee Chairman, Mduduzi Vilakati, the participating teams have shown high level of determination as the battle for honours take centre stage.

Vilakati noted the fact that two regional teams in Shewula Arsenal and Chesterville were able to reach the last four, albeit at the expense of Super League teams, who bit the dust along the way was testimony that there was an improvement in terms of competitiveness. He further attributed the



COMMENDED: Competitions Committee Chairman, Mduduzi Vilakati.

improved performance of Northern zone teams to the support of RSSC, which

sponsored the league to ensure that it remains competitive with such motivating incentives.

Vilakati, who was also the chairman even last year, urged the two finalists to display top shelf football to give the spectators their money's worth on Sunday.

Illovo and Rail United meet for the second time in the history of the tournament, having met at the same venue last year where the Big Bend side emerged 2-1 victors. Illovo reach the final after beating Chesterville 2-0 while United beat Shewula Arsenal 3-0 in the semi-finals.

Throngs of football followers are expected to cascade the stadium on Sunday as both teams have vowed to tear each other apart.

SHEWULA ARSENAL, CHESTERVILLE E3 500 RICHER

SOCCKER - SHEWULA Arsenal and Chesterville are each guaranteed a cheque of E3 500 after reaching the semi-finals of the Emakholo E75 000 Lubombo Knock-out tournament.

Both regional teams were booted out by Super League teams in the semi-finals of the lucrative tournament.

According to the prize break-down, semi-finals losers are entitled to E3 000 while best finisher from the zones gets E1 000.

However, in this case, both Arsenal and Chesterville are

from the regions, which effectively mean they will get E500 each from the total amount of E1000, totaling their dues to E3500 thus far.

Arsenal proved to be the giant killers as they knocked out Super League teams throughout their journey before they were stopped dead on their tracks by Rail United, who pummeled them 3-0.

The Shewula side beat Super League ensemble Barcelona in the preliminary round, before they ousted another Super League team

in Dangerous Darkies in the last 16.

Next in their line of fire was 2016 SwaziBank Cup participants, CPL whom they sent packing via the penalty shoot-out.

Beat

On the other side, Chesterville beat Swazi Trac Lubombo Super League champions, City Warriors in the last 32, and then fellow zonal league side, Shewula Classic in the last 16 before they beat Super League side, Young Aces in the quarter-final to reach the last four.

Moneni Pirates to curtain raise in Emakholo final

SOCCKER - Returnees Premier League side, Moneni Pirates will flex muscles with Lubombo pick team in a curtain raiser for the 2016 Emakholo E75 000 Lubombo knock-out final pitting Illovo against Rail United at Mayaluka on Sunday.



The Buccaneers which are under the directorship of December Mavimbela, who is ironically the tournament sponsor, Mahle Emakholo Managing Director is expected to field their full strength squad to keep the spectators entertained prior to the main match.

This was revealed by Competition Committee Chairman, Mduduzi Vilakati during an interview on Wednesday. Vilakati invited football followers to be part of the big day and urged everyone to keep time as there would be a lot of entertainment in terms of football action.

Alcohol banned inside stadium

SOCCKER - FOOTBALL fans are not expected to carry alcohol in bottles inside the stadium unless they are in plastic containers.

Warning spectators ahead of the Emakholo final on Sunday, Competitions Committee Chairman, Mduduzi Vilakati, urged everyone to co-operate with the security officers to ensure that this arrangement was followed. Vilakati highlighted that even though the two teams to play in the final had a good history of discipline, he could not cease to urge teams to monitor their fans so as to curb any form of violence.

'Let us not use soccer as a campaigning tool'

By Sanele Jele

SOCCKER - HHUKWINI Member of Parliament, Saladin Magagula, has come out to say that soccer should not be used as a campaigning tool.

Magagula made these remarks during the Mdzimba Regional prize presentation at Sigwaca House on Tuesday.

"Soccer has been used as a campaigning tool by some MPs. We all know that they try to get votes through staging soccer tournaments especially when voting time is around the corner. This must come to a stop."

The MP said members of the public turn to vote for those who sponsor soccer tournaments.

"This is not the way to go because soon after attaining the votes, they forget about the voters and this has been going on for all these years."

Magagula said the National Football Association of Swaziland (NFAS) should assist regional associations for this practice to come to an end.

"This keeps on happening because



NOT CAMPAIGNING:
Hhukwini MP Saladin Magagula.

the MPs take advantage of the void that the NFAS should fill. If the football mother body can assist teams in terms of sponsorships, I am sure these bad practices can stop. Right now there is little that we get from NFAS and I urge the FA to meet us halfway through the FIFA funds that they receive."

He then applauded companies and organisations, who injected money into regional leagues.

"We call for more companies to assist in the development of football in the country."

The MP further urged the Mdzimba Regional League committee to support the teams that have been promoted to the Super League.

"We need to be united as a region; let us support the Super League bound teams. These teams do not only need to be supported financially. We can assist by giving them players and soccer gear among other things."

He also pleaded with the HRFA to help with getting a proper sports ground as the one they were using was not in good condition.

Speaking on behalf of the HRFA, Chairman Comfort Shongwe said they would work hard to improve the regions.

"I can say it now that we will always offer our services where we can. For example, we will pay for fuel whenever a grader is around Mdzimba area. May I also highlight that the NFAS was in full support of the regional associations."

He said they would continue to provide courses and assisting with referees.

"We urge teams to take these courses seriously and empower themselves. I also want to thank MP Magagula for sponsoring the league."

Swallows NSC to open new branch at Luve

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCKER - THE Mbabane Swallows National Supporters Committee (NSC) is looking at spreading its wings and will be opening a new branch at Luve.

The committee's secretary Jackson Dlamini invited supporters of the team in surrounding areas to attend, without fail, a meeting to be held at

KaLamawandla High School, starting at 2pm tomorrow.

"We are inviting supporters to come in great numbers to this

very important meeting. Top of the agenda will be the election of the branch executive committee," he said.

Dlamini said the opening of branches would be their main objective during the off-season.

"We have made it our responsibility to go

around the country and open new branches. Our supporters are also welcome to invite us if they see the need of having a branch in their respective communities.

"We therefore

urge the people of Luve to come so they can build their own and also continue to build the Swallows brand and take it to greater heights," he said.

Our supporters are also welcome to invite us if they see the need of having a branch in their respective communities.

Snip

Municipalities Shukuma hits Mankayane

By Sanele Jele

SPORTS - MANKAYANE folk will be delighted to learn that the first edition of the revitalising Shukuma in this quarter will hit the town next Saturday.

Swaziland National Sport and Recreation Council Media Officer Dumisani Ntiwane said their next stop was Mankayane.

He said this would give the people of the area and surrounding areas a chance of not only exercising their bodies but to 'shake what their mamas gave them'.

"In a bid to make the day an unforgettable one, the Swaziland National Sports and Recreation Council has partnered with PSI Swaziland, the Mankayane Government Hospital, the Royal Swaziland Police and of course the Mankayane Town Board."

Activities on the day will start as early as 8am until noon. The venue will be the Mankayane Sports Ground.

"As council, we expect the first of only two editions of Shukuma this quarter to have a telling impact on the lives of the people of Mankayane and surrounding areas. We can assure them that their lives will not be the same after the session. It has been a long time since this town, one of the oldest has been in the spotlight and we do hope a number of people will join us for the fun filled day, as we seek to exercise our bodies in encouraging a healthy lifestyle."

The first activity on the day will be 5km walk that will start from the Mankayane Sports Ground to Ka Deda towards Sicunusa.

"After the walk, which we hope



LET'S STAY FIT:
Swaziland National Sport and Recreation Council Media Officer Dumisani Ntiwane.

will go a long way towards stretching those muscles, interested people will have the chance of taking part in an aerobic session, athletics, kiddies athletics, rope skipping and a host of other fun games that include tug of war, sack race, egg race and other indigenous games," said Ntiwane.

The draw card will definitely be the Correctional Services' tug-of-war team that will have it tough against the SNRSC side, the police and Mankayane Town Board teams.

"This is supposed to be a family fun day so parents should not dare leave their children behind because all ages will be catered for. We will have a number of activities including the passive recreation kind of games like umlabalaba and other board games."

He said doors were wide open for business people, who would like to partner with them on the day to contact their marketing office at numbers 24041590/76072323 where their willing officers would attend to them promptly.

EURO 2016 sees DSTV decoders flying off the shelves

By Dumsani Mnyakeni

SOCCKER - WITH the much awaited EURO 2016 starting today, local retail outlets have registered an increase in their sales as people rush to get themselves decoders before the start of the tournament.

A number of retail outlets have doubled their sales since the month began according Chumana Electronics Sales Manager Harrison Gama.

"We are experiencing a tremendous period because our sales, especially for DSTV have doubled. DSTV kits that we have put aside for the promotion are almost out of stock."

He said more people were coming to their shop for the DSTV kits.

"We are getting a lot of customers with most buying the DSTV kit as you can see for yourself. Just this month, we have sold a lot of decoders than usual. We are selling them at E650 plus E250 installation fee when you stay around Mbabane," Gama said.

Monaf, another prominent DSTV decoders' provider said they had also realised a big turn up of customers at their outlets.

He attributed this to the Euro 2016 but also because of their favourable prices that were affordable for everyone.

"This has been our best season as all our sales outlets are reporting an increase in sales. The Euro 2016 is going to be good for everyone



MONEY MAKER: Chumana Electronics Sales Manager Harrison Gama.

because as we enjoy the profits from our sales, we pledge to make sure that our customers enjoy quality TV services."

Different companies have dispatched their sales persons all over town. The sales people are also excited about the big number of sales they make as this earns them more commission.

We then interviewed some of those, who were buying the DSTV decoders.

This is what they said:
Rah Mkhwanazi:

"I have been putting money aside to buy the decoder just to watch the Euro 2016 Championship. I am a Cristiano Ronaldo fan and I can't wait to see how Portugal fares in this championship. I will be watching this tournament in the comfort of my house."

Sipho Dlamini

"I cannot wait for the Euro 2016 to start now that I have my own DSTV



CONSUMER: Rah Mkhwanazi.

kit. I am a big fan of Spain and I bet they will win this tournament. I have been without a decoder for some time and I could not miss this great tournament, so that is why I am buying the decoder."

About UEFA EURO 2016:

The UEFA European Championship hosted by France will see different soccer stars around Europe battling it up once again. The second most watched tournament around the globe held every four years will see a maximum of 24 countries divided into six groups of four for the first time in the history of the championship. The winners of the championship earn the opportunity to compete in the FIFA Confederations Cup. In 2012 the championship was watched by over 300 million people around the globe and the most successful teams are Germany and Spain sharing three titles in between them, however the defending champions Spain is the only country to win the championship twice in a row.

December is here to stay - Moneni Pirates elders

By Qondile Ntiwane

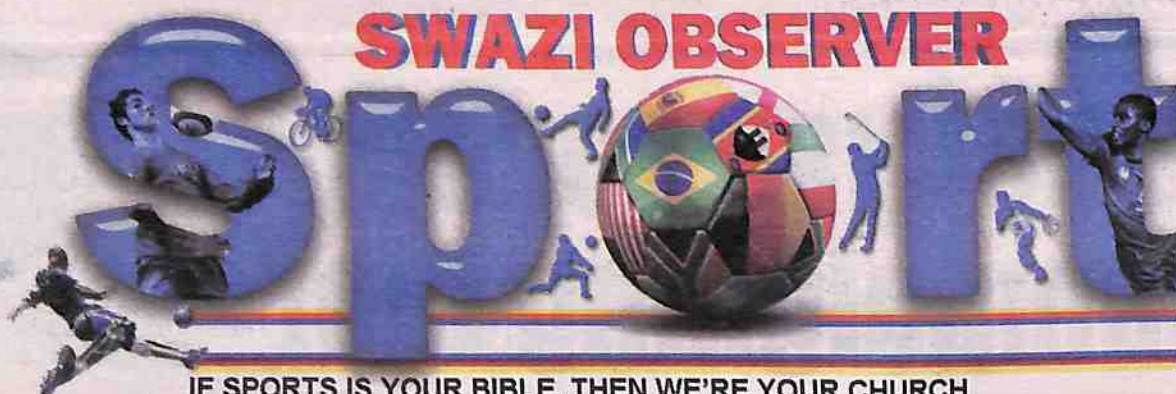
SOCCER – MONENI Pirates elders have told opportunists (ematsabela-ngoti) to forget about ousting team MD December Mavimbela.

The Council of Elders made this assertion during a press briefing convened at the Matsenjwa homestead at Moneni in Manzini yesterday. This follows an alleged coup by some of the team's former officials, who are said to want the MD out of the team in order to give way to a SA business tycoon said to be interested in sponsoring the Moneni ensemble. One of the team elders, Msomi Mtsetfwa, said they were disturbed to learn of a coup to oust Mavimbela, who had been given a go ahead to lead the team next season.

Mtsetfwa said they were not against sponsors or other people wanting to assist the team but stated that these people would have to use the appropriate structures within the team. "We were very disturbed by this move or coup against the MD. Mavimbela, who is a Moneni Pirates in and out, is still very much a part of the team and people should forget about him going anywhere. This is not to say we don't want people to be part of the team but there is a right way to do that. The Moneni Pirates structure starts with the Matsenjwa family at the top followed by the Council of Elders, the MD, MC, players and supporters. Anything with regards to matters of the team should be communicated or done through these structures," he said.

Another elder, Telephone Dlamini, echoed Mtsetfwa and apologised to all those disturbed by the news. "It was not our wish to dwell much on this issue but we had to clear the air on this matter. We want sponsors but everything should be done in the open. We have met with him and discussed his future in the team and he is now drafting a plan for the upcoming season.

Meanwhile, Alfred Sibanyoni, who is the co-founder of the team, said he was happy with the running of the team. "We started the club in 1968 and did our best in making it the team it is today. We have grown old and it is these young boys, who are responsible for the team now and I must say I am happy with the way they are doing things," he said. Others present during the briefing include former players Sanele 'Cyclone' Gina, Mashu-bashuba Dlamini, Osbourne Nzima and head of the team gogo Katherine Matsenjwa and her son Zweli.



IF SPORTS IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE'RE YOUR CHURCH

Friday June 10, 2016



FELIX IN DEMAND IN SOUTH AFRICA

By Dumsane Mnyakeni

SOCCER – THE transfer market is already in full swing as clubs work on strengthening their squads for the coming season and capital city giants Mbabane Swallows are likely to lose their attacking midfielder, Felix 'Fela' Badenhorst, to SA Premier Soccer League teams.

According to Kick-off, more than three South African teams have enquired about the services of the rumoured Kaizer Chiefs target. This was also confirmed by Mbabane Swallows Chairman Victor 'Maradona' Gamedze.

Badenhorst has been strongly linked with a return to South Africa over the last six months having last plied his trade in the country in 2011 for Jomo Cosmos.

According to the SA online publication, Gamedze said he was willing to sell the player, who is reportedly being monitored by Chippa United.

"Obviously we can't reveal the name of the clubs but there have been enquiries made about Felix but not just him alone. Enquiries have been made on more than six of my players. I can say to the clubs, come get the players, we won't stand in the players way if it is for the right offer. These players have given me enough pride, what will excite me now is to see them go to financially bigger clubs," Gamedze told KickOff.com.

Badenhorst was rumoured to be joining Chiefs in January but nothing materialised, as was the case when he was linked with the 'Glamour Boys' and Mamelodi Sundowns

- Player wanted by more than three teams
- Team boss Victor Gamedze confirms interest



last year.

The attacking midfielder played a vital role for Swallows as they won four trophies in

the past season, including the King's Super Cup where they knocked out 'Amakhosi' in the semi-final. He was named the Player of the Series for the SwaziBank Cup, Swaziland's equivalent of the Nedbank Cup. Badenhorst is in the Swaziland squad that is in Namibia for the COSAFA Cup.

Worth noting is that 10 Mbabane Swallows players travelled with the squad to Namibia.

These are goalkeeper Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza, Sanele Mkhweli, Sifiso Mabila, Mandla Phalma and Njabulo 'D4D' Ndlovu.

Others are Benele 'Pupu' Sikhondze, Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko, Felix 'Fela' Badenhorst, Tony 'TT' Tsabedze and Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa.

Another SA online publication, Phakaaathi, reported that Kaizer Chiefs were expected to announce a few of their new signings in a few weeks, and Badenhorst was among them.

"The Mbabane Swallows player is an attacking midfielder and was set to move to 'Amakhosi' in January but the move was halted as the two sides could not reach an agreement.

"Now everything is set. I think the contracts have been signed and all that is left is for Chiefs to announce it officially," said a source based in Swaziland, telling Phakaaathi.

After the Big Braai there'll be a Music Extravaganza featuring:

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• BHOLAJA
• MSHIKISHI
• NONHLE
• COVERACT
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- Full Cash Refund of your purchased ticket
- Braai ticket for your friend or relative
- Win E500 Spar Shopping voucher
- Win E150 airtime
- Win E50 airtime
- Win a night for 2 at Swaziland's top hotel

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IDM-MATSAPHA

To claim your prize, **Winners** will have to produce their **ID Card** and a copy of their **Braai Ticket**.

