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18 SWAZI ELEPHANTS OFF TO USA



HUGE CONSIGNMENT: A convoy of trucks bearing elephants entering the runway at the KMMI International Airport yesterday. **INSET:** The giant cargo plane. **STORY ON PAGE 4**

CUT HUGE OVERSEAS DELEGATIONS - MGWAGWA

PAGE 3

SWAZI SOLDIERS FLYING PRES. ZUMA

PAGE 2

TEACHERS REJECT SALARY REVIEW

STORY ON PAGE 3

...demand that it be taken back and re-worked to address their concerns

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2 NATIONAL NEWS

MPS FROWN UPON
TENDENCY TO GIVE
HEAD OF SECURITY
FORCES CONTRACTS

MEMBERS of Parliament frowned upon the tendency adopted by the State to give contracts to heads of the security forces when they reached the mandatory 60-year retirement age.

Chairperson of the National Defence and Security and Maphalaleni MP Mabulala Maseko wondered what criteria was used in deciding that a particular officer would be given a contract extension while others were made to retire. MP Maseko further wanted to know from the minister responsible for National Defence and Security Chief Mgwagwa Gamedze which line ministry were retired officers being paid from because after retirement they should be paid only their pensions.

USDF promotions for sale

MEMBERS of Parliament demanded answers from the minister responsible for National Defence and Security Chief Mgwagwa Gamedze on the allegations that promotions in the army were obtainable only through bribes.

The minister was asked to come out in the open and give clarity on the allegations that within the Umbutfo Swaziland Defence Force soldiers paid huge amounts of money as bribe in order for them to be promoted and ranked higher.

Maphalaleni MP Mabulala Maseko said even if the allegations were false, the minister should vehemently denounce them.

Manzini South MP Owen Nxumalo said members of the USDF should also drop the attitude that whenever parliament tried to bring them to order, they were perceived as interfering. He said their duty as parliamentarians was to play an oversight role and therefore did not understand why each time they demanded accountability from the national defence and security department they were perceived negatively as though they had ulterior motives and were not bona fide Swazis.

He made an example of himself, saying he was an indigenous Swazi from Nkambeni and would have no reason to interfere with state security operations, if the USDF is what they feared.

MP Nxumalo was speaking in reference to the apparent refusal by the department to allow MPs to inspect some of the projects they were financed using state funds.

MPs call for Army to take
charge of Their Majesties travel

Stories by Sabatha Dlamini
Lobamba

LOBAMBA Lomdzala MP Marwick Khumalo questioned Minister Chief Mgwagwa Gamedze on why the safety and security of the country's Head of State and the Queen Mother was not the sole responsibility of the

QUESTIONED:
Lobamba Lomdzala MP
Marwick Khumalo

USDF internationally and nationally.

MP Khumalo wondered why the USDF did not take precedence when it came to the travel arrangement of Their Majesties, a responsibility that fell squarely on their shoulders.

He said he did not expect the minister to tell them that the army officers were involved in the planning stages but emphasised that he expected to see the army taking total control in providing the security of the Head of State in all stages, including the flying of the

aircraft they use.

He said this was the arrangement internationally, and asked the minister if the situation locally was in line with the international standards.

Mentioned

MP Khumalo mentioned the Republic of Mozambique, Republic of South Africa and even the United States of America as examples of countries that ensured that all travel arrangements of their heads of states were taken care of by their respective defence ministries.

Swazi soldiers flying President Zuma

FOREIGN Affairs Minister Chief Mgwagwa Gamedze says Swazi soldiers are so well trained that some of them are flying the South African President Jacob Zuma.

Addressing parliamentarians yesterday during the budget debate of the national defence and security ministry the minister, told members of the portfolio committee that Swazi pilots were well trained such that to keep them lying idle in

the country would not be beneficial to them as individuals and to the country as well.

He said in the absence of a fully-fledged Air Wing within the USDF, it was to the benefit of both the pilots and the country to practice and apply their skills in South Africa, especially because to fly an aircraft, one was given the licence on the basis of the number of hours he or she had flown.

This meant that for a pilot to

stay relevant they must always strive to fly. He said a pilot's licence was unlike a motor vehicle driving licence which remained valid even after several years of having been obtained by the owner even if he or she had not been driving.

The minister was responding to questions from Ndzingeni MP Jeremiah Ndwandwe who wanted to know if the country's army had well trained soldiers to operate and service the country's aircrafts.



IN SAFE HANDS: SA President Jacob Zuma.

UPGRADE PHOCWENI CLINIC TO HEALTH CENTRE



MPs requested Minister Chief Mgwagwa Gamedze to consider upgrading the Phocweni Clinic into a health centre or at best, a fully-fledged defence hospital that would serve as a referral hospital in the country.

The minister said the national

REQUESTED: Minister
Chief Mgwagwa
Gamedze.

defence and security department had no problem implementing that as long as parliamentarians provided funds for carrying out the project.

Department

The department was strongly criticised for failure to implement its capital projects despite that funds were allocated for them.

The MPs raised concern that when they wanted to inspect the army projects they were given various excuses including that

such would interfere with state security.

About E50 million that was allocated to the army for capital projects in the last financial year was not utilised and this year they want an equivalent of the same amount.

The minister conceded that the army had been failing to utilise the money allocated for capital projects until 2012, arguing that currently they were able to put the allocated funds into good use.

Charles fails to attend appeal again

By Linda Jele
Mbabane

THE appeal hearing of Charles Ndlovu, the SPTC Head of Sales and Marketing who was recently fired did not proceed yesterday after he did not show up.

It was the second time Ndlovu did not attend the hearing. The appeal was supposed to have taken place last Friday at the Royal Villas, but neither Ndlovu or his legal representatives showed up. It was subsequently postponed to yesterday.

This newspaper has learnt that SPTC management, its legal team and the independent chairman proceeded to the venue and waited to no avail for the arrival of Ndlovu. Ndlovu filed an

appeal on February 3, 2016 after he had been summarily dismissed by the Managing Director Petros Dlamini.

It was gathered that no explanation was forwarded to the appeal on why Ndlovu had not shown up. This forced the team to postpone the hearing to another date, which has not yet been established. SPTC Corporate Communications Manager Nqobile Magagula, when sought for comment, said employer-employee issues were confidential, therefore she would not divulge anything. Efforts to get a comment from Ndlovu hit a snag as his phone was not available. His attorney Themba Ndlovu from Masina Ndlovu Attorneys said he would not want to discuss issues pertaining to his client.

According to court papers which were filed by SPTC, Charles was served with

a notice that his appeal would be heard on March 4, 2016, but refused to append his signature acknowledging receipt. According to a messenger who had been sent to serve the notice to Charles, Ndlovu refused to sign.

Gcina Dlamini alleged that he served the notice to Charles at his homestead at Ekupheleni. He claimed that the manager threatened to set his dogs on him and ordered him to leave immediately.

"I served the notice of appeal dated February 29, 2016 to Mr Charles Ndlovu at 1415 hours, 02/03/2015 at his residential place, Ekupheleni and he took the notice but refused to sign the acknowledgement of receipt. He threatened to unleash his dog on us and instructed us to leave his homestead with immediate effect," Dlamini wrote.

'COUNTRY EXPERIENCING
INTERNET INTERRUPTIONS'

By Linda Jele
Mbabane

THE country is currently experiencing interruptions in respect of internet supply.

The Swaziland Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (SPTC) has announced that the interruptions were due to a technical fault in the entity's internet systems. SPTC Corporate Communications Manager Nqobile Magagula has said their countrywide ADSL broadband was affected by the anomaly.

She said the problem caused slow speeds in browsing and the disappearance of internet signal from their modems from time to time.

"SPTC engineers are currently on the ground rectifying the problem and we kindly request for patience and restraint from our valuable customers during this time.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and would like to re-assure all our valued stakeholders of our continued commitment to service delivery," she said.

SNAT REJECTS SALARY REVIEW

...demand that it be taken back and re-worked to address their concerns

By Observer Reporter
Manzini

COVER STORY



CONFIRMED: SNAT President Freedom Dlamini.

THE Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) has joined forces with their counterparts, the Swaziland Democratic Nurses Union (SWADNU) in equivocally rejecting the Salary Review Report as proposed by the consultants.

They resolved that the contentious Salary Review Report be returned in order for concerns to be registered.

This was during their mass meeting at the Bosco Skills Centre in Manzini, which saw about 4 000 converged to discuss their views on the report released to them about three weeks ago.

Confirming the attendance and resolution, SNAT President Freedom Dlamini said the general feeling was that the report did not in anyway improve their lives after it was scrutinised.

"The members urged us to go back to the table and ask for positive consideration of the challenges faced by teachers," he said.

Making an example of some of the challenges faced by the teachers, he said the review failed to remedy some of the anomalies made by the 2004 review concerning primary teachers with certificates who had extra certificates such as vocational, agriculture as well as home economics while those with the same qualifications in high schools were notched as their diploma

allowances which they noted treated teachers as lesser workers than their civil servants counterpart.

Not only have they been over the years paid after six months while others got theirs monthly, the teachers complained that the consultant failed to come up with a clear solution to their quandary.

Called

They called for fairness on how they were being treated and also called for prevailing rates to be used in during their consideration.

Dlamini revealed how the housing allowance between the notches was allegedly meant to cause division among them.

"Teachers are aware that rental houses are more than the E1 500 which is on the table and as such want to seek market related housing packages so as to enable them to live in proper housing," said Dlamini further stating that the teachers felt there was an obscure agenda by the consultant as well as government when it came to calculating it.

He revealed how the teachers strongly condemned the proposed medical aid scheme which at negotiation had been proposed at 75/25 percent of contributions whereas the report stated that it should be a 50 percent.

"When you look at the fact that some got increases of only E300 and then get called upon to contribute to medical aid schemes, they will be made worse off by the review," he surmised.

bearing counterparts.

He said having appealed the review back then, the current are did not consider their grievance much against expectations.

He also noted that teachers were aggrieved with the graduation to a grade on having reached the fifth notch as it only improved earnings by E300 which was way below inflation, something they took as a joke as they expected a review which would make them better off financially.

They also looked at commuting

Cut huge overseas delegations – Chief Mgwagwa appeals

By Mbono Mdluli
Lobamba

MINISTER of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation Chief Mgwagwa Gamedze has called upon every government ministry and department to stop submitting lists of huge delegations whenever His Majesty King Mswati III was travelling.

Gamedze said this yesterday when appearing before his ministry's portfolio committee which debated the budget allocated to its portfolio.

Gamedze said the issue of huge delegations was a challenge for him because he could not control it.

"We work with other stakeholders who give us a list of their delegations and they sometimes come from outside the foreign affairs ministry. We call upon every stakeholder to cut the number of people who go on trips abroad because that has negative effects on the economy," Gamedze said.

He also warned those who had a tendency to fork out bribes to some people in order to secure a place into the delegations.

The minister was responding to concerns raised by the legislators, who told the minister that it did not make financial sense to send huge delegations whenever the King went on trips abroad.

Nkwene MP Sikhumbuzo Dlamini said the King was exposed to the international community by letting such things happen because the international media would then make fun of that.

MP Dlamini even said it was not necessary for the many officers of the armed forces to go provide security for the King when he went abroad.

He mentioned that if security officers were huge in number, it was highly possible for a criminal activity to happen there.

He said such would be caused by the fact that the officers would lose focus of what they were supposed to guard and start telling stories and cracking jokes.

He said in most instances, security would be provided in the countries where the King would go.

Princess Ncengcenge wanted the minister to respond on the logic behind letting many soldiers accompany the King abroad.

Soldiers

"We know that the Umbutfo Swaziland Defence Force (USDF) is under your ministry. Tell us how soldiers are allowed to submit the large numbers of people to go because these people are under your ministry," said the princess.

Ludzeludze MP Bambumuti Sithole said they wanted the minister to be clear on this because even Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini once said it was justified to have huge security officers abroad because security officers from other countries did not know how to provide security for a person of the status of the King.

The minister said he also had no final say on who had to go in the army. He said it was true that it was under him but he could not decide for the army because he was not an army person.

MPs WANT TRANSPARENCY OVER E96M FOR NEW JET

By Mbono Mdluli
Lobamba

MEMBERS of Parliament in the House of Assembly have continued to express concern on the jet that might be purchased using the E96 million reflected in the new financial year budget.

The legislators raised their concerns during the ministry of foreign affairs and international cooperation budget debate.

The lawmakers felt government wanted to let the country down by not being transparent when it came to issues concerning the jet.

They said they were worried because there were experiences which were not so nice about a jet that was once acquired by the country in not so transparent ways.

Such issues and questions raised during the debate were directed to Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation Minister Chief Mgwagwa Gamedze.

Mahlangatja MP Bongani Hlophe wanted to know where the budgeted jet would come from. "We have heard instances where we had a jet that was said to be purchased from unknown areas by some person we could not even understand and that arrangement did not have a good result," Hlophe said.

He went on to say that this incident resulted in His Majesty King Mswati III's reputation being damaged.

He said that did not go down well with him and many Swazis because if the King was disreputed, Swazis felt the same way.

Princess Ncengcenge, the chairman of the foreign affairs portfolio committee, also expressed concern in the way in which Parliament was being treated by the Executive.

She said when the matter was raised in the previous session by Prince Magudvulela, she stopped him, telling him to hold his horses until a report had been presented by government concerning the Siyinqaba jet, which was said to have been leased by the

government.

The portfolio committee wanted to know from the minister the amount of profit that had been made by that jet.

Government is said to have promised to compile a report concerning that and deliver that report to Parliament.

Lawmakers

This, however, is said to have never happened. What irked the lawmakers the most was that government is said to have went on to allocate the E96 million towards another jet, despite not having delivered a report about the Siyinqaba jet.

They viewed this conduct seriously as they believe they are being undermined. The legislators wanted to know from Foreign Affairs Minister Chief Mgwagwa Gamedze, the type of jet to be bought and where was it going to come from.

They wanted the minister to tell them when he was going to deliver a written report concerning the new jet whose budget had been allocated. They also wanted the report about the jet that was leased.

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...Elephants have been subject of lawsuit in USA

By Sicelo Maziya
Siteki

THE 18 elephants flown out of the country have been a subject of a lawsuit in the United States of America (USA).

Friends of Animals (FoA) filed a lawsuit against the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for granting permits to the Dallas Zoo, the Sedwick County Zoo in Kansas, and Omaha, Nebraska's Henry Doorly Zoo to import 18 African elephants from Swaziland.

Swaziland Tourism Authority Eric Maseko, who is currently out of the country when asked if the exportation of the 18 elephants would not have an impact on the tourism industry said; "I cannot be in a position to comment on how this will impact our sector but the ministry can be in a better position to answer on that one."

However, our wish is to see tourists visiting the country able to see animals when here. As long as tourists are able to see game as we promised as a country that they will be able to view in the designated areas that will be a good thing for every tourist visiting the country."

According to the New York Times, the three zoos have formed a partnership to import the animals, saying that dozens of elephants are confined to fenced enclosures in two privately managed parks in Swaziland. The zoos said they had not



NO COMMENT: STA's Eric Maseko.

bought the animals but instead would donate money to the country's rhino-conservation efforts.

The wildlife service approved the permit, saying in a statement on January 21 that several conditions had been met to import of the elephants, including: the move would not be detrimental to them; they would be suitably cared for; and they would not be used for primarily commercial purposes.

According to The Associated Press, Conservationists and rights groups, however, have criticised the move, saying that wild elephants often suffer health problems in zoos and that the relocation had no conservation value.

The director of the Conservation Action Trust in South Africa Francis Garrard said: "It's condemning these wild animals — sentient wild animals — to life imprisonment."



IT'S NOT RIGHT: Conservation Action Trust in South Africa Director Francis Garrard.



The 18 elephants that have flown out of the country have been a subject of a lawsuit in the United States of America (USA). (Pic: Internet)



BIG GAME PARKS' 18 ELEPHANTS FLOWN TO USA

By Thembeke Dlamini
Sikhuphe

THE 'mystery' of the giant cargo plane which landed at the King Mswati III (KMIII) International Airport was revealed yesterday when a convoy of trucks bearing elephants was noted entering the runway yesterday just after 11am.

The plane came to the country to collect 18 elephants which have been removed from several nature reserves and will be relocated to zoos in the United States of America.

Led by a police vehicle, the convoy started snaking into KMIII with the first truck bearing a single container being the sixth vehicle.

The convoy of about seven flatbed trucks with containers as well as more without took nearly an hour to enter the gate leading to the runway.

According to World-Herald News Service's Chris Peter, the loading of the elephants comprising 15 sub-adults, estimated to be between 15 years as well as three young adult females with estimated from 20 to 25 years old, were loaded onto their containers on Tuesday after they were sedated, en route to the country.

Despite an invitation by Big Game Parks to the media to witness the repatriation of the elephants, there was no clearance provided to enter the airport as they (BGP) had according to airport security, not made any means of clearing same.

The time of departure of the elephants could not be determined after reports that only eight had 'boarded'

● The plane came to the country to collect 18 elephants which have been removed from several nature reserves and will be relocated to zoos in the United States of America



the cargo plane by 5pm as it was a labourious exercise.

The exportation of the elephants was met with several objections in America after the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service issued permits in February.

Sue

This reportedly prompted Friends of Animals, an animal-rights group, to sue in U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C. with the zoos entered the lawsuit as defendants.

According to the report by the World-Herald News Service, after temporarily freezing the import while he deliberated, U.S. District Judge John D. Bates decided to allow the import for fear that sedating the elephants an additional time would

cause more harm.

"The defendant-intervenor zoos have represented that the elephants have already been sedated and placed in transit to the airport in Swaziland," Bates said in his decision.

The report further stated that the action by the zoos a week and a half before a scheduled hearing in the lawsuit came as a surprise.

"They had every opportunity to tell us and the court that they were intending to do this," Michael Harris, the lawyer for Friends of Animals reportedly said, adding, "Obviously there is nothing technically legally binding them not to do this, but I think it's sort of beyond the spirit of something one would expect of an adversary."



ADVOCATE TLAKULA TO PROPOSE MEDIA INDABA

The commission is in the country on a promotional mission at the invitation of the Swaziland government and have arrived on Monday and their mission finishes tomorrow

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

ADVOCATE Pansy Tlakula has promised the media stakeholders that she will arrange a media indaba between the media and government to address issues of freedom of expression amongst other issues.

Advocate Pansy Tlakula said this during a meeting she had with media formations yesterday morning at the MISA offices.

Advocate Tlakula is the Chairperson of the African Commission on People's and Human Rights and Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa.

The Commission is in the country on a promotional mission at the invitation of the Swaziland government and have arrived on Monday and their mission ends tomorrow.

The meeting was attended by the Media Institute in Southern Africa (MISA) executives and Swaziland Editors Forum.

Issues that were raised in the meeting include the criminal defamation



FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION: Advocate Pansy Tlakula making her remarks during a meeting with Media Institute in Southern Africa (MISA) executives and the Swaziland Editor's Forum yesterday. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)

law, freedom of expression, the 33 media unfriendly laws, access to information, the effect of the Public Announcement Guidelines (PAS) which regulates access to broadcast media by members of the public and politicians and the liberalisation of

the airwaves, paving way for the three tier broadcasting system.

Also raised during the meeting were issues of media regulation, self-regulation versus statutory regulation and the issues of training of media practitioners and government's role.

Advocate Tlakula promised to raise some of the issues with the Minister of Information Communication and Technology Dumsane Ndlangamandla with whom she and her team had a later appointment.

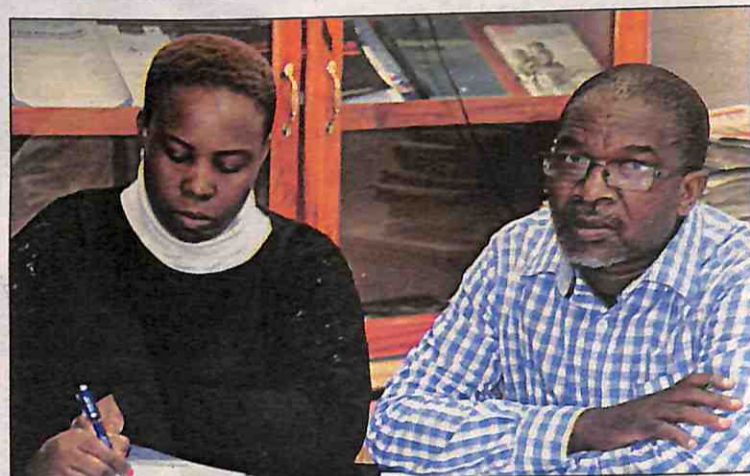
Promotion

The Mission, which is part of the Commission's promotion mandate, is being undertaken in accordance with Article 45(1) of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (the African Charter).

The objectives of the Mission include amongst others, to: promote the African Charter and other regional and international human rights instruments, strengthen relations between the Commission and Kingdom of Swaziland, engage with relevant stakeholders, exchange views on ways and means of enhancing the enjoyment of human rights in



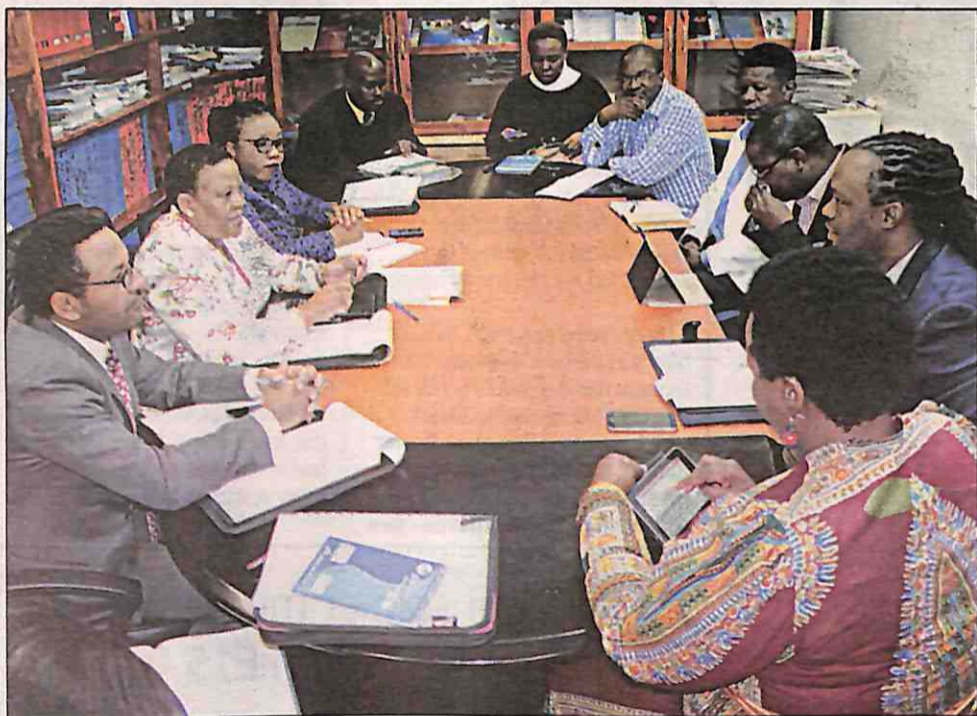
TAKING NOTES: Advocate Tlakula flanked by Commissioner Solomon Dersson and Senior Legal Officer-Protection Abiola Idowu-Ojo.



PRESENT: Swazi Observer's Nomthandazo Nkambule and MISA's Vuyisile Hlatshwako.

the country and seek information on human rights issues of particular concern to the Commission, including: freedom of expression and access to information; issues relating to prisons and conditions of detention; matters pertaining to the abolition of the death

penalty; freedom of association and assembly; independence of the judiciary; rights of persons living with HIV/AIDS and information regarding the impact of the extractive industries sector on human rights and the environment.



AT ROUND TABLE: Tlakula's team with Media Institute in Southern Africa (MISA) executives and the Swaziland Editor's Forum in discussions.

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6 NATIONAL NEWS

MPs challenge army on food security

By Sabatha Dlamini
Lobamba

UMBUTFO Swaziland Defence Force (USDF) should seriously consider producing its own food to stop the dependency on government subsidies for upkeep.

MPs felt that if the USDF was to efficiently utilise all the farms they had, not only the soldiers would benefit from that agricultural production but the country's food security would be given a boost as well.

MP Jomo Dlamini asked the minister if the soldiers involved in the agricultural activities were well skilled for the job.

Ludzeludze MP Bambumuti Sithole said year-after-year the agricultural inputs were more than the production output, wondering if the whole exercise by the army to attempt to produce its own food was worth it.

MP Sithole said it was common purpose that the rains were no longer reliable and the only viable option was to consider irrigating their farms.



NOT PLEASED: MP Jomo Dlamini.

MP Sithole asked the minister to explain where the difficulty was in producing enough food for the army since they had the machinery and the financial resources.

He said because currently there was no war, the army should pre-occupy itself with food production and other

developmental activities beneficial to the country. The USDF has always been reporting losses from their agricultural activities and they never run of excuses to justify them.

Minister Chief Mgwagwa Gamedze, who is responsible for the National Defence and Security Portfolio, concurred with the MPs but stated that the National Defence and Security department faced challenges with regard to producing enough food. He mentioned the drought as one of the challenges they faced. The MPs, however, advised the minister to consider ploughing under irrigation and also partner with the University of Swaziland, the agriculture department, so that they could be productive. Lobamba Lomdzala MP Marwick Khumalo also wondered why the army was failing to produce its own uniform. He said in the 1970s the army uniform was produced locally by Swazis, but now because the USDF had too much money to play around with, they had suddenly decided to drop that economically viable principle and chose to purchase it from suppliers.

Injured UNISWA student goes to SA

Stories by Thembeke Dlamini
Matsapha

AYANDA Mkhabela, the University of Swaziland (UNISWA) student who was injured during a skirmish with police, has been taken to a South African hospital for further treatment.

This was revealed by the UNISWA Registrar Dr Salebona Simelane on Tuesday. He revealed that the university administration saw her off.

He said due to the sensitivity of the matter, the institution would not elaborate on her condition other than to state that she would be receiving further treatment in South Africa.

Concerning the finality of whether she would walk again, Dr Simelane said as far as they were informed, Mkhabela's injuries were not as yet healed and physiotherapy had not as yet been started on her and as such, her upcoming treatment would determine whether she regained movement on her lower limbs.

When asked about her status as a student seeing as she was likely to be away for some time, Dr Simelane said she was still registered with the university and there was nothing that had changed. He requested sensitivity when reporting over the matter and said he could not comment further about it.

On the other hand, the Student Representative Council (SRC) labelled



OFF TO SA: Ayanda Mkhabela.

the administration as unfair as it failed to inform students that she would be departing.

"We heard that she was taken to the airport after she had left and as such we don't know of her condition," SRC President Brian Sangweni.

Sangweni said they too had been told to treat her situation with sensitivity something they were doing albeit in a different manner. "She is part of us and got injured during our protest action and by supporting the family, we are being sensitive to their plight," he said.

He further alleged that the university had put a gag on talking about her stating that they should leave everything to the family. "We had a memo from the university telling us that we should not talk about her whereas she is a student like all of us," Sangweni said.

SD's Intervarsity participation in limbo

DESPITE the fact that the University of Swaziland (UNISWA) opened without a hindrance on Monday, students' attendance to the Intervarsity Games which will take place in Lesotho soon is in limbo.

The successful opening was revealed by Registrar Dr Salebona Simelane who also stated that the students were back on campus and attending their lectures.

On the other hand, Student Representative Council Representative President Brian Sangweni said even

though they had returned to the institution, their problems remained unsolved and as such, they wanted to have their issues sorted before they could say they were glad to be back or commit to attending the games.

"As I speak, first year students have not received their allowances and they cannot learn on empty stomachs," he said.

He revealed that they were yet to call a meeting of students who would then decide on how they would treat the upcoming games.

SEC extends load-shedding by hour

Stories by Thembeke Dlamini
Matsapha

LOAD-SHEDDING schedules have been extended by an hour, with the Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC) admitting that they were no longer conducting business as usual anymore.

Previously, afternoon load shedding would end at about 8pm allowing consumers to get on with their lives seeing as most would return home in time to cook and relax through watching television and such.

However, on Monday it was noted that electricity in some parts of Matsapha returned at 9pm during load-shedding.

General Manager-Operations Ernest Sipho Mkhonta highlighted that the reason for increasing the load-shedding time was due to the scarcity of rain which has resulted in the country not producing any hydro-electricity.

"At peak hours, when the demand was heightened, we

would generate with the hydro to mitigate costs of peak energy," he said.

He explained that the cost of the imported commodity increased during the high demand hours and as a result, they had to keep their import stable seeing as an increase in the local demand would result in the country paying more for the next 12 months even if that demand was a once off thing.

He explained that electricity was paid for 12 months and if demand was exceeded, that excess was then paid for the next 12 months. "We end up paying for electricity which the country has not used," he explained.

Mkhonta revealed that there was morning and evening peak. "During the early morning hours when everybody is waking up and getting ready for work the electricity demand is high between 6am and 9am.

The evening peak happens between 6pm and 8pm and those are the times at which electricity is expensive," he said.

SEC stops producing hydro-electricity

THE country has stopped producing hydro-electricity due to the prevailing drought situation which has seen dams running nearly dry.

This was revealed by General Manager-Operations Earnest Sipho Mkhonta, who said there was currently only one place capable of producing electricity and it was being preserved for winter demand production.

"We stopped producing in Maguga due to water levels being below optimum production levels," Mkhonta said, adding that they were still removing accumulated silt from some of the dams and weirs which collect their water used for electricity production.

He revealed that even though they had initially measured out the area that needed to be de-silted in the Mkhimkomo Dam which supplied Edwaleni Power Station, they had to extend the perimeter of the cleared area, something which started this past

week.

He noted that the Usuthu cascade could produce electricity but they were reserving the water for winter otherwise the country will see worse rationing than the current situation.

"With June through August being high season in terms of demand, we will need to supplement our supply as imported electricity becomes very expensive," he said.

He revealed how there was a need for more independent power producers to get on board such as the solar plant being assembled in Siteki.

He noted that the 100kWh plant will only provide a small residential area and it was being used as testing facility prior to the contractor committing to a 20 Mwh plant.

Mkhonta noted that even then, due to the plants being solar, they had limitations such as during rainy weeks as well as evenings.

Ndlalambi soldier murder: Pupil, co-accused freed on E15 000 bail

By Linda Jele
High Court

THE Form Three pupil who is accused with two others for allegedly killing a soldier at Ndlalambi will no longer attend the school he was in before the alleged crime was committed.

The High Court has admitted the three suspected murderers to E15 000 each after they undertook that they would not be going back to stay at Ndlalambi, where the incident happened. The director of public prosecutions had been opposing the bail application on the grounds that they were not safe. The crown stated that the community was angry at the accused and releasing them on bail would not be safe because the community might attack them for having assaulted to death Bongani 'Yuki' Tsabedze.

However, they stated that they would not be staying at Ndlalambi if admitted to bail, but with their sister at Siphofaneni. Goodness Dlamini filed an affidavit undertaking that she would ensure that the three accused abided by bail conditions. "I am an adult female of Siphofaneni in the Lubombo region. I am the elder sister of the three. I will accommodate them if they are granted bail and will do everything in my powers to enable them to abide by the bail conditions," she said. The crown and the accused's attorney agreed to fix the bail at E15 000 each. They were each ordered to pay E3 000 cash and provide surety to the value of E12 000. Detective T Dlamini, an investigating officer, claimed that Nganono, Khokho and Linda Dlamini killed Tsabedze after an altercation with the deceased's younger brother.

Mbabane Council renames 85 streets

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

THE Municipal Council of Mbabane has renamed 85 streets in 10 townships.

These name changes are contained by Legal Notice No. 2 of 2016 under The Urban Government Act, 1969. The names of these streets carry significant names of different Swaziland indigenous things.

The theme of Mbangweni township streets are fruit names.

The 22 streets names are indigenous fruit names such as Mangoza street, Lihlala street, Sijelele street, Inyenye street, Likhwakhwa street, Inkhamango street, Lidolofiya street, Lokhwatsa street, Litfundvuluka street, Tineyi street, Umsobo street, Gumgum street, Incozi street, Umvutfwamini street, Ligagajane street, Liphoti street, Bukhwebeletane street, Lugungumence street, Sijobe street, Litelemba street, Inkhokhoko street and Intfokolovu street.

Sitibeni Township streets have been given mountain names. The 10 street names are Lufafa street, Mehlwabovu street, Ntsakane street, Mtsambama street, Hlabani street, Nkhomo street, Mahanjane street, Sibebe street, Ludvondvulo street and Mliba street.

Meanwhile, Mangwaneni streets are themed by Swazi attire names.

Amongst the 26 streets there is Injobo street, Emajobo street, Ligcebesha street, Umbhodze street, Ligomba street, Umcwasho street, Sidwaba street, Ingece street, Sigeja street, Umgaco street, Siphandla street, Umhelwane street, Umgobo street, Inkhonyane street, Lucu street, Sidziya street, Sichobo street, Luvadla street, Umjijimba street, Umbhenso street, Umhandla street, Lichuzu street, Tiphandla street, Somohlwane street, Butfoko street, Sigcizo, Inyoni street, Inyoni street, Umchilo street, Sidlodlo street and Lifahlwane street.

WATER SERVICES PROFIT DROPS BY E10M

Stories by Eddie Abner
Mbabane

SWAZILAND Water Services Corporation (SWSC) profit for the year 2015 declined compared to 2014.

The profit declined by over E10 million in 2015.

In 2015, the company made a profit of E44 746 million compared to E56 886 in 2014.

The corporation's operating revenue for the year 2015 was E282.5 million compared in 2014, where E271.5 million was made which translates to an increase of 4%. SWSC Managing Director Peter Bhembe in his report stated that the marginal increase was mainly attributable to the delayed implementation of the revised tariff whilst growth and the rate of implementation of capital projects was slow as the



DRYING UP: SWSC Managing Director Peter Bhembe.

economy was still picking up from fiscal impasse.

He further mentioned that total assets of the corporation stood at E1.67 billion which shows a slight increase from their 2014 assets which stood at E1.45 billion.

These assets include buildings, dams and reservoirs, plants and machinery vehicle, furniture amongst others. The total projects commissioned by the corporation

amounted to E53.4 million.

These include the Siphofaneni, Somntongo and Matsanjeni water supply which was funded by European Union to the value of E190 million. The expected date of completion is December 2017. Another project commissioned is the Nhlanguano Water Treatment Plant, which stood at E180 million and was completed in June 2015.

Water supply sustainability under threat

SWSC Managing Director Peter Bhembe says the sustainability of current and future water supply was under threat due to the lack of raw water storage dams.

Bhembe said investment in projects for water sustainability was critical given the changing climatic conditions and unpredictable hydrological cycles. "The scarcity of

water resources has become a major challenge facing the country. Currently there are no raw water storage facilities to provide for the Matsapha and the city of Manzini potable water requirements. All the water supplied to this city is directly abstracted from the Lusushwana River which increases the risk of shortage in times of low river flows.

The proposed Nondvo Dam will avail water for domestic and industrial purposes to support expanding socio-economic activities in the Mbabane-Manzini corridor," he said. He stated that national development projects such as the proposed Technology Park will face serious challenges if the issue of raw water storage was not urgently addressed.

Lack of water storage a challenge

SWSC says the lack of raw water storage infrastructure was one of the challenges they were facing which have had an adverse impact on their operations and ability to extend adequate service to their customers.

This is contained in their annual report of 2015.

Other challenges the corporation has listed lack of raw water storage infrastructure, cost of production inputs, budget constraints, tariff approval process, securing land for constructing water and sewer facilities, population growth and rural-urban migration amongst others. SWSC Managing Director Peter Bhembe in his report stated that in the lack of raw water storage infrastructure, water harvesting in the form of dams was critical for ensuring the security and sustainability of water supply.

The issue of water storage has been a problem for the corporation in recent months which forced them to implement water rationing in Mbabane after the drying up of the Hawane Dam. "Cost of production inputs such as



SOS: The dry Hawane Dam which has forced SWSC to implement water rationing in Mbabane.

electricity, chemicals materials and consumables often increase at a rate above inflation tariff determination is based on the major rate as determined from time to time. Old and aging infrastructure remains a major cause for water loss due to pipe burst and leaks. Because of limited financial resources, pipes are replaced as and when there is a burst or leak," he said.

Furthermore, Bhembe said acquiring land for locating water and sewer facilities was a difficult process with costs implications which he said slowed down the implementation rate of capi-

tal projects.

"Population growth and rural-urban migration dynamics impact heavily on the demand for water and sewer services especially because population growth occurs in communities that are poor and settlements that are informal and unplanned making it costly to provide water and sanitation services," he said.

He said the water and sanitation services needed to be regulated independently so that the financial, economic, social and political objectives could be balanced through the application of a more cost reflective tariff.

NOTICE

SPTC INTERNET SERVICE INTERRUPTION

The Swaziland Posts & Telecommunications Corporation would like to notify its valued customers that we are experiencing service interruptions in the provision of Internet due to a technical fault in our Internet systems.

All customers countrywide that have ADSL Broadband are affected by this anomaly. Customers are typically experiencing slow speeds in browsing and the disappearance of the Internet signal from their modems from time to time.

SPTC engineers are currently on the ground rectifying the problem and we kindly request for patience and restraint from our valuable customers during this time.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and would like to reassure all our valued stakeholders of our continued commitment to service excellence.

Corporate Communications Department

Woman gets off lightly for beating love rival

By Thembeke Dlamini
Manzini

A woman who re-arranged her love rival's face with a broken bottle got a slap on the wrist after the magistrate got irritated by her crying baby on Tuesday.

Nomsa Simelane (33) of Gucuka was sentenced to five months in prison with an option to pay E500 by Magistrate Sebenzile Ndlala-Kunene after her crying caught the magistrate's attention while at Mliba Circuit Court.

The magistrate had been dealing with another matter when the child cried and as she called for the woman and child to be taken out, was told by a Mawelawela Correctional Centre officer that the child was with an



YOUR WORSHIP: Magistrate Sebenzile Ndlala-Kunene.

awaiting trial suspect who was from the facility.

The woman had been sitting in the public gallery.

She was told to stand up with the magistrate asking for her name and on finding her charge sheet, asked what she had done. Simelane had been charged with assaulting Zodwa Phiri

with an empty beer bottle on her face and further dragging her on the ground with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

While Simelane stood within the public gallery, Magistrate Ndlala-Kunene presided over the case while Sydwell Simelane prosecuted and Clerk Xolile Nkambule interpreted. Simelane had previously appeared before Magistrate Lucia Lukhele about a week ago immediately after the incident and her bail had been opposed seeing as her victim was still receiving treatment. Phiri also admitted to having been involved in a relationship with Simelane's husband and without having the accused mitigate, the magistrate sentenced her, enabling her to then nurse her crying child outside court.

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MANGCONGCO YOUTH PAYS BENNETT BACK

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane

EYETHU Blockmaking Association, a group of youth from Mangcongco Inkhundla, has kept to their promise by returning the money loaned to them by former senator Walter Bennett to start their income generating project.

The youth started a brick-laying project last September. They were given E10 000 by the well-known businessman to go and start the project back in Mangcongco. They come from Ekuthuleni/ Sandlane Chiefdom under Prince Madzela. The presentation took place yesterday at Buzzby Services offices at Dlanubeka Building in Mbabane.

The youth was introduced accompanied by Mangcongco Member of Parliament (MP) Patrick 'Pha' Motsa, who was with Bucopho Benkhundla from Ekuthuleni/Sandlane Mduduzi Dlamini. He reminded Bennett that this was the youth he had helped with the E10 000 as seed capital to start their business.

"You have given them E10 000 to start a brick-laying project in their chiefdom. You requested them to



PAY BACK TIME: One of Eyethu Blockmaking Association members giving back the E5 000 to former senator Walter Bennett who helped them last May, where he borrowed them E10 000 to start a brick-laying project in Mangcongco Inkhundla. He requested them to bring back half of the amount, which they did yesterday. The youth were accompanied to him by MP of the area Patrick 'Pha' Motsa. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)

bring back E5 000 so that other people would also be assisted by the money. They have now come back to give you the E5 000," Motsa said.

He thanked Bennett for helping the youth start the business, saying that it looked promising because they were able to bring back the money.

Bhekisisa Dlamini, who is one of the members of the association, also

thanked Bennett for supporting them in their initiative. "We got help from Bennett and were able to do our project. We were able to sell well and were able to generate the E5 000 that we are bringing to Bennett now," Dlamini said.

Suggested

He said they did not want to do the bricks alone as they also wanted to concrete tanks, poles and sinks.

Bennett, in response, thanked the youth for being honest with the money. He said the youth was lucky to have an MP of Motsa's calibre because he was able to help them when they needed it. He then suggested that the youth venture into other projects like producing dairy products and other farming initiatives. The group comprises nine members, but four of them were

present.

They included Bhekisisa Dlamini, Sandra Maseko, Mancoba Dlamini and Nobuhle Mabuza. Maseko and Mabuza are the only females in the group.

He said he liked young people who were enterprising like the Mangcongco youth. He encouraged them not to look upon government for everything because it was up to them to look after themselves, not the government. He said there was a public outcry that the money provided by government for the elderly was small. He said there was no such thing as a small amount of money if that was given out of free will.

He also made an example of his E5 000 gift to the youth, saying it was a small amount of money but looking at the circumstances it would not be small if it were given out of free will. He also suggested that government should set aside a certain amount of money for unemployed youth allowance.

"The youth should get the money so that they can help themselves buy basic needs to help themselves. If other young people can do this out of such a small amount, imagine what other youthful people can do with their allowances. Many of them can make a meaningful contribution to the economy out of this," Bennett said.

He urged Motsa and his colleagues in parliament to work on that. He encouraged him to work on distributing money from different funds straight to the youth at tinkhundla or chiefdom levels. He said such could be helpful in addressing the needs of the youth by people who knew what their needs were, like MPs.



POSE: Bennett accepting the E5 000 from Eyethu Blockmaking Association of Mangcongco Inkhundla.



ACCOMPANY: Bucupho of Mangcongco Inkhundla Mduduzi Dlamini with MP of the area Patrick 'Pha' Motsa.

ONE TEAM: Chairman of Eyethu Blockmaking Association, Bhekisisa Dlamini with other members Sandra Maseko, Mancoba Dlamini and Nobuhle Zwane.

Bennett commends Mangcongco ladies

IT was a lucky day for the female members of the Mangcongco youth group yesterday when they each received a gift of E200 for being courageous enough to stand up and start the brick-laying project even though some of their female colleagues in the area would not do what they did.

The ladies, Sandra Maseko and Nobuhle Mabuza, were given this money by former Senator Walter Bennett, who said he was doing this because he was encouraged by the fact that they were women and could encourage other young ladies to venture into business.

He said if women were to participate in such projects, the country would develop fast because women were hard workers. He complained though about the rate in which women were abused in the country. He made an example of a story

reported by this newspaper on Tuesday in which a woman was killed by her boyfriend. What irked Bennett the most was the fact that the woman had gone back to school to try and shape her future so that she could contribute to the economic development of the country.

Bennett urged Motsa to see if it could be possible for them to enact a legislation that would bring back a death sentence to culprits who killed or abused other people.

Understood

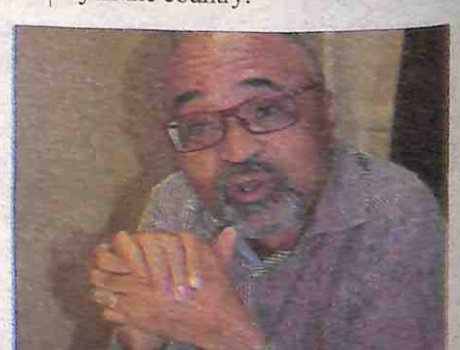
He said he understood that people had rights but the person who was killed in this instance had no one to stand up for her right.

Bennett also donated E500 to Ekuthuleni/Sandlane Umphakatsi. He said they would give that money to Prince Madzela, who is the chief of that area. He encouraged the youth to always work in co-operation with

their authorities because they were the ones who would assist them with land issues because they were the ones that could help them with land issues.

He told them that in Swaziland they were lucky because they could still get land to work on. He said he read somewhere that former South Africa President Kgalema Motlante said land issues in South Africa were very difficult to deal with.

He also thanked companies like Ubombo Ranches and Tibiyo Taka Ngwane for dedicating their resources to plant maize. He said such initiatives would help fight hunger in the country because the country was now in serious shortage of maize. He said if it were for him, the sugar cane farming associations would also be required by government to dedicate a certain portion of their land to plant maize in order to reduce maize scarcity in the country.



THANK YOU FOR HONESTY: Bennett making his remarks.

KAYLOR GLOVER MURDER TRIAL:

Tony's girlfriend paints bad picture of Glover family

Stories by Linda Jele
High Court

THE fiancée of murder suspect Tony Mamba has painted a bad picture of the Glover family.

Nomcebo Fakudze appeared before the Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala as Mamba's witness in his trial and she claimed that she has a child with Jackson Adams, a brother to the late Kaylor Glover. She was being led by defence attorney Sabelo Bhembe.

Whilst having a daughter with Adams, she later got into a love relationship with Mamba.

She alleged that her relationship with the Glover family was never a good one, especially after she had ended her relationship with Adams.

She alleged that she used to spend time with Mamba together with her daughter and Adams.

She claimed that Adams last saw his child when she was about two

years old and now she was aged five. This, she claimed, was because there was a court order restraining Adams from getting close to her because in most occasions it caused problems involving Mamba.

She further claimed that Mamba never at any point refused that her first born daughter should visit her father. In fact, she claimed, Mamba encouraged that the child should visit her father's family.

Relationship

"The relationship between me and the Glover family is non-existent," Fakudze said attracting murmurs from some people in the public gallery of the court room.

She claimed that at some point, she and Mamba were driving to Nhlanguano together with Adam's daughter and they stopped at T-junction Filling Station to buy something.

While Mamba was inside the shop, Glover and two other ladies

came to the car she was seated in and grabbed Adams' daughter without her consent.

She claimed that they intended to take the child to her father who was allegedly inside a bar nearby and there was a skirmish when she refused and tried to get back her daughter.

She alleged that she was helped by the return of Mamba who took the child from the three ladies and they drove off.

"Later in the day, Jackson sent me a text message asking to meet Mamba so that they could talk about the incident.

Mamba agreed and went to meet them. When he returned, he told me that the Glover family members did not address the issue, but mocked him," Fakudze said.

Eventually

She claimed that she eventually moved from Nhlanguano and returned home at Lobamba after she had obtained a restraining court

order against her baby's father.

She claimed that Adams later challenged the restraining order and was granted visitation rights of his child. However, she alleged that each time the child would be taken by Adams, she would return sickly.

Practitioner

She alleged that her father who was a medical practitioner later advised that the child should not go to Nhlanguano until she was old enough to care for herself.

She claimed that whenever Adams visited his child at Lobamba, he would arrive drunk and at some point he was with his friends blasting loud music in a car.

In cross examination by Principal Crown Counsel Thabo Dlamini, Fakudze was asked why Adams never got to have the child visit him in Nhlanguano.

"My daughter was seeing a psychologist for counselling because she had been exposed to a lot of abuse. It was not proper for her to



MY LORD: Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala.

go to Nhlanguano on a regular basis. That was the reason I suggested that Jackson should go to Lobamba whenever he wanted to see his child and I would sit in my room every time he was present, in respect of the restraining order," Fakudze said.

She alleged that Adams only went to Lobamba twice.

The trial continues.

Mkhulu (63) floors man with knobkerrie

A 63-year-old father of 16 children has been arrested after he allegedly assaulted another with a knob kerrie causing him serious injuries on the knee.

Mbololwane Masilela of Khuphuka under Chief Hadane allegedly assaulted Fana Magagula on February 22, 2016 and he was charged with assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm. Magagula was seriously injured and had to be hospitalised for some time.

Masilela was arraigned before Magistrate Sebenzile Ndlela. He claimed that he made remand

...runs to High Court to challenge Magistrate Sebenzile Ndlela

appearances pending the recovery of the complainant.

He claimed that on his first appearance he applied to be admitted to bail but it was refused because the complainant was still in hospital.

On the second remand appearance, he claimed that the crown did not oppose the bail application because Magagula had already been discharged from hospital and was present in court.

He claimed that the magistrate would not listen to that and was adamant that the complainant had

still not fully recovered. He was represented by lawyer Luke Simelane at the High Court.

"My lawyer submitted that the complainant was in the vicinity of the court and he was called into the courtroom.

He appeared physically fit. Her worship asked the complainant about his health condition and he said he went to hospital and was treated and discharged.

He was due to go to hospital for another check-up. I submit that when my attorney insisted on my application for bail, her worship

became very hostile and said she does not entertain submissions by attorneys," Masilela alleged.

She said Magistrate Ndlela did not have justification to postpone his bail application, especially because the complainant had been discharged from hospital.

He submitted the fact that Magagula was present in court meant he never sustained serious injuries that may result to loss of life.

He submitted that the alleged hostile attitude displayed by the magistrate suggested that he would not get justice during trial. He applied that the trial should be moved from Ndlela to another magistrate, because he wanted to

be represented by an attorney who she said she did not entertain.

"I am married to two wives and have 16 children, nine of whom are still minor and school going. I am responsible for paying their school fees.

Furthermore, my first wife is critically ill and she relies on me for assistance of any kind. I am also taking care of my 94-year-old father who has gone blind due to old age," Masilela said.

He submitted that his right to liberty was being infringed upon by the continued stay in custody. He undertook to abide by all bail conditions.

The High Court admitted him to E2 000 bail.

Businessman closes car wash due to water crisis

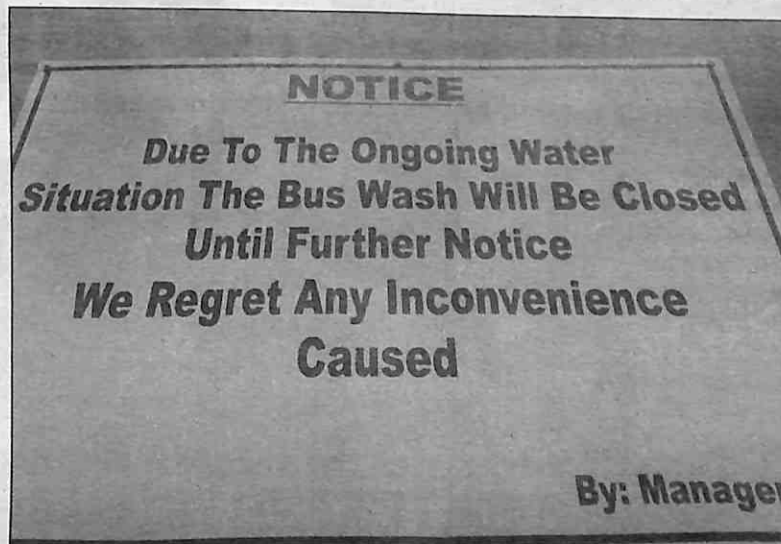
By Thembeke Dlamini
Manzini

DESPITE the fact that Manzini has not been affected by water rationing, a businessman within the Hub has closed his bus wash operation as a means of observing water conservation.

Galp Central Filling Station had a bustling bus wash in the past and presently, a sign near the place where buses would park as they were washed states that it has been discontinued due to the drought situation.

Closing

Explaining reasons for closing the bus wash, Director Harry Nxumalo



revealed that they offered the bus wash as a complementary service to bus operators and after noting the

countrywide outcry concerning the lack of rains and by extension water, they decided to discontinue

the service. "Due to the drought, we have to learn to control things and had no choice seeing as we were using commercial water for the service we provided and so we had to close it for the time being" Nxumalo said.

Situation

He noted that the situation was not as yet dire for Manzini but due to the filling station servicing people from all over the country, they had to be sensitive to their plight.

"Mbabane people can go for days without water and if a resident would come here and find us using the precious liquid to wash buses whereas he was unable to take a proper bath; that would be seen as more than insensitive," he said.

They recognised that their service was unique and it assured them of customers who bought large amounts of fuel but after looking at the current situation, they had to discontinue it. "Look at the rains falling today, it is not as intense as that which we were used to while growing up because we used to see rivers running stronger and dams overflowing whereas this is not enough and as such the country finds itself in a crises," he said.

He revealed how he did not wish for the country to go on its knees with the water crises and as such wanted to play his part.

Drought

"I once lived in Zimbabwe where the drought was so bad that there were prohibitions where water usage was concerned and I hope the country will not get to that state," Nxumalo said.

E17 000 building material stolen in five schools

Stories by Sabatha Dlamini
Lobamba

AUDITOR General Phestecia Nxumalo said records revealed that E17 000 worth of building material intended for the construction of five schools was stolen.

This was part of the approximately E261 287 worth of material that was sent to schools. Other material, like 50 cement bags worth more than E4 000, were allocated to Makhosini Primary, where the school committee members took all 48 of them for their own personal use. The rest of the material, which included 1 665 six inch

building blocks valued at E13 520 were left lying idle at the delivery spot. The four individuals who allegedly loaned themselves the cement bags are; Mduduzi Mbhamali, Norman Simelane, Mduduzi Gama and Delsile Gama.

Under

About two bags of cement worth E176 under the care of the same school committee were reportedly unknown and not accounted for. The total value of the uncollected building material was almost E24 000. Nxumalo expressed concern about the spending of taxpayer's hard earned money on material which was not used by the schools and ended up missing. At

Ngcoseni High School in the Manzini region, building material close to E40 000 was delivered on September 2013 and by the end of last year, two years later, it was found still lying idle at the school premises.

At Galile BEA Primary School in the Shiselweni region, building material amounting to E45 392. 46 was delivered on September 2013 and after two years from the date of delivery, the material was still lying idle in the school premises. Questioned on this apparent waste of public funds by the AG, Muir failed to explain what would happen to the abandoned and unused material. He only gave the AG a



REVEALED: Auditor General Phestecia Nxumalo.

lame excuse that the ministry had assigned a new officer to manage the project.

E8 645 material stolen at Nhlanhleni Methodist

NHLANHLENI Methodist Primary also in the Hhohho had building material amounting to E8 645 stolen.

The stolen material included door frames, pine doors and corrugated iron sheets.

Again Ministry of Education Principal Secretary Pat Muir stated that he reported the matter to the police but could not furnish the AG with evidence to that effect.

delivered

At Ngololweni Primary School, the ministry delivered material worth close to E60 000 but more than half of the material was not spent, which was about E38 000.

At Beaconkop Anglican Primary, building material amounting to E5 800 was not used.

AG Nxumalo said she was concerned about the spending of taxpayer's money on material which was never needed by the different schools.

She said this was a violation of Financial and Accounting Instructions that stated that money must not be spent merely because it had been authorised by parliament.

E55 000 material lying idle at Mabhensane Primary

BUILDING material amounting to E54 778 for construction of toilets at Mabhensane Primary in the Lubombo region was found still

lying idle two years later from the date of delivery.

This had become customary with the ministry's management of public

resources.

Auditor General Phestecia Nxumalo found the material still lying idle two years after the date of

delivery.

This particular school, not surprisingly though considering the rampant corruption with regard to government procurement systems, was found to have benefitted twice in that 12 months later building material

worth E37 588 was delivered at the same school.

It was the same story at Mvembili Lutheran Primary in the Hhohho region, where building material worth E48 320 was delivered two years ago and is still lying idle.

Mentally challenged intruder beaten up

Stories by Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Pigg's Peak

A 27-year-old man of Maguga is lucky to be alive after he was assaulted by residents for being found wandering in another man's homestead at night.

Mabandla Dlamini, who is the accused in the matter, was in the company of another resident.

It is said the two chased after Bandzile Simelane and upon catching up with him, they started assaulting him with a knobkerrie, asking what he was doing at his homestead in the middle of the night.

Dlamini making his statement at the Swazi National Court stated that Simelane told him he was peeing through the window with the intention of

catching a glimpse of Dlamini's wife while she was naked so that he could masturbate.

Dlamini further stated that it was not the first time Simelane came to his place to peep through the window as at one time his wife saw him but he ran away.

Second

It was after the second time that Dlamini decided to confront the complainant.

Dlamini said after Simelane confessed to his wicked acts, he pleaded that he be punished because he knew that he was wrong.

However, Simelane told a totally different story to the court as he said after Dlamini caught him he told him that he would leave him crippled as he was going to break his knees.

Simelane said he begged Dlamini to beat him up instead of crippling him.

The complainant said Dlamini told the other resident accompanying him to fetch a stick which they used to beat him up.

He said he was severely beaten and as a result had to be admitted to Pigg's Peak Government Hospital.

A doctor's report revealed that Simelane suffered injuries in his buttocks and left eye.

The doctor's report also revealed that Simelane was not mentally stable.

Dlamini when asked if he knew about Simelane's condition said he did.

He further pleaded guilty to assaulting the complainant and stated that he did it out of anger.

UNCLE SCARES NIECE WITH SPEAR

A Form One pupil had to miss school and attend a court matter after his uncle waylaid and assaulted her with a spear in the middle of the night.

Nozizwe* reported her uncle to the police after he hit her with a spear on the head.

Nozizwe stated that the reason her uncle, identified as Shongwe, assaulted her was after he saw her walking at night.

The pupil said her uncle told her that he had lost his goats just recently and suspected that it was stolen by people who always wandered at night.

The pupil stated that unfortunately she didn't know anything about goats. She

said she was sent by her mother together with her sister to go and give directions to an ambulance which was at the main road coming to take her sick brother to hospital.

Aged

Nozizwe told the court that after her uncle hit her with the spear she fell down but managed to get up in time and ran away.

Nozizwe's mother (Zodwa) who was also in court stated that after hearing her daughter screaming for help, she went out to see what was happening only to find her uncle hot on her heels.

The mother stated that she tried to reason with Shongwe but he would hear none of it

instead tried to stab her but she managed to duck the spear.

Zodwa stated that Shongwe called her names and told her that she was a witch.

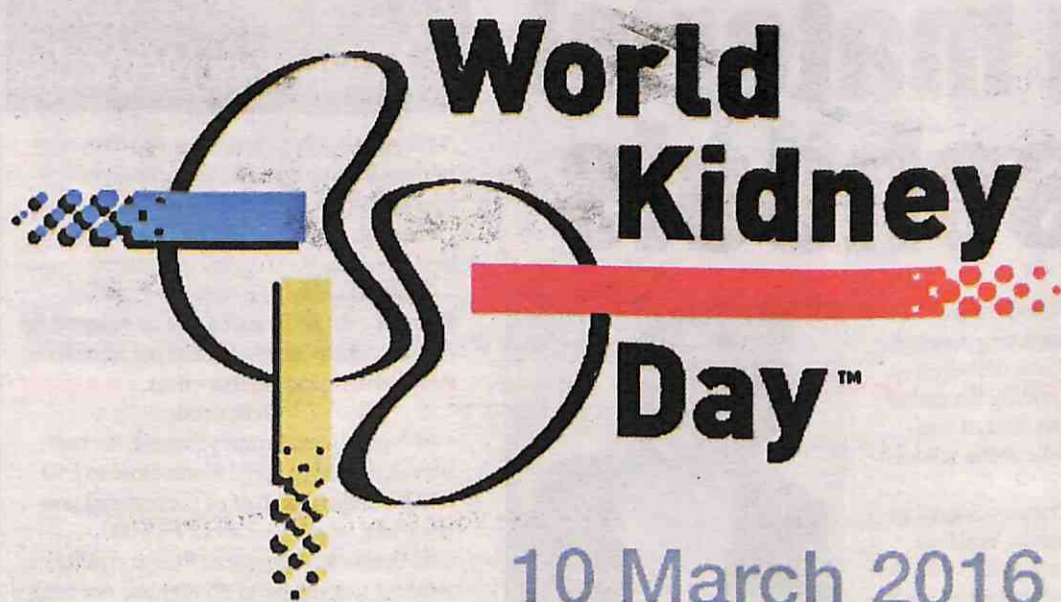
Shongwe stated that he was just trying to scare the pupil because he saw her talking to a man in a vehicle and suspected that they were the people who stole his goats.

When asked what the purpose of the spear was, he failed to give a clear answer.

The court told the accused that by going around carrying a spear, he posed danger to society.

He was further told that a spear should always be respected. **NB: *Not her real name.**

NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT AGENCY NDMA SIPHUNGA TSHAKALO EMBE		
REQUEST FOR TENDER		
CONTRACT No.	SUPPLY OF FOOD STUFF	CLOSING DATE
NDMA 2016/003	Request for Tender for the supply of Food Stuff	18 March 2016
Bids are hereby invited from suitably qualified service providers for the supply of Food Stuff to the National Disaster Management Agency. Only vendors that can demonstrate experience and technical ability to undertake the service shall be considered. Food Stuff include but not limited		
i. Pulses ii. Cereal Grains iii. Vegetable Oil iv. Sugar		
CONTRACT No.	BUILDING MATERIAL	CLOSING DATE
NDMA 2016/004	Request for Tender for the supply of Building Material	18 March 2016
Bids are hereby invited from suitably qualified service providers for the supply of Building Material to the NDMA. Building Material include but not limited		
i. Corrugated Sheets ii. IBR Sheets iii. Cement iv. Timber v. Iron Nails		
CONTRACT No.	TRUCKS	CLOSING DATE
NDMA 2016/005	Request for Tender for the supply of Transport Services	18 March 2016
Bids are hereby invited from suitable qualified service providers to supply the National Disaster Management Agency with Transport Services. Transport Services include but not limited:		
i. 8 Ton trucks		
Tenderers should submit the following as Part of their Proposal:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Company profile Tax Compliance Certificate. Trading Licence. Technical Proposal Financial Proposal Trade references (letters) Financial Statements (for at least three years or since inception) 		
All interested service providers must collect the Tender Document at the National Disaster Management Agency Offices (see below address) upon payment of a non-refundable E300.		
Account Name	: National Disaster Management Agency	
Bank Name	: Standard Bank	
Account Name	: 9110001087846	
Account Type	: Business Cheque Account	
Branch Name	: Mbabane	
Branch Code	: 663164	
Tenders must be placed in the tender box in a sealed envelope showing the project name and contract number not later than 12h00 Noon, Friday 11 March 2016 at:		
National Disaster Management Agency, Head Quarters Reception RHUS Office Park, Lot 195, Karl Grant Street Mbabane		
**NDMA does not bind itself to accept the lowest! **NDMA does not bind itself to award the tenders!		



10 March 2016

TODAY IS WORLD KIDNEY DAY

● Currently the country has close to 200 people on haemodialysis (mechanical removal of waste products from the body in a case where the kidneys are not functioning properly). More than 100 people are under close monitoring at the renal clinic due to compromised kidney function hence the need to spread information on kidney disease prevention. Kidney disease affects individuals of all ages. The world kidney day theme for this year is "Kidney disease and children, act early and prevent it".

THE day is commemorated every 2nd Thursday of March every year.

The main aim is to raise a public awareness on kidney disease, through health education on prevention and early detection of the disease.

Due to the ever increasing number of individuals with kidney

disease, Swaziland has since joined the whole world in recognising this day. Currently the country has close to 200 people on haemodialysis (mechanical removal of waste products from the body in a case where the kidneys are not functioning properly).

More than 100 people are under

close monitoring at the renal clinic due to compromised kidney function hence the need to spread information on kidney disease prevention.

Kidney disease affects individuals of all ages. The world kidney day theme for this year is "Kidney disease and children, act early and prevent it".

KEEPING YOUR KIDNEYS HEALTHY

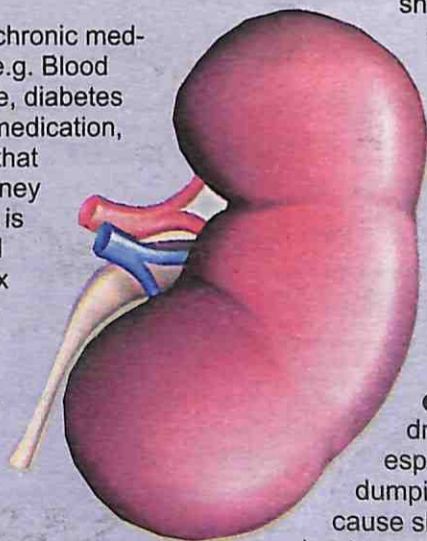
Each individual can play a vital role in ensuring healthy kidneys; the following practices can keep kidneys healthy:

- Drink enough water at least two litres a day for adults unless your doctor or nurse advises otherwise.
- Exercise and be physically active.
- Maintain a healthy body weight.
- Eat a well balanced diet in reasonable portions with added fruits and vegetables.
- Limit fat and salt in your diet.
- Avoid over the counter drugs especially strong painkillers like brufen and volterren.
- If on chronic medication, be compliant.
- Avoid medicines whose components are not clear.
- Always see a doctor when not feeling well or after an accident as kidneys are easily damaged by untreated infections and injuries.
- Men should have their prostate checked and women

should have a pap smear done for early detection of cervical cancer at least once year.

Both prostate and cervical cancer can cause kidney disease by blocking the flow of urine.

- If on chronic medication e.g. Blood pressure, diabetes or HIV medication, ensure that your kidney function is checked every six months.
- Pass urine immediately your body signals.
- Do not smoke.
- Limit alcohol intake.
- Have your blood pressure and blood sugar levels checked yearly if not a high risk individual and regularly if



a high risk individual.

FOR CHILDREN

- Send your child to the doctor if unable to outgrow bed-wetting, and if they are unable to thrive.
- All children who change pattern in passing urine should be sent to the doctor.

Do not use corporal punishment with children: This can lead to muscle breakdown and release of substances that are toxic to the kidneys, causing acute kidney injury.

- Do not allow children to play with dirt especially in refuse dumping sites as this can cause skin injuries that can lead to inflammation of the kidneys (Glomerulonephritis).
- If there is a family history of hypertension start screening children for hypertension for early detection and management.

DESCRIPTION OF KIDNEY

IT is a bean-shaped body organ situated below the rib cage at the lower back.

A normal human being has two kidneys, one on either side of the body. Each kidney is about the size of a fist. Both kidneys work simultaneously to balance the body's chemicals and fluids, such as the heart, brain and heart.

The kidneys specifically do the following:

- Remove waste products and excess water.
- Keep the body's chemical composition balanced by getting rid of excess electrolytes and retaining those that the body still needs.
- Keep bones healthy and strong by activating vitamin D.
- Produce erythropoietin which aids in the formation of the red blood cells.
- Regulate blood pressure.

SIGNS OF KIDNEY DISEASE

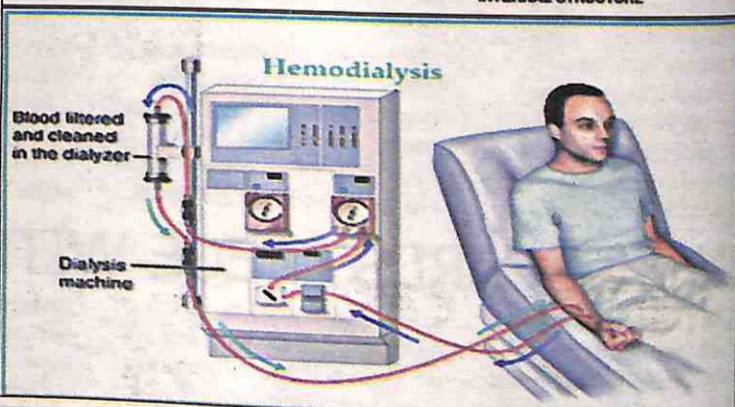
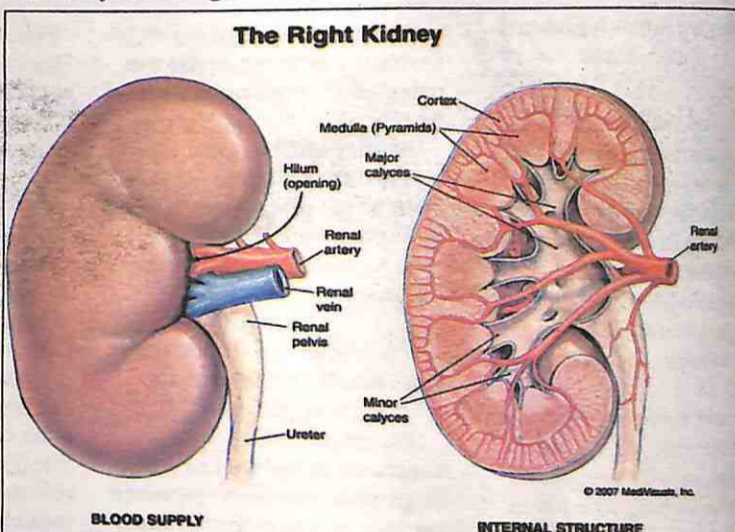
SYMPTOMS of kidney disease are subtle and can be confused with other conditions.

It is wise to see a doctor immediately you see any combination of the following:

- Forgetfulness
- Confusion and Coma
- Drowsiness
- Dizziness
- Persistent headaches
- Nausea and Vomiting
- Generalised Body Itch
- Bone and Joint pain
- Back ache
- Body swelling, mostly

hands, feet and face

- Shortness of breath and hyperventilation
- Inability to lie down flat or inability to sleep on one pillow
- Persistently high blood pressure
- Anaemia
- Cloudy, bloody, dark urine
- Increase or decrease in amount of urine
- Irritability
- Darkening of the skin
- Altered senses of smell and taste.
- Loss of appetite



PEOPLE AT HIGH RISK FOR KIDNEY FAILURE

THERE are some pre-disposing factors for renal disease, some we can control and some we cannot, these include:

- High Blood Pressure
- Diabetes
- HIV
- Obesity
- Heart diseases

- Smokers
- Drug abuse
- Family History of kidney disease
- Congenital abnormalities in the urinary system and the kidneys.
- Cancer patients
- Excessive use of over the counter drugs such as brufen and volterren.

Justice Minister 'banks' hope on correctional services law

By Eddie Abner
Mbabane

MINISTER of Justice and Constitutional Affairs Senator Edgar Hillary says there is a need for members of parliament (MPs) to speed up the process of promulgating the Correctional Services Bill into law.

He said there were pressing national issues that must be addressed once the bill had been crafted into law.

Hillary was speaking when addressing senators during the official opening of a three-day workshop on the Correctional Services Bill held at the Happy Valley Hotel.

The workshop ends tomorrow.

The minister said the Correctional Services Bill No. 20, of 2015 was brought to parliament in October, 2015 with a certificate of urgency.

Urged

Therefore, he said that was the reason he urged parliamentarians to expedite the process of promulgating the Bill into law so as to enable the country and its citizenry to benefit from its contents.

He said he expected the Bill to be promulgated into law before the end of March.

The minister reiterated that the law (Correctional Services Act) as proposed by the bill, did not only seek to promote pertinent issues of the correctional services community of inmates and officers but also comes with political demands as regards labour related issues.

He said the Bill brought to help the service adopt labour practices that complied with standards of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in as far as staff bargaining power was concerned.

However, he was quick to mention that the correctional services was a discipline service/force and as such, it was appropriate for it to have staff bargaining power arrangement.

This would suit the conditions of employees under a discipline service.

Hillary said a staff association was appropriate for correctional

services employees as opposed to a union. He said officers could not be unionised but be serviced by an association as it was the nature of their job.

Speed

"There is need therefore for parliamentarians to speed up the process so as to enable the service to adopt labour principles that conform to ILO standards.

This will be through the proposed Correctional Services Act as envisaged by the Correctional Services Bill no: 20, 2015," he said.

Meanwhile, His Majesty's Correctional Services (HMCS) Commissioner General Isaiah Mzuthini Ntshangase said the move to transform the then prisons services to HMCS was sanctioned by the King in 1995.

He lamented that it had taken the country more than

two decades to put in place laws that conformed to the department's new mandate as given by the King in 1995.

The Commissioner General thanked the current minister of justice and constitutional affairs for being proactive in supporting efforts aimed at repealing the obsolete Prisons Act of 1964 through the Correctional Services Bill, no. 20 of 2015.

The ongoing workshop is facilitated by Parliament Legal officers Lunga Dlamini who drafted the Correctional services Bill while still with the Attorney General's Office. He is assisted by Correctional Services Legal Advisor Senior Assistant Commissioner Bongani Khumalo and Legal Assistant Senior Superintendent Thokozani Mhlanga. Present at the workshop Commissioner

Phindile Dlamini and Deputy Commissioner General Luke Malindzisa.

Workshop

Present senators at the workshop included Senator President Gelane Zwane,

Deputy Senate President Ngomuyayona Gamedze, Senator Prince Fipha who is Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee of the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Senator Princess

Phumelele, Senator Bonisile Mngometulu, Senator Bomber Mtsetfwa, Senator Mvimbi Matse, Senator Sibusiso Shongwe, Senator Lindiwe Ngwenya amongst others.


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OROGOJIMO (UP)

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MARCH, 2016

7:00PM
4:00AM

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Applicants must possess 3 credits, one of which must be Accounts/Business Studies/Economics; plus a pass in English at SGCSE or equivalent.

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- Diploma in Carpentry & Joinery - (24 Months - City & Guilds)

Applicants must possess 3 passes including English at SGCSE or equivalent. Prospective candidates may collect application forms as soon as they get this information. Please bring along an original/certified copies of your certificates, including an ID in order to obtain application forms.

- Closing date for returning application forms will be Friday 18th March 2016.
- Interviews will be conducted on Wednesday 23rd March 2016 at 8.00 a.m.

M.T. Mokoena
Principal

14 NATIONAL NEWS

Siphondo Primary pupils go to school on empty stomachs

Stories by Thandeka Ndlangamandla Lavumisa

AS the drought prevails, it has been revealed that some pupils from Siphondo Primary have just one meal daily, and they get it food from the school.

As the pupils stay for longer hours without food, it is claimed that just after eating their school meal, they vomit and this is a sign of hunger.

According to impeccable sources, this has been hap-

pening for quite sometime now.

This is a glaring indication that in some parts of the country, hunger has escalated.

The school is under the Somntongo constituency.

Siphondo Primary teachers said they suspected that the children only eat at school.

It is alleged that the pupils come for lessons in the morning on empty stomachs, having eaten the previous day at school.

However, Siphondo Primary Principal Lungile Hlophe denied the allega-

...food supply almost finished

SIPHONDO Primary School's food supply from the ministry of education and training has finished, it has been alleged.

In the few weeks to come and if the ministry does not intervene, the very same pupils who

came to school hungry would go the whole learning day without eating anything.

The reliable source said the school was only left with a small supply which could only sustain the children for a few weeks.

tions, saying everything was fine at the school.

She said she was not aware of such occurrences in her school.

"Hhawu yesisi angikwati

mine loko, ngubani yena lolosho loko?" she said in vernacular, meaning "I do not know anything of that sort, who told you that such was happening?"

Kombi conductor steals driver's cellphone

By Sizwe Dlamini Mbabane

A 20-year-old kombi conductor from Msunduzi has been arrested for stealing his colleague's mobile phone.

The Swazi National Court heard how Mbongiseni Dlamini (20) stole the phone claiming he was just playing with the driver.



The incident happened at Msunduzi on Monday morning. Mfanikhona Ngcamphalala (40) told the court that whilst sleeping in the parked kombi at the Msunduzi bus station, his conductor stole his mobile phone.

Ngcamphalala said when he woke up, he noticed his cell phone was no longer in his top shirt pocket.

He then proceeded to look for the cellphone inside the kombi and informed Dlamini that the police would be

involved if the phone was not found. Ngcamphalala did not find it and drove to the police station to report the incident.

Interrogated

Dlamini was interrogated by the police and admitted to stealing the cellphone claiming it was a game that he and his co-worker always played. Court President Chief Lembelele asked Dlamini as to why he did not return the phone before the police's involvement and he could not answer.

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

NEWS EXTRA

Cop charged for calling Mugabe 'too old to rule'

HARARE - A Zimbabwean policeman has appeared in court after calling 92-year-old President Robert Mugabe "too old to rule" and accusing his wife of being a prostitute, local media reported yesterday.

ZANU-PF youth leaders say they were expelled for not joining the plot against the vice president.

Thompson Joseph Mloyi, 44, did not enter a plea at a Magistrate's Court in Harare over remarks he allegedly made at a camp shared by police and army, the privately-owned newspaper NewsDay said.

Granted

He was granted \$100 bail at the hearing on Tuesday and is expected to appear for trial on March 15 for "insulting the office of the president".

"Without provocation, the accused started shouting, indicating that President Robert Mugabe is too old to rule and (that) he married a prostitute, Grace Mugabe," NewsDay reported, citing prosecution papers.

Cases of people arrested for insulting Mugabe are common in Zimbabwe and those convicted are



TOO OLD?: Zimbabwe President with his wife Grace.

often fined.

The world's oldest ruler, Mugabe turned 92 last month and celebrated his birthday at a lavish party.

Despite showing signs of ageing, he recently gave a two-hour television interview and has vowed to stay in power as leader of the ZANU-PF party.

His wife Grace, 50, has become politically active since her elevation

to lead the party's women's league, and she launches regular public criticisms of officials she perceives as her rivals.

In his birthday speech, Mugabe lashed out at party youth he said were using social media to insult his wife. In December, a ruling party legislator was arrested for insulting Grace during a quarrel with a fellow party official in Victoria Falls.



HAZARDOUS: Part of Mbabane River.

Mbabane, 9 other rivers are polluted

Stories by Jozane Maziya Mbabane

MBABANE River and nine other rivers in the country were found by government to have been polluted.

According to the ministry of tourism and environmental affairs annual performance parliament report 2015/16, the rivers were polluted by coliforms and fecal coliforms, which indicated a problem of contamination through sewage and human excretion for most rivers.

The polluted rivers were; Lusushwana river below the Rhodes Food Group in Malkerns, Mdtjane stream below the Malkerns Research Station, Bhunya landfill discharge point, Zheng Yong water recycling plant discharge point, the Mkhondvo River adjacent SWSC water abstraction point in Nhlangu, Manzini Mzimnene next to Ticanfwin, Manzini Mzimnene next to the bus rank, Manzini Mzimnene next to Bosco, Manzini Mzimnene stream and Mbabane River next to Emphalwini Mall.

Government also discovered another common problem in these rivers and this was the presence of heavy metals like; lead, chromium and mercury which

are also a cause for concern.

The report noted that extensive investigations are ongoing so as to ascertain the source of these pollutants.

Adding, the report also noted that 2015/2016 the Swaziland Environment Authority's (SEA) major achievement was a review of 700 environmental assessment applications received in the financial year 2015/2016.

This indicated an increase from the 615 received in the financial year 2014/2015.

Meanwhile, the report said the department achieved quite a couple of goals including; the implementation of quality management system (QMS) in compliance with ICAO resolution 75, ISO 9001:2008 certification and accreditation and upgrade of weather stations including instruments calibration management systems.

Despite all the achievements of the ministry in the financial year, there were challenges faced and these included regulating the tourism industry in the absence of a National Tourism Act. Electricity disturbances and loading shedding were other major challenges faced by the ministry and its departments.

The report's 2015 tourism statistics indicated a 0.6 percent drop in arrivals into the country between 2014/15 and 2015/16.

No change in tourism statistics between 2014, 2015

THERE has been no change in the total number of visitors to Swaziland between the year 2014 and 2015.

According to statistics from the ministry of tourism and environmental affairs annual performance report 2015/2016, there was no notable change in total number of visitors in 2015 when compared to statistics from the previous financial year. Inbound tourism in October-November showed a 0.6 percent drop in total against statistics from the previous year that is 1 165 less visitors in 2015 than in 2014, practically no change despite the drought. The report noted an increase

of 58.3 percent of visitors from other Middle Eastern countries and a 57.6 percent hike in visits from Pakistani nationals.

Alarming

Some more alarming statistics are those indicating less visitors from certain countries in 2015 than in 2014, notable statistics in this regard are a 74 percent drop from 630 visitors in 2014 to a measly 162 in 2015 of inbound tourists from the Middle East; Kuwait, Iran, Israel, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates specifically.

Inbound tourism from Iran represented the biggest drop recording 54 percent less than in 2014.

Lobamba, other constituencies embark on fruit tree planting

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane

THE National Integrated Tinkhundla Fruit Tree Development Programme is undertaking fruit tree planting at Lobamba, Motshane, and Mtfongwaneni constituencies.

The programme is spearheaded by the Small Enterprise Development Company (SEDCO) with the aim of creating wealth for rural people in the country.

It was also necessitated by the fact that many of Swaziland's homesteads had few tropical and subtropical fruit trees in their yards.

SEDCO Managing Director Dorrington Mawane said despite such an overall fruit crops in abundance, a sizable proportion does not attain formal market suitability. This was due to pest and disease damage, inappropriate tree management practices or poor choice of planting material to give the market desired fruit product. He said fruit trees usually come as standard types and dwarf types. "Our traditional fruit tree types



PICK N CHOOSE: Beneficiaries of SEDCO's fruit tree programme at Mtfongwaneni constituency. (Pic: Mbono Mdluli)

are the standard form which require minimum management and are less prone to pest and disease damage hence their good yields of quality fruits. The question is, will you find these at our local formal retail outlets? A precise example is the small, thick, fibred, sweet mango which hardly reaches the shelves at our retail outlets. The same applies to our plus size avocados which consumers of today do not prefer since one fruit cannot be consumed and finished by one

individual," he said.

Mawane said consumer choice was cause for concern when it comes to fruit production, which brought the question of whether one's orchard had the right fruit types. "That having been said, one cannot ignore the massive volumes of fruit imported from our neighbouring countries, who are of similar soils and climate. It is on such grounds that SEDCO under the tagline, 'Fruit production for a healthier, wealthier and greener Swaziland'

wants to promote the critical mass production of relatively diverse fruits across country," he said. The MD said a ready market for these products would be available locally and excess of which (fruits) might be exported as whole fruit and as value added products.

He said Swaziland imported 20 000 tonnes of fruits and vegetables annually and this translated to E73 million (2013/14 import values) on fruits alone to meet the local demand for the same.

Mawane said with the country spending so much money on importing these products through NAMBoard, the costs of importing are then pushed forward to the consumers. This would be through inflated prices of the products, causing the prices of fruits and vegetables to be higher than if they were produced locally.

He said as the project was implemented, the import values for these products were expected to effect a positive change. This is because, there would be a local supply of high quality fruits that are of consumer preference thereby leading to reduced prices.

The MD said SEDCO in collaboration with other relevant organisations and departments of government as well as the private sector recently, they embarked on a fruit tree planting campaign.

"This will see local homesteads and schools benefiting from the tree programme. Ezulwini, Lobamba, Siphocosi, Motshane, Gundwini and Mtfongwaneni have undertaken the planting of litchi, peach and citrus respectively. About 100 homesteads from each constituency, each planting 10 same type of fruit trees are set to benefit from the programme. These families have been trained on good practices of fruit tree farming. These are optimistic to produce some quality marketable fruit by the least on year four after transplanting," he said.

He said fruit tree seedlings were received by beneficiaries free of charge but are not by any chance handouts.

A potential homestead beneficiary must qualify for inclusion in the programme. Such benchmarks include:

- Being a member of a group of 100 homesteads in the same geographical agro-ecological zone willing to plant the same type of trees to eventually form a cooperative.
- Training on fruit production guidelines
- Availability of land to initiate planting of 10 same type of trees
- Availability of water
- Commitment on the tree protection from stray animals
- 10 planting holes dug according to specifications.

eHealth specialist to help SD develop own strategy

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) has engaged the services of a Telemedicine and eHealth specialist Professor Yunkap Kwankam to help the country develop its own eHealth strategy.

The strategy was validated yesterday during a meeting at Emafini Business Centre. The meeting was attended by stakeholders from government ministries, Swaziland Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (SPTC) and MTN Swaziland among others. The meeting was officially opened by Director of Health Services Dr Vusi Magagula who said: "My definition of eHealth is simply healthcare solutions that come electronically and communication using IT."

Strategy

Magagula said to attain vision 2022, an eHealth strategy should have past implementation stage.

He said health care has lagged far behind than many other industries in harnessing the capabilities of information technology (IT) to improve services, knowledge, communication, outcomes, quality and efficiency.

Given the complexity of modern medicine, it was inevitable that IT would play an ever increasing role in improving health care quality.

"IT must play a central role in the redesign of the health care system if a substantial improvement in quality is to be achieved over the coming decade," he said.

Speaking at the same event, WHO Representative Dr Tigist Ketsela Mengestu said there were three main subsets of eHealth: Mobile Health (mHealth), Telemedicine and eLearning. Dr Ketsela Mengestu who



SPECIALIST: Professor Yunkap Kwankam with Danicia Phiri and Zamela Simelane from the HMIS Unit during the eHealth Strategy validation meeting at Emafini yesterday. (Pics: Mbono Mdluli)

was represented by WHO Health Systems Advisor Khosi Mthethwa observed that there is widespread enthusiasm for the use of mobile phone technology to improve health service. She said this growing enthusiasm for eHealth was driven not only by the benefits of mobile technology, but also by widespread availability of mobile phones, and the relatively low levels of literacy required to use them.

The ministry of health included eHealth in the national health sector strategic plan as one of the priority activities with the strategic information department.

She said this has shown that the sector is proactive and is aiming at being abreast with the contemporary development in health care delivery.

There were various benefits of mobile phone technology that derive from the rapid collection, transmission, storage and transformation of data which allow for timely access to data, real time monitoring, data gathering and programme activity, including rapid analysis and auto generated reporting.

The other benefit is management of health information for planning, monitoring and supervision of health workers and service delivery. It is also useful in facilitating communication amongst community health workers and between community health workers and supervisors.

Improving

eHealth also assists in improving administrative systems, for example; for human resource as well as personnel health records which are consumer-centric tools that can strengthen consumers' ability to actively manage their own health and health care. Health promotion could also be done through mobile phones by sending promotional messages directly to patients to increase health awareness, support treatment adherence and or promote access to health services as well as scheduling home visits and targeted advice.

"It is, however, very important to note that the backbone of any country's eHealth framework is the health management information system or health information system," she said.



ALL EARS: Participants listening to presentations.



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16 NATIONAL NEWS

SEA, RSP 'CLEANS-UP' 31 LITTERERS IN MBABANE

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

SWAZILAND Environment Authority (SEA) in collaboration with the Municipal Council of Mbabane and the Royal Swaziland Police (RSP) Service embarked on a 'clean-up' campaign for litterers in the capital city.

At least 31 offenders were arrested for littering by RSP and they paid fines ranging from E50 to E500 depending on the severity of each case.

SEA Communications Officer Belusile Mhlanga said they were doing such an exercise for the very first time.

They embarked on the exercise to arrest litterers as they wanted to keep the city clean.

"We are doing this exercise for the very first time and it is definitely not the last. It was so disappointing to see that Swazis have no care for the environment as they litter anywhere, anywhere and they do not even want to understand that their actions are a criminal offence.

There were all sorts of law-breakers from minor littering to public indecency in terms of urinating in public. It was shocking to even witness a lady urinating in public since female are believed to be neat," she said. Mhlanga said their target was not only the

streets of Mbabane but they also visited businesses to see if their establishments were clean.

In the enterprises they also wanted to see if rubbish bins had been provided as this also helps curb littering in the city.

Adding, Mhlanga said today, they would take the 'clean-up' campaign to Siphofaneni.

She said from now on, they would be doing this exercise every month so as to educate the nation that littering is harmful to the environment.

"By the 'clean-up' exercise, we are trying to send a message to the people that they must keep the environment clean," she said.



STEPPING UP: Swaziland Environmental Authority Communications Officer Belusile Mhlanga.

Minister of health's take on prevailing drought

By Mbono Mdluli
Lobamba

THE cattle that is severely affected by the prevailing drought, can still be used to fight the very drought that is killing the livestock in some parts of the country.

This was a view expressed by Minister of Health Sibongile Simelane in parliament during the debate of the national budget speech which was tabled by Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini last Friday.

Simelane proposed that government should use a different approach to mitigate the drought which started last year and has left many Swazis without cattle.

The minister said currently, Swazi farmers are losing a lot of money to farmers who sell beans in neighbouring countries. She suggested that it would be wise for government to take the money that could otherwise be used to buy bales and address water shortages to buy cattle from farmers.

Such an initiative would be beneficial to farmers because it would give them money, instead of giving it to farmers outside Swaziland.

"We should then take the cattle to Swaziland Meat Industries (SMI), if they have the capacity to do so. Slice the meat from the cattle so that it could be distributed to the people who are hungry because of drought," Simelane said. She said the meat could replace beans because they both provide proteins to the human body.

Parcels

She noted that the food parcels given to poor people usually contained mealie-meal, cooking oil and beans.

The minister said mealie-meal and cooking oil contained starch and it was only the beans that were rich in protein.

Thus she proposed the beans could be replaced with meat and that could be profitable in such a way that there would be no need to buy bales to sustain ailing cattle and end up losing them in most instances.

The minister said farmers would then be left with a small number of cattle, after the government had bought a majority of the livestock from them.

She said it would be wise for the farmers to be left with cows and bulls in order to leave room for them to increase in number.



MY VIEW: Minister of Health Sibongile Simelane.

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Development of Land Cover Maps, Stratification of Vegetation Types and Change Analysis for Swaziland

This is a call for qualified and interested national consultants to tender application to develop land cover maps, stratify vegetation types and change analysis for the Swaziland National Trust Commission (SNTC) through the **Strengthening the National Protected Areas System of Swaziland Project (2014-2020)**. The project is supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Application: Applicants are requested to apply online (<http://jobs.undp.org>), or collect the Terms of Reference from the UNDP offices, Floor 5 Lilunga Building, Somhlolo Road Mbabane Swaziland. Applications should be marked "Development of Land Cover Maps, Stratification of Vegetation Types and Change Analysis for Swaziland"

Submission: All application should be submitted online or hand delivered at the UNDP offices Floor 5 Lilunga Building, Somhlolo Road Mbabane Swaziland or sent through the UNDP Registry on e-mail address: registry.sz@undp.org, by the 18th March 2016.

Late submission will not be considered.

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MULTISECTORAL RESPONSE (MR)



BY SAMKELE MAHLALELA

NERCHA

HIV prevention is one of the most critical strategies for reducing both the spread and impact of HIV. Since the first case of HIV was identified in the country and the subsequent government effort in response - much has been learnt about HIV prevention in the almost thirty years the country has been responding to the crisis that followed.

Information about HIV transmission, safer sex practices, pre and post-exposure prophylaxis, male circumcision, and the role of key interventions to prevent perinatal HIV transmission has come to the fore in the response. The downside, however, has been the tendency for prevention programmes to target largely, the HIV negative population. While it is crucial to promote a wide range of behavior change strategies for the HIV negative, there are negative impacts associated with largely ignoring both the needs and important role of people who are HIV-positive. The assumption that knowledge of HIV status alone will ensure sustained safer sex practice, no-longer rings true. The reality now is that with the increasing availability and uptake of antiretroviral therapy and the potential for ART to act as an effective means of HIV prevention, the country needs to keep up with the challenges resulting from this knowledge and respond to the specific prevention needs of PLHIV. The increasing number of sero-discordant and concordant relationships carries the importance of responding to the sexual and reproductive health needs and fertility choices of adverse group of people. There is need for a holistic approach to health and well-being of PLHIV.

The Positive Health, Dignity

PREVENTION FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV

and Prevention (PHDP) movement led by the Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+) advocates for an approach that goes beyond health related services; one that includes other interventions to deal with issues of disclosure, sexuality, drug use and laws, within a human rights approach.

PLHIV in the country

The Swaziland HIV Estimates and Projections Report 2015, estimates the total number of PLHIV to increase from 222, 102 in 2015 to 244 946 in 2020, while the number of women living with HIV continues to be more than their male counterparts. The estimated total number of adults eligible for treatment shows a slight increase over the years (from 107, 795 in 2013 to 201, 805 by 2020), while the total population amongst children 0-14 shows a downward trend (from 11, 242 in 2015 to 8, 701 by 2020). For PLHIV, access to effective treatment is important not just for their own health but also in reducing the risk of HIV transmission to their sexual partners.

This is the thinking that drives the 90.90.90 initiative which seeks to get 90 percent of PLHIV to know their status; get 90 percent of the PLHIV that know their status on treatment; and through effective ART, get the 90 percent on treatment to have suppressed viral loads. To get the larger populace of PLHIV to have suppressed viral loads, there is need to have a supportive and enabling environment that does not undermine PLHIV their sexual and reproductive health rights, but instead enables them to make their own prevention decisions. When PLHIV do not access and use available prevention methods, the following key risk areas come to play:

Acquisition of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI)

Engaging in unprotected sex puts the PLHIV at risk of being infected with a sexually transmitted infection. Becoming infected with any infection or illness, including an STI, weakens the immune system. As STIs can cause cuts and abrasions that make it easier for HIV re-infection, this ultimately leads to an increased viral load in the body - which makes the person

highly infectious.

HIV re-infection

When PLHIV engage in unprotected sex, the act increases chances of re-infection including acquiring a different strain of HIV. Some HIV strains are resistant to certain ARVs and are much more difficult and expensive to treat. Unfortunately, in the country there are not many kinds of ARVs so this may lead the PLHIV to have a low CD4 count when the available drugs are unable to work, making it easier for the HIV to rapidly progress to AIDS.

Perinatal transmission

Parents to-be that are living with HIV have a joint responsibility to protect the health and safety of their children. If one partner is or both are HIV positive, it is very important that they use protection during sex and during the period of breastfeeding, to prevent infection in their baby. Non-use of appropriate prevention methods leads to an increased risk of transmitting HIV to the baby during pregnancy as a result of high viral load in the mother's blood or the presence of STIs during pregnancy and during breastfeeding.

The truth is that humans by nature, are sexual beings. Therefore, PLHIV need to access sexual and reproductive health services and receive appropriate information in order to make informed decisions regarding their sexuality, sexual health and reproduction. This includes, for example, practicing safer sex; avoiding STIs; reducing chances of unintended pregnancies or planning a safe conception and healthy pregnancy when they want to have children. This is embraced by positive prevention.

Positive prevention

Positive prevention is defined as a set of strategies that help people living with HIV to live longer and healthier lives. It encompasses a set of core elements that help people living with HIV to: Protect their sexual and reproductive health - and avoid other sexually transmitted infections (STIs); Delay HIV disease progression; and Promote shared responsibility to protect their sexual partners (and children in the event they want to start a family). Positive prevention strategies

involve interventions at three main levels: Individual, Community, and Policy levels. The individual level interventions involve PLHIV adopting risk reduction behaviors to ensure their own well-being and the health of others; while community level interventions involve providing a supportive environment for PLHIV to practice positive living and subsequently, positive prevention; and policy interventions involve affecting policies and legislation to be transformative and supportive of the rights of PLHIV in adhering to their responsibilities and enjoying availability and accessibility of services to support PLHIV to practice positive living.

The key positive prevention strategies for PLHIV include:

Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT):

This acts as an entry point to prevention, treatment and care service and therefore is an important part of positive prevention as it helps people to know their status and take positive action to stay healthy and protect the health of their sexual partners and loved ones.

Disclosure: Though often not easy and can be frightening, disclosure can be very empowering. There are several benefits of HIV positive status disclosure:

- Obtaining support from people that care, makes it easier to ask for help and to receive encouragement through difficult times and when difficult periods are overcome.
- Keeping a secret can be a burden on the mind and places additional strain on the body. The stress can be lowered when status is shared with others.
- It offers an opportunity to have a succession plan and prepare for the future
- Disclosure to a sexual partner will allow for open discussions on the best method of positive prevention
- Disclosure within the community helps to reduce the secrecy, stigma and discrimination surrounding HIV and opens doors for greater support by the community for PLHIV and among PLHIV themselves.

Safer Sex Counseling: Is important to seek and access safe sex counseling. Post-test counselling pro-

vides the first opportunity after a positive HIV diagnosis to discuss emotions, health issues, safer sex, sexual relationships, prevention, treatment, care and support options. Methods to consider include:

• **Abstinence (including delaying sexual debut and or deciding to stop sexual activity):** This requires a strong commitment and education in relevant life skills that will help one not to indulge in sex. It is important because it reduces the number of sexual contacts and contributes to making informed choices when the time to begin having sex comes.

• **Being Faithful:** This refers to having a sexual relationship with only one partner and that partner doing likewise. It is advisable, however, to practice other prevention methods such as condom use, alongside faithfulness.

• **Correct and Consistent Condom Use:** Both male and female condoms can significantly reduce the risk of HIV transmission when used correctly and consistently in every penetrative sexual act. Correct and consistent condom use prevents semen, vaginal fluids or blood from getting into contact with either partner, thus prevents HIV infection from passing from one partner to another.

Accessing Treatment and care:

Accessing available and quality treatment and care for PLHIV is important, as they are closely linked to successful practice of positive prevention - which is about improving overall quality of life and well-being, and providing a holistic approach to well-being (encompassing mind, body and soul). Evidence is now available on the potential impacts of treatment on prevention, and shows that by reducing viral load through effective ART the level of infectiousness is also reduced and therefore the risk of HIV transmission is lowered - making ART potentially the best prevention strategy currently available. To promote treatment adherence, it is important to invest in self-care through attitudes, beliefs and actions which protect and strengthen the immune system. This includes seeking early treatment of sexually transmitted infections.

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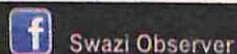
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ON THIS DAY

...MARCH 10

418 Jews are excluded from public office in the Roman Empire

1578 Queen Elizabeth I gives Johan Casimir £20 000 to aid Dutch rebellion

1629 King Charles I dissolved Parliament; he recalled it 11 years later

1661 French King Louis XIV ends office of premier

1762 French Huguenot Jean Calas, who was wrongly convicted of killing his son, dies after being tortured by authorities; the event inspired Voltaire to begin a campaign for religious tolerance and legal reform

1849 Abraham Lincoln applies for a patent (only US president to do so) for a device to lift a boat over shoals and obstructions

1862 Great Britain & France recognise independence of Zanzibar

1876 1st telephone call made (Alexander Graham Bell to Thomas Watson)

1893 Ivory Coast becomes a French colony

1900 Battle at Driefontein, South-Africa (Boers vs British army)

1900 Regents for the King of Uganda and leading chiefs sign a treaty with Great Britain agreeing to the organization of the government, taxation, courts, military, and other functions of their country, which is under British protection.

1902 A United States court of appeals rules that Thomas Edison did not invent the movie camera.

1952 Military coup led by General Fulgencio Batista in Cuba

1970 Barbra Streisand records "The Singer" & "I Can Do It"

1971 US Senate approves amendment lowering voting age to 18

1982 President Reagan proclaims economic sanctions against Libya

1982 The United States places an embargo on Libyan petroleum imports because of their support of terrorist groups.

2013 Aung San Suu Kyi is re-elected leader of the Burmese National League for Democracy

2014 German Chancellor Merkel warns Russia's Putin that making Crimea part of Russia is illegal and in violation of Ukraine's constitution

2015 The family of Marvin Gaye win a record \$7.3 million lawsuit for music copyright infringement against Robin Thicke, Pharrell Williams, and T.I.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



1936 Sepp Blatter, Swiss ice hockey and football official



1952 Morgan Tsvangirai, Zimbabwe politician



SHOPPING: Shoppers push trolleys at an upmarket shopping mall in Sandton, Johannesburg, September 23, 2015. (REUTERS)

WHAT A DOWNGRADE WILL MEAN FOR YOU, ME AND SOUTH AFRICA

RATINGS agency Moody's has placed South Africa on review for its sovereign credit rating, and Moody's analysts will be visiting the country a week from now to make a final decision on the country's credit-worthiness.

If Moody's is not satisfied that South Africa will be able to strengthen its financial position in the medium term the agency will drop our credit rating to one notch above speculative or "junk" status.

Here's what this means for us:

In simple terms, if South Africa were a person with an income, debt obligations and a budget to manage repayments of that debt, our salary is going down while our costs of debt are rising. What South Africa makes from exports of commodities has been slashed by a weak global economy that just doesn't want to buy our raw materials.

Wage Bill

This means the government is not making as much revenue off taxes because economic activity is low, and it still has to spend on infrastructure development, its public sector wage bill and various other obligations that keep the country ticking over.

Moody's expects economic growth will slow to a paltry 0.5% in 2016, which is nowhere near what we need to continue servicing our debt obligations. Our sovereign or national debt mainly takes the form of government bonds, which is a form of borrowing where the government promises to pay the lender an interest rate to make the exchange appealing for the investor.

The problem is that, with the



country's income so dented by the global economy, government policy uncertainty in some sectors; strained labour relations affecting productivity and its huge wage bill, South Africa has to borrow more and more.

This is the edge of the cliff – if South Africa gets downgraded to junk status, which would be the next notch down, some global investment companies like pension funds and asset managers would be precluded from holding our debt because they have rules about how much risk they can take.

Junk

Junk status effectively means a country becomes a risk for defaulting on its debt because it might not have enough money to pay back what it has borrowed and the interest it has promised to pay the holders of its debt.

It is a vicious cycle: if we get downgraded, investors will begin to avoid investing here, the prices of our assets will drop because of the lack of demand for our debt and our shares listed on the JSE,

the rand will weaken further, inflation will shoot up and the average South African will have to endure higher costs for goods and higher interest rates.

Foreigners

This is very similar to what happened to Russia at the beginning of 2015, after it too was struggling to make as much money selling oil at depressed prices and was subsequently shifted down to junk status by ratings agencies. Typically, according to research by Rand Merchant Bank, it takes about 7.5 years for a country to recover from a downgrade to junk status. Those would be hard years of low growth in South Africa's economy.

While Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan's 2016 budget held promise for the government's plans to rein in spending and increase its ability to pay off its debt while borrowing less over the medium term, the problem is the country has been sliding into a difficult financial situation for some years and it will not be a quick fix.

A likely downgrade to junk status is already reflecting in the interest we have to pay to sovereign bond holders, and 40% of those bond holders are foreigners who bought in strong currencies. A continuously weakening rand will make it ever more difficult for us to continue repaying that debt at a manageable rate.

What Gordhan and the government need to do is continue to demonstrate a commitment to cutting spending and boosting our debt repayment ability by budgeting smartly. We may not be able to beat the junk downgrade in the near future but we might be able to bounce back quickly with a consistent commitment to reducing the gap between what we earn and what we borrow.

Hopefully, a turnaround in the prices of the commodities we produce will contribute but that will require the global economy to work in our favour, which doesn't look promising in the short term.

– TMG Digital



Women and Law

in Southern Africa Research and Educational Trust - Swaziland

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IGNORANCE OF THE LAW IS NO EXCUSE

Despite the constitution of Swaziland having been adopted in 2005, its contents still baffle many a Swazi citizen, and this became glaringly obvious during a consultation dialogue exercise conducted by the Women and Law Southern Africa (Swaziland Chapter) organisation in the Shiselweni region recently.

During a sensitisation exercise conducted in a majority of the Tinkhundla centres in the region, it became apparent that many people still did not fully comprehend the country's most supreme law, and faced the dangers of flouting it unwittingly, and could end up serving lengthy sentences for sins that they did not fully appreciate that they were committing.

But just as they say in legal circles, ignorance of the law is not an excuse, but it would seem that for people to fully appreciate the laws they live under, they must be adequately informed and educated about same, so that those who break them can be convicted without any reservations.

Constitution

The WILSA dialogues were aimed at addressing the issue of child marriages and educating the masses about the Swaziland Women's Charter, adopted, in a bid to ensure that people fully appreciated the fact that these are legal requirements fully enshrined in the constitution, which meant that they are the rights of each and every Swazi, hence everyone should uphold and defend them with whatever means necessary.

For example, it became clear that the people at the Tinkhundla centres visited did not fully understand the country's most supreme law, especially Section III which espouses for equality among genders in the country as a whole.

In fact, the preamble to the constitution states that Swazi agreed to start afresh and turn on a new leaf in the way they did things, culturally or otherwise and even implored God the Almighty to help them in their quest to start afresh under a new framework of constitutional dispensation.

This then means that whatever we did as individuals or collectively, before 2005, was being put in the back burner and as a nation we swore to strive for the desire to achieve full freedom for all genders and independence under a constitution created by



ourselves for ourselves in complete liberty.

Economy

According to dialogue facilitator, Thulani Lushaba, such then means that as Swazi we all agreed to accord full freedom for all our people despite their race gender creed or whatever their backgrounds in search of a sustainable home grown political order.

As a result, Chapter III, Sub Section 3 of the constitution amply states that 'A person of whatever gender, race, place of origin, political opinion, colour, religion, creed, age or disability shall be entitled to the fundamental rights and freedoms of an individual as enshrined in the document but also subject to respect for the rights and freedoms of others and for public interests.

Further, Section 20, Sub section 1, states that 'All persons are equal before and under the law in all spheres of political economic, social and cultural life and in every other respect and shall enjoy equal protection of the law.

Law

Sub section 3 further explains that 'for the purpose of this section, to discriminate shall mean to give different treatment to different persons attributable only or mainly to their gender, race, colour, ethnic origin, birth, tribe, creed or religion or social or economic standing, political opinion, age or disability.

This further amplifies the constitutional dictate that all are equal under the law, despite the fact that some sections of society, especially women still bear the brunt of discrimination, something that was outlawed when the constitution was adopted.

Community

It is a clear fact that women and girls still have to live under discriminatory practices like forced marriages, child brides, persecution after being widowed and a plethora of deeds that were

deemed wrong and illegal when the constitution was adopted.

In fact, some males, came out openly as against such dictates, and even stated that they did not know that the constitution took away their natural rights, that of being heads of their families, and naturally their wives.

They further noted that it was foreign for the constitution to deny them their inherent right to marry off their daughters to wealthy community members who would pay handsome bride prices for their daughters thus alleviating the plight of the family. They claimed that this has been the lore, since the advent of this nation and a plain document could not alter what was a God given right, which has been practiced over the centuries in this country. It would also seem that they did not fully appreciate the nuances and illegalities of such acts, also especially since the law, which existed on paper, did not seem to be existent in their day to day living. But the realities were put before them that the law could seem to be without denatures now, but such could not be the case forever, and tomorrow the law could grow a set of teeth and start biting hard and it was prudent that people learn to avoid instances that would put them at loggerheads with the law.

But most importantly, many ended up seeing the light and albeit grudgingly, started to understand and appreciate the contents of the constitution, especially when it came to issues of girls and women.

In fact, many began appreciating the fact that their girl children could become more helpful in the home if they were allowed to get educated instead of being forced into early marriages which in most cases did not work out well in the long run.

They also acknowledged the fact that girls were more supportive of their parents in most cases,

and agreed that affording them the opportunity to advance themselves academically, would have positive spinoffs in the long run.

These constitutional provisions are also fully covered in the women's charter where women stated that they have, for many years, been treated as unequal to their male counterparts as a result of strongly entrenched cultural norms and practices that have fervently promoted discrimination against women, much against the spirit of the constitution.

This then means that if the words in the preamble of the constitution holds true, such norms and practices should be outlawed, and those who still practice them should face the full might of the law, especially when looking at the fact that every Swazi agreed into starting afresh in a totally new way and doing away with the norms and practices that entrench discrimination of any kind to any person.

Women now have the full rights to a number of things among them the right to choose or determine a marriage partner of choice, the right to live without fear of violence the right not to be coerced into cultural practices that are against their convictions and many more which they are currently denied either by will or by choice by their male counterparts.

But most of all, everyone has the duty to uphold and protect the national constitution and it starts with according all people, despite their gender or creed, their full rights as enshrined in the national document, and there can be better way to do that than ensuring that every citizen fully understand and appreciate its contents. It also must be appreciated that ignorance of the law in indeed not an excuse to break it, and the citizenry must empower itself by striving to understand fully and appreciate the contents of this national document.



1. Six essential qualities that are the key to success: Sincerity, personal integrity, humility, courtesy, wisdom, charity.
William Menninger

2. I am not and never will be perfect. I am not always as honest, respectful, responsible, fair or as kind as I should be. All I can do is what I should do: strive every day, with every decision to be the best person I can be. I don't expect to be perfect but I know I can be better.
Michael Josephson

3. Those who bring sunshine into the lives of others, cannot keep it from themselves.
James M. Barrie

4. Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.
Leo Buscaglia

5. Act with kindness, but do not expect gratitude.
Confucius

6. Be courteous to all but intimate with few; and let those few be well tried before you give them your confidence.
George Washington

7. When you have nothing to say, say nothing.
Charles Caleb Colton

8. It's unfortunate and I really wish I wouldn't have to say this, but I really like human beings who have suffered. They're kinder.
Emma Thompson

9. Love and kindness are never wasted. They always make a difference. They bless the one who receives them, and they bless you, the giver.
Barbara De Angelis

10. There is always a way to be honest without being brutal.
Arthur Dobrin

11. Good nature will always supply the absence of beauty; but beauty cannot supply the absence of good nature.
Joseph Addison

12. The only way to tell the truth is to speak with kindness. Only the words of a loving man can be heard.
Henry David Thoreau

13. The only justice is to follow the sincere intuition of the soul, angry or gentle. Anger is just, and pity is just, but judgement is never just.
D. H. Lawrence

14. No kind action ever stops with itself. One kind action leads to another. Good example is followed. A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees. The greatest work that kindness does to others is that it makes them kind themselves.
Amelia Earhart

BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

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VITALS

Prime Rate	9.75%
First National bank	
Inflation Rate	5.6%
Central Statistical Office	
Mortgage Rate	8.75%
Swaziland Building Society	
Bank Rate	6.25%
Central Bank	
Petrol (u)	E11.30 per litre
Replacement	E11.35 per litre
Diesel	E11.25 per litre
Paraffin	E 7.45 per litre
Engen Garage	

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES



Correct as at 09 March 2016

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	15,4312	15,4812
British Pound/SZL	21,8953	21,9663
Japanese Yen/SZL	7,2746	7,2963
Swiss France/SZL	15,4699	15,5045
Botswana Pula/SZL	1,3703	1,3778
Australian Dollar/SZL	11,4654	11,5103
Canadian Dollar/SZL	11,4969	11,5308
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	3,1108	3,1625
Euro/SZL	16,9435	11,9984
Gold	1,225.6800	
Oil	39.1000	

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Moving Forward

RICE, YELLOW MAIZE, WHEAT PUSH IMPORTS COSTS UP 20%

Stories by Manqoba Makhubu

RICE, yellow maize and wheat have pushed import costs up almost 20 percent amounting to E690 million during the 2015/16 financial year as the drought continued to slow down the country's efforts to ensure that there was enough fresh produce.

On average, it was estimated that the output from farmland was less than 20 percent in relation to the expected output.

According to the ministry of agriculture Annual Performance Report 2015/16 production from farmers contracted to the National Agricultural Marketing Board (NAMBoard) recorded a national average of about 18.6 percent, and smallholder farmers were the hardest hit as they used mainly seasonal and smaller water sources.

The value of scheduled products imported into the country amounted to E690 million, flagging an increase of E114 million compared to E576.6 million in 2014. Rice was the largest contributor with E127 million, followed by yellow maize at E126.8 million, wheat at E120.7 million as well as fruits and vegetables at E75.2 million.

The least imported produce was



Yellow maize.

Imports of Some Scheduled Agricultural Products 2015/16

Products	2014 Volumes (mt)	2015 Volumes (mt)	2014 Value in (E)	2015 Value in (E)	Variance
Rice	25 535	27 787	116 312 796	127 246 037	8.8 %
Yellow Maize	45 602	53 911	104 318 928	126 814 457	18.2 %
Wheat and Wheatn Products	17 680	29 660	104 318 928	120 783 323	66%
Fruits and Vegetables	25 209	29 203	78 185 673	75 295 606	15.8 %

wheat flour and this was attributed to restriction due to the availability of the product locally.

In terms of volumes, 190 192 metric tonnes of produce was imported into the country compared to 167 883 metric tonnes in

2014 showing an increase of 22.3 metric tonnes which was proportionally about 13.2 percent. "Imported rice increased from 26 373 metric tonnes in 2014 to 27 787 metric tonnes in the year under review. This translates to 8.8 percent increase

which could be attributed to consumption trends within the local market," said the report.

The report said a total of 53 911 metric tonnes of yellow maize were imported compared to 45 602 metric tonnes in 2014, translating to 18.2 percentage point increase.

"In value terms, imported yellow maize recorded E126.8 million compared to E104.3 million in 2014, showing an increase of E22.5 million.

Wheat was imported by mainly by two millers, Ngwane Mills, Unifoods Milling and other small independent local bakeries.

Imported wheat and wheaten products rose to about 32 484 metric tons with wheat alone reaching rising to 66 percent compared to 2014.

Meanwhile, the report said there was a slight decrease of about four percent in fruits and vegetables in 2015.

A total of 29 203 metric tons of fruits and vegetables valued at E75.2 million were imported into the country compared to 25 209 metric tons valued E78.1 in 2014. Surprisingly, the report noted that the decrease did not correlate with the increase in the volume of imported fruits and vegetables.

"This may be attributed to the volatile market of this product," said the report.

...Cotton yields down 51 percent owing to drought and pests

DROUGHT exacerbated by pests has significantly reduced cotton yields by almost half as the yields reduced by 51 percent from 1800 metric tonnes to 882 metric tonnes in 2015.

This resulted in about 1 997 farmers who planted an area of about 1 733 hectares pocketing only about E3 978 986.44 after paying their loans, levy and woolpack rental.

In 2014, farmers pocketed E9 million and this is a pointer of significant revenue decline.

This means that on average each farmer pocketed only about E1 992.5.

Swaziland Cotton Board in the ministry of agriculture Annual Performance Report 2015/16 said last season turned out to be the worst season in years.

"Total rainfall recorded at the Lowveld experiment station



amounted to 343.2 millimetres (mm), taking into account that optimum cotton rainfall requirement falls between 500-700 millimetres," reads the report as part.

However, minimum rainfall was received and temperatures rose to an average of 40 degrees Celsius.

"The high temperature coincided with flowering, and fruiting stage, causing shedding of both squares and bolls in cotton said the report," said the report.

The report said the high temperatures also triggered the crop

attack by a new pest called mealybug which has taken the cotton industry by storm, saying the current drought condition was favourable to the breeding of the pest. Another setback faced by the industry resulted from a reduction of seed cotton prices which reduced significantly by seven percent.

"This was a huge setback to cotton producers, but government played a critical role in subsidising the cotton price. The aim of the subsidy was to bridge the seven percent decrease in cotton

price in an effort to motivate farmers to continue planting cotton," said the report.

However, the report noted that a significant amount of the cotton delivered to the ginnery was graded A, constituting 91.74 percent. "This shows a stable quality management of seed cotton by farmers," noted the report.

The report said cotton levy paid by farmer's amounted to E92 615.15 and E1 166 757.35 was recovered as loans from farmers, woolpack rental amounted to E210 500.23 and the cotton board paid E285 339.26 for transporting cotton from all the four regions of the country to the ginnery.

The prevailing drought remains the main challenge in cotton production, because cotton is grown by small scale farmers who grow cotton under rain fed conditions.

SACU importance goes beyond financing the national budget

By Linda Dlamini

SOUTHERN African Customs Union (SACU) revenue inflows importance goes beyond financing the national budget, but also contributes positively to different sectors of the economy by promoting economic stability.

Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) Manager of Policy Research and Macroeconomic Analysis Sifiso Mkhonta said SACU is important to Swaziland in terms of trade, revenue, reserves, treasury bills and bonds and also balance of payments.

Mkhonta was speaking during the official launch of the road show campaign to revamp SACU brand and create visibility in member states held yesterday at the University of Swaziland (UNISWA) Sports Emporium Hall.

"Swaziland is a small country and as such for business to expand they need to be able to penetrate other markets, and as a member of SACU, businesses have an opportunity to enter other markets and gain income," Mkhonta added.

With regards to revenue Mkhonta said the income that accrues to the Kingdom from SACU is of vital



BEYOND: CBS Manager of Policy Research and Macroeconomic Analysis Sifiso Mkhonta.

importance as it forms the backbone of Swazi revenue and thus helps fund government socioeconomic programs and capital spending.

"As we have seen given the last fiscal crises of 2012 a fall in SACU revenue has a very deep impact on the economic, social and political landscape of the country," he said.

He said SACU revenue was also an

important source of income for foreign reserve requirements of the country.

"A low foreign reserve requirement does not argue well amongst investors and as such high SACU receipts are good for the economy," he said.

Adding, he said reserves are important as they serve as an indicator for foreign investors as they reflect the stability of the macroeconomic environment.

Mkhonta said reserves requirements were also important as they form the basis through which the Common Monetary Agreement (CMA) is anchored on, and this is the agreement that keeps the Lilangeni at par with the Rand.

SACU revenue and the sale of treasury bills and bonds in the domestic market are inextricably linked, and with the government hoping to raise capital through the domestic debt market this is very relevant today.

"Following the turnaround in SACU receipts bonds issued after 2011 hit 100% allotment rate, however when SACU revenue were down, debt instruments like bonds were not fully subscribed," Mkhonta said.

Balance of payment are also affected by the volatility of SACU receipts, they affect issues of trade as import.



SPEECH: Southern African Customs Union Executive Secretary Paulina Elago. (Pics: Linda Dlamini)



MY TAKE: University of Swaziland Vice Chancellor Professor Cisco Magagula.

SACU widening trading bloc

By Linda Dlamini

THE Southern African Customs Union (SACU) is currently negotiating with other regions to forge preferential trade ties to expand its member states trading bloc.

Swaziland is part of SACU along with South Africa, Namibia, Botswana and Lesotho and has been since inception.

SACU Executive Secretary Paulina Elago said the Secretariat was currently negotiating to obtain a trade agreement with India, also the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) and the all important Tripartite Free Trade Agreement (TFTA) under the auspices of Southern African Development Community (SADC).

Elago was speaking during the launch of the visibility campaign by the SACU Secretariat held yesterday at the University of Swaziland (UNISWA) Sports Emporium Hall.

"SACU has completed various free trade agreements with a variety of different trading blocs," she said.

These include the SACU European Free Trade Association (EFTA) agreement, SACU MERCOSUR (MERCOSUR comprises of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay), and the recently completed SACU-European Preference Agreement (EPA).

Elago said the Secretariat was on a mission to learn from all the stakeholders from the various member states of the SACU.

"The primary goal is to promote economic development through regional coordination of trade," she said.

Elago went on to elaborate that SACU was the world's oldest customs union, that dates back to the 1889 Customs Union Convention between the British Colony of Cape of Good Hope and the Orange Free State Boer Republic.

Another agreement, signed on June 29, 1910, was extended to

the Union of South Africa and the British High Commission Territories which were at the time; Basutoland (Lesotho), Bechuanaland (Botswana), and Swaziland, South West Africa (Namibia).

"There have been two other agreements signed since the 1910 agreement, the 1969 agreement and the 2002 agreement" Elago said.

She said the key objectives of SACU as contained in Article 2 of the 2002 SACU Agreement were to facilitate cross-border movement of goods between the territories of the member states, to create effective, transparent and democratic institutions which would ensure equitable trade benefits to member states, to promote conditions of fair competition in the common customs area and to substantially increase investment opportunities in the common customs area.

Furthermore the intergovernmental organisation exists to enhance the economic development, diversification, industrialisation and competitiveness of Member States and also to promote the integration of member states into the global economy through enhanced trade and investment and concomitantly to facilitate the equitable sharing of revenue arising from customs, excise and additional duties levied by Member States; and finally to facilitate the development of common policies and strategies.

With regards to the campaign launch Elago said the university was an ideal location.

She was echoed by UNISWA Vice Chancellor Professor Cisco Magagula, who said there was no better place to launch the rebranding of SACU than at an institution of higher learning.

"As the university we are delighted to welcome the SACU Secretariat officials, this event is in line with the university's strategic goal of being the University of choice in the country," he said.

He said SACU like the university had a long and lustrous history.

SIPA launches Edu-Business Expo and Motor show

By Sikhulile Vilakati

SWAZILAND Investment Promotion Authority (SIPA) has officially launched two events, a Motor Show and Edu-Business expo to mark the beginning of a series of trade promotions events to be hosted by the authority this year.

The first event to be hosted by the Authority would be the Edu-Business Expo, which would run from March 31 to April 2, 2016.

That would be instantly followed by the Motor Show which would commence from April 14 and run up to April 17, 2016.

SIPA Chief Executive Officer Phumelele Dlamini said their core objective was to create a market place that would bring together buyers and sellers.

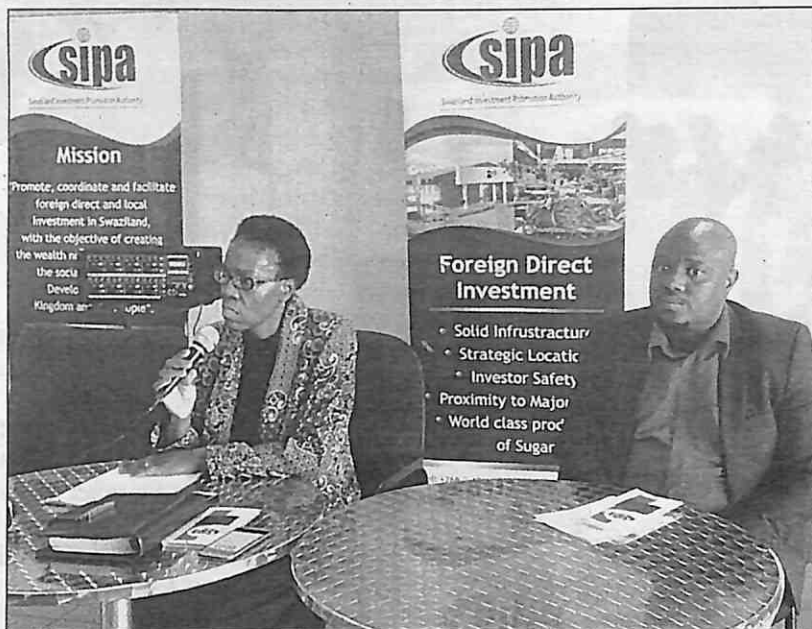
"Buyers represent demand, and sellers represent supply and anything of economic activity talks to demand and supply. Thus, SIPA encourages the interaction of these groups," she said.

Dlamini said the education sector was also quite relevant within the economic activity mix, hence, by introducing the expo, their intention was to bring together training institutions and industry players.

"Industry requires skills in terms of production and on the other side tertiary education provides those skills as they are needed by the country," she said.

Adding, she said for the country to be globally competitive, it needed to develop a skills competitive labour force.

"We are all aware of the structural changes that are taking place in the economy where government is prioritising the ICT sector with a view to diversify the economy and also catch



AS I SEE IT: SIPA CEO Phumelele Dlamini making her remarks while Siphesihle Nkhabindze listens.

up with technological advancements in the world. SIPA has found it prudent to prepare for establishment and development of the ICT sector so that companies that locate in the Royal Science and Technology Park as well as the innovation Park are able to source skill they require locally," she said.

The Edu-Business Expo would be characterised by private sector and education sector exhibitors.

The event is targeting students who have been enrolled in skills trainings and prospect entrepreneurs.

Dlamini said they were looking forward to develop partnerships with institutions like Junior Achievement (JA) and the Small Enterprise Development Company (SEDCO) to accelerate economic growth.

Meanwhile, she said the objective of motor show was to promote and

expand sales of motor dealers by providing a showroom platform which will be complemented by entertainment in related activities such as spinning.

"The mandate of SIPA is to develop markets for Swaziland to promote exports. We also want to provide a one-stop service facility for investors for dissemination investment and trade information, business registration and licensing and work permits," she said.

Dlamini said they had lined up a series of trade promotions events to advance the country's trade status and to also get exposure to external markets such as the South African Customs Union (SACU) MERCOSUR, East3ROUTE, SACU/EFTA, and would be receiving missions from other countries including inter alia, Taiwan and Malta.

22 BUSINESS



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MANAGEMENT: Financial Management lectures help entrepreneurs on how they could develop and better their businesses to become more professional and sustainable.

SARFED'S PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT LECTURE

INTRODUCTION

SARFED Entrepreneurship Society (SES) is an initiative for small business development under the Southern African Research Foundation for Economic Development (SARFED).

The aim of the society is to provide free public business lectures and skills development to the general public especially those who are either running or planning to start small businesses. SES is committed to providing these business development activities free training every Friday from 11am to 1pm currently at the Mbabane main library. This is a report on the session number two of 2016.

THE ENTREPRENEURSHIP SOCIETY

SES creates a learning environment for small business owners and shares business ideas on how they could develop and better their businesses to become more professional and sustainable. Through establishment of the society, SARFED creates an interactive platform that informs stakeholder and policy makers about current business information and various approaches of how best the Swazi business community could be developed.

Objectives of the Society



TEAM WORK: A section of SES participants after the session.



FOR EXAMPLE: Old Mutual's Phathizwe Dlamini presenting on the big five animal lecture with regards to business financing.

The objectives of the society are to create a platform for business networking, provide information and skills on managing a business as well as to provide business counselling and advisory services to the general public, particularly those who either managed their businesses or were intending to start their own.

Participant's activities

Over 17 participants attended the session composed of both small business owners and aspir-

ing ones attended the second training session at the public library hall in Mbabane last Friday. When compared to last week, there was an increase of 17% in the total number of public attendants, an increase of 20% in the total number of business owners, 25% more male attendants and an increase of 11.11% in female attendants.

The session started at 11. am, and lasted for two hours. The training workshop was on the principles of Managing Business

COMMENTS FROM PARTICIPANTS



I APPRECIATE: Jabu Mdluli flanked by Tholakele and the SARFED marketing officer.

"The trainings are very good and we are learning a lot. It will help my business grow as I am being equipped on how to save and pay myself a salary other than using all the revenue for my own use. I am also determined to join the society as it offers great benefits" - Jabu Mdluli



PERSONAL REFLECTION: Nomile Simelane, SARFED Marketing Officer interviewing Sekwanele Dlamini. "I am learning a lot from the trainings and what I can say is that they are helping me a lot. I am determined to even come next week, and my interest is to bring along more people next Friday," Dlamini said.

Finance. The training showed some positive results as many attendants were eager for other trainings, and joined the SARFED Entrepreneurship Society (SES).

Old Mutual's financial lessons

The session also included a presentation from Old Mutual on the Big Five Secrets of Money Management.

Old Mutual Sales Manager, Phathizwe Dlamini mentioned that the rationale of this approach was that research has shown that poor financial habits were at the root of poor money management. He first explored the secret of various animals namely the Lion, Leopard, Elephant, Rhino, and Buffalo. He then applied the characteristics of each animal to how finances were to be managed in real sense.

Participant's activities

A mixed method approach was used during the training sessions. Participants were involved in the learning process.

The participants were able to identify key factors that contributed to both success and failure of some businesses.

Other methods that were used during the session were question and answer approach in which the participants were encouraged to ask critical questions that affected their finances. During tea break, the participants were given an opportunity to discuss various matters that concerned their businesses.

Highlights of the next topic

The topic for next Friday will be on how to manage your cash flow as an entrepreneur.

World News

Game of cat, mouse enraged the Queen

LONDON - For millions of women the world over, the best time to think deeply about their family is when they are doing mundane household chores. For the Queen it is when she is sorting through the candle store at Balmoral.

It was there, amid the calm of this soothing ritual, when our famously frugal monarch decides which candles to keep and which are burned so low that they must be discarded, that she made up her mind about Charles and Camilla — and, rare for the Queen, uttered what amounted to an order: "This game of cat and mouse cannot go on."

The 'game' was the way Charles and his mistress Camilla Parker Bowles were continuing to meet furtively less than two years after Princess Diana's death. Clearly, it was too soon for them to countenance marriage, but the Queen's view was that they should be open about the relationship.

Her candle-cupboard epiphany came after Charles had held a party at Buckingham Palace for 80 guests, including Camilla. The Queen and Prince Philip were away at Windsor organising Prince Edward's wedding to Sophie Rhys-Jones.

It was Camilla's first time officially inside the Palace since she had been 'banned' from royal premises — and excluded from its guest lists — many years earlier by the Queen, after the shock of learning that her son was having an affair with the wife of a brother officer in the Brigade of Guards, something that was simply not done.

Banning Camilla was an uncomfortable decision because the Queen had known her for years, and the Queen Mother was her husband Andrew Parker Bowles' godmother. Relations had been close and warm.

"I remember Andrew and Camilla coming to stay," says a former equerry to the Queen.

"They were good friends and she's known Camilla for ever." But the ban could not have been more total.

Daily Mail



STAND-OFF: A furious Queen keeps her distance at the polo and her thoughts to herself as the royals are engulfed by scandal. A stony-faced Camilla stands next to her betrayed husband. (Daily Mail)

TRUMP HITS TRIPLE

...Billionaire calls for Republican party to unite behind him after scoring wins in Mississippi, Michigan and Hawaii

NEW YORK - Donald Trump told Republican voters and party bosses on Tuesday night that the time has come to rally around him following muscular primary victories in Michigan, Mississippi and later Hawaii.

As he was urging GOP elites to 'embrace' the growing voter base that he's drawn to the polls, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz was busy racking up a win of his own in Idaho.

By night's end, though, Trump returned to the winner's circle by triumphing in Hawaii's Republican caucus. He led 45-21 over Cruz with 51 per cent of the vote counted.

"Let's come together, folks. We're going to win," Trump said at his golf club in



VICTORY SMILE: Presidential candidate Donald Trump.

Jupiter, Florida, shortly after the two biggest electoral prizes of the night were added to his column.

"I think it's time to unify," he said. "We have something special going in the Republican party, an unfortu-

nately the people in the party — they call them the elites, or they call them whatever they call them — but those are the people that don't respect it yet." Cruz, too, isn't ready to fast-track Trump's ticket to the general election. He led Trump by a strong 45-28 margin in Idaho with 88 per cent of the votes counted, although Trump appeared poised to walk away with victory in Hawaii too.

"If we nominate Donald Trump, we lose," he told supporters earlier in the day during a rally in Kannapolis, North Carolina.

But the senator was to finish the night with about 175 000 fewer votes than The Donald across the first three states to report results.

Daily Mail

'Slow' MTN fuelled Boko, says Nigerian president

ABUJA - Cellphone operator MTN fuelled the Boko Haram insurgency in northeast Nigeria by failing to disconnect millions of unregistered users, President Muhammadu Buhari said.

All cellphone operators in the country were ordered to disconnect unregistered SIMs by mid-2015 for security reasons but MTN missed the deadline.

Nigeria's communications regulator slapped a \$3.90-billion fine on the firm in October. MTN has since paid \$250-million of it.

The affair cast a shadow over the visit by President Jacob Zuma and was expected to be high on the agenda when he met Buhari for talks in Abuja.

In his first comments on the issue, Buhari told a joint news conference: "The con-



REPAIRING RELATIONS: President Jacob Zuma introduces Defence Minister Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula and Trade and Industry Minister Rob Davies to President Muhammadu Buhari during the official welcoming ceremony in Abuja. (Pic: Elmond Jiyane/GCIS)

cern of the federal government was basically about the security, not the fine imposed on the MTN. You know how the unregistered GSM [sim-cards] are being used by ter-

rorists. That was why [the] NCC [Nigerian Communications Commission] asked MTN, Glo and the rest of them to register them." Times Live

UN asks BRICS to help drought-stricken Zim

GENEVA - United Nations on Tuesday appealed to the emerging BRICS nations (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) to join the West in helping Zimbabwe fight hunger after it was hit by drought.

"The timely support from the BRICS, either bilaterally or through the UN, will go a long way in augmenting ongoing efforts by the gov-

ernment of Zimbabwe, UN, the traditional OECD donor countries, the Red Cross movement and the NGOs," said Bishow Parajuli, head of the UN team in the southern African country.

President Robert Mugabe's government recently launched an international appeal for \$1.6bn dollars to cover food imports for three million people facing food

insecurity. Long shunned by the West over its expulsions of white farmers, Zimbabwe has warm relations with China and Russia, but BRICS countries have not directly contributed to previous emergency responses.

The drought caused by the climatic phenomenon known as El Nino has hit vast parts of southern and eastern Africa. DPA

BRIEFS

Car bombing kills police officers

MOGADISHU - A suicide car bombing has hit a police station in Somalia's capital, Mogadishu, killing at least three police officers, local sources said. Armed group al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the attack early yesterday and confirmed to Al Jazeera that a car bomb was used. At least two people were also wounded in the explosion, witnesses said.

Afp

180 foreign adoptions approved

KINSHASA - An official in Congo says more than 180 children will soon be able to join their adoptive parents abroad, including 37 who have been adopted by American families. The announcement marks the latest step toward processing about 1 000 cases of adoptions that were in progress when the government suspended foreign adoptions in 2013, citing reports that children had been mistreated or abandoned by their adoptive families while others had been "sold to homosexuals."

AFP

Science forum to halt brain drain

DAKAR - Africa's top scientists, policy-makers and start-ups gathered on Tuesday for a landmark conference aimed at stemming the continent's brain drain and encouraging governments to nurture research in fields from virology to maths. Organisers of the first Next Einstein Forum (NEF) held near Senegal's capital, Dakar, hope to reverse a situation in which Africa's brightest talent feels compelled to move abroad to work at the cutting edge of research - and earn a decent salary.

Reuters

Kidnapped son found after 5 years

ISLAMABAD - The kidnapped son of a liberal Pakistani governor assassinated by his bodyguard has been found after five years, senior officials said Tuesday, just over a week after his father's killer was hanged. Shahbaz Taseer is "hale and hearty", military spokesman Asim Baja said, tweeting two images of the bearded and smiling son of Salmaan Taseer that he said were taken in the southwestern city of Quetta late on Tuesday.

AP

Slovenia to ban transit of migrants

LJUBLJANA - Slovenia announced that it will refuse to allow the transit of migrants across its territory from midnight (23:00 GMT), apart from "humanitarian" exceptions, in a bid to shut off the Balkan migrant route once and for all. Serbia said it would "align all measures" with the fellow Balkan country, saying it "cannot accept becoming a reception centre for refugees". Both nations, along with Austria, Croatia and Macedonia, have dramatically restricted entry to migrants in recent weeks, leaving a bottleneck of some 36 000 stuck at the Greek-Macedonian border, unable to continue their journey to northern Europe.

Reuters

Focus on SA scene

'I listened to her lies for days'

CAPE TOWN - Judge John Hlophe has questioned the evidence of a woman accused of snatching baby Zephany Nurse 19 years ago, saying in the Western Cape High Court yesterday that no one would believe her claims.

"I listened to her lies for days," he told Reaz Khan for the defence during closing arguments.

"She was consistent. She bought the baby for R3 000 and paid a deposit of R800, but with no receipt. Who can believe that?"

Hlophe appeared unconvinced by the accused's version that she got the baby from a woman called Sylvia, who she said had been giving her fertility treatment in 1997 after she had miscarried.

Sylvia arranged for the baby to be handed to her at Wynberg station without her prior knowledge, the accused claimed.

She said she was surprised because she had expected to meet to discuss the adoption process.

Sylvia claimed she knew of a woman who did not want to keep her baby because the pregnancy was unplanned.

The accused testified the woman said the paperwork would be arranged later and she had signed documents including an "adoption application".

She claimed to have never heard from Sylvia again.

News24

Molefe backtracks on load shedding warning

CAPE TOWN - Eskom CEO Brian Molefe yesterday retracted his previous statement that the lower tariff hike granted by the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) would lead to load shedding this year.

Eskom issued a statement shortly after NERSA's decision to grant it an additional R11.2bn in revenue for 2016/17 - almost half of the amount the power utility had originally requested.

Guarantee

In the statement, Eskom warned it could not guarantee that the lights would stay on.

Addressing members of Parliament's Oversight Committee on Public Enterprises, Molefe said NERSA's decision did put a "hole in Eskom's balance sheet".

"We did indeed warn that the lower tariff hike could result in problems keeping the grid stable," Molefe said. "However, we as management went on a three-day retreat to look at the implications of NERSA's decision and I'm happy to report we put measures in place to make sure load shedding doesn't happen."

Fin24

I'M STAYING ON UNTIL END OF TERM - ZILLE

CAPE TOWN - Western Cape Premier Helen Zille has quashed speculation that she will resign as leader of the province before her term ends.

Zille and senior officials within her department were explaining their budget choices to the legislature's standing committee on the premier on Tuesday when the ANC asked the question.

ANC MPL Cameron Dugmore asked Zille about ongoing speculation that she might be on her way out.

Dugmore said: "In various circles and in the media there are speculations about whether this particular premier will serve out her term."



NOT GOING ANYWHERE: Western Cape Premier Helen Zille.

An amused Zille, after a few loud giggles, gave her commitment that she planned to finish her term.

"Let me give my commit-

ment that unless there's a vote of no confidence in me, which I'm sure the honourable Dugmore would love to have, or an impeachment which both a member of his side and my side tried to engineer, I will be here in terms of my commitment for the rest of my term.

Commitment

That's my commitment, but you know stuff happens in politics but if it is up to me I will be around," she said.

With a budget of just over R1.34 billion, the premier's department conceded that they had to scale back, freezing 132 posts to ease budget pressures.

Cape Argus

Rape charges withdrawn against Mandela's grandson

JOHANNESBURG - Charges have been provisionally withdrawn in the High Court in

Johannesburg yesterday against former president Nelson Mandela's grandson Mbuso, for allegedly raping a 15-year-old girl last year.

Mbuso Mandela was granted R7 000 bail in August after spending over a week in

jail. He allegedly raped the teenager on August 7 last year at a restaurant in Greenside, Johannesburg.

In her affidavit, the survivor claimed Mbuso had forcefully kissed her, put his hands in her pants and raped her.

The 24-year-old disputed this, claiming in his affidavit the sex was consensual and that he had no idea she was under age.

He claimed the pub where they had met did not allow entry to people under the age of 21.

The girl was also drinking and smoking, it was alleged, adding to the perception that she was older.

A chef handed in an affidavit claiming the pair were kissing in the passageway of the establishment.

Daily Sun

Krejcir's hit man in brazen escape

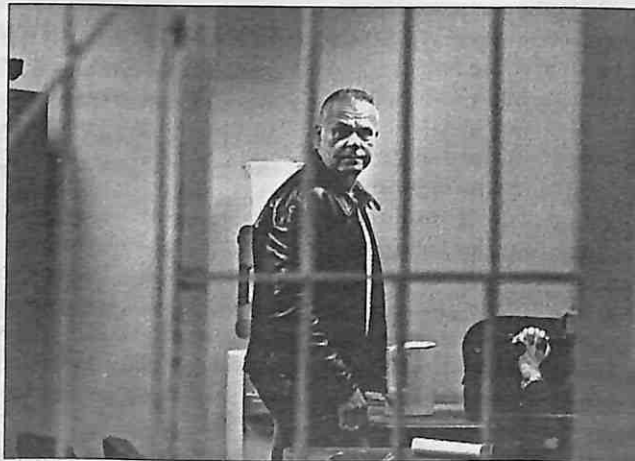
PRETORIA - Police and justice officials have been left red-faced following the brazen escape of convicted mobster Radovan Krejcir's alleged go-to hit man.

28-year-old Kagiso Ledwaba - the convicted killer of German supercar dealer Uwe Gemballa - was able to get hold of a gun as he appeared in the Palm Ridge Magistrate's Court.

After being taken down to the holding cells he held up and disarmed the cell commander. He grabbed a set of keys, which he used to unlock several doors before escaping in a waiting car.

Ledwaba escaped after appearing in court for murder, attempted murder, housebreaking, armed robbery and a cash-in-transit heist.

He was to appear again today for sentencing in connection with Gemballa's



ON THE RUN: Radovan Krejcir's (above) hit man Kagiso Ledwaba has escaped.

murder.

Gemballa disappeared in 2010 shortly after arriving in South Africa to meet Krejcir and former Teazer's boss, Lolly Jackson, for a business deal.

His body was found in a shallow grave in Atteridgeville, outside Pretoria, wrapped in duct-

taped black bags.

Ledwaba also has 24 other charges pending against him.

Police have not released an official statement concerning the escape but have responded to queries from The Times, saying they viewed the escape in a "serious light".

Times Live



CONFIRMS: IEC Vice-Chairman Terry Tselane.

Number of voters for election doubles

JOHANNESBURG - Three million voters updated their details and registered to vote in the municipal elections at the weekend.

IEC Chairman Glen Mashinini said this in Centurion, Tshwane.

He said the turnout had doubled compared to the municipal election of 2011 and the general election of 2014.

Mashinini said 78% of the new voters were under the age of 30 and 54% were women.

This showed young people took democracy seriously and knew the impact of their votes, he said.

"More than 1.3 million registered voters confirmed their registration and updated their details on the IEC database."

Vice-Chairman Terry Tselane said people who were qualified to vote but weren't registered should visit the commission's regional offices.

"The registration is ongoing at local IEC offices on weekdays."

"The final registration will take place on April 9 and 10 - the last opportunity for voters to register and update their details," he said.

Daily Sun

'No SA troops being sent to fight Boko Haram'

JOHANNESBURG - The SA National Defence Force (SANDF) yesterday dismissed reports that it would send troops to Nigeria to help fight Boko Haram.

"There is no such decision to send any military elements by the RSA to assist with the fight against Boko Haram," spokesperson Siphwe Dlamini said.

African news website Daily Nation reported that President Jacob Zuma had arrived in Nigeria to "seal a deal" on the deployment of South African special forces to fight the Islamic extremist group. Zuma is on a two-day state visit to that country.

News24



LUCKY ESCAPE: Finally the rabbit escaped from the hawk unharmed.

IMPRESSIVE ACROBATICS

- The large goshawk swooped down and tried to catch the startled rabbit in its sharp talons
- The terrified rabbit tries to squirm free and flips into the air as it fight for its life with the goshawk
- The short battle for survival took place at Central Valley in California and was photographed by Rob Palmer

CALIFORNIA - This is the dramatic moment a bird of prey swooped in for the kill on a wild rabbit who was forced to fight for its life in order to escape the deadly predator.

After spotting the brown rabbit, the hawk swooped down and tried to catch it in his sharp talons but the nimble rabbit was too quick.

During the short battle, which took place at Central Valley in California, the rabbit did several flips as it attempted to free itself from the goshawk.

Twisting and squirming in the claws of the large bird, the large rabbit tries to force its way out of the goshawk's firm grip.

In the process, the rabbit man-



FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL: The rabbit and the goshawk tussle on the dusty ground at Central Valley.

ages to do several impressive backflips in the air as it uses all of its agility and power to break free.

The two animals clash in the dust and dirt as the rabbit scrambles along the ground. *Daily Mail*

HOP IT



BATTLING: The rabbit appears to leap in the air as it tries to evade its predator while it is situated on the ground. The rabbit manages to do several impressive flips in the air as it uses all of its agility and power to break free.

February Special.

!\$\$ FOREX BUSTERS \$\$!

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with Eddie Abner



FATHER CICCONE WANTED TO RETIRE, HAD LIVED HIS LIFE

FATHER Ciccone wanted to retire from his position according to Bishop Jose Luis Ponce DE Leon .

Bishop Jose stated that twice, at the diocesan priests' meeting father Ciccone spoke about retiring because he was 85 years' old.

"Even last year he came to my office and asked me what he had to do to retire but, at the same time, every time we met he had a new project in mind. Retiring was never an option. Retiring for him probably meant dying before time. Many years ago I met a priest who used to say: "I hope death will find me alive". It might sound funny but you and me know it is not. These are very powerful words. Some people die before time. Death find some people already dead. They have given up on life, on hope, on dreams. The Word of God asks us to be always ready... not to die before time," he said.

How does today's reading give light to who Fr Angelo 'Nkom'iyahlaba' Ciccone OSM has been among us?

He added that Fr Ciccone OSM taught us about God. We tend to think that some people do good things just because they are good. In the case of Fr Ciccone I think it was much more than that. He was led by faith! He was led both by a good heart and by faith.

He made sure churches will be built for the people to gather, to pray, to celebrate, to grow in faith. Just in the last two - three years since I came to this diocese he asked me to go and bless two of them and kept on mentioning there were more to be blessed and others he wanted to build.

Not only did he build churches but he build the Church! He built our Church in Swaziland. He was always concerned about training new catechists to help our children, youth and adults understand better our faith, grow in faith and celebrate it in their lives. My first year in this diocese he kept on asking me when a diocesan training program would start. Thank God, last year he thanked me for what Fr Ncamiso Vilakati is doing for them!

Fr Ciccone OSM taught us God is father of orphans, father of the poor... who lifts up the poor from the dust. We heard it in the first reading in Hannah's prayer but also in the responsorial Psalm (113)

"He raises the poor from the dust, he lifts the needy from the dunghill, to give them a place among princes, among princes of his people"
(Psalm 113: 7-8)
Among the poor, he chose the poor-

● Tribute to Ciccone by Bishop Jose



REST IN PEACE: Catholic Bishop Jose Luis Ponce de Leon administering religious rituals on the body of the late Fr Angelo Ciccone before the start of the service at the Cathedral in Manzini on Friday. He was to rest on Saturday morning at St. Joseph's cemetery outside Manzini.



BIG HEART: The later Father Ciccone had a love for the disabled.

est in the country: children, youth and adults living with disabilities. One could say he was the voice of the voiceless for those with disabilities because probably no one more than them has no voice among us.

Fr Ciccone OSM gave them back their dignity, the dignity of a child of God which is denied by many of us. While for some or many, a person with a disability is a problem, a burden, maybe a punishment... Fr Ciccone OSM worked to help us see in each one of them a brother, a sister, a child of God like you and me. Fr Ciccone OSM saw in them, the image of Christ and added a new line to today's passage from the Gospel of Matthew. Where we read I was hungry, I was thirsty, I was naked, he added: I thought I was not able to do things... and you taught me and helped me see I was!

While we are grateful to God and to him for everything he has done in the nearly 60 years he spent in our diocese and country, there is something you need to know. There was in him a kind of "frustration". In these last three and a half years since I came for the first time to this diocese, I heard him say: "I was able to do a lot for those living with disabilities but never succeeded changing the way society looks at them". I heard him saying this more than once. Very quickly I was able to understand what he meant. Those living with disabilities have not yet taken their legitimate place in our society, in our families and communities. Many people acknowledge the work Fr Ciccone OSM has done for them but few would probably acknowledge their own hearts have not changed.

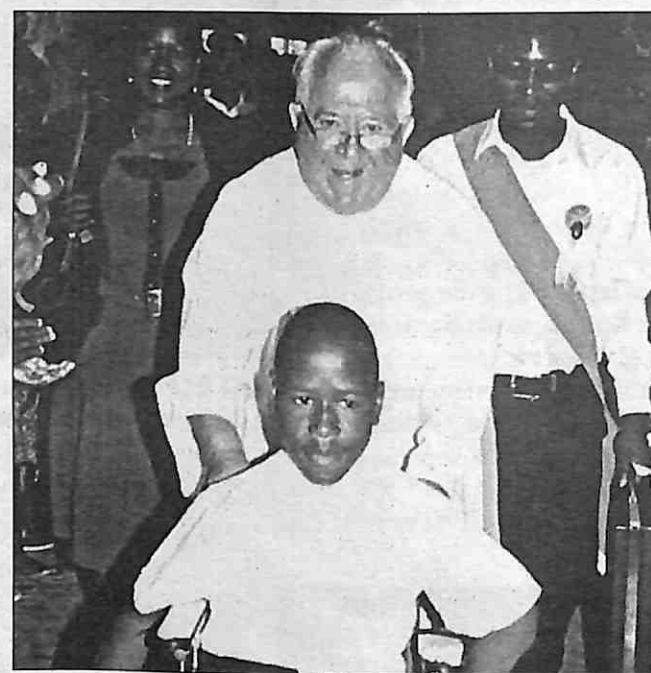
If we want to honour his memory...

If we want to honor our being Christians in the way Fr Ciccone OSM has taught us, we need to help now continue what he started but also make sure society changes its heart!

He prepared himself and prepared us. He did not die before time. He remained both alive and ready. His call to heaven came to us when we less expected it but

all these days after the accident, I believe Fr Ciccone OSM has been very close to us from heaven, interceding for us, consoling us and making sure we look to the future with confidence, led by the same faith he witnessed among us, faith in the One who is father of the poor and faith in the One who promised to be with us till the end of the time.

YOU WILL BE MISSED FATHER



LIFE LIVED TO THE FULLEST: Father Ciccone has been described as a man who touched many lives through his way of living, having taught those around him about God.

NU-NOTES THRILLS CROWD, ENDS ON A HIGH NOTE

By Lindokuhle Lukhele

AFTER a successful launch of a three days jazz workshop organised by Nelisa Lawton of Legendary Events, NU-Notes Jazz Ensemble closed off on a high note.

The workshop started last Thursday and ended on Saturday. It had a single purpose of giving Swazi artists musical knowledge. It wasn't only about jazz but it was open for other genres too. Lawton explained how they were trying to help artist elevate themselves by placing them at an international level, where groups like the NU-Notes would be interested in making them band members.

Lawton said this, following a marvellous performance by NU-Notes that left the crowd yearning for more as they could not get enough of the group.

With their 'You snooze you lose' track the group had the crowd eating at the palm of their hands.

Tour

Dan Selsick, the conductor and a founding member of the group, had the crowd entertained with his impeccable skills and slick talk. He mentioned how he has been on tour in Australia, hating every minute of it until he touched ground, in Swaziland.

"I came straight here just after my tour and to be honest I love everything about the country. The



PERFECT NOTE: Cape Town based NU-Notes band taking pictures with fans after their performance at the Mbabane Theatre Club. (Pic: Sibusiso Dlamini)

love has been overwhelming and I must say we are waiting for an invite back," he said. He also stated how he would love to perform at the famous Bushfire Festival, which has gone worldwide.

The youth NU-Notes Jazz Ensemble was apparently formed in just three days before they came to Swaziland. Dan explained that he held auditions in Cape Town as he was tired of band members that were all over South Africa and they needed to

be stationed in one place.

"I took young people that are good at what they do and put them together and what was displayed there was a result of that," he said.

Crowd

The crowd was amazed at how good the group was with just two rehearsals before their performance. Lawton promised jazz lovers that this was just a first of many as she is working on another event that will be announced

soon. She also explained on the free shows scenario and that it is because she wants this to be open to everybody, jazz lovers or not as they wish to draw more people to music.

"We have a responsibility of teaching people about music so they can be able to read it. NU-Notes youth members were formed in less than a week because they could read music. They didn't require much work," she added.

Ingwenyama Culture Committee implores teams to keep time

● Predict and win competition launched

By Qondile Ntiwane

THE Ingwenyama Cup Culture Committee has implored the teams to compete in the finals of the tournament to keep time.

The different groups to compete in the finals of this section of the tournament sponsored to the tune of E200 000 by the Sincephetelo Motor Vehicle Accident Fund (SMVAF) include Sibhaca, Lutsango, Ummiso, Timbongi and Imbali.

Committee Member Sandile 'MsandiKababa' Nxumalo said the teams were expected at the Somhlolo National Stadium on Sunday at 9am.

"Teams are urged to report at the stadium at 9am for registration. They are urged to keep time so we ensure the smooth running of the tournament," he said.

He said the culture competition would feature between 11am to 1pm.

Meanwhile Sincephetelo Motor Vehicle Accident Fund (SMVAF) Corporate Strategy and Communications Manager Makhosi Magongo announced that there would be a predict and win competition where the nation would predict the teams they believe would win in the different sections of the culture contest.

He said the nation would have to send a E2.50 worth SMS to 7005 with their predictions. The winner in these section will take home E1 500 while the runner-up will pocket E750 with the third place winner getting E350.



Stories by Tenele Dlamini

THE Alliance Française de Mbabane on Tuesday celebrated Women's Month in style as they engaged 30 women at their premises at an event that commenced at 5:30 pm.

The organisation commemorated 30 years of the existence of Women's Day in the country. At the occasion that proved to be quite a treat to the ladies, all 30 of them were divided into six groups of five, where they were given various questions in a form of a quiz.

The questions posed were on traditional issues and particularly on the leadership role of women in the country as well as a business related questions.

"The main question in the quiz was about leadership role of women in Swaziland right now and where women see themselves, while other questions included; What was the name of the first perfume? Why female names are used to describe weather phenomena amongst others?" explained Fakudze.

At this day of bonding that most women thoroughly enjoyed, ladies were also treated to refreshments, wine and delectable chocolates, courtesy of the Alliance Française. French music was the order of the day as it was played for the masses. And the arts and drama group Pelepele blew away those in attendance with their energetic performance.

Alliance Française de Mbabane celebrates Women's Month



Francophonie in March, flyer distribution

ON another note, the administrator at the French organisation notified the general public that the Francophonie event will again be held from March 13th to 19th.

"The public is also invited to attend a communications event, which will be held at the Swazi Plaza in Mbabane, by Mr Price Home and Sneakers shop. We will have a stand and a table where flyers will be distributed regarding a yet to be revealed event," the administrator concluded.

PIGG'S PEAK CLUB TO HOST EASTER LADIES NIGHT

THE Pigg's Peak Club will be hosting a first of its kind Easter's Ladies Night on March 26, which promises to be an explosive event of the feminine kind.

This is according to Zodwa Ncongwane, the event's organiser. "The event will be part of the ongoing Women's Month celebration, on the Easter weekend and the starting time is 6pm up until 6am," Ncongwane said.

Seeing as it is Women's Month, this occasion will be focusing on this theme and according to the organiser the best dressed three females will receive a gift of acknowledgement for their stylish and fashionable outfits on the night. Furthermore, the first 10 ladies to arrive will receive a free entrance pass at the door.

"We have previously held a similar event also at the Pigg's Peak Club on February 27, which was a Pool Party. This proved to be a very successful venture as a large number of



FOR THE LADIES: DJ Khwephe 13 and Zodwa Ncongwane.

people attended and it was well received. We would like to invite anyone interested to come to this Ladies Night as well," she said.

She emphasised that those interested in attending the Easter weekend occasion need not necessarily reside in Pigg's Peak, but could be from anywhere in the country. On the entertainment side of things, the events promoter mentioned that music would be provided by the likes of DJ Master P and DJ Quanapy.

LIMKOKWING OPENING BASH @ SOLANIS



PACKED: Fun-lovers came in their numbers during the Limkokwing University opening bash at Solanis last Friday. (Pics: Eddie Abner)



SHAKING IT: Tribal Misfits entertaining the students and patrons.



POSE: DJ Zulu with a friend.

TEAM ASHIRARI: Tjopokile, Sgadla and Mthoko posing for the lens.



SPINNERS: DJ Tonic Deep and another spinner on the decks.



INTOXICATING: Some of the students appreciating the various acts on the night.



GENTLEMEN: DJ Cash, SRC President Baphatse Dhladhla and DJ Tonic Deep.

NU-NOTES LEAVE THEM BEGGING FOR MORE



CAPTIVATED: The audience captivated by the performance of the Cape Town based NU-Notes. (Pics: Sibusiso Dlamini)



GIRL POWER: The girls of the band - Georgia Jones and Siya Charles.

SUPPORT: United States born artist Anita Bearmon-Freeman was also in attendance.



CHEESE: Fans had the opportunity of taking pictures with the band after their set.



CHATS: Georgia Jones chatting to a friend.



DSTV
Feel every moment

NEWS



HIGHLIGHTS

Booze Traveller

Today, 22:00 | Travel Channel (179)

"S2/E1 - Sicily: A Family Thing". A secret drink with a long-lost Queen, race cars, and mafia-fighting bar owners. Cocktail connoisseur Jack Maxwell returns for a second series of Booze Traveller, drinking his way around the globe! This series, he's off to Sicily, where he'll encounter Mafia-fighting bar owners, race cars and a secret drink with a long-lost queen. Jack makes his way to Greece,



home of ouzo, plate-smashing and an ancient hangover cure, before heading to Tanzania for a taste of banana beer. Jack gets thirsty in Hungary, where he enjoys a brandy-soaked wake-up call, cat dancing and a life-or-death recipe. Follow Jack's boozy adventures as he travels the world, one drink at a time.



Have A Little Faith

Today, 20:45 | True Movies 1 (138)

This film follows Albom's journey to find faith with the help of his childhood rabbi Albert Lewis and Detroit pastor Henry Covington, played by Martin Landau and Laurence Fishburne respectively. The role of Albom is played by Bradley Whitford. Lewis approaches Albom with an unusual request: "Will you do my eulogy?" Albom's initial reaction is to turn it down but he eventually agrees to take on this request and starts to visit the rabbi and talk to him to get an idea of who this man he once

revered and feared really is. Meanwhile, in Detroit, Albom meets Henry Covington, a reformed drug addict and criminal who is now the pastor at I Am My Brother's Keeper church. Their relationship begins with skepticism on Albom's part, but grows to be one of mutual respect. Both men teach Albom about faith. Albom tells of a lesson he learned while undertaking the task: "One was when we were talking about happiness and he told me the story about babies having their fist clenched when they come into the world because they think they can take everything, but when we die our hands are wide open because when we die you can take nothing with you."



The Real Housewives Of Atlanta

Tomorrow, 19:30 | Vuzu (116)

Phaedra and Apollo experience an emotional day as he prepares to face his day in court. NeNe heads to Vegas, where she is busy rehearsing for 'Zumanity'.

Safe

Tomorrow, 18:25 | M-Net Movies Action (110)
Action superstar Jason Statham is back and even fiercer than ever in this riveting crime thriller. A man must do every-



thing he can to protect a young Chinese girl from the mafia.

The Jacksons on Lifetime

THE Jackson family name has long been synonymous with fame, fortune and controversy.

In *The Jacksons: Next Generation*, which starts on Wednesday, 16 March at 20:45, this six-part series reveals an inside look into the lives of members of this iconic family.

After the passing of the legendary Michael Jackson, the responsibility of managing the Jackson family legacy fell onto the shoulders of Tito's sons: Taryll, Taj and TJ.

Told from their perspective, *The Jacksons: Next Generation* grants viewers an unprecedented look into the inner workings of the Jackson family and the heart, drama and chaos that inevitably accompany each family member.

The siblings, known as the music group 3T, have toured and sold more than three million records worldwide just off their debut album. Still impacted by the loss of their mother, Dee Dee, the brothers are raising their children and managing the day-to-day tasks within their families, just like everyone else. Their quest for



ONE FAMILY: The Jacksons family; the next generation.

normalcy, however, often collides head-on with the good and bad of living with one of history's most renowned last names.

The series reveals what it's like for them living with the last name Jackson, including how they deal with constant rumours, stalkers and frauds who all want a piece of anything and anyone related to the fami-

ly's legacy.

Produced by Go Go Luckey Entertainment, the series is executive produced by Henry Capanna, Julie Auerbach, Tina Gazzerro, Dennis Principe, Taj Jackson, Taryll Jackson, TJ Jackson, Megan McGuinness and Henri Hebert. Lifetime's Eli Lehrer, Mary Donahue and Kimberly Chessler also executive produce.

New series on CI, The Jail: 60 Days In

ON Saturday, 2 April at 21:00, Crime + Investigation (CI) (170) will premiere *The Jail: 60 Days In* – an unprecedented new, original 11-part docu-series following seven innocent participants who enter the dangerous world of incarceration at the Clark County Jail in Jeffersonville, Indiana, in an effort to expose internal issues and what really happens behind bars.

As a result of the facility's recent corrupt history, Sheriff Jamey Noel has devised a programme where the seven participants will live among the facility's general population for 60 days without officers, fellow inmates or staff knowing their secret.

Around-the-clock cameras captured this unparalleled access in an effort to bring problems to light and give viewers a first-hand look as the participants adapt to unfamiliar and terrifying surroundings.

The Jail: 60 Days In is a candid view of what life is like behind bars, through the eyes of people who have never been charged with a crime or done time.

"After recently taking office, it was no secret that the Clark County Jail had problems and we needed to take quick control. The only way to truly understand what was going on in the jail was to implement innocent participants into the system to provide first-hand unbiased intelligence. These brave volunteers helped us identify critical issues within our system that undercover officers would not have been able to find. We couldn't be more thrilled with the success of this inaugural programme," says Sheriff Jamey Noel.



THE JAIL: 60 Days In.

The participants

Maryum: A social worker fighting to put an end to gang violence

Zac: A conservative ex-Marine hopes the experience will help him in his journey to becoming a DEA agent

Tami: A police officer who has arrested hundreds of people wanted to better understand what life is like on the other side. After growing up in foster care, she could have easily wound up in jail like her brother so she wants to participate to gain a better perspective on how different their lives turned out

Jeff: A security guard for many years is ready to take the next step in his career to become a corrections officer. He feels that this experience will help ready him for his next career move

Isaiah: Feels like a part of him was ripped away when his older brother was locked up and wants to experience what his brother is going through

Robert: A teacher wants to use this experience to teach his students about the ramifications of their choices

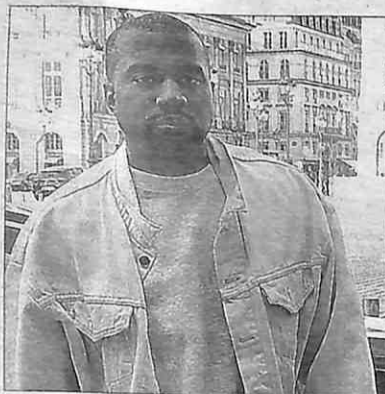
Barbra: A military wife and mother of two young children feels that prisoners have it too easy behind bars and wants to live it first-hand

The Jail: 60 Days In is produced by Lucky 8 TV for A&E Network. Executive producers for Lucky 8 TV are Gregory Henry, Kimberly Woodard and Jeff Grogan. Executive producers for A&E Networks are Elaine Frontain Bryant, Shelly Tatro, Drew Tappan and Brad Holman.

Celebrity Watch

Kanye West apologises for 'being confusing' the past few weeks

NEW YORK - He wrote to his 20 million followers: 'It's been a lot of confusion in the past three weeks so let me apologise for in any way being confusing... Kanye elaborated even more as he shared: 'I guess in a media world where you



APOLOGISES: Kanye West.

never hear the truth, the truth can come off as crazy... He also pleased many of his fans salivating for a chance to buy his limited trainer as he claimed that Adidas is making a million pairs of his shoes and even opening up new factories.

Daily Mail

Cosby refused to answer 98 questions during deposition

LOS ANGELES - Camille Cosby utilised her spousal privilege and refused to answer 98 questions during her deposition in the defamation lawsuit brought against Bill Cosby by seven women. Previous efforts failed to get her out of testifying against her husband, and on February 22, in Springfield, Massachusetts, she gave a deposition which was videotaped. A par-



REFUSED: Billy Cosby and his wife.

tial transcript was released on Monday. While she refused to answer several questions, Camille did say she never read a deposition in which Bill Cosby acknowledged he obtained sedatives to give to women he was planning to have sex with, according to the transcript. Seven women have filed a defamation lawsuit accusing Bill Cosby of harming their reputations when he defended himself against sexual assault claims and branded them as liars. Daily Mail

The truth behind Sean Penn's 'bungle in the jungle'

NEW YORK - Sean Penn's notorious meeting with El Chapo was orchestrated by director Oliver Stone, who wanted to buy the rights to the druglord's life for a mere \$6million and make a Hollywood blockbuster starring the Oscar-winner, a new documentary will reveal. In his widely lampooned article for Rolling Stone, Penn claimed he pursued a rendezvous with Joaquin 'El



DISCLOSED: Sean Penn.

Chapo' Guzman - the most wanted and dangerous drug lord in the world - purely for journalistic purposes. The leader of the Sinaloa cartel had ostensibly granted his first and only interview after escaping from a maximum security prison through a tunnel months earlier to the 55-year-old actor. But a new one-hour documentary claims the truth behind the encounter is more tangled than the script it was meant to lead to. Daily Mail

Simpson's manager says he knows who committed the murders

NEW YORK - O.J. Simpson's former manager said he knows who murdered Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman in 1994. Norman Pardo said during an interview on KNX 1070 NEWSRADIO that, 'I know who did it and I kn? Why they did it.' I just can't disclose it right now. Pardo said he and Simpson neglected to disclose the information to authorities because when they tried to speak with police, 'they took all my stuff regarding the incidents'. He said



KNOWS: Norman Pardo and O.J. Simpson.

there were people working on it and when they talked to police, 'they raided my office and took it all'. Last week Los Angeles police announced that they were testing a knife believed to have been recovered nearly two decades ago by a construction worker working on the demolition of Simpson's home. In an interview with People Magazine, Pardo said Simpson, who is in prison for an unrelated robbery conviction, 'isn't losing any sleep'. Daily Mail

Nick Gordon has been 'publicly humiliated'

NEW YORK - Lawyers for Nick Gordon are calling on a prosecutor to tell the public that Bobbi Kristina Brown was not murdered following the release of her autopsy last week. Joe Habachy and Jose Baez released a statement Tuesday asking Fulton County District Attorney Paul Howard to acknowledge there was no evidence of wrongdoing in Bobbi Kristina's death while also claiming Gordon



CLEARED: Nick Gordon.

tried to save her life. They also claimed that their client had suffered public humiliation for 'more than a year' because some believe he played a role in the death of Bobbi Kristina. A judge last week unsealed Bobbi Kristina's autopsy report which showed that her face being immersed in water, along with drug intoxication, led to her death. The medical examiner couldn't determine whether her death was an accident. Daily Mail

Emma Watson reveals the sexism she has suffered

NEW YORK - Emma Watson has revealed that even as a Hollywood star she is not immune from sexism and has even had her bottom slapped by a stranger. The actress said that her celebrity did not protect her from leering men and some have followed her home. In one particularly galling instance, a man slapped her bottom as she left a room. Miss Watson said that she has been called a 'diva' and a 'feminazi' but she does not let it bother



REVEALS: Emma Watson.

her and will not shut her up. Miss Watson has been vocal in support of feminism and in 2014 founded gender equality organisation HeForShe, the year she was appointed a UN Global Goodwill Ambassador. But she has also suffered a backlash and has come under fire from men on social media. Miss Watson, 25, who played Hermione Granger in the Harry Potter films, said that talking about women's rights was 'the most fun I've ever had'. Daily Mail

'I, Affleck live together in home where i cheated with their nanny'

NEW YORK - Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner's unconventional living arrangements have been the subject of much speculation over the last couple of weeks. The couple, who split after the actor allegedly cheated with their children's nanny, are supposedly living together, although Ben has his own separate quarters. But, if that's the case, then why is their \$17.5 million home in Pacific Palisades, Los Angeles - as shown in exclusive photographs



STILL TOGETHER: Ben Affleck and Jennifer Garner.

obtained by Daily Mail Online - looking so deserted? The garden looks unattended and the play areas, which used to be full of toys, now has a rusting slide and soccer net. The patio area has been packed up and the garden furniture has all been covered. Meanwhile, the pool remains covered and the usually lush green terracing that surrounds the property - is now barren scrubland. Daily Mail

Hogan admits 'embellishing' size of manhood at sex tape trial

NEW YORK - The fight between Hulk Hogan and the Gawker website returned to a Florida courtroom on Tuesday, where the former star wrestler faced questions from lawyers for the media company that he seeks to punish for releasing a secretly recorded sex tape. Hogan also got to talking about the size of his manhood in a bizarre line of questioning during his cross examination by Gawker attorneys.



ADMITS: Hulk Hogan.

A radio interview was played in which he seemed to suggest his penis was 10 inches. When asked if he had been discussing his penis in that interview, Hogan said: 'Well, it's not mine, because mine is not the size we're discussing.' He was then pressed further by the lawyer, at which point he said: 'No, seriously. I do not have a 10-inch penis.' Hogan explained his comments in the radio show by saying he was playing the Hulk Hogan character, and was not speaking as his actual self. Daily Mail

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA

TODAY

Blade warns Iris that when Pope realises he's been tricked, he'll want her head. The Zungu wives find Jabu unapologetic. S'bu springs a surprise on Lebo.



WARNS: Blade.

ISIDINGO

TODAY

Katlego loses her temper with her well-wishers. Lincoln tells the doctor she needs to be sedated. Calvin admits to Katlego that he's falling apart. Sam tells Brad it's time they work as a team.



LOSES HER TEMPER: Katlego.

Muvhango

TODAY

Lerumo pits KK and Ndalamo against each other. Gizara turns to Mulimisi for answers regarding Mashudu. Nonny finally tells Pule her biggest secret.



COMES OUT: Noni.

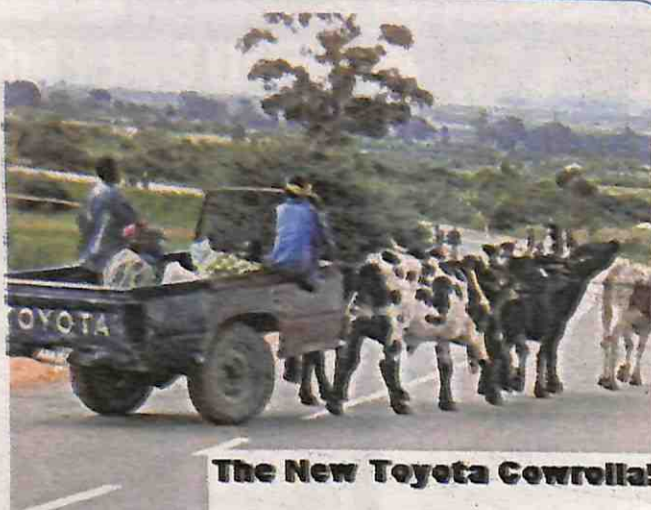
SAVING PRIVATE CITY

TODAY

Gadifele's master plan is revealed. Doc and Bongi agree to see other people. Sifiso's job is on the line. Suffocate tracks down the boys' location.



ON THE LINE: Sifiso.



The New Toyota Cowrolla!

TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn - Some preplanned group meeting may find you needing to leave work a little earlier than usual. You may be involved in some sort of political group for the next few weeks.



Aquarius - You can feel very good about yourself when you step outside the boundaries of your own expertise and try something new. You may surprise yourself at how well you perform and how interesting a new subject matter can be for a change.



Pisces - Taking chances can bring big rewards. Be confident but humble—people usually take you at your own evaluation. An important relationship, maybe with an older person or someone in authority, may come into focus today.



Aries - A generally busy day can be a good thing but even a good thing needs some stress relief. Call your loved one before the day is over and make an appointment with each other to share a massage.



Taurus - You have a natural sense for what the public wants. Dealing with the public today, you may gain some insights from others that are new to you. Patience, persistence, fairness and a sense of limits are in order.



Gemini - Pay attention to detail today. A small mistake can be quite costly and you are known for catching those small mistakes. There are plans in the making for your recognition. Unexpected medical expenses today may have family members fussing. Consider accessing your nutritional intake



and if you have caught the flu—baby yourself and take each day, one step at a time—slowly.



Cancer - Technical equipment has your attention—you are in your element. The hours just fly by as you work to make discoveries. Although you may be a bit conservative in your dress.

Leo - Everything points to your taking control of negotiations or projects that you have never had the opportunity to do before. Whatever the case, today promotes energies that will help you show off your talents and your ability to be supportive.



Virgo - Your professional or educational process is moving right along—just like clockwork. Now is a great time to make some changes in your habits. A bad habit can change or a new habit can be introduced.



Libra - Ambition takes centre stage now. Reward and recognition are yours for the making—but you must make them happen, you cannot simply wait around and expect them to appear. You seem to have developed a knack for being in the right place at the right time—you certainly have many friends in high places.



Scorpio - Communications are clear and you may find yourself conversing with many, many people on many, many subjects. Working with—rather than against—the flow of the energies should be easy to do today.



Sagittarius - Some people are silent and just have nothing to say... So don't push. This morning, people are busy and rushing to finish some project. You may be the lucky one and either you finish ahead of time



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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



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1	6	3	5	4	8	7	2	9
7	4	2	9	1	3	8	6	5
5	8	9	2	6	7	4	1	3
4	5	6	3	2	9	1	7	8
9	7	8	4	5	1	6	3	2
2	3	1	7	8	6	5	9	4
3	9	5	6	7	4	2	8	1
6	1	4	8	9	2	3	5	7
8	2	7	1	3	5	9	4	6

EASY SUDOKU PUZZLE #239

Fill in the missing numbers so every row, column and quadrant contains the number 1 through 9.

4			3					8
6		2				4		
	5	7	6					1
					3	6	4	
			7			2		
		8			2			3
						1	6	
	6			5		7		
2				7				



Mother takes her three sons to enrol in school.

The teacher asks.

Teacher: What are your son's names?

Lady: This boy's name is Leroy, this other boy's name is Leroy, and Leroy here is my third son's name.

Teacher: Isn't it confusing having all three boys named the same?

Lady: Oh no, you see when it's time for lunch I just holler out the

door, Leroy! it's time for lunch, and they all come a running. When it's time for dinner I just holler out the door, Leroy! it's time for dinner and they all come running.

Teacher: Ok, so what do you do when you want a specific boy?

Lady: Oh, well then I just holler out their last name.

USELESS FACTS

1. The average person spends six months of their life sitting at red lights.
2. The very first bomb dropped by the Allies on Berlin during World War II killed the only elephant in the Berlin Zoo.
3. More people are killed annually by donkeys than

- airplane crashes.
4. A 'jiffy' is a unit of time for 1/100th of a second.
5. There is approximately one chicken for every human being in the world.
6. Most collect calls are made on father's day.

Brainteasers Questions and Answers

Yesterday's Brain Teaser

1. A man went into a party and drank some of the punch. He then left early. Everyone at the party who drank the punch subsequently died of poisoning. Why did the man not die?

A. The poison from the punch came from the ice cubes. When the man drank the punch, the ice was fully frozen. Gradually, as the ice cubes melted the poison was released into the

- punch.
2. Which of these numbers are prime numbers: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14?

Today's Brain Teaser

1. What force from the sun pulls on the earth and keeps it in orbit?
2. In a drawer you have black socks and white socks. They are not stored away in pairs. Without looking, how many times will you have to reach into the drawer to come out with a matching pair?

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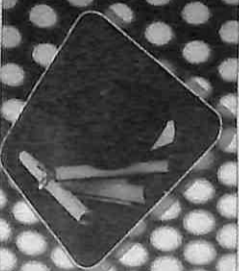
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ESTATE LATE: ORLANDO JOSE GARCIA LEAL ESTATE NO. EH 14/2016

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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.

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ESTATE LATE: ELIAS TOLO DLAMINI ESTATE NO. EL 07/2016

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Any person objecting to the account may lodge his or her objection in writing with the executor and with the Master of the High Court at any time before expiry of the said period.

KHETSWE HAPPY DLAMINI NEE ZWANE
P.O. BOX 944
SITEKI

R/N 177894

11 DEATHS



Relatives and Friends of **Jabu E Shabalala nee Shongwe** are notified of her sudden demise. Funeral Saturday 12 March at 6am at Mbekweni. No night vigil. Announcement by Family.

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Friends and Relatives of **Elmah Gadavu Mbingo** are notified of his death. Memorial service on the 12 March 2016 at Matsapha Industrial Church of the Nazarene at 2pm. Funeral on 13 March 2016 at his home (Bhekinkosi). Notice by Thokozile Mbingo (LaMamba) on behalf of the family.



Thoko Mngometulu is late. Funeral on the 12th of March 2016 at Velebantfu kuDumako after a night vigil. Announcement by husband, Domestic Mngometulu.



Friends and Relatives of **Mirriam Zoda Nkambule** (nee **Ndzmandze**) who was married to Leonard Nkambule are notified that she has passed on. Funeral will be held at Nkwene on Saturday on the 12th of March 2016 after a night vigil on Friday. Her memorial service will be held at Nhlango Church of the Nazarene at 12 noon on Friday 11 March 2016. Announcement by her children on behalf of the family.



Relatives and friends of the **Dlamini** at Mzilikazi, Siteki, the Malambe family at Hhelehele, Pigg's Peak, and the entire church of the Nazarene are notified of the passing on of **Gladys N. Dlamini** (nee **Malambe**). The memorial service will be at Fitch Memorial Church of the Nazarene at 1:00pm on Friday. The funeral service will be at her home at Mzilikazi at 5:30am on Saturday. Announcement by the Dlamini family.

umyeni wakhe lobekasenta kaloliwe eSivokodvo. Lofise kuya khona ugibela iGuys & Sons wehla KaPhunga eposini.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba Phindile Elizabeth Dube kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Usishiye ngalokukhulu kutumeke. Kwatiswa ikakhulu babe Joe namalume John Dlamini nalabake bafundzisa naye eMzimpofo kutsi babe khona. Umsebenzi wekufihla utaba ngeMgcibelo ekhakhakhe kaHhelehele-Luhloko hla. Kutawucala kube neli misinga ngalesihlanu nga 1pm eCathedral kaManzini bese kuba nemthandazo lomfisha ekhaya lakhe eSterksroom nga 5. Inkonzo yasekuseni itawucala nga 05:30. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumndeni.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba Joseph Vusi Dlamini kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Utawufihlwa eSibusisweni ngelisonfo 13/03/2016 emva kwemlindzelo ngeMgcibelo 12/03/2016. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Maqhawe Dlamini umusa wakhe egameni lemdeni.



Friends and Relatives of **Boniswa P (Dlamini) Magongo** are informed that she is late. A memorial service will be on Friday 11 March 2016 at Mbhuleni kagogo Fakudze. Night vigil and burial will be at eMasini kaMagongo on Saturday at 5:00 am on the 12th of March 2016. Announcement by Babe John Magongo.



Friends and relatives of **Mrs. Maria Mkhathshwa nee Simelane** are sadly notified about her demise. Funeral on 13/03/2016 at Nkiliji her home preceded by a night vigil on Saturday. Announcement by her son Vusi Mkhathshwa.

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba Lencane Magagula-Lukhele kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Utawufihlwa kaPhunga ngelisonfo 13/03/2016 emva kwemlindzelo ngeMgcibelo 12/03/2016. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Majahonke Dambuza Lukhele



Relatives and friends of **Ntabikayise Bianca** known as **Ntabisa Hlatjwayo** are notified of her demise. Funeral on Friday at Siteki Lukhetseni emasotjeni.

JOB 13:15

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yet will I hope in him;
I will surely
defend my ways to
his face.

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UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE



BOOED: Cristiano Ronaldo was booed by Real Madrid fans despite grabbing one goal and laying on another.

Ronaldo booed by Madrid fans

MADRID - Real Madrid's all-time leading goalscorer Cristiano Ronaldo was booed by his own fans, despite scoring one goal and making another in the club's win over Roma on Tuesday night.

Ronaldo put his side in the lead, bagging his 90th Champions League goal in the process, but before that he had to endure stick from sections of the Bernabeu crowd when he missed several other good chances.

Ronaldo's goal, and the second he laid on for James

Rodriguez, resulted in a 2-0 win on the night and a 4-0 aggregate score to beat Roma and see Real into the quarter-finals.

Ronaldo's team mate, Spain defender Sergio Ramos, gave his backing to the Portugal forward.

'I would tell the fans to think a little first,' Ramos was quoted as saying by the Marca newspaper. 'I respect them but when things don't go well they should support their players because we all want the best for Real Madrid.'

Daily Mail

SCHURRLE STRIKE SEES HOSTS INTO QUARTER-FINALS FOR FIRST TIME

MUNICH - Wolfsburg booked their expected place in the quarter-finals of the Champions League for the first time in their history as Andre Schurrle's late goal earned them an unconvincing 1-0 home win over Gent.

The simple finish, created by a fine surge into the area by Julian Draxler, sealed a 4-2 aggregate success, but this was not a performance to instill fear in the other sides left in the competition.

The Germans struggled to break down their hard-working opponents for long periods and it was not until the 74th minute that Draxler, the scorer of two goals in the first leg, provided the inspiration to unlock the door.

The goal was Schurrle's fourth in eight days after his hat-trick against Hannover.

The Wolves went into the game in the box seat, but their task would have been far easier had they not



WHOSE BALL?: Gent midfielder Sven Kums holds off pressure from Wolfsburg's Ricardo Rodriguez on Tuesday night as his side suffer a 1-0 defeat. (*Daily Mail*)

thrown away a 3-0 first-leg lead by conceding two late goals to give the Belgians hope.

And Gent looked comfortable in the

first half at the Volkswagen Arena, with Moses Simon causing plenty of problems down the left.

Daily Mail

'Roma 'didn't have the belief' to beat Real Madrid'

ROMA - Roma manager Luciano Spalletti has slammed his players for not having the belief or 'clinical streak' they needed to beat Real Madrid in the Champions League.

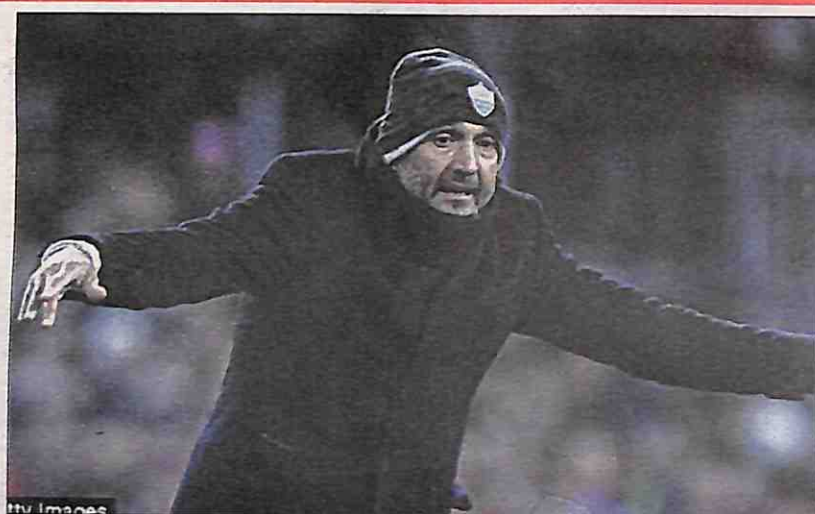
The Italian club were beaten by two goals in each leg without finding the net once across the tie, but Spalletti believes his team had the chance to progress if they had possessed the right mentality.

Roma created several clear-cut opportunities while the second leg was in the balance at 0-0, with Edin Dzeko and Mohamed Salah spurning the best of them.

And Spalletti, who then saw Cristiano Ronaldo and James Rodriguez end his side's hopes, was clearly not pleased.

"We need to improve our mentality, our clinical streak and our belief," he said.

"We can't rest easy and be happy with losing two matches 2-0. It's not OK. We need to improve.



TONGUE LASHING: Roma manager Luciano Spalletti.

"In the past I've achieved some results with Roma that have gone down in history. We need to change the way we think.

"2-0 away, 2-0 at home - Real Madrid deserve to go through.

"We need to change our mentality

after this game. We need to realise the kind of chance we threw away tonight.

"Over the two legs we didn't play with the necessary belief to get the result."

Daily Mail

R. Madrid boss Zidane happy

MADRID - Real Madrid manager Zinedine Zidane reflected on a job well done after his side saw off wasteful Roma to win 2-0 at the Bernabeu and secure a place in the quarter-finals of the Champions League for the sixth season in a row.

Roma were trailing 2-0 from the first leg, but created enough chances during the first half to be at least on level terms as Edin Dzeko and Mohamed Salah missed great openings.

Madrid eventually made the Italians pay when Cristiano Ronaldo, who hit four goals in the 7-1 La Liga thrashing of Celta Vigo, scored from close range after 64 minutes, James Rodriguez adding a quick second to end any

hopes of a recovery.

"It was a difficult game, but in the end we got our objective which was to go through, and we didn't concede a goal," Zidane said.

"Over the 90 minutes many things could have happened because we were up against a team with good and fast footballers, but we got the job done."

Roma coach Luciano Spalletti, however, was in less complimentary mood about his squad, lamenting a lack of a cutting edge.

"We played well and deserve compliments, but the reality is we must grow in terms of mentality, conviction and determination," Spalletti said to Italian television station Mediaset Premium.

Daily Mail

"Predict and win competition"

Soccer: SMS the name of the winning team as well as the score.

First prize	E3000
Second prize	E1500
Third prize	E750

Cultural: SMS the name of the preferred team, per culture code.

First prize	E1500
Second prize	E750
Third prize	E350

Winners will be drawn from each cultural dance category

SMS Cost 250

Closing date 11am Sunday 13 March

Terms and conditions, no children under 18 allowed to participate, SPWA supports responsible gambling, SPWA Fund employees, Ingwenyama cup committee members and their immediate family members are not allowed to participate.

Game On, Buckle up!





Finals

SOCCER AND CULTURE

Royal Leopards vs Mbabane Swallows

SOMHLOLO STADIUM

SUNDAY

13 MARCH, 2016

GATES OPEN

07:00

KICK OFF 11:00

CULTURE

KICK OFF 16:00

SOCCER

REGION	CODE	TEAM
MANZINI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMBONGI • LUTSANGO • SIBHACA • INGADLA • EMAJAHA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Khethabahle Mdluli/Temasotja Dlamini • Lozitha • Lozitha • Ngculwini • Mphini
SHISELWENI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMBONGI • LUTSANGO • SIBHACA • INGADLA • EMAJAHA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nkhosikwanele Dlamini/ Mabandla Simelane • Lavumisa • Magele • Zombodze emuva • Buseleni

REGION	CODE	TEAM
HHOHO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMBONGI • LUTSANGO • SIBHACA • INGADLA • EMAJAHA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phulumnkantja Zulu/Valumoya Msweli • Nkhanini • Zulwini • Langeni • eTfuntini
LUBOMBO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMBONGI • LUTSANGO • SIBHACA • INGADLA • EMAJAHA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mbuso Gina/Shiyemasimu Tsabedze • Dvokodweni / Malindza • KaMkhwelli • Lomahasha • KaLanga

Be part of the Ingwenyama Cup finals. Catch the traditional dance finalists under **Indlamu, Sibhaca, Ingadla, Lutsango and Timbongi** display spectacular talent. Also witness the main attraction between Swaziland's two football giants in Mbabane Swallows and Royal Leopard and see who takes home E1,1 m.



Sharapova's drug shame could cost her £100m

NEW YORK - She has been the best-paid female athlete in the world for 11 years, earning more off the tennis court than on it. Not any more.

Maria Sharapova, 28, could now become the biggest financial loser in sporting history, missing out on estimated future earnings of as much as £100million (\$142million).

Her biggest sponsors Nike, Porsche, and TAG Heuer all moved to cut ties with the Russian tennis star after she failed a drugs test.

Sportswear giant Nike on Tuesday night said it was putting its relationship with the five times Grand Slam winner on hold and was "saddened and surprised" by her conduct.

Porsche suspended promotional work with her, while watchmaker TAG Heuer said it would not be renewing Sharapova's contract.

Other firms who contribute to her staggering earnings are likely to follow suit. It is unlikely any firm will pay to be associated with such a high-profile drug cheat.

And as former Wimbledon winner Sharapova also faces a four-year ban from tennis she will be unable to earn

LUCRATIVE DEALS SHE'S LOST ... AND THOSE IN DOUBT

NIKE: £6m a year
Has a £50m eight-year deal with Sharapova, but has already suspended relationship since Monday's announcement

TAG HEUER: £2m
Suspended renegotiating long-term deal that had lapsed two months ago

PORSCHE: £2m
Suspended relationship with the tennis star who became its first female ambassador in three-year deal in 2013

AVON: £1.5m
She is the face of their fragrance line, Luck (right). Last night failed to respond to requests for comment

EVIAN: £1.5m
She is a brand ambassador. No comment last night

HEAD: £1m
Multi-year deal to endorse racquets. No comment last night

TIFFANY & CO: £1m
Sharapova has worn Tiffany earrings during grand slams. No comment last night

AMERICAN EXPRESS: £1m
No comment last night

SUGARPOVA

Her own 'premium candy' business was unlikely for a healthy sports star, and may not prosper now she is tarred as a performance enhancing drug abuser

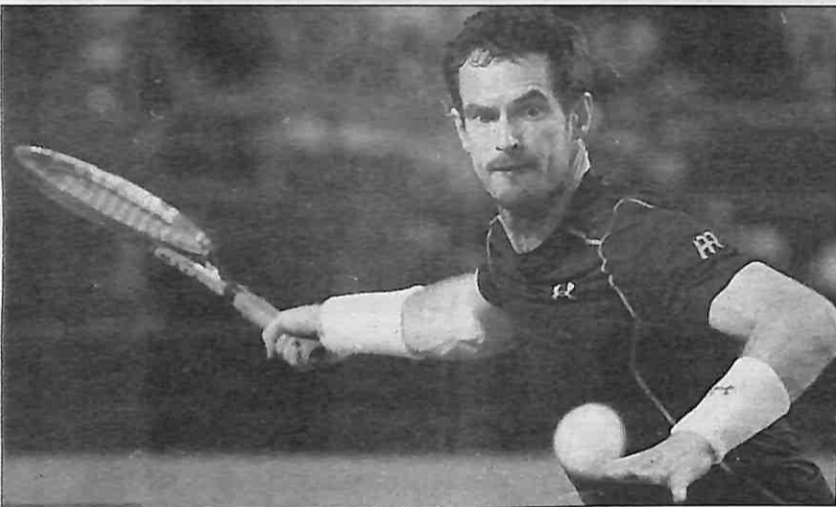


BIGGEST LOSER: Maria Sharapova.

any money on the court.

She will even have to pay back the £209 000 (\$300 000) she earned for reaching the quarter-final of this

year's Australian Open – the tournament at which she failed the test, and which now may prove to be her last. *Daily Mail*



NO TO DOPING: Andy Murray.

Murray makes money to help tennis

LONDON - Andy Murray's words in the wake of last November's suspension of Russian athletes from the Olympics now look more prescient than ever.

Long before anyone's jaw had dropped at Maria Sharapova's Monday night confession, he made a call for tennis to do more to combat the threat of doping abuse in a Sportsmail interview.

"I don't think it's just a Russia problem or just an athletics problem," he told us.

"It's up to the governing bodies just how much they want to tackle it, because with the amount of money and profit sport actually makes there needs to be enough spent on anti doping."

"The prize money we have in tennis is extremely high." *Daily Mail*

FFF searched in Blatter FIFA case

PARIS - French authorities have searched the Paris offices of the French Football Federation in connection with Switzerland's criminal investigation targeting former FIFA president Sepp Blatter, the Swiss attorney general said yesterday.

"Pursuant to (a) request for mutual legal assistance of January 14, 2016 and in close coordination with the office of the attorney general of Switzerland, the French Financial Prosecution Office proceeded yesterday (Tuesday) to a search of the offices of the French Football Federation (FFF) in Paris with the latter's consent."

The office of the attorney general of Switzerland (OAG) was present during the search, a statement from the attorney general's office said.

The Tuesday search was "in connection with the criminal proceedings against Mr. Joseph Blatter," it added. *AFP*



MENTOR: Brazil coach Dunga.

likely to ask him to participate in only one of them. *Daily Mail*

Dunga prefers Rio 2016 for Neymar

SAO PAULO - Brazil boss Dunga has confirmed he would prefer to see Neymar feature at the Rio Olympics in August rather than the Copa America in the United States.

Dunga is in Spain this week to talk to the star and Barcelona, to decide which tournaments the attacker will play.

Officials from the Brazilian football confederation said a decision will only be made after an agreement is

reached among all parties.

"If I have to choose between Copa America and the Olympics, I prefer to see him (Neymar) in the Olympics," Dunga told Brazilian TV channel Esporte Interativo.

Dunga, who was in the Spanish capital for Real Madrid's Champions League match against Roma on Tuesday, highlighted "the importance of the gold medal for Brazil."

Neymar confirmed he wants to play in both competitions, but Barcelona is

Unfit Bafana face Cameroon

JOHANNESBURG - Bafana Bafana coach Shakes Mashaba will go into the Africa Cup of Nations qualifiers against Cameroon with the majority of his country's top strikers out of form or out of favour.

Mashaba will announce his squad for the qualification double-header today.

There is not much for him to enthuse over, with only three of the leading nine strikers on the PSL scorers charts being South African. One of those is Bidvest Wits winger Daine Klote, who will not solve things in the six-yard box.

Only Ajax Cape Town forward Prince Nxumalo (11 league goals) and Polokwane City striker Thobani Mncwango (10) have made an impact this season, but neither has much international experience.

The top foreign scorers in the PSL are Collins Mbesuma (Zambia), Khama Billiat (Zimbabwe), Jeremy Brockie



(New Zealand), Leonardo Castro (Colombia), Andrea Fileccia (Belgium) and James Keene (England).

The one local forward who has been banging in the goals is Dino Ndlovu, who has netted 17 times in 22 starts for Cypriot side Anorthosis Famagusta.

But he was called up for the FIFA World Cup qualifiers against Angola late last year and not given a run by Mashaba, which suggests he is not what the coach is looking for.

Times Live

Phangiso cleared ahead of T20

JOHANNESBURG - South Africa left-arm spinner Aaron Phangiso has been cleared to play at the World Twenty20 tournament in India after an independent reassessment of his bowling action found it to be legal, Cricket South Africa (CSA) said on Tuesday.

The 32-year-old failed tests carried out by the International Cricket Council (ICC) on March 1 having been reported by umpires in a domestic 50-over match last month.

Phangiso was suspended from bowling until his action could be re-tested and has now been cleared to resume his career having worked with South Africa spin-bowling consultant Claude Henderson over the past week.

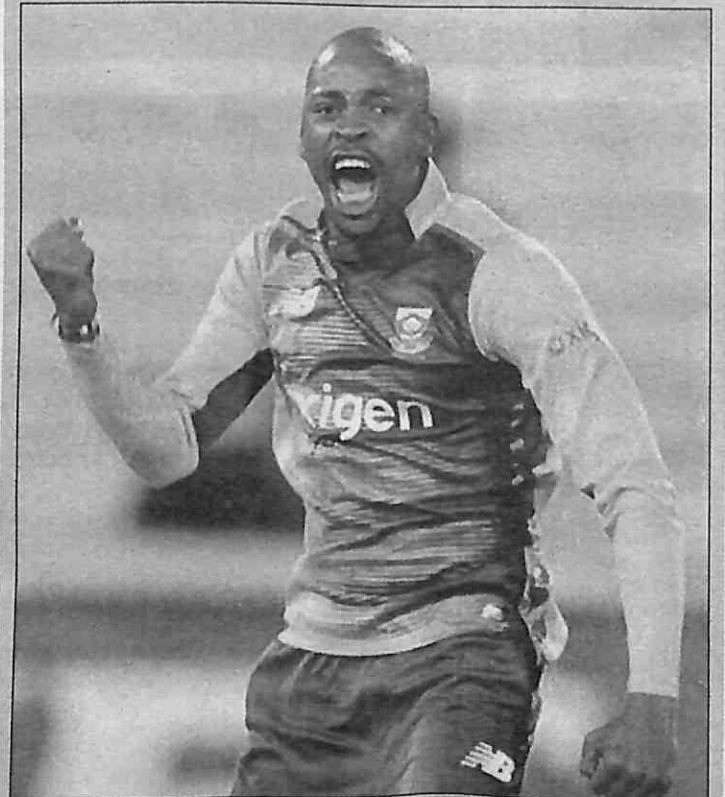
"It's a huge relief to be cleared and to have my bowling action passed. It's been a tough and challenging few weeks for me," Phangiso said in a CSA statement.

"I'd really like to use the next few days ahead of the (World Twenty20) tournament to gain playing confidence, especially with some of the technical adjustments we have made to my action."

Phangiso was available for South Africa's series-deciding third Twenty20 international against Australia in Cape Town yesterday.

South Africa open their World Twenty20 campaign against England on March 18. They will also play Sri Lanka and West Indies in their pool.

Times Live



AVAILABLE: Proteas' left-arm spinner Aaron Phangiso will be available for T20 selection.



ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP

Liverpool, Man United must stop living in the past

LONDON - Louis Van Gaal insists anyone who derides Manchester United and Liverpool for being in the Europa League is living in the past.

The two clubs have been champions of Europe eight times between them - Liverpool on five occasions, United three - but find themselves facing each other in Europe's secondary club competition.

Van Gaal, though, has dismissed suggestions that both teams are in decline.

Liverpool failed to qualify for the Champions League after finishing sixth domestically last season, while United were eliminated at the group stage in December.

Van Gaal said: "How many titles have Liverpool and how many titles have Manchester United? It was another time. You live in the past. You live in the past. You have to live in the present."

"This happens in football. It's normal. It's not normal that one team dominates for 20 years in a row as champions."

Van Gaal has played down suggestions that the heated rivalry between Liverpool and United adds spice a two-legged tie that begins with a match at Anfield today.

He insists that Sunday's 1-0 league defeat at West Bromwich Albion was just as vital to him.

"Several people are thinking that they are the enemy," Van Gaal said. "I am not thinking like that. I am thinking that they are the opponent. We want to beat the opponent."

"For the fans, it's a bigger something, but for me, no. I want to win every game. When we win against West Bromwich Albion, I'm very pleased. When we

lose, and we have lost, I am very disappointed."

"I want to win every game and we prepare ourselves to beat the opponent. It does not depend on whether we play Liverpool or West Bromwich Albion, who we lost to."

"It is also a big disappointment for us that we lost against West Bromwich Albion. When we win against Liverpool, I am very happy, but not more happy than if we had beaten West Bromwich Albion."

United would qualify for next season's Champions League if they won the Europa League.

Defender Chris Smalling, who was a part of the team who failed to qualify for the Champions League two seasons ago, does not want to miss out again.

He said: "We've still got a lot of games to play in the league, and we have another route in the Europa League to make sure that doesn't happen again. We're all striving forward and looking forward to make sure that doesn't happen for a second time." *Daily Mail*



GET OVER IT: Louis Van Gaal.



BACK: Steve McClaren pictured arriving at Newcastle's training ground yesterday morning. (Daily Mail)

Steve McClaren arrives to take Newcastle training

LONDON - Steve McClaren arrived at Newcastle United's training ground yesterday with the club considering replacing their under-fire manager with Rafa Benitez.

The former England boss was pictured climbing out of the back of a black Audi at the North-East club's Darsley Park with his future hanging in the balance. Newcastle have lost five of their last six Premier League matches to leave the 54-year-old clinging to the top job as Toon chiefs draw up a shortlist of names with the axe ready to fall on McClaren. McClaren arrived to take training ahead of next Monday's visit to table-topping Leicester still not sure if he would even be in the

dugout for the game. Former Real Madrid manager Benitez, who wants to return to management in the Premier League, is heading up the list of replacements and would be interested in taking over at Newcastle. Sportsmail understands the ex-Liverpool boss has been spoken about in depth by the club's board and they will use intermediaries to gauge his interest.

Benitez is back in the UK at his Wirral family home following his sacking at the Bernabeu in January and, like he did at Chelsea in 2012, would be willing to sign an interim deal until the end of the season, especially as the Magpies are in serious danger of being relegated.

Daily Mail



JOHANNESBURG - Word coming out of the Kaizer Chiefs camp is that goalkeeper Brilliant Khuzwayo is not happy with his limited game time at Amakhosi.

Khuzwayo, who not so long ago was Chiefs' first choice goalkeep-

Giroud helps Arsenal reach last eight

LONDON - Holders Arsenal kept up their bid for a hat-trick of FA Cup trophies, marching into the quarter-finals as Olivier Giroud and Theo Walcott netted twice in a 4-0 replay win at second-tier Hull City on Tuesday.

France striker Giroud had not scored in his 11 previous games but made the most of a terrible back pass after 40 minutes and then doubled the lead

with 20 minutes remaining following a sharp volley from close range.

Walcott side-footed the ball home to make it 3-0 before his low drive capped Arsenal's first win in six games.

Victory though came at a cost for Arsenal, who face Watford in the last eight, as defenders Per Mertesacker and Gabriel and midfielder Aaron Ramsey were forced off through injury.

"I'm a bit shocked, we lost our two centre backs in the game and we lost Aaron Ramsey," manager Arsene Wenger told BT Sport following his team's sixth match in a hectic 18-day

spell.

"Mertesacker has a cut on his eye and a bit of concussion but he should be fine and Gabriel looks alright. Ramsey, I'm a bit more concerned about because it's a muscular thigh injury."

The competition has taken on extra importance for Arsenal with their Premier League title challenge faltering in recent weeks and their Champions

League hopes in tatters

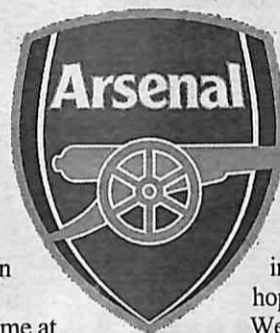
after Barcelona left the Emirates Stadium with a 2-0 win two weeks ago.

The pressure has mounted on Wenger with the FA Cup now seemingly the club's best hope of silverware.

Wenger changed six

players following their 2-2 draw at Tottenham Hotspur in the north London derby on Saturday and his side dominated possession in the first half.

They took the lead when Hull's David Meyler failed to look up before playing a blind back pass across his own goal, Giroud intercepting and finishing calmly beneath keeper Eldin Jakupovic. *Goal.com*



Khuzwayo unhappy at Chiefs?

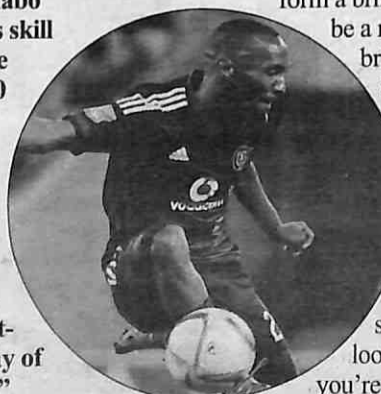
er before Itumeleng Khune signed a new contract with Amakhosi, has found himself playing second fiddle to Reyaad Pieterse during Khune's absence. Khune is currently fighting his way back to the team after recovering from his injury. "Brilliant was in the Bafana Bafana squad not so long ago and his lack of game time at Chiefs is going to cost him a place in the national team," said a

source close to Khuzwayo. "He is trying hard to play it cool, but you can see that he is unhappy. Maybe he will get a chance against Stars because Pieterse was not at his best in the Soweto derby this past weekend." Khuzwayo signed a new three-year deal with Amakhosi in January last year, while Pieterse's deal with Amakhosi is set to expire at the end of June. *Teh Citizen*

English press slams Rakhale's 'pointless display'

JOHANNESBURG - English Publication The Daily Mirror, has labelled Orlando Pirates player Thabo Rakhale's skill during the team's 2-0 victory over neighbours Kaizer Chiefs as "wonderfully pointless display of nonsense."

Rakhale is well known in England, after his 'Yoyo Trick' made some rounds in the UK last year.



"The showboat is a very particular football skill. A proper showboat doesn't just see a player perform a brilliant trick. It can only be a real showboat if said brilliant trick has no impact on the game," the article read.

"With his side two goals up and the match in injury time, Pirates midfielder Thabo Rakhale thought he'd do some showing off. Have a look at the video - if you're anything like us, you will be delighted by his wonderfully pointless display of nonsense."

The Citizen

Bucs to rope in Malesela?

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates are said to have set their sights on Dan Malesela, with a view of possibly offering him a role in their technical team in the future.

As reported by the Siya crew last week, Pirates are keen to keep Eric Tinkler at the club for the long-term future, with several possibilities available to the current Bucs head coach. The 2-0 win over arch-rivals, Kaizer Chiefs, on the weekend will boost Tinkler's relationship with the club's management. The Buccaneers are reportedly planning to introduce more personnel to their technical team as part of the changes for the upcoming season and beyond. *Laduma*



HLASELA BHUBESI ON THURSDAYS

With Siqongiseni Zondi
Red Lions' Brand Ambassador



WE greet you on this beautiful Thursday *ma-Bhubesi*, we hope you are well. Please enjoy another jam-packed edition of your favourite column.

BUFFALOES DISSAPPOINTMENT

As you know by now *ma-Red Lions*, we lost our 18th MTN Premier League match of the season 0-5 to Young Buffaloes last Friday. It was one of the lowest points in our existence *ma-Bhubesi* and we would firstly like to apologise to you. Everyone was extremely disappointed, the players, technical team and management. We, however, have put that result behind us and are still trying to pick all the lessons we can learn from it. *Hlasela Bhubesi!*

WE HAVE BEEN UNLUCKY - MVUBU

Captain Bongani Mvubu believes the team has been playing good football of late but luck has eluded them. "In the past two games (1-2 loss vs. Highlanders and 0-5 loss against Buffaloes), I think luck has not been on our side. Against Highlanders we gave our best, the least we should have got was a draw but unfortunately we conceded a late goal. Against Buffaloes we received an early red card (Kamara), which made it difficult for us to play almost the entire match against 11 men hence we lost. Had it been 11 against 11, I think it would have been a different result so again I just think we were unfortunate.

Coming to the SwaziBank Cup, our form has been great. In fact, in the past five games in all competi-

tions we have been playing well. We want to go as far as possible in the SwaziBank Cup and I believe that is possible because the guys are working really hard at training."

SENZO TALKS NEW HEAD COACH AND MORE

Gifted winger Senzo Dlamini says new head coach Zenzele 'Ace' Dlamini has brought unity to the team. "Coach 'Ace' is a good coach and for me, it's the second time we

have worked together as he was also my coach at Mbabane Swallows. He has brought unity to the team and he keeps motivating us by telling us that we are a good team and that we will make it if we work hard and work together. Coming to my own personal game, I am happy to be back from injury and am prepared to work hard to regain my place in the starting XI in order to help the team win the last four league matches and the SwaziBank Cup. My message to

'ACE' HAS BROUGHT UNITY - SENZO DLAMINI



MORE THAN A COACH: Red Lions Senzo Dlamini (c) celebrating with team-mates.

GOOD MAN: Red Lions coach Zendzele 'Ace' Dlamini.

our supporters is that they must not worry. I promise we will make it to the top eight by the end of the season. We were aiming for the top four but things didn't go according to plan but we can still make the top eight. I love you *ma-Bhubesi!*"

INGWENYAMA CUP FINAL

Ma-Bhubesi, we might not be part of the SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup final this coming Sunday but we would like to urge you to attend the beautiful spectacle that will unfold at Somhlolo National Stadium on Sunday. We would like to urge the whole nation to take to Somhlolo to witness the historic final between Mbabane Swallows and Royal Leopard and further wish both sides all the best of luck. May the best team win! Please remember to observe all road safety rules. Do not drink and drive! Do not overload!

FINAL WORDS

Ma-Bhubesi, this weekend we will not be in action as the SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup final takes centre stage. We will update you on the dates and venue for our next match as soon as we get correspondence from the PLS. In the meantime please keep safe *ma-Bhubesi*. We love you and appreciate your unwavering support. Please make sure to tune into the SBIS Sports Show every Monday and Friday at 6:15 am to get important updates from our brilliant PRO Comfort Shongwe. Gagashi kaMaphindela is out. Until next week, God bless you all. *Hlasela Bhubesi!*

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NICHOLAS VILAKATI WINS SRIC MONTHLY MUG

Sibusiso Masilela

GOLF - GOLFER Nicholas Vilakati was in his best form when he outclassed fellow golfers to win the Swaziland Royal Insurance Corporation (SRIC) monthly mug competition at Mbabane Golf Club on Saturday.

Golf players came in their numbers to take part in this event held over the weekend, where Vilakati was the cream of the crop on net 66.

He was ahead of Kenneth Nkambule, who was the gross winner on net 77 while Mduduzi Maphalala was so close at net 71.

Nkambule proved to be one of the strongest golfers as he won the longest drive while Mduduzi Maphalala won the nearest pin 2/11 followed by G. Zulu at 8/17 and M. Dlamini at 9/18 respectively.



THE RESULTS:

Nicholas Vilakati	- winner net 66
Kenneth Nkambule	- gross winner 77
Mduduzi Maphalala	- runner-up net 71
Joe Shiba	- net 73
Themba Maziya	- net 73
Leon Bashasha	- net 74
Evert Madlopha	- net 74
Albert Mhlanga	- net 74
Mduduzi Mtsetfwa	- net 74

NOVELTIES

Longest drive	- K. Nkambule
Nearest pin 2/11	- R. Maphalala
8/17	- G. Zulu
9/18	- M. Dlamini

CHAMPION:
Nicholas Vilakati accepting his trophy.



SMILE: Evert Madlopha was smiling from ear to ear after receiving his award.

GROWING STRONG: Themba Maziya was also among the winners.



SECOND BEST: Kenneth Nkambule being presented with his award and trophy.

THIRD: Mduduzi Maphalala was also recognised for his efforts.



GOOD GAME: Joe Shiba shaking hands with Nkambule as he accepts his award.



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UNICEF/SOCGA donate E1.2m sports equipment to 150 schools

Stories by Sanele Jele

SPORTS - THE United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in partnership with Swaziland Olympic Commonwealth Games Association (SOCGA) has donated sporting equipment worth E1.2 millions to 150 schools in the four regions of the country.

The hand-over event held at Olympia-Africa Centre yesterday was attended by Ministry of Education Principal Secretary Pat Muir, SOGCA General Secretary Muriel Hoffer, UNICEF Representative Rachel Odede, International Olympic Committee Senior Project Manager Nicholas Chamais and Manager Games Services Andrew Hofer among others.

Making his remarks, Odede expressed their delight in partnering with SOGCA and the ministry of education for the betterment of children.

"UNICEF is pleased to present



GENEROUS: Ministry of Education and Training Principal Secretary Pat Muir receiving some of their sporting equipment from UNICEF Rep Rachel Odede while SOGCA mascot Sizwengwe looks on during the UNICEF/SOCGA Lifeskills for Sports Development hand-over held at Lobamba Olympia Africa Centre yesterday. UNICEF donated 1.2 million worth of sporting equipment to 150 schools. (Pics: Sanele Jele)

a consignment of sporting equipment worth E1.2 million to be used for physical education, guidance and counselling sessions and sporting activities.

A total of 150 schools (both primary and high schools) will benefit from this initiative."

Odede said as an organisation they were all out to empower children and adolescents to keep a healthy lifestyle through sport.

"The sport for development initiative is a component of a 'Life Skills' pillar. This programme aims at empowering the

children and adolescents and also promote healthy lifestyle and positive values through physical activity," she added.

She also thanked SOGCA for partnering with them to make this initiative a success.

"SOCGA continues to be a strategic partner in the implementation of 'Sports for Development' initiative and we sincerely appreciate their contribution and enthusiasm in achieving results in the sports for development programme."

From the equipments, 12 schools have been identified to receive goalposts, soccer balls and bibs among others things. These are Ngwane Primary, (Manzini region), Lobamba High (Hhohho region), Othandweni Primary (Lubombo) and Lucaceni Primary under Shiselweni region. The other schools (100 high schools and 50 primary schools) will get equipment like stopwatches, whistles, soccer balls and vests just to mentioned a few.

Sports a vehicle for HIV/AIDS education - PS

SPORTS - THE Ministry of Education and Training Principal Secretary Pat Muir says as a ministry they are taking advantage of the children's love for sports and using it as a vehicle to educate them on issues relating to HIV/AIDS.

The PS was speaking on behalf of the Minister of Education and Training Phineas Magagula during the official hand-over of 1.2 million worth of sporting equipment to schools held at Olympia-Africa Centre in Lobamba yesterday.

"As a ministry we have realised that we can use young people's love for sporting activities as a

vehicle to educate them on issues of HIV/AIDS," Muir said.

Muir said the sport for development programme would not only focus on HIV issues but also help in uniting teachers and children.

"The programme has opened opportunities for sports and guidance teachers to work as a team. This will also benefit the children to excel not only in athletics but also in mentorship and leadership skills.

I would like to sincere thank UNICEF and SOGCA for the kind gesture and we hope the equipment will be utilised for the betterment of the intended beneficiaries," He added. Speaking on



NEW: A portion of the sporting equipment which worth E1.2 million.

behalf of SOGCA, General Secretary Muriel Hoffer said they were pleased to partner with the ministry and UNICEF and were looking to making a huge impact amongst the schools.

"It is an honour to partner with UNICEF and the ministry of education and training for the better

of the children in the country.

We are hoping to impact great knowledge amongst the different schools in the country; this will surely go a long way in making sure talent is unearthed and at the same time the children will stay physically fit and healthy," she said.

Sikhatsi vows to defend George Singles title

By Sanele Jele

POOL - DEFENDING champion Sikhatsi Dlamini has vowed to defend the George Singles title.

The games will resume this weekend after a three-week break.

Dlamini said he would be all out to defend the title.

"Well it will be a tough league because the participants have increased. You will recall that last year we were 16 and now we are 20 which will make it more interesting since I will be playing unknown pool players.

It will be a good experience for me and the others but I am prepared to defend this title." Dlamini invited pool lovers to attend the games and show support for the sport. "It is always exciting to play in front of fans; it gives one the courage to play even better. Fans also play a huge role in promoting and marketing the sport."

The games will start at 9am on Saturday at The George Hotel.

"I am ready for the games and I hope my opponents have also prepared well."

A total of 20 players will be competing for the E2 000 first prize money which was won by the experienced Sikhatsi last season. Other competitors that could give Dlamini a run for his money are Ncaba Lukhele and Vusi Masilela.



ALL OUT: Sikhatsi Dlamini.

John Fakudze wins Glenrand competition

By Sibusiso Masilela

GOLF - SEASONED golfer John Fakudze was crowned the champion of the Glenrand Insurance golf competition held on Saturday at the Manzini Club.

Fakudze finished on 35 points on counter back ahead of the runner-up Siphso Dlamini, who came second with the same number of points. Coming third was Walter Dlamini with 34 points while Nathi Tsabedze completed the top four with 33 points on count backs.

The nearest to the pin category was won by Zwelisha Dlamini at hole 9/16 while Siphso Dlamini emerged victorious at hole 3/12.

The longest drive was won by John 'King' Fakudze.

The tournament coordinator Vusie Dlamini

congratulated all the winners for their achievements. "We are very happy with the manner in which the tournament proceeded as the golfers enjoyed themselves. We would like to thank the sponsor for supporting the competition and their package is hugely appreciated by the golfers," he said.

The results:

1. John Fakudze - 35 points C/B
2. Siphso Dlamini - 35 points
3. Walter Dlamini - 34 points
4. Nathi Tsabedze - 33 points C/B
5. Jethro Masuku - 33 points
6. Zwelisha Dlamini - 32 points

Novelties:

Nearest the pin on hole 9/18 - Zwelisha Dlamini
Nearest the pin on hole 3/12 - Siphso Dlamini
Longest drive - John 'Kingkong' Fakudze.

Basketball indaba on Saturday

By Qondile Ntiwane

BASKETBALL - THE Swaziland National Basketball Association has invited teams to a big indaba to be held this weekend.

The meeting is scheduled for the Coronation Park on Saturday, starting at 2pm and is meant to discuss amongst other things, the Swaziland National Basketball League (SNBL) to kick-off next month.

League Commissioner Melusi 'Squealer' Hlophe said issues to be addressed during the meeting included the new separation between the Men's Premier

League (MPL) and the two main leagues and the reasons behind that.

"We will also be discussing venues, issues of players' safety and will from now on engage the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to avail first aiders at all games," he said.

Hlophe said the meeting was important for the growth of the sport and invited teams to attend without fail.

"Teams are urged to send a representative to this meeting so that they know what to expect when the league resumes. It will be during this meeting that the rules and regulations would be deliberated, requirements for registration, dates of registration to deadline and tentative fixtures," he said.



By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCKER - THREE lucky supporters will walk away with over E5 000 in the Ingwenyama Cup Predict and Win competition which starts today.

The winner in this competition will take home E3 000 while the second and third winners will receive E1 500 and E750, respectively.

Announcing the competition during a press briefing held at Nkhanini in Lobamba yesterday was Sincephetelo Motor Vehicle Accident Fund (SMVAF) Corporate Strategy and Communications Manager Makhosi Magongo, who said supporters would have to predict the team that would win and the score. "His Majesty saw it fit for the nation to participate in this tournament and this will happen through a predict and win competition where

OVER E5 000 UP FOR GRABS IN INGWENYAMA CUP PREDICT AND WIN COMPETITION

fans can predict the team that will win and the final score."

"Supporters will have to send an SMS worth E250 to 7005. Those predicting can send as many messages as possible in order to increase their chances of winning. The competition is however not eligible to those below the age of 18," he said.

Gratitude

He highlighted that the money set aside for this competition including in the culture section would be E18 250.

Meanwhile, Chairman of the culture competition Prince Hlangabeza

expressed gratitude to the King for making it possible for everyone to become part of the competition.

"This is a good initiative and we thank the King for involving the nation. It will be now up to everyone to participate in this competition. If you decide not to use your phone and play along it will be your loss while the more you predict will see you getting a share in this money. The King would have loved to see many people winning but there are rules and regulations in place and as a result it is only the selected few that would win," he said.



BRIEFING: Prince Bukhosi, Prince Hlangabeza and SMVAF Corporate Strategy and Communications Manager Makhosi Magongo during the press briefing.



ATTENTIVE: SMVAF Cup PRO Lenhle Masuku, Swallows CEO Subusiso Manana and Leopard PRO Frank Hurube.

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCKER - MINISTER of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala believes the Ingwenyama Cup final pitting Mbabane Swallows and Royal Leopard will be decided in penalties.

The two sides will lock horns during the finals of the tournament slated for the Somhlolo National Stadium on Sunday.

The minister made this assertion during the Ingwenyama Cup press briefing held at Nkhanini, Lobamba yesterday.

Making his remarks during the event, the minister said these two teams had a remarkable history. He said the game would not be easy hence being decided at that stage of the game.

"A meeting between Mbabane Swallows and Royal Leopard is never easy. If there were no rules and regulations governing the game, this match would not come to an end. It will be very tough and it is penalties that will separate them in the end," he said.

The minister said a game between the two has become a match not to be missed in the country.

"This fixture has become very big

'BIRDS', LEOPARD MATCH TO BE DECIDED ON PENALTIES - 'CRUISER'



MY VIEW: Minister David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala making his remarks while Magongo listens

and not only is it watched by the local supporters but people from neighbouring countries. These supporters from outside our borders have already indicated that they will share this special day with the Swazi nation by coming to watch the game on Sunday," he said.

Congratulated

He congratulated both teams for reaching this stage.

"We congratulate both teams for making it to this stage of the tournament. It was not by chance but they fought hard to be here," he said.

The minister also stated that this game would produce stars for the national team.

"This game will also groom stars for our national team Sihlangu which will be representing the country very soon," he said.

He then invited the nation to come in their numbers to support the teams as well as the sponsors of this tournament.

"Swazis are known for respect and we are urging them to be at their best behaviour on the day," he said.

'Bomber' urges fans to be at their best behaviour

By Sanele Jele

SOCCKER - NATIONAL Football Association of Swaziland (NFAS) President Adam 'Bomber' Mthethwa has urged fans to be at their best behaviour during the finals of the Sincephetelo Motor Vehicle Accident Fund (SMVAF) Ingwenyama Cup to be held at Somhlolo National Stadium on Sunday.

The president said this was a landmark in local football that should not be marred by violence.

"As you are aware this is one of the biggest tournaments in the history of football, thus we expect top class football from the finalists and scintillating performances from the culture teams. The atmosphere will be electrifying and we urge fans to be at their best behaviour," he said.

He further urged supporters to come in their great num-

bers.

"We are inviting members of the public to cram the stadium. Even if they are not supporting either of the two teams they should come for the love of the game and show appreciation to the sponsor and royalty towards His Majesty King Mswati III since this is his initiative in supporting football locally."

Mthethwa then wished the finalists the best of luck as they prepared for the much awaited encounter.

"These two teams are in the finals because they deserve to and we expect a battle of the titans. May the best team win."

These teams are meeting for the fourth time in a cup final this season, having met in the SwazTelecom Charity Cup, King's Cup and Castle Premier Challenge Cup where Swallows triumphed twice while Leopard won the Charity Cup.

Best Soweto derby in five years - local fans

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCKER - LOCAL football supporters, who went to Johannesburg (SA) to watch giants Kaizer Chiefs take on rivals Orlando Pirates in the Nedbank Cup have expressed their contentment over the display of football they were exposed to compared to how dull the derby had becoming lately.

The game was played on Saturday at the FNB stadium and Pirates won

2-0 to advance to the last 16 of the tournament.

Narrating how pleased the supporters were after the match, organiser of the trip Njabulo Simelane said the derby was well known for flair and charisma thus watching players like Thabo Rakhale and Thabo Qalinge displaying flamboyant skills left them happy.

"Saturday's match brought back the old good days of the Jabu Pule and Steve Lekolea era that kept football spectators at the edge of their seats

everytime the derby was on.

"After the disappointing 0-0 in the second leg of the ABSA Premiership last month, the Soweto derby on Saturday was so entertaining in a way that even Kaizer Chiefs supporters couldn't stop praising some of the stylishness they witnessed on the field of play from the opposition. It was the best derby in many years and everybody was satisfied," he said. The local fans left the country on Saturday morning and came back immediately after the game.

Three 'Downs' players training with Sihlangu

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCKER - MANZINI Sundowns trio of Phumlani Dlamini, Phinda Dlamini and Sandanezwe Mathabela is training with Sihlangu ahead of the national team's clash against Zimbabwe on

Good Friday.

Sihlangu will play 'The Warriors' in the 2017 Africa Cup of Nations qualifiers at Somhlolo National Stadium on March 25 before travelling to Zimbabwe for the second leg of the campaign after three days. Sihlangu is currently at the top of Group L with

four points after two games.

They have one win and a draw.

Training

The trio is training with the national team prior to the announcement of the final squad tomorrow. Justice Figureito, Ntsika Simelane, Lwethu Simelane and Senzo Shongwe were

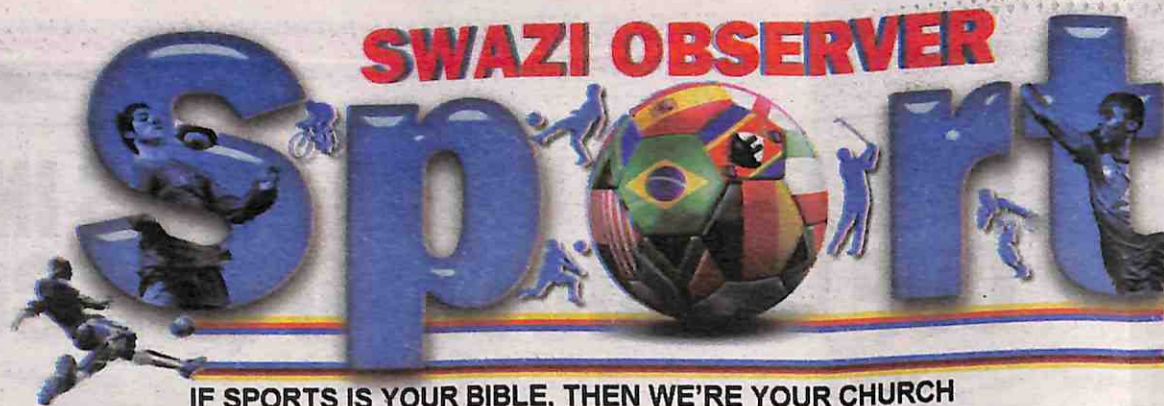
also called up to join the Under-17 national squad. Sundowns mouthpiece Muzi Matsenjwa said they were happy as a team to have their players in the national team because it showed that they had assembled a team that had quality players. "We are very pleased to have multiple players from Sundowns getting call-ups to the national squads. It goes to show how much depth we have in the team."

When asked about goalkeeper Jim Knowledge's injury, Matsenjwa said it was nothing serious as the player was recovering well and likely to feature in the team's next match.

Knowledge got a knock on the knee during their game against Green Mamba in the MTN Premier League clash at Somhlolo on Saturday where they lost 1-2 to the Correctional Services side.

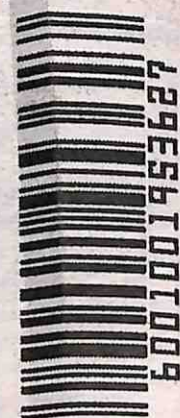
**OVER E5 000 UP
FOR GRABS IN
INGWENYAMA CUP
PREDICT AND WIN
COMPETITION**

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IF SPORTS IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE'RE YOUR CHURCH

Wednesday March 10, 2016



SIHLANGU, ZIM AFCON CLASH ROCKED BY MATCH-FIXING SCANDAL

- ZIFA board member suspended for alleged 'fixing' Swaziland tie
- Implicated players given over E70 000 to throw away games

Stories by Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCER - THE 2017 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) clash pitting the country's national team Sihlangu is reported to have been a target of match-fixing by some members of the Zimbabwean Football Association (ZIFA).

Information sourced from Zimbabwean publication The Herald, the match, whose first leg is scheduled for the Somhlolo National Stadium on March 25 and the return leg to be played three days later, was said to be amongst those targeted by a sophisticated match-fixing candidate busted by ZIFA.

The alleged match fixing scandal has seen ZIFA board member Edzai Kasinauyo being suspended after a meeting held on Tuesday.

The match-fixing ring, according to ZIFA, allegedly also features Warriors' assistant coach Nation Dube, former Warriors' coach Ian Gorowa, a former high-ranking employee of the association, previously heavily implicated in the Asiagate match-fixing scandal, and two current employees of the country's football governing body.

ZIFA Chief Executive Jonathan Mashingaidze is said to have posted a statement on the association's official website yesterday confirming Kasinauyo's suspension and also revealing that investigations were underway.

"The Zimbabwe Football Association executive committee would like to inform the football fraternity and the nation at large that following its meeting held in Harare, it has provisionally

... ZIFA seeks CAF intervention

SOCCER - THE Zimbabwean Football Association (ZIFA) has written to the Confederation of African Football (CAF) requesting for its intervention in this match-fixing scam.

In a letter dated March 8, 2016 to CAF General Secretary Hicham El Amran,

ZIFA requested the regional body to activate the anti-match fixing and illegal betting machinery around their fixtures against Swaziland and beyond.

"The association has zero tolerance to match-fixing, illegal betting and general corruption and as such no efforts will be spared to bring

suspended executive committee member Edzai Kasinauyo." "The suspension has been occasioned by allegations of match-fixing ahead of the 2017 Orange Africa Cup of Nations qualifier match between Zimbabwe and Swaziland.

"Mr Kasinauyo has been fingered in the match-fixing scam and investigations are going on," he said in his statement.

It was also reported that the association claims that a number of South Africa-based players, notably goalkeeper George Chigova (Polokwane City) and defender Partson Jaure (Pretoria University), are also heavily implicated in the scam that has targeted matches in the South African Premiership and the Warriors. The players are said to have been promised \$5 000 (around E75 000) each to dance to the tune of the underworld bosses.

An unnamed Italian international, resident in South Africa, is also reported to have been the ring-leader of the match-fixing scam and pro-

perpetrators of match-fixing and illegal betting to book," reads part of the letter.

ZIFA explained in the letter that they had more reason to suspend Kasinauyo after receiving information in the form of credible evidence of the efforts by individuals from within and outside their country to fix the upcoming 2017 AFCON two-legged qualifier between the two countries.

vided funding for the operation that targeted Super Diski matches, the 2015 COSAFA Cup tournament, the 2016 African Nations Championship and matches involving the Warriors. A dossier that contains tapped telephone conversations, e-mails and sworn affidavits is at the heart of the crackdown which, according to sources who spoke to The Herald on Tuesday night, involved the participation of the country's security organs to trap the suspects.

"Surveillance on the suspects has been going on for more than a month and, this week, it was decided that there was enough evidence to nail the suspects and, crucially, also ensure that the Warriors' key 2017 Nations Cup qualifiers against Swaziland, during the Easter weekend, were not compromised," reads part of the article. Sihlangu is currently leading the Group L with four points and a superior goal difference and is followed by the Warriors.

Our hands are clean- Football Association

SOCCER - THE National Football Association of Swaziland (NFAS) has assured the nation that they were not part of the match fixing scandal that has rocked their Zimbabwean counterparts ZIFA.

Interviewed on the matter yesterday, the association's CEO Frederick Mngomezulu said they were also shocked to learn that such could happen.

"There is nothing official we have received on this matter but we have learned from online publications in Zimbabwe of what is said to be happening. I can, however, assure the nation and other stakeholders that we are clean."

"As NFAS, we play by the rules and are preparing for this game normally. We have no intention of engaging in such practices," he said

Mngomezulu said they were on the alert and would continue following the story in order to establish the facts.

"Such things cannot be taken lightly and we will be on the alert at all costs. The good thing about this also is there is no mention of Swaziland officials but only people from Zimbabwe," he said.



**COUNT US OUT: NFAS CEO
Frederick Mngomezulu.**

**Sidlala
Kanje!**

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