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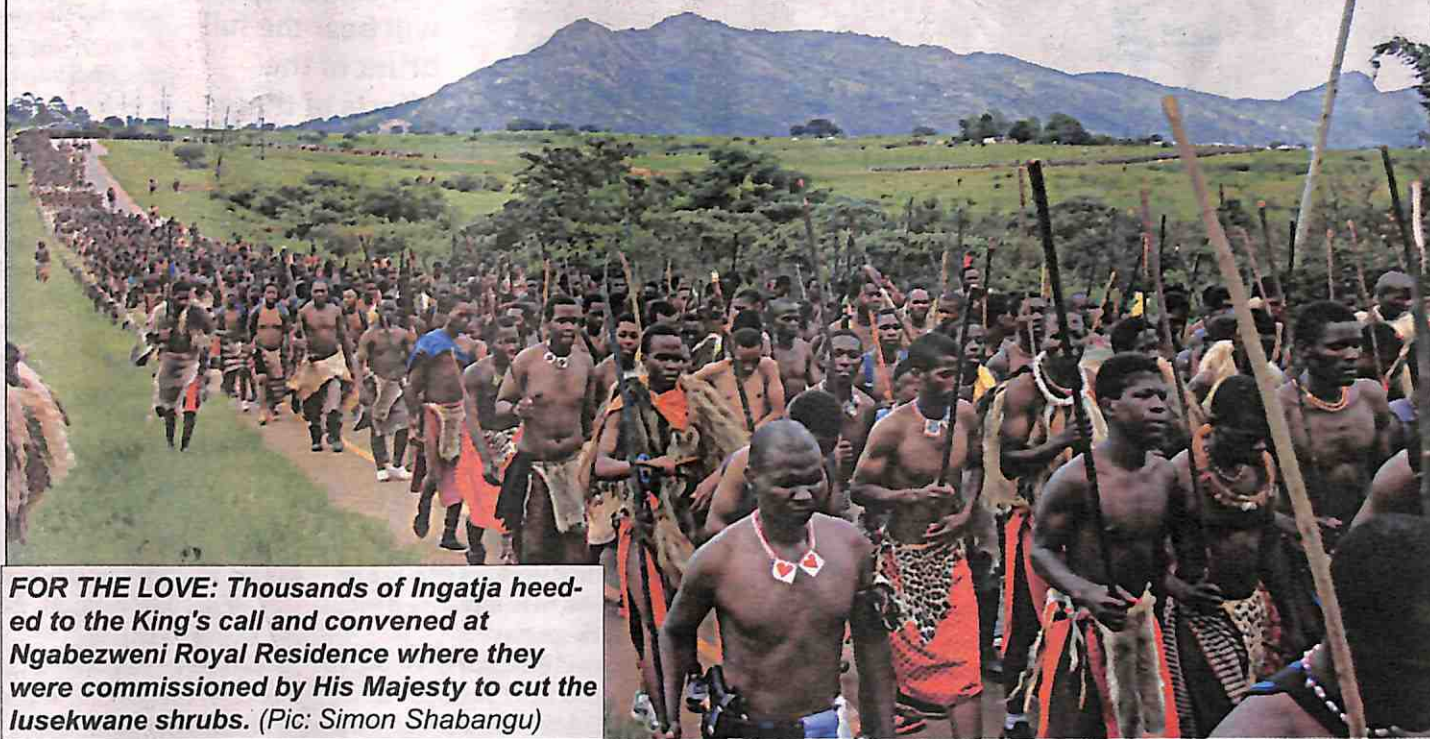
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KING COMMISSIONS INGATJA



FOR THE LOVE: Thousands of Ingatja heeded to the King's call and convened at Ngabezweni Royal Residence where they were commissioned by His Majesty to cut the lusekwane shrubs. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)

...AND MINISTER ANNOUNCES

HOLIDAY ON MONDAY

...Incwala main day remains on Saturday **PAGE 3**

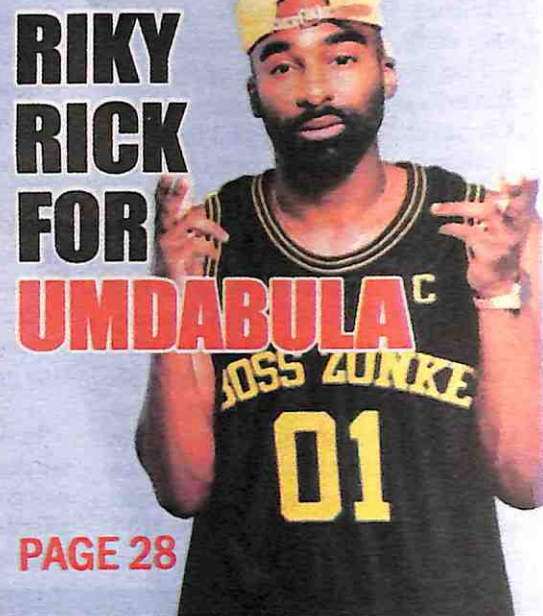
**MEDICAL AID FOR
TEACHERS IN JUNE**



PAGE 3

**ALL BANKS
TO 'CLOSE'
FOR 3 DAYS**

PAGE 2



PAGE 28

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The Ministry of ICT (Information, Communications and Technology)

COUNTDOWN to ANALOGUE TV SWITCH OFF ...NTJINTJA NYALO
16 DAYS TO GO - SET TOP BOX

SCHOOL FEES DILEMMA AS BANKS' STAFF TO STRIKE FOR THREE DAYS

Stories by Nozipho Sibiyi
Mbabane

WORKERS in the financial services sector are planning a January mass protest to force their employers to heed their salary increase demands.

The mass protest by the financial institutions is expected to take place on January 17-19.

This effectively means banks will be closed or would operate on skeletal basis. The protest has been coincided with the busy period where parents are paying school fees.

The protest action will entail marches in the city of Mbabane and submission of a petition to the Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini on the third day of the strike action (January 19).

The Swaziland Union of Financial Institutions and Allied Workers Secretary General Jabu Shiba, said the union demanded that parliament amend the Public Enterprise Act 1989 and the Legal Notice No.62/2016 from the Central Bank of Swaziland.

Shiba was speaking at a press conference at SUFI AW offices yesterday.

Shiba advised parents or guardians to pay their school fees this month. She said next year January the financial institutions sector would be disturbed by the strike action they would embark on.

Present during the press conference was unionist Vincent Nongwane, SUFI AW members Percy Gule and Musa

● This effectively means all banks will be closed or would operate on skeletal basis. The protest has been coincided with the busy period where parents are paying school fees



TO SUFFER: Workers in the financial services sector are planning a January mass protest to force their employers to heed their salary increase demands. The protest has been coincided with the busy period where parents (above) are paying school fees.

Ndzinisa.

Shiba said the Public Enterprise Act should include the right to collective bargaining, as envisaged in the International Labour Organisation Convention 98 on Collective Bargaining and the right to organise, when negotiating with a parastatal governed by the Act nugatory.

Propose

"In view of Parliament having adjourned, we propose that the government gives us a guarantee it will table the Bill soon after the Appropriations Bill, with a certificate of urgency," Shiba stated.

Shiba said the union signed an agreement through the Industrial Court requesting the Minister of Labour and Social Security Winnie Magagula to act on the amendment of the Act, which the minister in question received but she has not responded to date.

To prepare for a better negotiating atmosphere for the 2017 season and onwards, and to persuade government to appreciate the seriousness with which they demand it deals with this matter, they decided to embark on a strike action to force government amend the Act.

...SUFIAWU concerned about freezing of bank charges

THE financial services sector has also raised concerns about the removal of all charges on cash deposits in the banks from its customers.

SUFI AWU Secretary General Jabu Shiba said in their negotia-

tions with the banks for salary adjustments for the year 2016/2017, almost all the institutions cautioned about the implications of the above legal notice, to their bottom line and the effect this notice may have in the 2017/2018 salary adjustment negotiations.

"Proper consultation of all stakeholders prior to the issuance of the legal notice would have ensured that the scope of the impact was delimited as factors from all these

stakeholders that ought to have been considered would have been taken on board," she stated.

Shiba said this was because there were inherent costs associated with cash handling and the free banking for all was not workable.

"Effectively this means as workers in the financial sector, we will bear the full brunt of the effects of these developments by way of losing our jobs and working excessive hours"

"Effectively this means as workers in the financial sector, we will bear the full brunt of the effects of these developments by way of losing our jobs and working excessive hours, with the banks pointing out difficulties in carrying these costs without charging the customers," Shiba said.

She said the governor of the Central bank

ignored their letters and never even had the courtesy to acknowledge receipt of the letter.

FINCORP workers to get xmas pay

SUFI AWU will compensate FINCORP workers who are on strike who were threatened with no-work-no-pay.

Shiba said they should not worry much about their Christmas salaries as SUFI AWU would take care of that.

"We will not divulge how much

they will get but eventually they will get paid for Christmas and we will not back off from their course," she said.

Shiba said the strike would continue until management come into agreement with the demands of the workers. FINCORP strike action began on November 21.

E54million for pothole-riddled KaLanga-Big Bend road

By Sabatha Dlamini
Mbabane

THE government has allocated E54 million to improve the road from KaLanga to Big Bend in the Lubombo region.

The ministry reported in its second quarter performance report that the process of procuring a suitable contractor was ongoing.

The tender board has reportedly approved a recommendation and issued a tender sanction for contract award. The road is currently in a very bad state, full of potholes.

The ministry, however, reported that the process of preparing a Loan Bill for parliament approval was ongoing, after which the contractor will be engaged for construction. Parliament is the government wing responsible for approving government loan requests from other institutions.

The ministry further said the process of procuring a supervising consul-

tant was ongoing and technical proposals have been evaluated. Financial proposals, according to the ministry, shall be evaluated shortly and a recommendation for a service contract subsequently made to tender board.

The ministry reported that initially, it had been allocated a budget of E100 million but had to be cut to E54 million.

Should these budget cuts be persistent, the ministry said such would have negative impact on the scheduled monthly repayments to the contractor once they are on site.

Other challenges highlighted were the processes involved in finally approving the contractor.

"The Loan Bill cycle and parliamentary processes will delay implementation. Projections indicate that implementation will not happen in the current financial year, thus rendering the allocated funding unusable. Discussions are underway with Central Agencies on how best to move forward."

Judge Mlangeni puts foot down in hacking matter

By Linda Jele
High Court

HIGH Court Judge Titus Mlangeni has refused to grant another postponement to the Pakistani nationals accused of hacking their fellow countryman.

The four attempted murder suspects assaulted Siteki businessman Naeem Gul in April 2016, damaged his car and further stole his cash, it has been alleged.

Their trial was due to commence yesterday after it was postponed a month ago to allow them instruct an advocate. However, they again asked for a further postponement on the grounds that the dates allocated for the trial were not suitable for their advocate from South Africa.

Judge Mlangeni did not accept the application for postponement on the grounds that there was no enough justification.

Attorney Osborne Nzima, who represents the four suspects Akber Ali, Zafar Iqbal, Ehsan Ahmed and Wasim Ranjhi, submitted suggested dates in the next session because he was engaged



LEGAL VIEW: High Court Judge Titus Mlangeni.

some where between yesterday until tomorrow, the same dates allocated for the trial.

Dates

However, the judge wondered if the advocate was setting dates for the court, but Nzima responded to the effect that the senior learned friend was merely

suggesting dates which could be used. The judge said it was not enough justification because he had given the defence six weeks to instruct an advocate, therefore he would not accept another postponement.

He said there were many advocates in the country and in South Africa who could have been engaged if the chosen one was engaged.

Right

However, Nzima said the suspects had a constitutional right to choose an advocate of their own and whom they trusted would represent them well in the criminal trial.

The judge said there was need to deal with the matter expediently because the complainant needed to be given time to go to his home country and get medical attention for the injuries he suffered when he was attacked by the four.

The judge ordered that the matter should be postponed to December 20 for trial.

He said he hoped the advocate would have been done with the other engagements and be available or the suspects would have to instruct any other advocate they could get.

CONFESSIONS:
Philippine President
Rodrigo Duterte.



Philippines' Duterte says he personally killed people

MANILA - Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte has said he personally killed suspected criminals when he was mayor of a southern city to set an example for police.

Duterte made the comments in a speech late on Monday night to businessmen as he discussed his campaign to eradicate illegal drugs, which has seen police and

unknown assailants kill thousands of people since he became president on June 30. After speaking about police killing suspects during the current crime war, Duterte said he led similar efforts when he was mayor of Davao, the major southern city that he ruled for most of the previous 20 years. "In Davao I used to do it personally. Just to show to the guys

[police] that if I can do it why can't you," Duterte said in his speech at the presidential palace.

"And I'd go around in Davao with a motorcycle, with a big bike around, and I would just patrol the streets, looking for trouble also. I was really looking for a confrontation so I could kill."

AFP

PUBLIC HOLIDAY ON MONDAY

COVER STORY

Stories by Sabatha Dlamini Ngabezweni

MONDAY, December 19, is a public holiday for the Incwala national ceremony.

Home Affairs Minister Princess Tsandzile yesterday announced that the Incwala main day ceremony would be on Saturday.

Although the Incwala main day is on Saturday, the minister made it clear the holiday would be celebrated next Monday

Although the Incwala main day is on Saturday, the minister made it clear the holiday would be celebrated next Monday.

The Incwala is an annual kingship ceremony that marks the first fruits of a new year.

It has been celebrated by the nation for centuries and it serves as a unifying factor for the Swazis, a Nguni tribe

founded by the Dlamini Royal dynasty.

The ceremony is one of the truly indigenous African events that evoke the African spirit in the men as they dance to spiritual, traditional battle songs which were composed by their ancestors.

To the outside world, today the ceremony has become a huge tourist attraction.



MONDAY: Minister of Home Affairs Princess Tsandzile.



ON THE WAY: Thousands of Ingatja marching through after they were commissioned by His Majesty to cut the Lusekwane yesterday. They are expected back with the shrubs this morning. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)

Ingwenyama commissions thousands of Lusekwane boys

INGWENYAMA, His Majesty King Mswati III, yesterday commissioned thousands of members of Ingatja to cut the lusekwane shrub as part of

THE FULL SEQUENCE OF THE INCWALA IS AS FOLLOWS:

DAY 1

DISPERSING OF REGIMENT (TINGAJA): Unmarried male youths set off from Ngabezweni Royal Residence and march 50km to cut branches of the sacred shrub (lusekwane) under the light of the full moon, accompanied by the libufu.

DAY 2

DELIVERING THE LUSEKWANE: the boys place their lusekwane branches in the national cattle byre. The elders weave these branches in between poles of the "inhlambelo", the King's private sanctuary.

DAY 3

MORNING: Young boys cut branches of the black "Imbondvo" (red bush willow/combretrum apiculatum) and these are added to the "Inhlambelo".

AFTERNOON: A bull charges out and the Lusekwane boys catch and overpower the beast and return it to the sanctuary.

DAY 4

MAIN DAY: All the key players perform in a spectacular pageant inside the cattle byre; the King and the regiment appear in full war-dress and dance to a number of songs.

DO'S AND DON'TS OF THE INCWALA

- Females should wear skirts or sarongs
- Men should not wear hats or any head gear that is not traditional
- Shoes are worn at the ceremony but not on the dance arena
- Do take pictures at the ceremony but not of the Inhlambelo (King's private sanctuary)
- Please use restrooms
- Do sing, dance, encourage and uphold unity amongst Swazis
- Do inform friends and tourists of prohibitions during Incwala.

the Incwala cultural ceremony.

Senior regimental members accompanied the boys regiment to Esikhalelusekwane in Nhlambeni, near Gundwini, where they would cut the lusekwane.

The long journey to Nhlambeni becomes an interesting annual physical test for both the young and elderly warriors who participate as they travel from Ngabezweni to Nhlambeni, past Masundwini, and back to Ludzidzini.

The commissioning of the Ingatja boys regiment confirmed the imminence of the main Incwala.

Dancing

The main day is on Saturday. The commissioning comes after 14 days of hard dancing of the Little Incwala. Both the young and the old took the long trip to Nhlambeni enthusiastically, and marched in their regimental groups with the Emavulandela (Boy Scouts) taking the lead and followed by Inkhanyeti then Inyatsi and Umgadlala forms the backline.

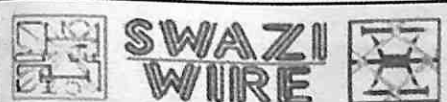
The regiment is dressed in their traditional regalia consisting mainly of the colourful (umdada) leopard

skirt on top of the bright regimental *tidvwashi* with the upper body fully covered by the *sigeja*, a well knitted ox-tails that provides warmth and protects them from rain.

The senior regimental members are fully armed with shields and spears, signifying the war-like nature of the journey to cut the lusekwane shrub and bring it to the Royal Residence, the country's traditional headquarters at Ludzidzini.

The Lusekwane shrub is used to build the Ingwenyama's *inhlambelo* enclosure at the cattle byre where the Incwala main ceremony would be danced.

In terms of strict Swazi culture, boys who have had an encounter with married women are not eligible to cut the lusekwane.



NOTICE

TEMPORARY BUSINESS CLOSURE

Swazi Wire kindly informs all Clients and Stakeholders that on Friday 16th December 2016 offices and business operations will close at 1:00pm as Swazi Wire will be celebrating 35 years of operation existence since 1981. Saturday will continue as normal working day.

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The lusekwane shrub is used to build the Ingwenyama's inhlambelo enclosure at the cattle byre where the Incwala main ceremony would be danced.

CJ announces 2017 court sessions

By Linda Jele
High Court

CHIEF Justice Bheki Maphalala has announced dates for the country's court sessions for 2017.

In a notice issued yesterday, Justice Maphalala said the High Court's first session would commence on January 30 until May 5. The High Court session would run concurrently with that of the

Industrial Court.

The Supreme Court session would commence on February 6 until May 31 for the first session.

The superior court's second session would run between July 1, 2017 and November 30.

The Industrial Court of Appeal, Justice Maphalala announced, would have two sessions with the first commencing on April 3 to 21, 2017. The second session would be held between September 25 and October 13.

THE SESSIONS

SUPREME COURT

First session
Second Session

February 6 to May 31, 2017
July 1 to November 30

HIGH COURT

First session
Second Session
Third Session

January 30 to May 5
May 29 to August 18
September 11 to December 1

INDUSTRIAL COURT OF APPEAL

First Session
Second Session

April 3 to 21
September 25 to October 13

INDUSTRIAL COURT

First Session
Second Session
Third Session

January 30 to May 5
May 29 to August 18
September 11 to December 15

Medical aid for teachers next June but...

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

MEMBERS of the Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) will finally get medical aid.

SNAT has embarked on a mission to find a reputable medical aid provider for medical services to its members.

Secretary General Zweli Mndzebele said the SNAT burial department was exploring all options to get a reputable and affordable medical aid provider in the country.

He said efforts to find a medical aid provider come after fruitless attempts to have government provide medical aid for teachers.

Seeing that government was not interested in aiding the whole teaching fraternity with medical aid, they have resorted to at least provide it for the SNAT members.

"SNAT has in the past approached the ministry of education, imploring them to provide medical aid for teachers.

"SNAT went as far identifying a medical aid provider, but after all that, government told us there was no money to finance the medical aid for teachers in the country," he said

Search

The secretary general said the search for a medical aid provider process was still at preliminary stages and there were still a lot of logistics to be considered.

He further said the process might take about six months to be finalised. "If everything goes well, we are looking at June to be the first month for the implementation of the medical aid," he said.

SNAT has already sent invitations for reputable medical aid providers to forward proposals for providing same to the association.

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KING COMMISSIONS INGATJA



EMABUTFO: His Majesty King Mswati III joined by hordes of regiment as he accompanied the Ingatja which he commissioned to cut the lusekwane shrubs yesterday morning. The Ingatja is expected back this morning. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



AYIBUKELWA: The dancing of the Incwala before the commissioning of the Ingatja.



SASUKA SAHLALA: His Majesty leading the hordes during the dance of 'Incaba Kancofula' song.



COULD NOT MISS OUT: Ambassador Melusi Masuku, MP Mabulala Maseko, Businessman Victor Gamedze also joined the march.



LEADING THE WAY: Prince Mcwasho also joined in and led the way for Ingatja.



IN SONG: Emakhosikati and Lutsango from the Royal family also danced with the King before the commissioning of the Ingatja.



MARCHING ON: African Alliance's Sthofeni Ginindza and Standard Bank Chief Executive Mvuselelo Fakudze also joined the throngs in the march. (RIGHT) Emazinyane and Imbali from the Royal family could not miss out.



IN JUBILATION: The jubilant Ingatja marching through.



KING COMMISSIONS INGATJA



WENA WAPHA KATHI: His Majesty King Mswati III flanked by throngs of regiment as he marched along with the Ingatja.



KHONA: Ingatja marching past Masundvini.

(LEFT) CONQUERED: RSP National Commissioner Isaac Magagula and USDF Commander Sobantu Dlamini lasted the entire journey.

YOUNG WARRIORS: Ingatja members Chongo and Hlobo also attended.



MARCHING: Umngani Mashampo Khumalo and Mandla Dlamini also joined the march.



HAPPY: It was a happy day for the Ingatja as they were presented with sneakers by His Majesty to use during the march.

INGATJA FASCINATED BY DRONE

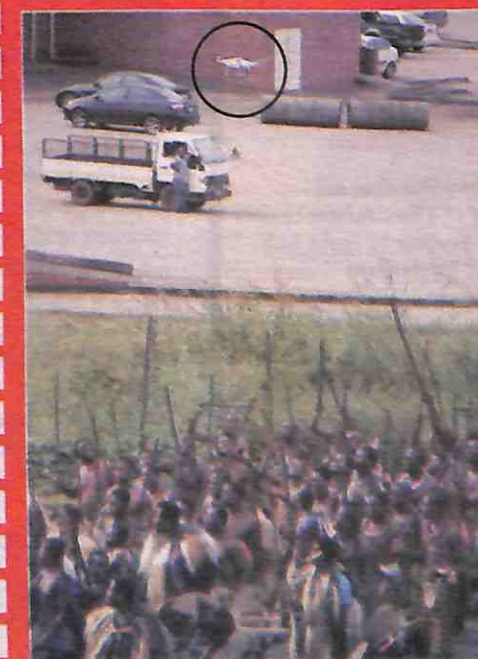
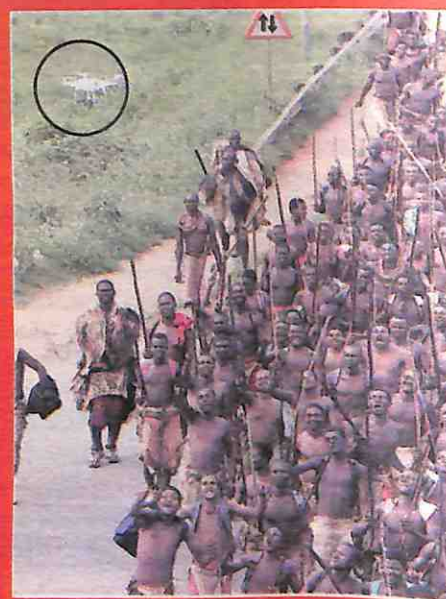


GUARDED: Chris Kuhn from South Africa with members of the Umbutfo Swaziland Defence Force as they capture the march using the drone, which is a remote controlled camera that captures the action from above.



ON DUTY: The drone flying through the sky capturing the march.

NEMAMBALA: Ingatja marching through Matsapha fascinated by the drone (circled) which was capturing the action from the air as it was flown above their heads.



WHISTLES: Ingatja whistling and singing for the drone camera.

Ezulwini CEO's alleged lover hired without certificates

Stories by Mbono Mdluli
Ezulwini

THE woman who was allegedly in love with Ezulwini Town Council Chief Executive Officer (CEO) did not qualify for the position she was employed for.

This was revealed yesterday by former Ezulwini Town Council Chairperson Elmon Fakudze, who volunteered to appear before the commission of enquiry that is tasked with a mandate of finding out what caused the conflict in Ezulwini.

The enquiry is currently taking place at the conference room of the Cooperative College of Swaziland (CODEC) in Ezulwini.

Fakudze told the commission that the then Housing Minister Lindiwe Dlamini, together with her then officials in the ministry, prevented the council from investigating an act of corruption in Ezulwini.

During the time when Fakudze was a councillor in Ezulwini, a certain lady was employed to be an environmentalist at the town council. Xoli Sibandze was employed because it was felt she had to occupy the position of being an environmentalist because there was a need for such as the town was seen to be rapidly developing.

Sibandze was the girl who was alleged to have been in a roman-

tic relationship with Ezulwini Town Council CEO Vusumutiwendvodza Matsebula. She was allegedly hired by Matsebula.

"We continued to work and as time went on, I got a phone call from one business person who asked me how we had hired Sibandze. I told him we had followed the laid down procedure to employ her. To my surprise, he told me the lady we hired had no qualifications for the job," Fakudze said.

Fakudze asked the CEO about this and he told him he also heard about it. The former chairperson then advised Matsebula to charge Sibandze for fraud because she had used deceptive means to get the employment. Fakudze further told the CEO that if he did not take action, he

would be charged for concealing a corrupt practice.

The commissioners asked Sibandze to state how the lady was employed at the town Council. They felt the council should have demanded the necessary qualifications before they could be satisfied that she possessed the necessary qualifications for the job.

In response, Fakudze said he was made to believe that Sibandze's qualifications were not yet issued when she was hired. "I was told she had been studying somewhere in Europe, probably in Germany or Russia. What also made it easy for us to consider her was that she was an intern at the town Council," he said.

Fakudze had been a councillor in Ezulwini from 2007 to 2012. He was a councillor for one of the wards situated in Ezulwini. He served as a chairperson at the town Council, when it was still a town board. That was from May 2011 to April 2012. He had also served in the finance committee as a vice chairperson and also as a chairperson.



CONTROVERSIAL: Ezulwini Town Council CEO Vusumutiwendvodza Matsebula.

Minister Lindiwe also baby-sitted underfire CEO

MINISTER of Public Works and Transport Lindiwe Dlamini was also not spared from being blasted for interfering in Ezulwini matters.

Dlamini is said to have played a part in stopping the councillors from investigating the alleged acts of misconduct by the CEO. She is said to have done that with Ministry of Housing's Director of Urban Development Tito Simelane.

The accusation was made by former Ezulwini Town Council Chairperson Elmon Fakudze. The council of that time, of which Fakudze was

part of, wanted to investigate some acts of misconduct that were allegedly done by Vusumutiwendvodza Matsebula, who was the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at that time. Some were allegedly done by other workers.

Fakudze was told there were workers who would be taken to Ngudzeni to work on a wedding ceremony for the CEO. He was also told that some workers would be helping themselves to the petrol belonging to the town Council. This made Fakudze to go to Zeeman's Garage to get a printout of petrol that was filled up from the filling station.

The issue of the printout was then raised at the following finance meeting. It was then decided that they would discuss it during a full board meeting. However, it was unfortunate for the councillors because the meeting could not continue. The CEO was not there.

"I also went to the personal assistant to the CEO to find out if the workers who went to Ngudzeni had signed for their leave days. To my surprise, I found they had not. This told me they used the time for the Council to work on the CEO's personal projects," he said.

Upon seeing that no meeting was taking place, Fakudze and other councillors then signed a petition against Robinson Zeeman, who was the chairman of the town Council at that time. They petitioned him for not convening meetings. This was followed by an order summoning them to the ministry of housing and urban development. They were called by the then Minister Lindiwe Dlamini.



BABY-SITTER: Minister of Public Works and Transport Lindiwe Dlamini.

At the ministry, Fakudze said, they found Simelane. "I was surprised to find that the minister was of the view that we signed a petition against Zeeman. I am of the view that the ministry should have sorted this problem a long time ago. If this was done, we would not be appearing before the commission of enquiry," he said.

400 000 Mobile Money users

By Sizwe Dlamini
Pigg's Peak

SWAZI MTN has 395 000 registered Mobile Money users.

However, out of that number, a total of 195 000 users are active. This was revealed by Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Wholesale and Distribution Manager at MTN Business Division Winile Vilakati.

Vilakati explained that once customers register under MTN business, they can have no limit to the amount of mobile money in their account and no limit to the amount of money they can transfer.

She stated that currently MTN allowed individual customers to have up to E25 000 in their mobile money accounts but the system was limited to only making a E4 000 per day transaction.

"The limitation is set up by a regulatory body that governs even the banks but when a customer regis-

...only 195 000 registered users are active

ters his or her business and uses MTN's business products, then they will have a larger scope of reference allowing them the ability to have a limitless amount of money in their mobile money account," Vilakati said.

Vilakati stated that the move by MTN to incorporate a limitless system under their business model of mobile money, was to make it more convenient to small or medium business clients who might want to pay their employees with the mobile money system.

"Some business people might want to pay their customers with mobile money and we feel is a cost effective measure that will allow the consumer to be more flexible with the mobile money platform," she said. Vilakati was making her presentation at the Pigg's Peak Hotel yesterday morning during the MTN business seminar.



PRESENTATION: MTN Business Division's Winile Vilakati making her presentation at the Pigg's Peak hotel yesterday.

Late teacher's memorial at Divine Healing today

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane

THE memorial service for the teacher who died in a car crash at Extension 3 in Mbabane last week will be held today.

The memorial service will take place at Divine Healing Ministries in Manzini, confirmed St John's Principal Siphosiso Dlamini yesterday.

He said there were changes concerning the venue of the memorial service for the teacher.

Andile Dube-Groening was a teacher at the school and she died after crashing on a wall fence and house while allegedly chasing after her husband at Extension 3 in Mbabane.

In a story published by this newspaper yesterday, Dlamini said teachers and pupils at the school were mourning the sudden death of the popular English and Social Studies teacher Dube-Groening.

He said the entire school had been left devastated by the tragic death of their much-loved and devoted teacher.

"We are devastated by the shocking news of her sudden death. As a school, and the community, we offer our sincere condolences to the Groening and Dube families, her parents and extended family and friends. She will be sadly missed by the pupils and her colleagues," Dlamini was quoted as saying.

The principal said the late teacher was a down to earth person.

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licensing Board will hold its sitting to hear the following applications at the Ministry of Justice Conference Room on the 4th January 2017 starting at 09.00am

Region Hhohho

1. Dolores Godeffroy P.O. Box 3061 Mbabane, renewal of a Restaurant Liquor Licence situated at Portion 10 Farm 443 known as Edladleni Restaurant.

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

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD
P.O. BOX 451
MBABANE

Swazi, 5 SA men arrested in foiled robbery

Stories by Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

A foiled business robbery ended in a high speed chase and a violent shootout between South African police and a Swazi national who was in the company of five South Africans.

The scene depicted what looked like a movie as a helicopter and other special forces combating crime in South Africa were involved in the violent speed chase, tracking down two vehicles full of criminals.

Information gathered is that a joint special intelligence driven operation comprising of Crime Intelligence Unit, the Provincial Tracking Team, the Provincial General Detectives, the Tzaneen Cluster First Responders, the Tactical Response Team and Air Wing received information about the planned robbery and they joined forces in order to intercept the group of criminals who were going to commit a business robbery in Tzaneen.

According to information from the South African Police Service, following the information, the teams of SAPS members tracked and spotted a Mercedes Benz sedan along the road outside Tzaneen and when they attempted to stop it, it sped off and the occupants started shooting at the police and a high speed chase ensued until the suspects lost control of their vehicle and it went off the road. It is said after the car veered off the road the six suspects, aged between 28 and 38, were arrested while being trapped inside their vehicle.

● they were found with firearms after a shootout with South African Police



ON THE GROUND: A picture of the Swazi national and the other five suspects who were arrested for attempted murder, robbery and other offences in South Africa.

Reports stated that the gang of six was arrested on Tuesday and now faces a string of charges ranging from attempted murder to cellphone jamming.

It is said the suspects were caught near Tzaneen, an area under Limpopo Province, driving around in a flashy Mercedes Benz and an Audi vehicle. The Mercedes Benz vehicle was also allegedly stolen as it had its chassis number altered.



DANGEROUS: A military frequency jammer was also among the items confiscated.

Information gathered is that the suspects carried with them high military grade weapons which they were going to use during the planned robbery.

The Provincial Commissioner Lieutenant General Nneke Ledwaba stated that preliminary investigations have revealed that the Audi vehicle was stolen in Ivory Park in the Gauteng Province. The South African police stated that the suspects were found to be from Sekororo, Lenyenye and Tickyline, outside Tzaneen,



ARMED: Two 9mm firearms, two magazines and a cell phone jamming device and one six channel radio were among some of the items recovered from the suspects.

Tembisa in Gauteng and one from Swaziland. The suspects are expected to appear before Tzaneen Magistrate's Court soon and police investigations are still continuing.

According to SAPS, the gang members are facing various charges including attempted murder, conspiracy to commit armed robbery, possession of cell phone jamming device, possession of stolen motor vehicles and possession of unlicensed firearms and ammunition.

High grade military weapons found at scene

THE Swazi national who was arrested in South Africa with his gang members is alleged to have been also found in possession of high grade military weapons.

These weapons included a military cellphone jamming device, two 9mm firearms, two magazines and one six channel radio, which is used by

members of the police or army to communicate.

The suspects were also using two stolen vehicles a Mercedes Benz sedan, which had its chassis number altered and an Audi sedan vehicle, which was reported to be stolen in Ivory Park in the Gauteng Province.

109 arrested in Operation BASADI

By Nozipho Sibibi
Mbabane

THERE were 109 people arrested by the Royal Swaziland Police (RSP) officers during the Basadi Operation, which began last month.

According to Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba, the 109 were arrested for various offences at different areas of the country.

Mamba said there were 20 people arrested for assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm while there were 19 arrested for common assault. "There were 18 people arrested for dagga while 27 were arrested for trading without a licence."

He said some were arrested for cases of abduction, violating the Girls and Women's Protection Act, attempted murder, crimen injuria, illegal immigrants and others.

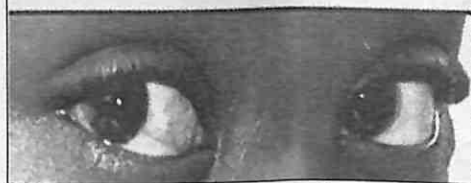
"RSP, through its Gender Network, has in commemoration of the 16 days of activism to end violence against women and children and in compliance with a resolution taken by the SARPCCO police chiefs to combat this scourge, conducted an operation with the code name BASADI."

He said Basadi Operation was an annual exercise purposely made to coincide with the 16 Days of Activism to show commitment on the gender based violence issues.

Thus the operation was conducted from November, 23-25 simultaneously by SARPCCO member states and in all the regions.

Mamba said its objective was to arrest wanted persons for the offences of violence against women

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ACT AGAINST ABUSE



and children. "It was also imperative to widen the net by dealing with other sources that contribute to this evil. Hence dagga raids and roadblocks were also conducted."

According to Mamba, this proved to be a huge success as there were 109 arrests for various offences inter alia: rape, assault GBH, abduction, violating the Girls and Women Protection Act, assault common and attempted murder, to mention a few relating to this operation. "The Royal Swaziland Police Service is grateful for the cooperation received from the members of the public during this operation."

OFFENCES	NUMBER OF ARRESTS
1. Rape	4
2. Assault GBH	20
3. Abduction	6
4. Girls and Women Protection Act	4
5. Assault common	19
6. Attempted murder	1
7. Crimen injuria	1
8. Illegal immigrants	3
9. Dagga (62kg)	18
10. Trading without a licence	27
11. Customs and excise duty	6



SWAZILAND WATER & AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE LTD

TENDER NOTICE

Tenders are hereby invited from suitably qualified M3 and M2 Mechanical Engineering Contractors wishing to tender for upgrading the LUSIP intake weir structure and maintenance of the sand trap in the LUSIP 1 project area located in the Lubombo Region. Contractors must be familiar with standards for construction of mechanical works and safety procedures involved or used in Swazi Projects. Preference will be given to local contractors, with 60% Swazi shareholding, and registered with the Construction Industry Council of Swaziland. Tender documents may be obtained after payment of a non-refundable tender fee of E 350.00 to the Swaziland Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise. Documents will be on sale from SWADE Office at the Siphofaneni Office between 0830 HRS and 1100 HRS, from Tuesday 13th December 2016 up to the day of a compulsory clarification meeting and site visit with representatives of the Employer scheduled for Thursday 15th December 2016, starting at 9.00am, at SWADE Siphofaneni, LUSIP Office.

The closing date for submission of tenders is **Friday 20th January 2017 at 1400 HRS**. Late, incomplete, telephoned or telegraphic tenders will not be considered. A tender bond in the amount of **E10 000.00** will be required to be submitted with the tender.

Completed tenders should be delivered in a sealed envelope to the SWADE Offices and the envelope should only show the Project Name, Project Number and addressed to:

Chairman of the Audit & Finance Committee
Swaziland Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (SWADE)
Dlanubeka Building, 4th Floor
MBABANE
Swaziland

Any actions or tendencies that will be interpreted as an attempt to interfere with or influence the tendering process will result in immediate disqualification of the Tenderer. Enquiries, administrative and technical, relating to the Tenders listed in the table below may be addressed to Mr. Nathi Magagula. Tel No. 23441873 or 23441671/2/3, Fax No. 23441665 e-mail: nathim@swade.co.sz

Item No.	Contract Name	Number
1	Upgrading the LUSIP Intake Weir Structure and Maintenance Works at the Sand Trap	SWADE/0321

SWADE does not bind herself to accept the lowest or any tender.



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The Federation of Swaziland Employers and Chamber of Commerce would like to inform its valued members that it shall be closed for business from Monday, 19 December 2016 and shall re-open on Monday, 9 January 2017.

The FSE&CC Board of Directors, Management and Staff extend their greatest thanks for your support during the year 2016. We wish you a blessed Festive Season filled with joy and peace and look forward to a prosperous New Year.

For any Emergencies, please contact:
7699 5985/7633 9652/7606 4274/7608
2827.



MTN BUSHFIRE EARLY BIRD TICKETS OUT TOMORROW

By Lungelo Nkambule
Mbabane

MTN Bushfire will tomorrow release a limited batch of early bird tickets, for the festival slated for next year May.

The annual music festival which has been named as one of the best by MTV will take place next May, from the 26th

to 28th.

However, to get hold of the tickets, fun-lovers had to register online to get a notification the tickets are on sale.

According to a statement released by event organisers, only fun-lovers who have registered will have access to these discounted tickets.

The early bird tickets will go on sale from tomorrow. They will be on sale until the 17th and thereafter tickets will

revert to full price.

"Only those who got registered by last night will receive a notification that they can now buy their MTN Bushfire early bird tickets on line. Tickets must be bought and paid for within this two-day period," reads part of the statement.

A host of camping and travel packages will also be available to book along with your early bird ticket from tomorrow.

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DOUBLE UP

DOUBLE UP

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E1699⁹⁵

LG CH	330 WATT
USB	DVD



LG
Life's Good
LG MINI HIFI CM4360
E1899⁹⁵

230 WATT	BLUETOOTH
FM RADIO	USB (LIMITED RECORDING)



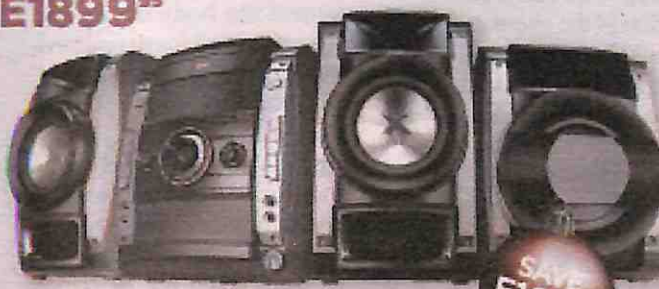
LG
Life's Good
LG SOUNDBAR LAS355
E1999⁹⁵

120 WATT	BLUETOOTH	REMOTE CONTROL
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LG MICRO HIFI CM2760
E2599⁹⁵

140 WATT	BLUETOOTH
FM RADIO	TOUCH SCREEN



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E3999⁹⁵

215 WATT	3 CD/DVD
FM RADIO	USB DIRECT RECORDING



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44L METALLIC MIRROR FINISH MICROWAVE OVEN
E1899⁹⁵

- Anti bacterial coating
- Auto/rapid defrost function
- Smart LED • 5 Power levels
- Auto cooking/Auto roast
- Child lock



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E8999⁹⁵

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LG ARX 10 COMPONENT SYSTEM
E9999⁹⁵

2100 WATT	HD
USB	DVD PLAYER



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*TERMS & CONDITIONS: Credit and "No Deposit" offers remain subject to credit approval, on affordability assessment and a debit order where relevant. INTEREST RATE, DEPOSIT, INSURANCE AND CREDIT PRICE MAY VARY BY CREDIT PROFILE. You may be required to produce proof of an insurance policy or alternatively take up insurance with Bradlows. Minimum Application Requirements: ID Book, latest pay slip, 3 month bank statements, monthly expense details, and your Credit Life and/or household contents insurance policies (if you have your own policies). These requirements are dependent on your employment status and risk profile. All offers are valid while stocks last and cannot be used in conjunction with other in-store promotions - ask the sales representative for details. Unless otherwise stated, matching products and complementary accessories are not included in the price shown. *Valid TV license required when purchasing a TV. All major credit cards accepted. © Group South Africa (Pty) Ltd Registration No. 181/1973 V/a Bradlows.

10 NATIONAL NEWS

FAMILY IMPLICATES HUBBY IN WIFE'S DEATH, EXHUMES BODY

By Linda Jele
High Court

A family of a dead woman has implicated her husband to be behind her demise.

This has resulted in the body of the late Dudu Mamba exhumed from the Ngwane Park Cemetery for the purposes of conducting an autopsy examination to determine the cause of death, it has been alleged. Manzini police, it has been alleged, have opened an inquiry file to determine the cause of Mamba's death.

Her corpse is currently kept at Dups Funeral Home and her family does not want her to be buried at her husband Sibonangaye Shongwe's home of Makholweni in the Manzini region.

Marriage

Her brother Owen Mamba has filed an application at the High Court seeking an order interdicting Shongwe from conducting the re-burial. He argues that Shongwe is not the lawful husband to his sister.

These are allegations contained in Owen's affidavit, merits of which are yet to be contested before court. Shongwe has denied that he is implicated in his wife's death and that he was not legally married to her.

Owen is represented by lawyer Sipho Gumedze from VZ Dlamini Attorneys in the matter.

He alleged his wife had been married to one Gideon Groening in Swazi customary law, and dowry was paid. He alleged the couple separated



MY LORD: High Court Judge Nkululeko Hlophe.

due to Groening's violence and the latter died while they were still finalising the nullification of the marriage. He claimed Mamba then established herself a home at Sicelwini in Manzini, where she constructed flats for rental.

Parental Home

He claimed she later moved in with her new lover Shongwe and he attempted to marry her in Swazi customary law, but it was refused because her first marriage had not been nullified.

"My sister became gravely ill in the beginning of 2016. On her sick bed, she had made known of her desire not to be buried at her parental home, but rather at her home, which she built for herself at Sicelwini. On the

day my sister was to be buried, Shongwe (first respondent) intercepted the vigil wherein, he presented us with a court order interdicting us from continuing burying the deceased.

Investigation

Her body was removed from the home and taken to a place unknown to us. We later learnt Shongwe had buried my sister at the Ngwane Park Cemetery and none of her family members knew of the burial," Owen said.

He claimed the police summoned him and other family members on October 11, 2016 whereupon they were informed of an investigation into the murder of his sister.

He claimed the police told the Mamba family that some people had confessed of having killed Mamba. "The first respondent has been implicated in the murder allegation. We were informed the body of my late sister will be exhumed for the purposes of conducting a post-mortem," Owen said.

Judge

He alleged Mamba's body was exhumed and examined by a pathologist and the family is waiting for the results of the cause of death. He argued his sister could not be buried by the Shongwe family because she was not legally married to Shongwe. He also claimed his sister had never written a will and never had a child.

The matter was heard by High Court Judge Nkululeko Hlophe who postponed it to tomorrow for arguments.

Hubby argues he has right to bury wife

SIBONANGAYE Shongwe has argued that he is the surviving lawful spouse of the late Dudu Mamba, therefore has the right to bury her in his homestead.

He presented a marriage certificate before court attached to his answering affidavit filed by lawyer Sipho Simelane from Zonke Magagula Attorneys. He argued he buried Dudu Mamba pursuant to his rights as her husband and on the strength of the court order that interdicted anyone from burying her aside from him. He further denied that he was implicated in her death. He also said the office of the director of public prosecutions has not served him with an application for the exhumation of his wife's body. He said in his knowledge his wife was still buried at Ngwane Park because no application was made before court for her body's exhumation.

He said he exercised his rights to bury his wife when he approached the High Court and said the Mamba family decided to distance itself from burying her, therefore he could not be held accountable for their action. He labelled Owen Mamba's allegations that he was implicated in his wife's murder as scandalous because he has not been charged.

He said the Mamba family could not be allowed to bury a Shongwe wife. He also said the Mamba family could only challenge the High Court judgment that allowed him to bury his wife than file a fresh application for an interdict.

"It is rather unfortunate that the issue of my wife dying without children is being used to mock her marriage to me, however, it does not revoke the marriage between me and the deceased," Shongwe said.

King sends condolences to Indonesia

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

HIS Majesty King Mswati III has sent condolences to the President of the Republic of Indonesia His Excellency Joko Widodo following the earthquake which struck the Aceh Province last Tuesday.

The message was sent through the Prime Minister Dr Barnabas Sibusiso Dlamini.

The PM conveyed the message, the condolences message through the ministry of foreign affairs and international cooperation to the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Pretoria. "On behalf of His Majesty King Mswati III, the

government and the people of Swaziland I would like to convey our message of condolences to the people of Indonesia following the earthquake which struck the Aceh Province on Tuesday December 6, 2016. We pray that God comforts the people of Indonesia, especially those directly affected. May the injured recover soon. Our hearts are with the people of Indonesia in this trying time," states the message. The PM further said the ministry of foreign affairs and international cooperation of Swaziland avails itself the opportunity to renew to the Embassy of Republic of Indonesia the assurance of its highest consideration.

Swaziland National Association of Teachers
with the teachers



SWAZILAND NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS MEDICAL AID SCHEME

The Swaziland National Association of Teachers requests for a reputable Medical Aid provider to forward proposals for providing Medical Aid Services for the above mentioned Association.

The interested Service Provider should be reputable and offer affordable quotations for the service. Proposals should be addressed to the Secretary, P. O. Box 1575, Manzini and can be hand delivered at SNAT Centre Office Number 15 opposite William Pitcher College.

Deadline 20 December 2016

Announcement by Secretary
Agnes Mazibuko

DOC 12185

Barricade yourself against cybercrime this festive season

IF you are thinking of doing your Christmas shopping online this year via mobile or internet banking, pause, and take a moment to read this.

Online fraud also known as cybercrime, is on the rise highlights Standard Bank Fraud Crime Control Manager who is also the Fraud Prevention Champion of the Swaziland Bankers Association (SBA), Sibusiso Mndzebele.

"With the holiday shopping season already at hand, scammers will try to steal your information and money whenever and wherever they can – even via internet. In response, the Swaziland Bankers Association (SBA) in collaboration with the Royal Swaziland Police Service (RSPS), have launched a fraud awareness campaign themed 'Together, Let's Create a Barrier against Crime and Road Accidents.' Mndzebele states this initiative aims to equip bank customers and other members of the public on how to protect themselves against various types of fraud and financial crimes over the festive season. He shares the following tips for safe online banking.

10 TIPS TO DO SAFE MOBILE BANKING

1. Protect your phone content and personal information you saved by using a PIN or password to access your phone. Do not leave your phone unlocked
2. Memorise your PIN, never write it down or share it with anyone and make sure no one can see you entering your PIN
3. Choose an unusual PIN that is hard to guess and change it often
4. If you think your PIN has been compromised, change it immediately
5. Do not respond to competition SMS's or MMS's
6. If you receive a phone call requesting personal information over the line, do not share those details, end the call.
7. If you use a Smartphone, install an up-to-date anti-virus application to your cell phone. Most banks provide this free of charge to their customers.
8. Never access your bank site through a link in an SMS.
9. Never access your banking site on a public Wi-Fi network – it's not secure and your credentials could be hacked. Rather disable Wi-Fi and switch to a cellular network option.
10. Make use of the mobile banking apps provided by your bank, they go to great lengths to ensure that these are secure.

10 TIPS TO DO INTERNET BANKING SAFELY

1. Ensure that the device you use for internet or mobile device banking has the latest version of antivirus and antispyware software installed from reputable vendors. Robust solutions should identify malware and prompt you to delete it.
2. Do not do your banking on a public or unfamiliar computers found at libraries, cyber- or internet cafes and hotels.
3. Avoid using Wi-Fi hotspots, and ensure your own wireless network is encrypted before performing any banking transactions on your private computer. Prevent illegal software from being downloaded on your computer by creating administrative rights.
4. Be suspicious if you receive lots of spam email or SMS messages. It could indicate that your computer or cell phone has been infected.
5. Beware of fake anti-virus software that is offered at no charge, as it could contain malware.
6. Do not use unknown devices, such as USB flash drives, on your system, as they may transfer malware unknowingly.
7. Avoid downloading pirated software, as it may contain malware.
8. Make sure your PIN and passwords are not seen when you enter them.
9. If you think your PIN or password has been compromised, change it immediately, either online or at your nearest branch.
10. Choose an unusual PIN and password that is hard to guess and change it often.

SUPREME COURT LINES UP 62 CASES FOR SESSION

By Linda Jele
Supreme Court

THE Judicial Service Commission (JSC) has introduced a new format in the sitting of the Supreme Court, beginning February 7, 2017.

The first session of the Supreme will run concurrent with that of the High Court and only one case would be heard per day, as opposed to at least four in the previous formats that lasted for a month, aside from the last one that went on for two months. The changes come after the JSC conducted interviews

for permanent Judges of the Supreme Court and subordinate courts. The Registrar of the Supreme Court Lungile Msimango yesterday released a court roll for the session that will end on May 31, 2017.

Notable cases are that of murder convict Celani Maponi Ngubane

against the state. He had been sentenced to life imprisonment and believes he has served his whole term and should be freed. A life sentence, according to the constitution is 25 years. Ngubane is represented by lawyer Xolani Mthethwa from Bhembe Attorneys in the matter scheduled for February 22,

2017.

The National Football Association of Swaziland Appeals Board and the Swazi Bank Cup Management Committee have also filed an appeal against National First Division side Vovovo FC for their victory in the High Court that allowed it to participate in the last edition of the Swazi Bank knock out competition. The matter is expected to be heard on February 28, 2017. Wandile Nxumalo, the axed Swazi MTN employee is also appealing the High Court Judgement entered in favour of the company for him to pay about E480 000 he was accused of having misappropriated while employed in the company. The Supreme Court has lined up 62 cases to be heard in the session.

THE SUPREME COURT ROLL: FEBRUARY 7, TO MAY, 2017

TUESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2017

1. C OF A (CRIM) 35/2014
SIBONISO CASPER MASUKU V REX
(In person) (Director of Public Prosecutions)

WEDNESDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2017

2. C OF A (CRIM) 02/2016
MATHEW SIPHO HLANZE V REX
(In person) (Director of Public Prosecutions)

THURSDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2017

3. C OF A (CRIM) 39/2014
MKHAWULENI DLAMINI V REX
(In person) (Director of Public Prosecutions)

MONDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2017

4. C OF A (CRIM) 20&21/2015
MFANIMPELA KHWE MBUYISA SONTOKOSI V REX
(In person) (Director of Public Prosecutions)

TUESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2017

5. C OF A (CRIM) 06/2015
SANDILE HAYINDI LUKHELE V REX
(In Person) (Director of Public Prosecutions)

WEDNESDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2017

6. C OF A (CRIM) 17/2013 (REVIEW)
SIPHAMANDLA HENSON DLAMINI V REX
(Attorney Xolani Mthethwa-Pro deo)(DPP)

THURSDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2017

7. C OF A (CRIM) 27/2015
ZANELE VILAKATI V REX
(Mabila Attorneys) (Director of Public Prosecutions)

MONDAY 20 FEBRUARY 2017

8. C OF A (CRIM) 05/2016
SABELO KUNENE V REX
(In Person) (Director of Public Prosecutions Chambers)

TUESDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2017

9. C OF A (CRIM) 19/2015
WILLIAM VALINDZAWO NDLANDLA V REX
(Attorney Howe-Pro deo) (Director of Public Prosecutions)

WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2017

10. C OF A (CRIM) 04/2016
CELANI MAPONI NGUBANE V REX
(In person) (Director of Public Prosecutions)

THURSDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2017

11. C OF A (CRIM) 22/2015
BONGANE MATSENJWA V REX
(In person) (Director of Public Prosecutions)

MONDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2017

12. C OF A (CRIM) 07/2016
MCHUMANISI MKHATSHWA V REX
(In person) (Director of Public Prosecutions)

TUESDAY 28 FEBRUARY 2017

13. C OF A (CIV) 33/2016
THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF SD APPEALS BOARD AND ANOTHER V VOVVO FOOTBALL CLUB AND 3 OTHERS
(S.V Mdladla Attorneys) (Magagula Hlophe Attorneys) (Mabila Attorneys)

WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH 2017

14. C OF A (CIV) 74/2016
FREDERICK MAPANZENE V STANDARD BANK OF SWAZILAND
(Robinson Bertram Attorneys) (M.C Simelane Attorneys)

THURSDAY 2 MARCH 2017

15. C OF A (CIV) 56/2016
SAMUEL MYENI HLAWE V BEATRICE THOLAKELE SEYAMA AND 2 OTHERS
(M.S Dlamini Legal) (Malinga & Malinga Inc)

MONDAY 6 MARCH 2017

16. C OF A (CIV) 63/2015
MAZWI MAGAGULA & ANOTHER V MUSA MOSES ZWANE
(Dunseith Attorneys) (Nzima Attorneys)

TUESDAY 7 MARCH 2017

17. C OF A (CRIM) 08/2016
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS V MDUDUZI ELLIOT NKAMBULE
(Director of Public Prosecutions) (Ben J. Simelane Attorneys)

WEDNESDAY 8 MARCH 2017

18. C OF A (CRIM) 18/2012 (REVIEW)
BENNET TEMBE V REX
(In person) (Director of Public Prosecutions)

THURSDAY 9 MARCH 2017

19. C OF A (CRIM) 13/2013 (REVIEW)
CHARLES MYEZA V REX
(V.Z Dlamini Attorneys) (Director of Public Prosecutions)

MONDAY 13 MARCH 2017

20. C OF A (CRIM) 28/2013 (REVIEW)
MPHUMELELO MAMBA & 2 OTHERS V REX
(B.S Dlamini Attorneys) (Director of Public Prosecutions)

TUESDAY 14 MARCH 2017

21. C OF A (CRIM) 16/2014 (REVIEW)
MANDLA ERIC MKHONTA V REX
(In person) (Director of Public Prosecutions)

WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH 2017

22. C OF A (CRIM) 37/2014
MCOLISI SICELO DLAMINI V REX
(Attorney Fayiya Pro deo) (Director of Public Prosecutions)

THURSDAY 16 MARCH 2017

23. C OF A (CRIM) 26/2013 (REVIEW)
MADEYI PARIS DLUDLU V REX
(In person) (Director of Public Prosecutions)

MONDAY 20 MARCH 2017

24. C OF A (CIV) 09/2014 (REVIEW)
DR. SIFISO BARROW V DR. PRINCILLA DLAMINI AND ANOTHER
(Howe Masuku Nsibandze Attorneys) (Musa Sibandze Att)

TUESDAY 21 MARCH 2017

25. C OF A (CIV) 03/2016
NOMSA STEWART AND 2 OTHERS V THANDI MKHATSHWA AND 2 OTHERS
(Zonke Magagula & Co) (S.M Kubheka & Associates)

WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH 2017

26. C OF A (CIV) 66/2016
AFRICAN ECHO V CLIFFORD MAMBA
(Musa Sibandze Attorneys) (Robinson Bertram Attorneys)

THURSDAY 23 MARCH 2017

27. C OF A (CIV) 50/2016
VUKA SIDWASHINI PTY LTD V SIMON MKHALELA NDZABANDZABA AND 2 OTHERS
(L.R MAMBA ATTORNEYS) (C.J LITTLER & CO)

MONDAY 27 MARCH 2017

28. C OF A (CIV) 96/2016
PHAKAMA MAFUCULA V JUSTICE M.DLAMINI & 2 OTHERS
(M.S Dlamini Legal) (Waring Attorneys)

TUESDAY 28 MARCH 2017

29. C OF A (CIV) 71/2016

WANDILE NXUMALO V SWAZI MTN LIMITED
(V. Nhlabatsi Attorneys) (Musa Sibandze Attorneys)

WEDNESDAY 29 MARCH 2017

30. C OF A (CIV) 44/2016
ZANDILE SIMELANE V SIBONISO SIMELANE AND 2 OTHERS
(Mngomezulu Attorneys) (Masina Mzizi Attorneys)

THURSDAY 30 MARCH 2017

31. C OF A (CIV) 76/2016
MAJAWONKHE DLAMINI AND 2 OTHERS V KYOPE REBECCA MOLOI N.O AND 10 OTHERS
(C.J Littler & Company) (Dunseith Attorneys)

MONDAY 3 APRIL 2017

32. C OF A (CIV) 45/2014
XOLILE SUKATI V EVART MADLOPHA, P.S PUBLIC SERVICE & 2 OTHERS
(B.S Dlamini Attorneys) (Attorney's General Chambers)

TUESDAY 4 APRIL 2017

33. C OF A (CIV) 07/2016
THANDEKA MAZIYA AND ANOTHER V SIPHESINLE MBATHA AND 3 OTHERS
(Mhlanga-Dlamini Associated) (Zonke Magagula Attorneys)

WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL 2017

34. C OF A (CIV) 82/2015
SEYLAN TRAVEL AND TOURS (PTY) t/a V QUALITY CATERING SERVICES (PTY) LTD
(Elvis Maziya) (Gigi A. Reid Attorneys)

THURSDAY 6 APRIL 2017

35. C OF A (CIV) 68/2015 (REVIEW)
M.P SIMELANE ATTORNEYS V BEAUTY BUILD CONSTRUCTION
(Mabila Attorneys) (Magagula Hlophe Attorneys)

MONDAY 10 APRIL 2017

36. C OF A (CIV) 23/2016 (REVIEW)
BEAUTY PAT SIHLONGONYANE V XOLILE SIHLONGONYANE
(Motsa-Mavuso Attorneys) (Robinson Bertram Attorneys)

TUESDAY 11 APRIL 2017

37. C OF A (CIV) 83/2015
SIBONGILE NGWENYA V ANDREW RUGONGO AND 2 OTHERS
(Nzima & Ass) (Ben J Simelane & Ass)

WEDNESDAY 12 APRIL 2017

38. C OF A (CIV) 52/2016
SABELO GABRIEL NXUMALO V LYLE HUTTON AND 2 OTHERS
(S.C Dlamini Attorneys) (Waring Attorneys)

THURSDAY 13 APRIL 2017

39. C OF A (CIV) 45/2015 (REVIEW)
SIBONISO CLEMENT DLAMINI V WALTER BENNETT DLAMINI
(S.C Dlamini Attorneys) (Magagula Hlophe Attorneys)

TUESDAY 18 APRIL 2017

40. C OF A (CIV) 48/2016
LOMDASHI LIMITED & 10 OTHERS V THEMBINKOSI NGCAMPHALALA
(Howe Masuku Nsibandze Attorneys) (N.E Ginindza Attorneys)

THURSDAY 20 APRIL 2017

41. C OF A (CRIM) 77/2016
MA RANCHES (PTY) LTD V FRANS DU PONT & 4 OTHERS
(L.R Mamba Attorneys) (Robinson Bertram Attorneys)

MONDAY 24 APRIL 2017

42. C OF A (CIV) 61/2016
EASIGAS SWAZILAND AND ANOTHER V MACS INVESTMENTS
(JM Currie Attorneys) (Robinson Bertram Attorneys)

WEDNESDAY 26 APRIL 2017

43. C OF A (CIV) 63/2016
SIBONGILE FRANCINAH NKAMBULE V BONGANI BHEMBE
(Magagula Hlophe Attorneys) (Manyatsi Attorneys)

THURSDAY 27 APRIL 2017

44. C OF A (CIV) 22/2015 (REVIEW)
SWAZILAND NAZARENE HEALTH INSTITUTION V VELAPHI Z. DLAMINI
(Madzinane Attorneys) (Zonke Magagula Attorneys)

TUESDAY 2 MAY 2017

45. C OF A (CIV) 19/2016
DUMISA ERIC NKOMONYE V JOHABUS JOHANNES SCHALKWAYK, THE DEPUTY SHERIFF OF HHOHHO AND 2 OTHERS
(T.L Dlamini Attorneys) (Attorney General's Chambers)

WEDNESDAY 3 MAY 2017

46. C OF A (CIV) 14/2016
TIKANE INVESTMENT (PTY) LTD V ANNAROSE NGCAMPHALALA AND 9 OTHERS
(Madzinane Attorneys) (Xaba Attorneys)

THURSDAY 4 MAY 2017

47. C OF A (CIV) 65/2016
SANDILE THWALA N.O AND 8 OTHERS V MESHACK DLAMINI
(Howe Masuku Nsibandze Attorneys) (Magagula Hlophe Attorneys) (Dunseith Attorneys) (Robinson Bertram)

MONDAY 8 MAY 2017

48. C OF A (CIV) 42/2016
KENNETH B. NGCAMPHALALA V SWAZILAND DEVELOPMENT AND SAVINGS BANK
(S.C Dlamini Attorneys) (Musa Sibandze Attorneys)

TUESDAY 9 MAY 2017

49. C OF A (CIV) 54/2016
MIKKA SWAZILAND (PTY) LTD V THOMAS INVESTMENTS CORPORATION
(N.E Ginindza Attorneys) (Waring Attorneys)

WEDNESDAY 10 MAY 2017

50. C OF A (CIV) 36/2016
DONALD MANDLAKAYISE NDLOVU V ELGIN MAGUDUZA MAKHUBU AND 3 OTHERS

LIQUOR NOTICE

It is hereby notified for general information that the Liquor Licensing Board will hold its sitting to hear the following applications at the Ministry of Justice Conference Room on the **04 January 2017** starting at **09.00hrs.**

Region Lubombo

1. Gcinile. T. Vilakati P.O. Box 1506 Mbabane, **grant** of a Restaurant Liquor Licence situated at **Farm 94, Plot 25 at Bysis, Mananga Border** known as **Emfuleni Restaurant & Bar.**

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

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD
P.O. BOX 451
MBABANE

TAIWAN, A COUNTRY THAT KNOWS NO GARBAGE

...as they went from 'garbage island' to one of the cleanest in the world



CLEANLINESS FIRST: This is how the Taiwanese deal with garbage. (Courtesy pics)



By Mphikeleli Msibi

MBABANE – GO to Taiwan and you will see how they manage the art of dealing garbage.

I was personally impressed on learning how they do it. I noticed every household does not put its garbage bag at the street corner; in fact, Taiwanese hold their garbage bags, stand by the roadside and throw their own garbage bags into the garbage-collecting trucks.

No wonder the country is so clean and honest, when I say they know no garbage, I just mean that. It's just a breath of fresh air. I also like the fact that it has not always been like this. They had to come up with strategies to make the country what it is today in terms of cleanliness and dealing with garbage.

I was told there were a lot of garbage pickup spots around Taipei, Taiwan's capital that trucks visit five nights a week. You wake up in the morning, there is no garbage.

No one tells them its time but instead there are signals to the surrounding community that it's time to move out onto the street in preparation.

Then you see a big yellow truck appear, always followed by a smaller white cart. The yellow truck is for general trash and the white cart has a set of bins used to categorise recyclable materials. There's one for glass, paper, cardboard, cans and plastic.

Process

There's even a bin for raw food waste and one for cooked food waste. Recycling companies process the raw food waste into fertiliser for farmers, and the cooked food waste into food for farm animals.

Volunteers and officials stand on the back of the recycling truck ready to help people sort their recyclables correctly. One by one, everyone throws their small amount personal garbage into the correct truck, and return home to continue on with the day.

They just do a lot to make sure the country is always clean. Judging from what they do, they can never go wrong in as far as maintaining cleanliness is concerned.

In 1996 Taiwan Government made a 'Keep trash off the ground' Programme and this is why they throw their own garbage bags into the garbage-collecting trucks.

When they tell you how they started this, you are really shocked at how they have managed to turn things around after they were once dubbed as a 'garbage island'.

There were huge dumpsters and loose trash on the streets such that they were running out of space to put their waste.

It is clear Taiwan's previous biggest problem is now its biggest asset, due to the implement-

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The general public is informed that the University of Swaziland will close for the Christmas Season on **Friday 16 December 2016 at 12 noon**. It will resume its operations on **Tuesday 3 January 2017**.

We wish all our stakeholders a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Dr. S.S. Simelane
REGISTRAR



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tation of these advanced waste management practices.

The Taiwanese buy government designated bags to put their garbage in and throw it into garage collecting trucks and failure to do so, you receive a fine of 1 200 Taiwan dollars (approximate E522).

It means if a household or a shop generates more garbage they should pay more for their waste. The Taiwanese are made to distinguish different types of garbage, for metal can, plastic products they need to throw to recycle trucks instead of throwing into normal garbage collecting trucks.

Then in 1997, the Taiwan Environmental Protection Bureau introduced the 'Waste Management Law' which made

plans to recycle the waste and made subsidy to encourage industries to recycle used products.

Thoughtful

Recycling is free and can be brought to the truck in any kind of bag and this is what encourages people to recycle more and produce less trash.

As a result, Taiwan's communities have learned to be very thoughtful and considerate with their consumptive practices. The Taiwanese government has successfully slashed the daily household waste accumulation from 1.14 kg to a mere 0.43 kg.

The people there pay for plastic bags in the shops so most of them always carry their own shopping bags when they do

shopping. I think as Swazis we should also adopt the idea of carrying our bags when going to shop. It helps a great deal in as far as plastic and waste management is concerned.

Due to this successful garbage recycle plan, they successfully reduced 58 per cent of their general garbage in 2011.

You should also be aware, they are the first country to set up the recycle scheme and factories for four electronic products (TV, laundry machine, air conditioner and PC related products).

In 2011 Taiwan had a 48.8 per cent recycle rate of these above four used products which is already over the EU 45 per cent recycle rate set up for the year of 2016.




IN WAITING: Taiwanese patiently wait for the garbage truck.

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National Emergency Response Council On HIV/AIDS

APPRECIATION OF WORLD AIDS DAY COMMEMORATION

NERCHA takes this opportunity to extend its deepest appreciation to all partner organizations, government ministries, civil society organizations, companies, communities and People Living with HIV for the joint effort in making the 2016 World AIDS Campaign and World AIDS day Commemoration a resounding success. Our collaborative efforts are contributing towards our goals of reducing new HIV infections and ending AIDS related deaths.

CHRISTMAS BREAK - OFFICE CLOSURE

NERCHA informs partners, stakeholders and the general public that its offices will be closed for the Christmas holidays from Thursday the **15th December 2016 at 12:00 noon**. Operations will resume on Tuesday the **3rd January 2017**.

WE WISH YOU ALL A JOYOUS, PEACEFUL, HAPPY AND BLESSED FESTIVE SEASON AND A PROSPEROUS 2017.

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May we all remain committed to work together towards meeting the vision of ending AIDS by 2022!!



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HIV Prevention**

**BY KHANYA MABUZA
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



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Man stabs woman for looking at him

Stories by Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

A woman almost lost her life after she was viciously stabbed with a beer bottle on the head by a man for merely looking at him in an 'unfriendly' manner.

This is one incident which has been viewed as one of the cases of gender based violence.

Sustaining

Mancoba Fakudze (34), who is a public transport driver, allegedly stabbed Rose Magongo just above her eye and on the arm, resulting to her sustaining serious wounds.

The incident occurred near a bar, which is situated within the town centre.

He was subsequently arrested and charged with assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

When the charge sheet was read to him, he pleaded not guilty while conducting his own defence before Principal Magistrate Dumsani Magagula.

Unfriendly

When presenting her evidence, Magongo told the court that Fakudze accused her of looking at him in an unfriendly manner.

She admitted to have mistakenly bumped onto the accused after finding him standing at the entrance of the

bar. This then earned her the assault from Fakudze.

In his defence, Fakudze told the court that the complainant intentionally pushed him before hurling insults at him.

Misunderstanding

He said in the midst of their misunderstanding, he was attacked by a number of men who assaulted him with fists and open hands.

He claimed it was during this fight that the complainant got injured. Meanwhile, the complainant told the court that the accused was assaulted by a mob after he had already stabbed her. The matter was postponed to February 10, for continuation of trial.



Two nabbed with sports bags filled with 53kg dagga

By Phesheya Kunene
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

TWO men were busted with sports bags filled with dagga weighing 53 kilograms at the Ngwenya Border Gate.

The two were busted with four others on separate occasions at the border gate.

The two; Teacher Dlamini (29) and Sikelela Dlamini (33) had the highest load and thus were ordered to appear before the High Court to make their bail application.

The two men appeared before Magistrate Sifiso Vilakati on Tuesday and were ordered to come back to court on January 10.

A desperate move by Sikelela to gain his freedom was in vain as he alleged the bags did not belong to him but the person he was found with.

"I was only accompanying him, I know nothing about the dagga," he said.

The two were remanded back into custody.

Meanwhile, three South Africans also appeared in court after being nabbed on Sunday with the illegal herb at the Ngwenya Border Gate.

Monku Kagiso (31) was nabbed with five blocks of dagga weigh-

ing 6.8kg. He said he was unemployed and was trying to raise money feed his children. He was fined E2 000 or two years in a correctional facility.

Nobony Zenzele (46) of Johannesburg told the court she was a dagga dealer after being found with 5.75kg bags of dagga.

She was also charged for contravening the Immigration Act after being found in the country without a valid licence or permit.

"I am sorry; I was going to sell the dagga. I would not like to see my children using this drug. I apologise," she said.

She was fined E2 000 or two years in jail for being found in possession.

She was further fined E500 or five months in jail for being in the country illegally.

Another dagga case was of Mfanaleni Nkosi from Oshoek, who was also nabbed with the illegal herb weighing 3.9kg and was fined E2 000 or two years in jail.

In addition, a man from Mankayane told the court his lack of education resulted in him not being unable to secure a job hence his decision to turn into dagga dealing.

Ndumiso Mvubelo (25) said he was only trying to earn a living. Vilakati sentenced him to pay a fine of E2 000 or two years in jail.

Traffic cop loses control of vehicle, overturns

A female traffic police officer deployed at Siteki Police Station is currently recuperating at Good Shepherd Hospital after she lost control of her vehicle, overturning it once.

The accident happened in the early hours of Tuesday when the officer was on her way from home to her work place.

Witnesses said the officer, who is well known amongst motorists, failed to negotiate her way through a sharp corner situated near Mzilikazi, at an area known as KaJezi.

Her vehicle veered off the road and headed towards a nearby homestead, before overturning once and coming to a standstill.

She remained in the vehicle for some minutes as nobody came to her rescue. But she later managed to pull her-

self out and called for help from her colleagues. She was rushed to the hospital where she was admitted.

Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba confirmed the incident. Mamba said the officer was recovering in hospital after sustaining injuries on the head.

Meanwhile in another road accident, a police van was hit on the side by a run-away Isuzu van near Futheni. The accident happened on Monday morning.

During this accident, a police officer, who was on the passenger seat, sustained minor injuries on the body while the driver escaped unhurt.

The officer was treated at Good Shepherd Hospital and discharged on the same day.



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

Man bumps into fuel attendant, fined E500

By Sizwe Dlamini
Pigg's Peak

A man has been fined E500 for bumping into a petrol attendant at a fuel service station.

Peter Dlamini, aged 42 from Buhleni, was arrested for bumping into fuel attendant, Patrick Zwane, who is aged 39.

He subsequently appeared before Pigg's Peak Magistrate Simangele Mbatha.

Dlamini said his car locked its steering wheel when it switched off.

Automatically

"I did not intend to cause the accident, unfortunately the car I drive locks its steering wheel automatically when the engine stops running.

In this case, the engine failed because the car had ran out of fuel. So I was on my way to the service station and right before the petrol pumps my car switched off," he said.

Dlamini said there was nothing else he could do as the car bumped into the service station attendant.

"I then rushed the attendant to the Pigg's Peak Government Hospital and paid for his treatment. I also checked



PRESIDING: Magistrate Simangele Mbatha.

up on him regularly and bought him food as I was trying to indicate how sorry I was for the accident in the first place," he said.

Meanwhile, the magistrate sentenced Dlamini to five months in a correctional facility for causing the accident if he failed to pay the E500 fine.

Farmers must pay for recovered cattle - Ministry

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

FARMERS who had their stolen cattle recovered from Mozambique and later kept at a quarantine must either pay the required fee or lose these to the ministry of agriculture, says the Department of Veterinary Services.

This is contrary to what the farmers were recently made to believe after they were informed they would be given the opportunity to negotiate for the release of their cattle with the director.

Apparently, the livestock owners, who are mainly from Mhlumeni and Siteki, lost 17 cattle to rustlers early last month.

The cattle were later recovered from Mozambique and were taken to a quarantine at Maphiveni for monitoring of the deadly foot and mouth disease.

The farmers were then informed they must pay at least E700 for the release of each cow.

Following numerous meetings with officials at the Siteki veteri-

nary office, the farmers were later informed that the director had promised to help them at no cost.

They were told that they would be meeting the director this week.

However, when reached for clarity on the matter yesterday, the director disputed the reports.

Instead, he highlighted that there was a standing Animal Act which stated that farmers would be required to pay a certain amount for having their livestock checked for diseases whenever it was transported into the country from another.

He said the Act had no exceptions on whether this would apply when the animals were being transported freely or have been stolen. The director, who opted to be brief in his explanation, said the affected Mhlumeni and Siteki farmers would therefore have to pay the required amount without any option.

This also comes after the farmers reported they were informed that the ministry of agriculture would sell their cattle on auction if they fail to pay for them.



THANKFUL: Swaziland Nazarene Health Institutions Chief Executive Officer Benjamin Simelane making his remarks during the handover of the vehicle on Tuesday.



CONGRATS: RFM Hospital Administrator Leonard Dlamini receiving the car keys from UNICEF Rep Rachel Odede.



IT'S OFFICIAL: Odede and Swaziland Nazarene Health Institutions Chief Executive Officer Benjamin Simelane signing the documents.

UNICEF'S E500 000 VEHICLE DONATION TO NAZARENE

Stories by Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

THE United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) donated a vehicle worth over E500 000 to the Swaziland Nazarene Health Institutions (SNHI).

Making the donation on Tuesday was UNICEF Representative Rachel Odede.

She said the donated vehicle was meant to be used by SNHI to take health services to hard to reach and under-served communities.

Odede said the donation could not have come at a better time when the country was faced with a worst drought situation in over five decades.

She said the drought continued to stretch UNICEF resources and capacity to deliver basic services for children, particularly those living in rural communities.

"This vehicle is one of many resources that UNICEF has committed in mitigating the impact of the emergency, which should ensure our achievements



REMARKS: UNICEF Representative Rachel Odede delivering her speech. (Pics: Sifiso Nhlabatsi)

are not undermined by drought," Odede stated.

She said given the excellent commit-

ment and execution of interventions to achieve results demonstrated by the SNHI, she has no doubt that many children in particular would benefit from the comprehensive health package of outreach services offered through the use of the vehicle. Odede thanked the partnership between UNICEF and SNHI.

She said the partnership, which had existed for over 10 years now, has made a huge positive impact on maternal, newborn and child health including; PMTCT, paediatric care, early infant male circumcision (EIMC) and implementation of quality improvement initiatives across various programmatic services.

Odede said the partnership between UNICEF and SNHI was an excellent example that it was possible to deliver results for children with limited resources.

He said over the years, through this partnership with government, they had been able to support SNHI to deliver key public health services, including spearheading the piloting of PMTCT in 2003 which today is Swaziland's success story.



NEW WHEELS: The Toyota van valued at over E500 000 parked at RFM Hospital.

UNICEF, RFM WANT TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

AS cases of human trafficking continue to be reported in the country, UNICEF and the SNHI have embarked on a project to combat this criminal activity.

UNICEF Representative Rachel Odede said in collaboration with the ministry of home affairs, UNICEF was currently supporting SNHI to pilot a health facility based birth registration model at RFM Hospital.

Odede said through this project they hoped it would present an

opportunity to ensure that every child born in a hospital does not leave without a birth certificate.

She said such would prevent cases of human trafficking because every child would get out of hospital knowing his or her nationality. The country representative stated that she was aware with these success stories, comes massive challenges.

She said because of limited resources, many children and their parents get excluded.

Maphungwane man held for house breaking and theft

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

AS more cases of house breaking and theft are reported, a man of Maphungwane has been arrested and charged with house breaking and theft of property worth over E13 000.

Mduduzi Maziya appeared before Principal Magistrate Dumsani Magagula on Monday where he faced three charges. He was alleged to have wrongfully and unlawfully broken into a house belonging to Meyer Isabelle and stole various items valued at E11 100. The items were mainly electrical appliances and clothes.

He was further charged with theft, in that he wrongfully, unlawfully and intentionally stole a cellphone belonging to Ntombifuthi Dlamini, which was valued at E600.

He is also charged with robbery, in that he wrongfully and unlawfully robbed Ndumiso Khoza of a cell-



phone valued at E1 200 and a bag which carried various items. The accused is said to have threatened his victims with a knife, saying he would stab them if they did not comply with his orders.

During his appearance in court, the crown applied that the accused be remanded in custody pending setting of a trial date.

The matter was subsequently postponed to next Monday.

Meanwhile, Dumisa Sibandze (34) also appeared before the same court

where he faced a charge of theft. He is accused of having stolen a Galaxy cellphone valued at E4 000. His case was also postponed to next Monday after he was granted bail of E500.

Worth noting is that police have been warning members of the public to be vigilant as criminals intensify their attack during the festive season. During recent crime prevention events, the public has also been warned against carrying large amounts of money or highly valued property in public.

NHLANGANO SATELLITE BUS RANK REHABILITATION COMPLETED

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlangano

THE refurbishment of the satellite bus rank in Nhlangano has been completed and public transport operators have thanked the owners of the structure.

The satellite bus rank is part of the Nhlangano Mall, which is a privately owned property housing a number of businesses.

The refurbishment of the facility situated close to the Swaziland Building Society (SBS) happened over a couple of weeks and it was opened for use at the beginning of the week.

For a long time, the facility has been in a terrible state.

The new look satellite bus rank is used mostly by short distance public transport vehicles servicing routes like Nhlangano/Makhosini/Mashobeni as well as Nhlangano/Mahamba routes.

Sifiso Kunene, owner of Sanele Transport servicing Nhlangano/Mashobeni route, said they were pleased that now

they would use an improved facility.

He said as public transport operators, they were encouraged with the good work done by the owner of the property. "The facility is now usable, unlike before where there were potholes all over which made us customers wonder as to who was supposed to maintain the place. We are happy that the facility has been rehabilitated," said Kunene. He said as there was a rank fee collected daily from each kombi, it would be a wise thing to use the money in maintaining the facility. Kunene said the town Council, which collected the fee, should put it to good use. He said with the satellite bus rank refurbished, it was necessary that town Council consider renovating the main bus rank, especially the stretch from KaMjuda Filling Station.

"Roads in Nhlangano have improved and the only task that also needs urgent attention is the stretch to the main bus rank from KaMjuda Filling Station. There are also unbearable potholes inside the facility and it's time they are fixed," said Kunene.

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

Gamedze further welcomed all foreign visitors in the country and promised them they would be spoiled for choice. He urged Swazis to extend hospital-



URGES: Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs Christopher Gamedze wishing the nation a happy festive season. (Pic: Guqu Simelane)

ity and generosity to the country's visitors as they were an essential ingre-

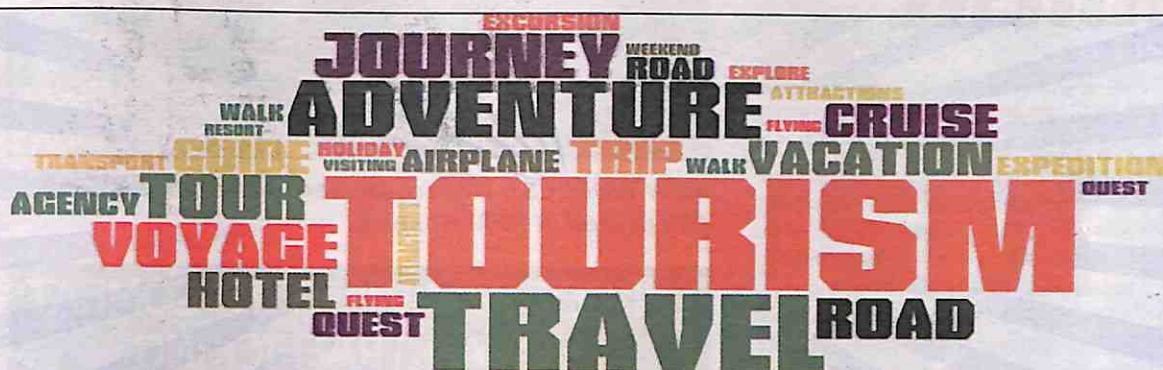
He further invited the country's visitors to also partake in the ongoing Incwala.



By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane

He said the aim for them, as a ministry, was to cover all the 56

This was mainly because most farmers were sceptical to go to the fields this year. The minister sounded very optimistic that the country would overcome hunger this year.



The Ministry of ICT (Information, Communications and Technology)

B.V. Gama
ACTING PRINCIPAL SECRETARY



Please be advised that only short listed candidates will be contacted



FEATURES & OPINION

REFRESH WHAT YOU THINK...



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

AS a man and husband, nothing hurts me more than seeing first marriages crashing down under the radar.

I don't really care about second, third or fourth marriages failing because most of them are built on the fragile pillars of deception, greed and expectations. Today I celebrate 20 years of marriage with a woman I met young, small, slender and tall and I can't thank her enough. All my teenage and adulthood have been spent with her. Together we have seen our children grow from the humblest chickens to the proudest bulls. May she see many years in God's name I decree!

UNCONDITIONAL LOVE

As lovers we were not trapped in the spider web of materialism but on deep seated love. We stayed in our stick and mud room and dreamed of a better future. When it rained, water entered through the roof, singing the blues to our fairy tale romance. On such days we wore plastic raincoats to duck the rain and laughed at ourselves! Our ¾ bed was balanced on four six inch bricks. We never saw it as a curse but fixed our eyes on the blessing of being alive! We walked long distances with no car and care. We boarded buses and kombis without complaining. To make ends meet, I would grab jobs as Father Xmas and loved entertaining with clownish and comical antics! To us life was a song worth singing! In the better part of our affair, she earned three times in remuneration than yours truly but there were threats and bully tactics.

AND WHEN THINGS TURNED AROUND

And as fate would have it, the heavens opened and smiled at us and things turned around for the better. In the fall of 2000 we found ourselves, myself and wife, seated in front of His Majesty the King-just the three of us! And when travelling opportunities came, we toured the world. But like Jack LaMotta (Robert de Niro) in the 'Raging Bull', through the tumble

USUALLY YOUR FIRST WIFE IS YOUR LUCKY CHARM!

beat of life, we came crashing. We were insulted, humiliated, dehumanised and demonised but we held stubbornly tight to love! We rose again, from the ashes of decay, stronger than ever, still clinging to faith! My granny told me that if you want a golf ball to rise high, you have to hit it hard on the ground! We were hit hard on the ground and we rose high! And we know the colour of life that it is dark brown and green! So if by fate and destiny this marriage collapses, because even strong marriages do collapse, I will safely say 'it's finished' because you don't stay with one person for 20 years and then magically restart and love another. Never! I know there have been horrible first marriages that never stood the test of time, right from the beginning and I sympathise with them. There are many reasons for failings such as marrying for wrong reasons, infidelities, lack of money, lack of vision, impatience, marrying a mama's baby and worse, just not clicking. But if you married a good wife who wanted the best of you, rose up with you as you built yourself, you are lucky! And curse is upon you, when after a tedious battle of hustling with her, you hit success, then dump her and settle with your PA, secretary or beauty queen: the vultures, who all of a sudden love you more than your wife, I repeat, a curse is upon you, unless she is the reason for the problems. But if she is not the problem and you are the problem because you have been swallowed by limited pleasure of time (*uhudvulwe bunandzi besikhashane*) woe unto you and I tell you today that your lucky charm is that woman because you became successful with her! Not the one you are with right now! Through the present wife you will walk next to your

shoes and lose everything you achieved with your first wife because you were spiritually attached to her. So if she is angry with you she invites bad luck to you. Ask yourself what you have achieved with the second wife except poverty and humiliation. Oh my God I feel like preaching today! *Lungisani umnikelo, tinkhukhu tasemakhaya* and tithes please!

GOOD WIFE! GOOD LIFE! GOOD WIFE! GOOD LIFE!

To me a good wife is one who loves her husband unconditionally. Someone who will be more than a wife but a friend, advisor and manager. It has to be someone who wants to see the best of you, someone who will pray for your success not your fall. She has to love your imperfections and understand that men have a lot of failings. She has to stick by you in good and bad and has to be patient with you. More than anything, she has to forgive you. As a human being, she has to be angry and stamp her foot on the ground for what she hates.



She also has to take you to task if you are not keeping up with the goals you set up as the chief executive officer of the family. In other words, a wife has to be everything: Someone who knows the road to the kitchen! Moreover someone who always thrives for a hygienic environment! The question is, where does one find someone with these qualities? Sadly, there is no definite place to find her because even in church there are lots of born again thugs: hyenas, wolf in sheep skins, ready to pounce on unsuspecting wet in the ears of men! So this woman can only come from God! It is God's grace to have a wife, moreover a good one! One whose umbilical cord is spiritually attached to yours! And men must know that they didn't marry angels but human beings with shortcomings!

MARRYING MAKHWAPHENI

Makhwapheni must remain *makhwapheni*, nothing more, nothing less! The worse mistake that men do is ditch their wives and marry *bo makhwapheni*. What men forget is that *bo makhwapheni* also have *bo makhwapheni* so if they marry them it's a recipe for disaster because *bo makhwapheni* will not ditch *bomakhwapheni babo*! So it will be a three some project of *bomakhwapheni*. In no time men will realise that *lomakhwapheni* only excelled in being *makhwapheni* and can't cope with the system of being wife because she knows that husband will not stop seeing other *bo makhwapheni* like her. Marrying *makhwapheni* who stressed your wife to the limit becomes a doomed project with no deliverables! And how do you deal with shortcomings of *makhwapheni* turned wife? *Ngiyabuta*? I know a lot of men who hustled with their wives and got successful. And then attracted women who are

10 times more beautiful than their wives. Just because they love their wives (only a worse fool will dump his wife) they would settle for polygamy and then crumble and crush because the second wife has no institutional memory of the empire. Usually she is greedy because she only knows success and only came for it. When pillars of the empire start shaking, instead of cementing them, she shakes them to the ground. And when the empire collapses, traditionalists will conclude that ancestors didn't welcome her! Men forget that the women they made their first and big break with are their lucky charm. And when they get attracted to women who are not 'flesh of their flesh and bone of their bone' it becomes disastrous. And usually a woman who will still be standing next to a hubby's sick/death bed is the one who knows him when he had nothing. And usually even when he falls she can still be with him not the one he met when had had already built the empire!

POLYGAMY, DEATH AND REMARRIAGE

This Thursday, today, Africa is celebrating Polygamy Day! Hip-Hop Hooray! Oh my God, I have thin shoulders and I can't carry this heavy load! After 20 years of stability, how do I introduce instability in my house? And in the event of the inevitable death, I can take time to remarry for two reasons. One, in respect and honour of the late wife. Two, so that I don't fall in the hands of hyenas. And if I finally remarry, I can make it a low key affair with a few family members and friends, for two reasons. One, in respect and honour of my late wife. Two, there is nothing much to celebrate because all my love died with the late wife. So the remarriage would be nothing but an arrangement! *Sekwenja nje*, because love would be like a soul gone, gone forever!

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ON THIS DAY

...DECEMBER 15

1989 - Communist leaders in Czechoslovakia offered to surrender their control over the government and accept a minority role in a coalition Cabinet.

1991 - Russia, Byelorussia and Ukraine declared the Soviet national government to be dead. They forged a new alliance to be known as the Commonwealth of Independent States. The act was denounced by Russian President Gorbachev as unconstitutional.

1992 - Americans got to see live television coverage of US troops landing on the beaches of Somalia during Operation Restore Hope. (Due to the time difference, it was December 9 in Somalia.)

1993 - US President Clinton signed into law the North American Free Trade Agreement.

1994 - Bosnian Serbs released dozens of hostage peacekeepers, but continued to detain about 300 others.

1994 - In Los Angeles, 12 alternate jurors were chosen for the OJ Simpson murder trial.

1997 - The second largest bank was created with the announcement that Union Bank Switzerland and the Swiss Bank Corporation would merge. The combined assets were more than \$590 billion.

1997 - Jenny Shipley was sworn in as the first female prime minister of New Zealand.

1998 - The US Supreme Court ruled that police could not search a person or their cars after ticketing for a routine traffic violation.

1998 - The FBI opened its files on Frank Sinatra to the public. The file contained over 1 300 pages.

1998 - Nkem Chukwu and Lyke Louis Udobi's first of eight babies was born. The other seven were delivered 12 days later.

1998 - AT&T Corp. announced it was buying IBM's data networking business for \$5 billion cash.

1998 - The first female ice hockey game in Olympic history was played. Finland beat Sweden 6-0.

1999 - In Memphis, TN, a jury found that Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. had been the victim of a vast murder conspiracy, not a lone assassin.

1999 - Russia and Belarus agreed in principle to form an economic and political confederation.

2000 - Mario Lemieux announced to the Pittsburgh Penguins that he planned to return to the National Hockey League (NHL) as a player at age 35. He would be the first modern owner-player in US pro sports.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Apryl Jones
(reality star) -
December 15,
1986 - 30 years old



Jesse Lingard
(Soccer Player) -
December 15,
1992 - 24 years old

MULTISECTORAL
RESPONSE (MR)

**BY SAMKELO
MAHLALELA**

Information Centre Assistant Manager
The National HIV and AIDS Information
and Training Centre

THE country's extended National Strategic Framework (eNSF) 2014 - 2018, clearly articulates that the HIV response's first priority "is to prevent new HIV infections, reduce mortality amongst people living with HIV (PLHIV)."

It goes on to set out nine priority programmes that have the potential to yield the desired national results.

The nine core programmes are designed around and implemented using the "combination strategy" model in which different programmes and interventions together contribute towards achieving results.

The successful implementation of these rest on the level of investment, that is, the degree of intensity, community involvement to create demand, shift in social norms, and human and technological capacity - including the availability of systems to deliver the needed services.

INADEQUATE TARGETING
AND LACK OF INTENSITY
OF HIV PREVENTION PRO-
GRAMMES

The mid-term review of the initial NSF (2009-2014) showed that strategies did not adequately address critical behaviours, epidemic drivers, underlying factors that increase risk and vulnerability such as cultural and social norms, gender inequality, gender based violence, poverty, mobility, stigma and discrimination. Prevention programmes are typically provided in a generic manner.

With this in mind and in line with the extended NSF, the National Emergency Response Council on HIV and AIDS (NERCHA) through the National HIV and AIDS Information and Training Centre (Info Centre) having identified men as "left behind" yet critical players in the HIV response, engaged *Siphila Nje Drama Society* (SNDS) and worked together to conceptualise, develop and deliver a programme specific to men. One that would not only talk to men as individuals but one that could target them as members of communities and in the process help address the issue of weak community ownership and participation, including the participation of PLHIV.

The SNDS then developed a programme based on tradition and culture, and aptly named it "*Enjobeni Majaha*" - an idiomatic Swazi expression - whose main objective is to create demand and mobilise men for HIV services uptake. The concept follows the *Kudliw' Inhlolo Majaha* concept that was also con-

ENJOBENI MAJAHHA OFFERS
HOPE FOR SUCCESSFUL
ENGAGEMENT OF MEN

ceived and popularised by SNDS, through funding from NERCHA in the early 2000s.

ENJOBENI MAJAHHA WAC
PILOT

The 2016 WAC had as its objective, the reinvigoration of the HIV prevention and treatment agenda towards the elimination of new infections and ending AIDS as a public health threat in Swaziland by 2022.

Through its "Hands Up for #HIV Prevention" theme, it presented an opportune time to pilot the *Enjobeni Majaha*. With the national World AIDS Day commemoration set to be hosted by the Manzini region, in the sub-region of Mankayane, the SNDS was therefore given the responsibility of delivering the programme in the 10 *imiphakatsi* under the Ingwempisi *Inkhundla* and an additional urban setting.

Its main objective was to galvanise men in these communities for action so those that were reached by the programme not only take up the HIV Testing and Counselling (HTC) services provided as part of the *Enjobeni* delivery, but also find time to participate in the 2016 WAD commemoration and take up other HIV and AIDS related services offered on the day.

The *Enjobeni Majaha* pilot programme targeted men above 30 years of age (identified as one of the "priority populations" as they, including those from age 24, indicate a higher prevalence rate of HIV infection, and are also the ones to account for the high HIV incidence among adolescent girls aged 15-19).

The programme ran from 15th November to the 1st of December 2016 and covered all 10 *imiphakatsi* under the Ingwempisi *Inkhundla*, with an additional community of men from the Mankayane Town.

AMBUSH PARTICIPATORY
THEATRE

As *Siphila Nje Drama Society* uses theatre drama to communicate across all themes, a stage drama carrying the important messages of the *Enjobeni Majaha* was conceived, developed, and delivered.

Messages covered by the drama include: the test and start initiative; linkages to health care; treatment as prevention (benefits of being on treatment); voluntary medical male circumcision and condom; the role of men in the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV; post exposure prophylaxis; stigma and discrimination; as well as power relations and gender issues.

The drama was set as 'Ambush Participatory Theatre' and engaged the men as active participants who were asked to respond to some of the issues raised.

In the initial, a pre-test evaluation was conducted to assess the knowledge levels of the participants, something that helped the facilitators to note information gaps and or lack of information, which was then addressed during discussions, with a post-test evaluation conducted at the very end.

After the drama performance, facilitated discussions guided by set discussion questions which touched on all the issues contained in the drama, as well as questions, reflections and recommendations from the participants, ensued.

During this time, the facilitators constantly called out for the next man to get tested for HIV on-site. With support from the AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) save for the communities of Ngcoseni and Mankayane town, all other visited communities were provided with HTC services.

Men found pleasure in being the next to be seen going for the test, resulting in almost 65 per cent attendants testing on the spot.

LESSONS LEARNT

Men's access to and use of sexual reproductive health (SRH) services is particularly important in settings with a generalised HIV epidemic like that in the country. Evidence has shown that men use such services far less than women do and offer many reasons for the state of affairs.

The *Enjobeni Majaha* pilot programme has however served to show that men and boys (many showed up and were not turned away) when engaged in their own

space and in an environment they are comfortable with, are willing and determined to change their attitudes and practices towards their health, especially as regards their sexual activity and sexual relationships.

There are a number of factors to be taken into consideration however, if the programme is to be up-scaled and taken nationally, like the *Kudliw' Inhlolo* concept that was evidently recognised as a best practice, adopted and widely implemented by other HIV and AIDS organisations in their bid to reach men with information on HIV and AIDS. These include:

- In male consultations, the *imphakatsi* and other structural bodies should be viewed as partners for ownership purposes rather than including them as the target audience.

- There is need to obtain buy-in from all community structures for them to take full ownership of the programme.

- Cultural customised interventions such as *Enjobeni Majaha* are positively received by men, some even going to the extent of saying that when His Majesty the King (*Umlomo longacaliemanga*) has given the directive for an AIDS free Swaziland by 2022, they as men, have to rise up and play their part. Many of the men expressed their satisfaction at the programme and stated they relate better to issues that speak to them directly.

- The greater involvement of PLHIV proved to be a motivation to men to understand the possibility of living a healthy life regardless of the results of an HIV test.

- Health information on issues such as test and start and the many other prevention technologies including HIV self-testing, PrePex and PrEPs should be customised and shared with men at a faster pace as men expressed they are always the last recipients of accurate information. Many appreciated the presence of CHAPS, who provided accurate answers to their questions on medical male circumcision.



Women and Law

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By
**Bakhombisile
Dlamini**
WRITER

LEADERSHIP GREETINGS FOR POWERFUL GIRLS

“A STRONG WOMAN
STANDS UP FOR HERSELF.
A STRONGER WOMAN STANDS UP
FOR EVERYBODY ELSE.”

WE live in societies where leadership is seen as an exclusive preserve for men. Women and girls are socialised to support men and assist them to flourish in their leadership roles.

Women have been made to believe they do not have it in them to lead. How many times have you heard that women do not have what it takes to become leaders? But what is it really that makes a leader?

If Warren Bennis' definition is anything to go by, then we can make the assumption that leaders are people who are able to express themselves fully. It does not take anything outside of oneself to become a leader. It requires integrated people who know who they are, what their strengths and weaknesses are, and how to fully deploy their strengths and compensate for their weaknesses.

Goals

They also know what they want, why they want it, and how to communicate what they want to others, in order to gain their cooperation and support. Finally, they know how to achieve their goals.

The key to full self-expression is understanding one's self and the world, and the key to understanding is learning—from one's own life and experience.

Young girls and women living in patriarchal societies are already set to not meet this benchmark because their everyday interactions and environments emphasise the need to deny who they are and assume identities defined by self-interested agents of stagnation and oppression.

These agents, so powerful, then “confer” these identities on the women who struggle to identify with them as they are in conflict with who they are and so fail to become what they set out to be. If society is always quick to point out women are natural nurturers, why is it difficult to see that the very same nurturing trait is an ingredient for leadership—servant leadership?

This is the kind of leadership that will take us far as societies especially because we do not want people that will become leaders and just put that in their CVs; we need people who will make change and leave a legacy and for something as timeless as that, we need nurturers who have “Ubuntu”.

Voice

Warren Bennis argues timeless leadership is always about character, and it is always about authen-

ticity. To underscore this point, psychologist William James wrote, “I have often thought the best way to define a man's character is to seek out the particular mental or moral attitude in which, when it came upon him, he felt himself most deeply and intensively active and alive. At such moments, there is a voice inside which speaks and says, “This is the real me.”

Young girls, you are encouraged to discover and cultivate that authentic self, the part of you that is most alive, the part that is most you. Now, as then, finding and nurturing that authentic self is the one sure way of becoming a leader. But that is the

hardest part for most of us. Rightly so, because becoming a leader is not easy, just as becoming a doctor or a poet isn't easy, and those who claim otherwise are fooling themselves.

But learning to lead is a lot easier than most of us think it is, because each of us contains the capacity for leadership. In fact, almost every one of us can point to some leadership experience; at home, school, in the church or the community. So, what made us leaders in those instances?

The first thing that our girls need to have for them to become timeless leaders is integrity. This is a

difficult one because it calls for ignoring the hypocrisy and double-standards that are pervasive in our societies.

Conflict

The dictionary defines integrity as “the state of being complete, unified.” John C. Maxwell sums it up nicely when he says, “When one has integrity, their words and deeds match up.”

We struggle everyday with situations that demand decisions between what we want to do and what we ought to do. Integrity establishes the ground rules for resolving these tensions.

It determines who we are and how we will respond before the conflict even appears. It welds what we say,

think and do into a whole person so that permission is never granted for one of these to be out of sync. It binds our person together and fosters a spirit of contentment within us. It will not allow our lips to violate our hearts. When integrity is the referee, we become consistent—our beliefs are mirrored by our conduct. To earn trust, a leader must be authentic.

It appears that traditional definitions of leadership make leadership overrated in our time. In the past, the emphasis was on collecting data, establishing whether you were on the right track and then acting. It gave so much room for

us to be discouraged, based on superstitions, outdated beliefs and oppressive measures. Today, young people understand that time is of essence.

They think on their feet, make rules as they go—even bending and breaking some of them. This new way of thinking is what is going to lead our young people to uncharted worlds. The leaders of today's digital age, whose world is never still or quite in focus, must depend on compasses, according to Weick. He explains, “Maps, by definition, can help only in known worlds—worlds that have been charted before. Compasses are helpful when you are not sure where you are and can get only a general sense of direction.”

If we are going to break the mold, we need young girls who have seen the gloomy picture of women in leadership, but still remain determined to navigate the path with only a compass in their heads (vision), but not knowing where it will lead—only believing in themselves. In addition to vision, self-confidence and emotional intelligence will take our girls far.

As we welcome the festive season, the message (by Warren Bennis) to beautiful, fun-loving girls should take this: No leader sets out to be a leader. People set out to live their lives, expressing themselves fully. When that expression is of value, they become leaders. So the point is not to become a leader. The point is to become yourself, to use yourself completely—all your skills, gifts, and energies—in order to make your vision manifest. You must withhold nothing. You must, in sum, become the person you started out to be, and to enjoy the process of becoming.

Wit & Wisdom

● “Not obedience or feelings or respect, there is only one thing which people take seriously at all time and its “money”.”
— Amit Kalantri

● “No sensible man ever engages, unprepared, in a fencing match of words with a woman.”
— Wilkie Collins, *The Woman in White*

● “Why hasn't anyone killed him yet?”
“Dumb luck,” Wit said. “In that I'm lucky you're all so dumb.”
— Brandon Sanderson, *Words of Radiance*

● “Ack!” I said.
Fearless master of the witty dialogue, that's me.”
— Jim Butcher, *Changes*

● “Do you like to slide?” His voice was eager.
Stair rails! Did he suspect me? I forced a sigh. “No, Majesty. I'm terrified of heights.”
“Oh.” His polite tone had returned. “I wish I could enjoy it. This fear of heights is an affliction.”
He nodded, a show of sympathy but not much interest. I was losing him. “Especially,” I added, “as I've grown taller.”
— Gail Carson Levine, *Ella Enchanted*

● “My country, right or wrong,” is a thing that no patriot would think of saying except in a desperate case. It is like saying, “My mother, drunk or sober.”
— G.K. Chesterton, *The Defendant*

● “There are those who scoff at the schoolboy, calling him frivolous and shallow: Yet it was the schoolboy who said ‘Faith is believing what you know ain't so.’”
— Mark Twain, *Pudd'nhead Wilson*

● “You can't teach an old dogma new tricks.”
— Dorothy Parker, *The Algonquin Wits*

● “A poet should be so crafty with words that he is envied even for his pains.”
— Criss Jami, *Killosophy*

● “I don't beg for those things which can be earned.”
— Amit Kalantri

● “I agree that sometimes it is difficult to choose between right and wrong, but not between right and stupid.”
— Amit Kalantri

● “She wished she had a set of greeting cards at the ready, but Hallmark probably didn't make any that said ‘Thank you for giving up your life so that me and my friends could escape! It was so appreciated. XOXO!’”
— Gina Damico, *Rogue*

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VITALS

Prime Rate	10.5%
First National Bank	
Inflation Rate	8.2%
Central Statistical Office	
Mortgage Rate	9.5%
Swaziland Building Society	
Bank Rate	7%
Central Bank	
Petrol (u)	E11.00 per litre
Replacement	E11.05 per litre
Diesel	E10.95 per litre
Paraffin	E 7.15 per litre
Engen Garage	

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES



Correct as at 14 DEC 2016

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	13.6400	13.6900
British Pound/SZL	17.2682	17.3315
Japanese Yen/SZL	8.4134	8.4421
Swiss France/SZL	13.4929	13.5410
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.2726	1.2841
Australian Dollar/SZL	10.2205	10.2593
Canadian Dollar/SZL	10.3932	10.4241
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	5.5211	5.5942
Euro/SZL	14.5198	14.5730
Gold	1,160.5900	
Oil	52.6700	

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Moving Forward

MANUFACTURING SECTOR CREDIT HIT FIVE-YEAR LOW

By Linda Dlamini

CREDIT extended to the manufacturing sector has reached a five year low as only E410 million was extended to the sector as at the end of the third quarter.

According to the Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) September Quarterly Report, credit extended to the manufacturing sector was E410 million.

The CBS said December 2014 credit manufacturing reached its highest point in 10 years as it reached E1.2 billion; it follows that in just two years manufacturing credit has plummeted almost two thirds, or 66 per cent.

A year on year comparison with this latest figure reveals credit extended to the manufacturing sector has contracted by more than 50 per cent in just 12 months, from E899 million.

University of Swaziland (UNISWA) lecturer and economist Sanele Sibiya said this could be a sign the economy was not going into recovery just yet.

"The manufacturing sector is an important entity as it is labour intensive, which therefore creates a lot of jobs within any economy," he

said.

Sibiya said with the current data, the sector was not going through an expansionary cycle.

"This, therefore, is indicative of an economic downturn," he said.

Developed economies often track the level of productivity of the manufacturing sector and it was often used as an indicator for the level of activity within the economy.

South Africa, United Kingdom (UK) and United States of America (USA) financial publication houses often quote the PMI Index, an instrument which measures the manufacturing sector and its productivity.

It was akin to the inflation consumer price index (CPI).

Asked what could be causing credit levels to spike to five year historical levels, Sibiya said there were quite a number of factors that could be considered.

"It is important firstly to note the rise of globalisation has introduced global value chains which have resulted in companies having a large international value chain," he said.

Asked to simplify what this means

that companies now streamline their operations not nationally but globally.

"For instance, the company could choose to have an internalised process for credit; in that the company will not go to a local bank for credit but will be funded internally by channelling money around the organisation itself," he said.

Sibiya said local companies, that have a local foot print only, should be the ones seeking credit but they have certain problems themselves.

"One issue for local manufacturing companies is they are not equipped technically to obtain loans," he said.

Elaborating, Sibiya said banks typically required certain type of paper work like cash flows, business plans and the like. This requires expertise advice which the smaller manufacturing companies do not have and cannot afford.

In conclusion, Sibiya opined that banks were willing to lend to manufacturing sector, however, there were certain structural impediments that prevented them and also the demand for the loans was mooted from the sector itself.



Inflation might increase, mount pressure on bank rate

By Manqoba Makhubu

THERE is a high possibility that the country's inflation rate might also increase after South Africa's inflation increased to 6.6 per cent.

According to South African publication, Business Report, Statistics South Africa reported that the Republic's inflation rate increased to 6.6 per cent in November, from 6.4 per cent in October. It noted that, on average, prices increased by 0.3 per cent between October 2016 and November 2016.

Following which, financial analyst and economist Theminkosi Dube said it was highly possible that the country's inflation rate would also ascend following the recent developments in South Africa.

He said this was because the country imports most of its products from the Republic.

"The effect will be in two folds, first it's the squeeze on the inflation rate and secondly, the interest rate pressure depending on how the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) and the Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) will consequently decide on the interest rate," he said.

To contain inflation, one of the measures available to central banks is to increase interest rates.

In a recent interview with Swaziland Building Society (SBS) Managing Director Timothy Nhleko, he said if the inflation rate in South Africa was high, it gets imported to the country, "so we get affected by those exogenous factors which we have no control of, so that is why you sometimes find that South Africa has a lower inflation rate while we have a higher inflation rate."

The country's inflation rate currently stands at 8.2 per cent, but the CBS has kept the bank rate at seven per cent.

In his latest Monetary Policy statement following the Monetary Policy Consultative Committee (MPCC) meeting held in November 24-25, CBS Governor Majozi Sithole said the outlook was marred by persistent effects of drought on food supply. Going forward, the bank projected inflation to average 7.8 per cent for 2016.

However, the governor did say the tough economic conditions were expected to continue in the short term with growth depressed.

"However, the bank wishes to emphasise that monetary policy shall remain supportive of sustained long-term growth," he said.

TOUGH: CBS Governor Majozi Sithole.



IMF team visits Swaziland

By Linda Dlamini

AN International Monetary Fund (IMF) team, led by Geremia Palomba, IMF Mission Chief for Swaziland, visited Mbabane during December 5-12, to review recent developments, and discuss with the authorities the economic outlook and policy challenges going forward.

According to a statement released by the IMF, discussions with the authorities focused on the economic impact of recent developments, in particular on fiscal accounts, and policy options going forward.

"Discussions set the stage for the upcoming 2016 Article IV consultation with Swaziland planned to take place in the first half of 2017," said IMF.

At the end of the visit, in the statement, Palomba noted that during 2016, the country was hit by a severe drought and a sharp decline of the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) revenue.

Drought

"The drought is projected to weigh heavily on 2016 growth and inflation. The decline in SACU revenue has put pressure on both external and fiscal accounts. An expansionary fiscal stance has amplified the negative impact of these economic shocks on the budget," he said.

The mission met with Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini, Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini, Minister of Economic Planning and Development Prince Hlangusemphi, Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) Governor Majozi Sithole, other senior officials and private sector representatives.

"The mission thanks the authorities for their hospitality and the productive and open discussions," stated Palomba.

According to the IMF website, Article IV consultations are country surveillance which are an ongoing process that culminates in regular comprehensive consultations with individual member countries, with discussions in between as needed.

The consultations are known as 'Article IV consultations' because they are required by Article IV of the IMF's Articles of Agreement.

During an Article IV consultation, an IMF team of economists visits a country to assess economic and financial developments and discuss the country's economic and financial policies with government and central bank officials.

SAVE AND NOT PAY THE BANK FOR 12 MONTHS

Stories by Manqoba Makhubu

YOU can decide not to pay the bank for 12 months while you save with Nedbank's Savings Account.

Mbabane Region Small and Medium Enterprise Area Manager Sindi Motsa said this was possible as the account was a no charge in nature.

The account was designed for groups or individuals who wish to save together, from a minimum of three people.

Speaking during a short event held by the bank with its customers and prospect customers of the account, Motsa said clients could deposit for free using all the instruments that banks use for collecting deposits, "it may be cash, cheques or electronic funds transfer, whatever way that the money can be deposited with in the account for free."

The event was held at Sibane Hotel in Ezulwini on Tuesday.

Motsa said the account arrangement was quite different because, those who have transactional accounts were charged when depositing a cheque for the reason that the bank has to then process the transaction.

"Of course now the market is lucky, because for cash irrespective of the amount, you deposit for free. There is no service fee or cost of having the account or when transacting. Also there is no maintenance fee for this account," she said.

She said customers were allowed two free withdrawals per month, "which means in a year you may do 24 transactions or withdrawals without paying a cent as we only start charging you from a third and subsequent withdrawal."

Motsa said that was done to encourage the culture of saving.

"The other charge you may incur is when you give us an instruction like to issue a cheque or maybe an instruction to pay another bank from the account," she said.

With regards to interests, Motsa said it depended on the invested amount.

"The amount of interest earned depends on the balance you maintain in the account, so in other words it's teared from anything from 1.4 per cent up to 3.75 per cent," she explained.



SAVE: Mbabane Region Small and Medium Enterprise Area Manager Sindi Motsa making a presentation.

"Somebody can say somewhere else I can earn 10 per cent. Fact is we do have those accounts that will give even a better return. But, we have actually made this to be free, if we were to give you 10 per cent what we will then be getting? Through this product, we are trying to be in business with your support," she further stated.

Access

The account also offers holders immediate access. Motsa said this was because they were cognisant of the fact that clients don't want to be inconvenienced when they need their money back, "you just give us the instruction and we do as you wish." The minimum balance for the account is E1 000 and customers are not restricted on the number of deposits they can make.

"We do not dictate how clients should use the funds, after all it is their money and we say it is a saving mechanism for building up cash.

"We have observed that some other small businesses, when they do their start-ups, they put together money they build up until they can open a transactional or current account and then when they want to start their project, they use those funds taking advantage of the no fees and minimum fees," she said.

On another note, she said they had

observed that some clients have been saving for holidays.

"They start from the beginning of the year and decide how much each member could contribute. This has eliminated the need of treasurers who before had the burden to collect contributions from members.

"Some people have already taken out the funds as they were saving from the beginning of the year. Some are yet to be distributing because they have been saving for school fee requirements. There is also a concept of stokvels as well as other various uses for the product, we cannot exhaust the list," said Motsa.

She encouraged account holders to avoid closing and reopening the account due to the complications accrued to such. Instead, she encouraged customers to leave the minimum balance after distribution, "as long as you leave your minimum balance you are covered, there is no further documentation we will require from you as a client."

Adding, she said the minimum was only required at the initial stages, but she stressed there was a need to ensure that the account was active, which therefore, calls for it to be credited now and again.

She said the essence of coming up with the product was to respond to customer needs.

...Culture that all has to subscribe to

MEANWHILE, Nedbank Head of Sales and Distribution Kevin Reid says the Club Savings Account is means of saving culture that all people have to subscribe to.

He said this was the time when they see a drawdown of funds in this product as dividends were paid at this time of the year.

"So we thought we are very reliant on this product in the overall picture of the bank and we really value you as clients and earners and shareholders in your different groups subscribing to this product, because as a bank works, we rely on investment or what we call liabilities, because without liabilities we cannot lend money.

"The way a bank works, you have to have money to lend money. On this product no matter how small it is, it very valuable to us, because when it all adds up, we can take it

and lend it to the borrowers and that is how we make money," he said.

Reid who said he was about to retire, said although the returns of this account were quite marginal, the fact that it was a cost free investment means customers do not pay anything for it, "it's a part of the saving culture that we all have to subscribe to."

"To retire you got to have investments, the earlier you take the trouble to do investments, regardless whether it is short or long term, as long as you got the cross section, it becomes a culture and in the longer term you benefit from it.

"So from our point of view, we as a bank want you to grow, we want to assist you grow and want to continue banking with Nedbank through this important product economy and culture of Swaziland," he said.



ABOVE AND BELOW: Attendees also had a chance to ask questions.

SEL SHARE PRICE SOARS 16 %

By Linda Dlamini

SWAZILAND Empowerment Limited (SEL) share price has soared on the Swaziland Stock Exchange (SSX) possibly on the back of news of a possible acquisition of more MTN Swaziland shares from current owners Swaziland Post and Telecommunications Corporations (SPTC).

Swaziland Empowerment Limited (SEL) share price increased by 16 per cent in the third quarter of 2016 during the time it was announced SPTC would be selling its stake in MTN Swaziland.

This increase in the share price was in spite of SEL recording a significant

drop in profits for the financial year ended March 31, 2016.

According to SEL's financial statements for the year ended March 31, the investment company's profits decreased to E64.1 million.

However, the reduction in profit does not tell the whole story as according to the audited results of SEL for the year ended March 31, total comprehensive income for the year under review was up 12 per cent to E82 million from E73.6 million.

The boost in the company's total comprehensive income was a result of a 704.7 per cent; eight fold increase in other comprehensive income when compared to the previous year.

"The company recorded E18.5 million in other comprehensive income

for the year ended March 31, 2016, whilst other comprehensive income for the year ended March 31, 2015 was E2.3 million," reads the statement in part. At the time the financial results were issued, the share price was trading at 2 500 cents per share.

Currently the share price of SEL is at 3 050 cents per share.

Results

After the financial results were announced, SEL Board Chairperson Cleopas Dlamini at the company's Annual General Meeting (AGM) said the board had explored the different options available to the company should the shareholders decide to purchase the MTN shares.

Dlamini said the situation right now was that SPTC owned 41 per cent of

MTN Swaziland and were looking to sell given the unbundling of the company.

"SPTC has a legal obligation to offer 30 per cent of its shares to existing shareholders, pro rata. Whilst with the remaining 11 per cent SPTC is free to find its own buyer.

"However, that is not to say as existing shareholders of MTN Swaziland we cannot lodge a complaint if we feel the person or company buying the 11 per cent is an entity we cannot work with," he said.

"The principal activity of the SEL during the year under review remained that of an investment holding company.

"The investments comprise a 19 per cent stake in Swazi MTN Limited, Swaziland Government Bond's SG016 and SG017, a bond in the Swaziland Development Finance Corporation

(FINCORP) and a loan to FINCORP," the chairman said.

The chairman further revealed the company would be expecting at least E41 million in the next two months from its investments.

In light of all this information, the share price of the investment holding company has increased drastically in the last couple of months.

Yesterday a financial analyst from a leading investment management firms said share prices were mostly driven by the factors of demand and supply, amongst other things.

"If there is a growing demand for a certain share, then the price of the share is likely to raise," he said.

It follows that the prospects of SEL acquiring MTN shares has created some demand for the share thus initiating a rise in its price.

22 BUSINESS

CHRISTIAN BANK REPACKAGE, IMPROVE PAYMENT TERMS

● The bank would be known as SWSI (Sichwaga Wealth Solutions Investment)

By Njabulo Dlamini

FOLLOWING the positive response from brethren and Swazis interested in the formation of the Christian bank by Swaziland Conference of Churches (SCC), the organisation has decided to repackage and improve its payment terms.

SCC Chief Executive Officer Reverend Winston Shongwe said the positive feedback had compelled them to review the categories for one to purchase shares into the Christian bank as the interest out there was massive.

Their intention was to have an inclusive entity with flexible payment arrangements for citizens not to feel excluded.

The bank would be known as SWSI (Sichwaga Wealth Solutions Investment) and requires E160 million to be set up.

SCC has extended the deadline for recruitment or registering potential Founding Member Subscribers (FMS) from the end of this month.

The SCC's ambitious bid to establish a Christian bank, a first for the country, has the tagline 'SCC is making a turnaround, be part of it'.

Individuals and churches from across the three Christian bodies in the League of Swaziland Churches, Council of Swaziland Churches and SCC are welcome to join.

"This is a great project of the Christian community in this country," Rev. Shongwe said.

He listed the three categories of membership one can choose from as:

1. Founding Member Subscriber (FMS) – The joining fee for this category is E1 600, minimum investment being E15 000, thus giving the total of E16 600. The rate of return on this investment (ROI) per annum is 15 per cent with maximum number of members being 400. SCC said terms of payment were now up to 36 months. The waiting period is 60 months.

One can enjoy benefits for this membership for up to 25 years.

2. General Member Subscriber (GMS) – Here the joining fee is E1 100, minimum investment is E2 500, meaning the total to be forked out from any interested individual is E3 600.

The ROI here is 10.5 per cent per annum. Under this category, there is no maximum number of members or limit set, meaning as many interested citizens as desirable could join according to the (SCC) CEO. The terms of payment are also up to 36 months with the waiting period at 60 months. One can enjoy benefits of this membership for up to 10 years.

3. Kulula Member Subscriber (KMS)

– The joining fee is E350 for this category with the minimum investment being E250 whilst the maximum is E2 500. This means the total asked of one interested in joining here is E2 850. The ROI is 9.5 per cent per annum. The terms of payment are up to 18

months.

Again, here there is no limit on the number of members who can join whilst the waiting period is 18 months. One can enjoy benefits of this membership for up to 10 years.

"It should be noted that founding members and general members do not pay joining fees for Kulula. They only pay the Investment of E250 up to E2 500 to access easy short loans," Shongwe stated.

All payments are to be made at Nedbank, Standard bank or nearest Post Office.

Reverend Shongwe clarified; "All these were once-off (no monthly subscriptions)."

He further emphasised the following for one to become a member subscriber:

a) Be a member of a Christian church that preaches and teaches total salvation through Jesus Christ;

b) Copy of your National ID (Certified copy preferred);

c) Complete and sign a Commitment Form;

d) After paying the first Instalment of your investment, sign a formal agreement which details your partnership with SCC and SWSI (Sichwaga Wealth Solutions Investment);

f) Send in your e-mail address to the SCC and you will given the commitment form and banking details, or come to the SCC (also Christian Media Centre offices) along Ngwane Street in Manzini, past The George Hotel.



MEET: Minister of Natural Resources and Energy US Dumisani Mngomezulu, UNDP Program Specialist Sithembiso Gina, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative Lars Tushuizen and Trevor Shongwe from the Department of Water Affairs.

Behavioural change key to mitigate climate change effects

By Manqoba Makhubu

THE effects of climate change are here to stay and the only option humanity has is to adapt and mitigate.

To do this, the country needs to put in place policies to facilitate integrated water resources management that will assist in mitigating the impacts of the increasing global climate change.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy, through the Department of Water Affairs has initiated a process to review the National Water Strategy and Action Plan 2003 and establish the National Water Policy and Strategy.

The initiative is supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The Policy will facilitate effective management of water resources for both urban and rural areas and different stakeholders are being engaged to make an input towards the development of the policy.

An inception meeting was held between various stakeholders such as government department, University of Swaziland (UNISWA), Royal Swaziland Sugar Corporation (RSSC) and others this week where the findings of the consultant's desk review were presented.

UNDP Deputy Resident Representative Lars Tushuizen noted behavioral change was critical to mitigate the effects of climate change.

He stated there was need for public education on the efficient use of water, as household users were one of the key stakeholders that cannot be overlooked.

"Climate change is real. We have all seen the different faces of how it manifests itself: we have experienced water rationing, 66 per cent of agricultural production dropped and many cattle died.

"This shows that climate change is real to everyone which is why

we had to consider developing the policy because climate change is here to stay.

"We need to adapt and mitigate and the policy is critical in getting our house in order," he said.

He said this adds to other important pillars such as governance, specific interventions and financial sustainability which are key to water resource management.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy Under Secretary, Dumisani Mngomezulu said the Water Act formed a basis for the establishment of the policy, which was important for the country.

Trevor Shongwe from the Department of Water Affairs said the issue of water cuts across a number of players which are coordinated at the ministry and neighbouring countries as water is a transboundary commodity.

Development

The water sector as expressed in the National Development Strategy (NDS) is about the development and implementation of strategies for poverty alleviation and drought mitigation, with the main objective of improving water availability for both socio-economic and economic productivity.

Therefore, water is construed as an engine for development which ensures sustainable economic prosperity and is consequently expected to play a catalytic role in poverty eradication in the country through various interventions.

The enactment of the National Water Policy and Strategy will guide government on how to develop and manage the diminishing and erratic water resources for sustainable and socio-economic advancement of the people's livelihoods in this country. Moreover, the policy will provide clear demarcation of the responsibilities of the various stakeholders and institutions involved in the integrated development and management of water resources in the country.

Biomass: the energy answer for Swaziland

Johannesburg - Swaziland could become the first African country to become totally powered by renewable energy, writes Alexander Matthews.

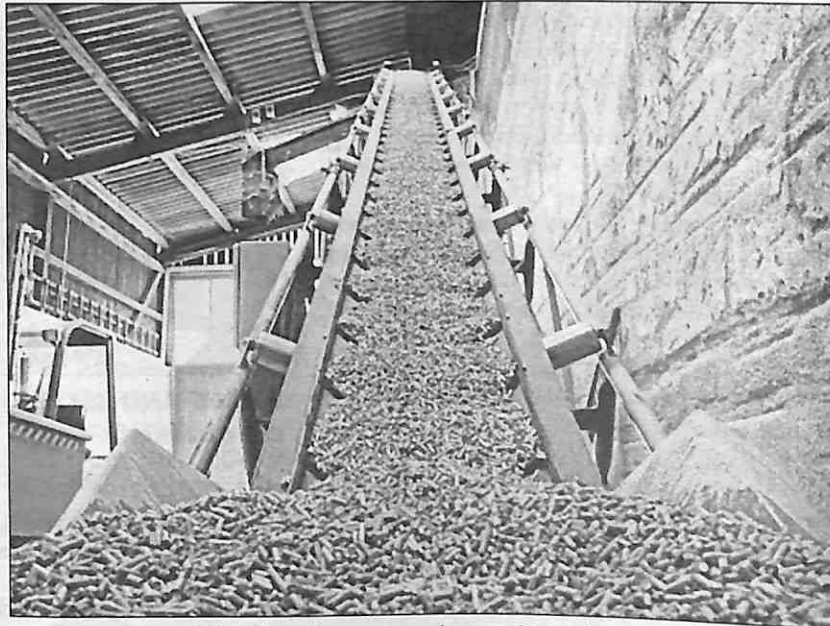
It's early days, but the prospect of Swaziland becoming the first African country to become totally powered by renewable energy is looking increasingly bright.

Ushering in this green revolution is a 35MW biomass power plant to be developed by the kingdom's largest timber company, Montigny Investments, by 2020.

"Using the offcuts from our sawmilling and forestry harvesting processes to produce power allows Montigny to increase the value we extract out of each tree sustainably, which is our ultimate goal," Kelly Cure, the company's Head of Strategic Initiatives, says.

"We view the forests as an interconnected ecosystem full of opportunities, which is why we are involved in many markets outside of traditional forestry and sawmilling — including essential oils, resin tapping and honey harvesting."

The plant will be built at Bhunya mill, located within Montigny's 76 000ha Usutu Forest Estate in western Swaziland. The location is ideal: harvest areas — where forest biomass can be gathered — are, on average, only 23km away, while sawmill waste is generated on-site. Initial projections are that the project will create several hundred jobs, with an estimated R275m flowing into the Swazi economy annually — through increased employment, investment and



the replacement of electricity imports.

Although the country is able to generate up to 17 per cent of electricity sales domestically using its four hydropower stations, it is hugely reliant on imports of thermal power from SA under an agreement which expires in 2025, and which has seen double-digit tariff increases each year.

"The drought state of emergency has depleted Swaziland's hydro resources, leading to 100 per cent reliance on imported power at many points over the past year," Cure says. "Our project will help Swaziland regain energy independence by supplying nearly 30 per cent of the nation's energy demand."

A pre-feasibility assessment and several additional technical studies are com-

plete, and Montigny has inked a memorandum of understanding with the country's power utility, the Swaziland Electricity Company.

The project's lead development partner — which will provide biomass energy know-how and assist in procuring the R1.5bn-R2bn in funding required — will be announced soon.

Cure believes that the plant's power-generating capacity could increase to up to 60MW if additional biomass can be procured.

One potential source is from the rehabilitation of 30 000ha of "wattle jungles" which have spread across the communal areas neighbouring Montigny's plantations.

BusinessLive

Africa News

Gambia's ruling party wants fresh election

DAKAR - Gambia's ruling party pressed for a fresh presidential election Tuesday as West African regional mediators intervened to try to resolve a mounting political crisis in the tiny country that voted its leader of 22 years from power less than two weeks ago.

A petition signed by the secretary general of President Yahya Jammeh's party on Tuesday demanded a new vote with a revalidated voter registry.

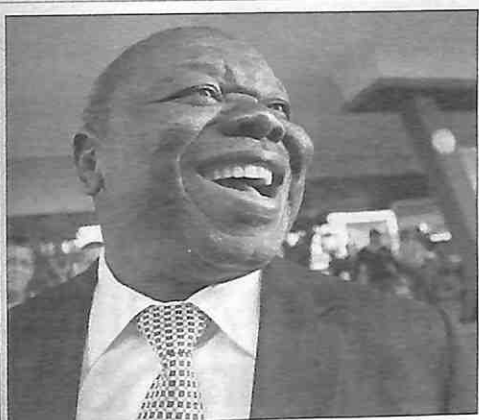
The document, which was also signed by a notary public and seen by The Associated Press, says the election was not conducted fairly or in good faith and therefore should be invalidated.

Jammeh initially acknowledged defeat, even calling the Dec. 1 election fair and conceding to President-elect Adama Barrow in a telephone call broadcast on state television. But he announced last week that he was rejecting the election results.

Among the irregularities cited in the petition brought against the Independent Electoral Commission and Gambia's attorney general were the different results reported the day after the election and again on December 5. It also questioned why some 360 000 registered voters did not make it to the polls.

The commission said the vote was transparent, fair and accurate. The results it gave on December 5 were updated totals, but the commission said the new counts did not change the outcome and that Barrow was still the winner.

AFP



U-TURN: Morgan Tsvangirai's MDC-T has abandoned its "no reforms no elections agenda".

MDC-T in election reforms climbdown

HARARE - The Movement for Democratic Change (MDC-T) led by former prime minister Morgan Tsvangirai has abandoned its "no reforms no elections agenda", declaring on Tuesday it would form a coalition with like minded parties and contest the 2018 elections.

Until now, the MDC-T had insisted it would not participate in any elections until the electoral playing field was made even. The largest opposition party has boycotted a number of by-elections - a move that saw President Robert Mugabe's Zanu PF regain a number of urban seats. Electoral reforms expected to be implemented by the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission (ZEC) together with the government have been moving at snail pace. This has raised doubts that the electoral playing field would be level by the time of the elections, which are due in the first quarter of 2018. *Africa News Agency*

EU SANCTIONS ARE 'ILLEGAL' - DRC

KINSHASA - DR Congo on Monday slammed as illegal a European Union decision to impose sanctions on seven of its top security officials for their role in deadly clashes with protesters.

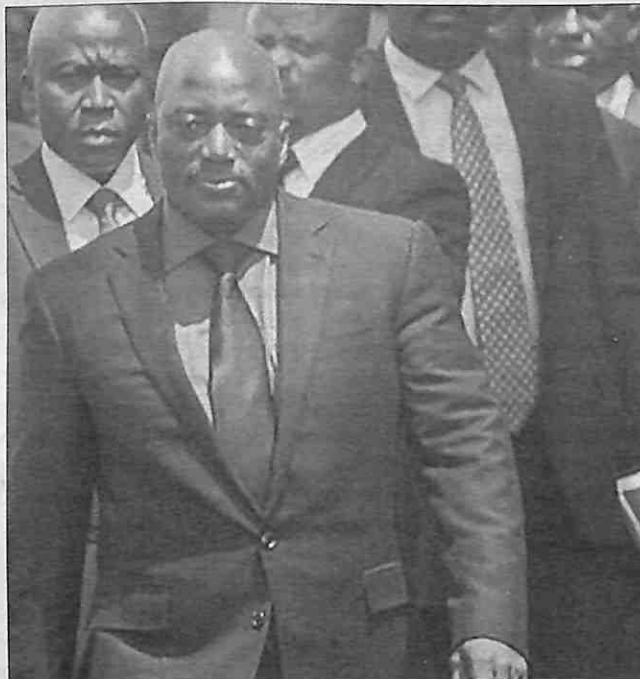
"[These sanctions] are illegal because they are a sort of imperial law that is at odds with international law. The DRC, a non-European country, condemns them and intends to take action against them," said government spokesperson Lambert Mende.

Died

More than 50 people died in the September protests against the rule of President Joseph Kabila and European Union foreign ministers had warned in October they would act if Kabila showed no sign of leaving office when his term ends on December 19.

Ministers decided "to impose restrictive measures against the seven individuals who hold positions of authority in the chain of command over the Congolese security forces which have exercised a disproportionate use of force," a statement said.

The steps include travel bans and asset freezes.



SLAMS SANCTIONS: DRC President Joseph Kabila.

The seven include two Kabila allies - Army Commander Major General Gabriel Amisi Kumba and former inspector of police General John Numbi - who have previously been sanctioned by the United States.

The EU also listed Ilunga Kampete, head of the presi-

dent's Republican Guard; Ferdinand Ilunga Luyoyo, Commander of the anti-riot squad; Celestin Kanyama, chief of the national police; Roger Kibelisa, in charge of the internal security services and Delphin Kaimbi, alias Kahimbi, who ran the military intelligence arm. *AFP*

No way home for victims of Boko Haram

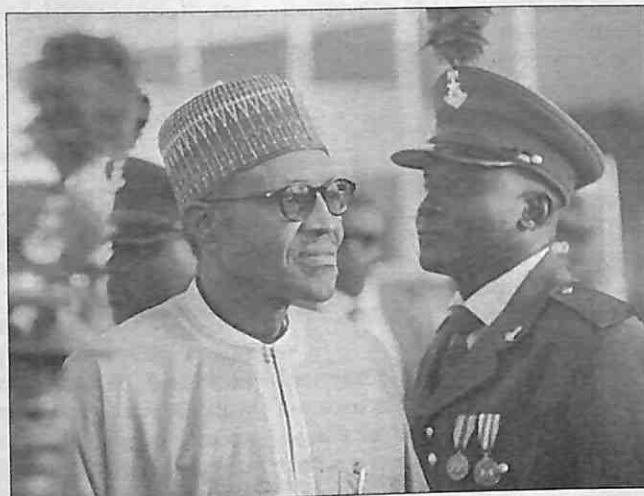
NGALA - Seen from above in a helicopter, the straight white walls of Ngala camp in north-east Nigeria carve a misshapen star out of the dry brown scrub.

There are 55 000 people living in tents and straw huts inside the geometric garrison, protected from Boko Haram jihadists by the military.

Though the city of Ngala is less than a kilometre away, these people can't go back to a normal life.

"Boko Haram is still here, the only thing we can do is wait for food," said Aishi, a 50-year-old woman with deep lines in her tired face.

Over the past year, Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari's government has made repeated announcements that Boko Haram is close to being defeated and that thousands of people are returning home. "They are done for," said Buhari early this month. "The security situation in Nigeria had improved significantly." But many reclaimed



NO WAY HOME: Over the past year, Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari's government has made repeated announcements that Boko Haram is close to being defeated.

towns, like Ngala, are charred, looted ruins still vulnerable to Boko Haram attacks.

So the people live in the guarded camps, cut off from any means of supporting themselves and dependant on external aid, while international humanitarian organisations

warn of an impending famine.

"Here we can't do anything, we can't leave the camp because Boko Haram will attack us," said Abdullahi Asuha, a traditional chief.

"Boko Haram has plundered our crops, our herds and burned our land." *AFP*

BRIEFS

Gambia's Jammeh is 'very receptive'

CAPE TOWN - Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari says Gambia's President Yahya Jammeh has been "very receptive" to a delegation of west African leaders, who were expected to urge the long-ruling leader to step down following a poll defeat, according to a report on Tuesday. Several west African leaders arrived in Gambia on Tuesday to urge Jammeh to respect elections that voted him out of power after 22 years. Jammeh initially conceded defeat but late last week announced he was rejecting the December 1 vote results. He alleged voting irregularities. *News24*

Home to 90% of world's malaria

JOHANNESBURG - Despite major progress in the fight against malaria, the mosquito-borne disease remains an acute public health problem, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, home to 90% of the world's malaria cases, according to an annual flagship report by the World Health Organisation (WHO). "We are definitely seeing progress," said Pedro Alonso, Director of the WHO Global Malaria Programme, in a Tuesday news release on the World Malaria Report 2016. "But the world is still struggling to achieve the high levels of programme coverage that are needed to beat this disease," he added. *Africa News Agency*

Empty schools force pupils to roam streets

N'DJAMENA - Robbed of school since September by widespread teacher strikes as growing numbers protest government austerity, three million pupils in Chad have had to seek out alternative ways to keep themselves busy. Some roam the streets idly, others try to catch small fry, known as "balbout" in Chadian Arabic, from back-alley streams. Everyday, open spaces are transformed into football pitches. Older pupils have even turned their hands to the world of work, transforming themselves into itinerant salesmen, roaming the streets of the capital to make some pocket money. *AFP*



Nigeria discloses \$7.2bn of unrecorded debts

LAGOS - Nigeria's government has found unrecorded debts of 2.2 trillion naira (\$7.22 billion) left over from the previous administration, which turned up after an audit aimed at improving transparency, it said in a tweet. "2.2 trillion unrecorded debt owed contractors/private sector found on federal government books, inherited from previous administration," said the message posted on Twitter. The debts were owed to contractors, oil marketers, exporters and electricity distribution companies, Finance Minister Kemi Adeosun said on Sunday in a statement. *Reuters*

Opposition rejects mediator days

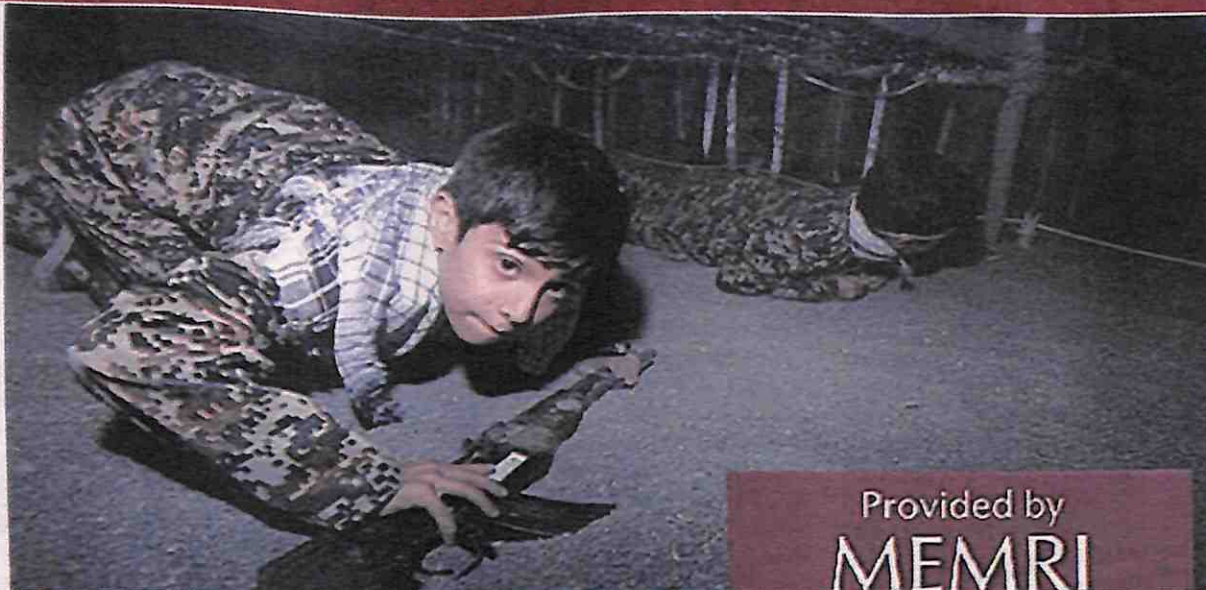
NAIROBI - Burundi opposition groups demanded an international mediator resign just days after he arrived, casting a shadow over already troubled efforts to resolve months of political violence. Mediator Benjamin Mkapa flew in on Friday at the head of an African peace mission, then gave a speech at the airport that anti-government groups said appeared to recognise the legitimacy of Burundi's leader - the issue at the heart of the conflict. *Reuters*

WELCOME TO JIHADI LAND!

Iran opens theme park where children get to dress up as soldiers and pretend to attack Israel and other Western enemies

IRAN - A new theme park has been opened by the Iranian government, where young children learn to be revolutionaries and fight against the country's enemies.

Youngsters as young as eight are able to don military uniforms and fight 'battles' against the US and Israel at the new attraction in the city of Mashad. The park is named The City of Games for Revolutionary Children. They also learn about the battle in Syria against ISIS, and throw balls at effigies of the terror group. And The Sun reports that they are encouraged to fire plastic bullets at an effigy of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Among the shrines children are required to save are the Shrine of Zaynab in Damascus, Syria. They are also taught about Iranian leaders, including Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, who founded the Islamic Republic.



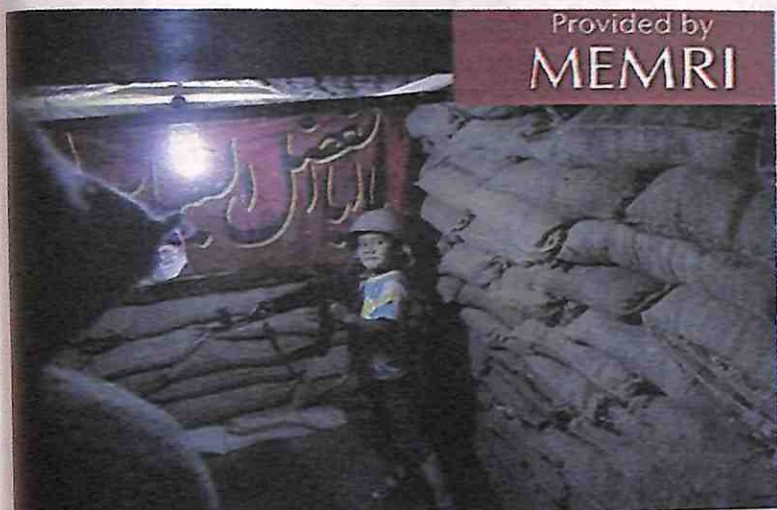
Provided by
MEMRI

UNDERCOVER: Visitors are kitted out with military gear and given guns, so they can learn how to fight the country's enemies. (Daily Mail)

Theme park boss Hamid Sadeghi said: "At the final station, the children learn that the most important

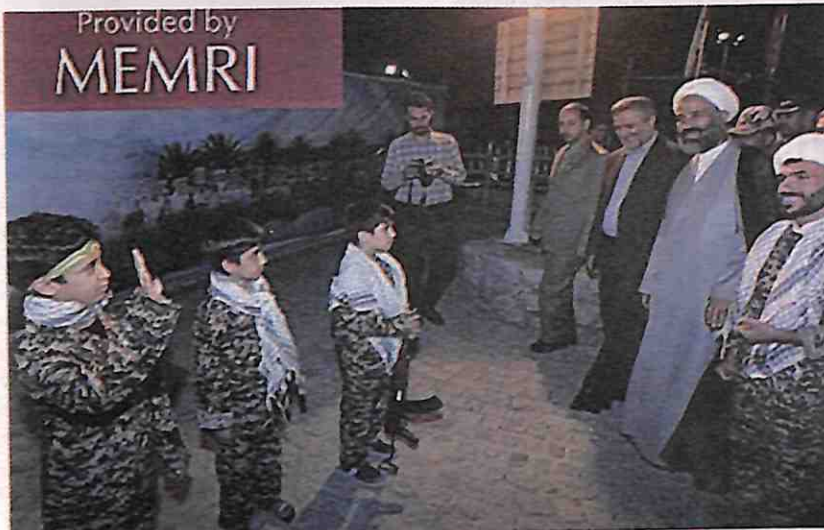
elements for attaining victory are wisdom and intelligence for fighting the enemy." Speaking to Raja

News in Iran, he said the park has been in "great demand". (Daily Mail)



Provided by
MEMRI

BRAINWASHED: A young boy holding a weapon at what looks like a mock military checkpoint at the theme park.



Provided by
MEMRI

ADMIRE US: The war-themed attraction has opened in Mashad, the second biggest city in Iraq.

- The City of Games for Revolutionary Children has opened in Mashad, Iran
- Run by the Iranian government, it teaches children to fight against enemies including Israel and the US
- Young children as young as eight don military uniforms and fight 'battles'
- Visitors are encouraged to fire rubber bullets at an effigy of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu

GAMES FOR REVOLUTIONARY CHILDREN: WHAT VISITORS DO AT THE THEME PART

Stage one - Youngsters are taught about the Mahdi, the Shi'ite messiah

Stage two - They are taken to the station of the Rule of the Jurisprudent

Stage three - The children are taught about the Islamic Revolution and how the Shah's dictatorship was vanquished

Stage four - They enter the first station of the Holy Defence, where they simulate fighting the enemy and learn about combat methods, including firing plastic bullets. They shoot at effigies of the Israeli prime minister and the US flag.

Stage five - The children go to the station of defence of the Shrine of Zaynab and learn about the fighting in Syria against ISIS

Stage six - Children have a contest throwing balls at effigies of ISIS and the Saudi royal family

Stage seven - They watch a video about the defence of the Shrine of Zaynab

Stage eight - and receive a souvenir gift

Stage nine - Children are blindfolded and asked to throw a ball at an Israeli flag in the form of a puzzle and knock it down, and then assemble a puzzle of an Israeli flag.

ADVENTURE SPECIALS



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BRIEFS

Germany deports rejected asylum seekers

BERLIN - Germany yesterday carried out its first group deportation of Afghans whose asylum applications were rejected, in line with an agreement with Kabul, the news magazine Der Spiegel said on Tuesday, citing government sources. More than a million migrants from the Middle East, Africa and elsewhere have arrived in Germany this year and last, prompting concerns about security and integration and boosting support for anti-immigrant groups such as the Alternative for Germany (AfD) party. In 2016, Afghans are the second biggest group of asylum seekers in Germany after Syrians, according to data from the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF).

Reuters

As Aleppo falls, Trump faces the test

WASHINGTON - Aleppo's fall to Syrian government forces is shaping up as the first major test of President-elect Donald Trump's desire to cooperate with Russia, whose military support has proven pivotal in Syria's civil war.

The death and destruction in the city is only renewing Democratic and Republican concern with Trump's possible new path. Though Trump has been vague about his plans to address this next phase in the nearly six-year-old conflict, he's suggested closer alignment between US and Russian goals could be in order. **AP**

US Osprey flights in Japan halted

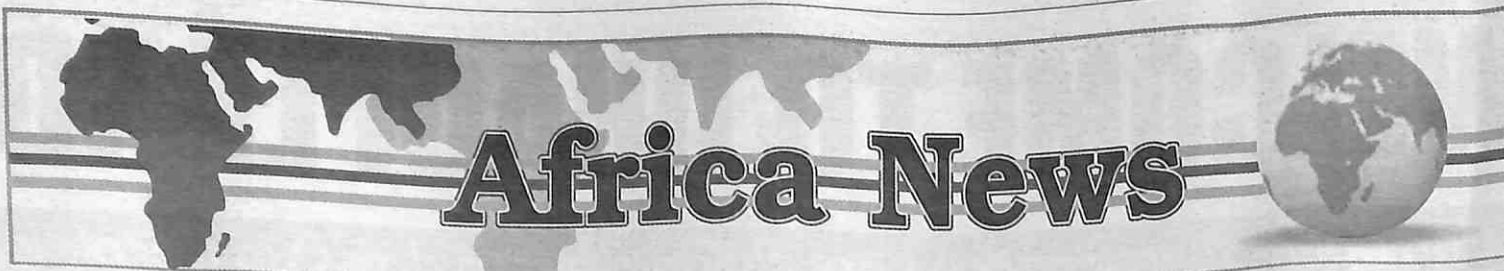
TOKYO - The US Marines yesterday suspended their controversial Osprey flights in Japan as anger mounts over an accident that saw the aircraft apparently crash land off the



southern island of Okinawa. Five crew members aboard the MV-22 Osprey were injured late Tuesday when the tilt-rotor aircraft suffered a "mishap" and landed in shallow water, the Pentagon said. But that characterisation was belied by footage aired on Japanese public broadcaster NHK, which showed the main wings of the Osprey broken in half and the cockpit separated from half-submerged fuselage drifting ashore. **AFP**

Iraqi gains reveal Islamic State arms industry

QARAOOSH - Factories churning out tens of thousands of munitions and an entire street turned into a conveyor belt for car bombs: advances by Iraqi forces around Mosul have laid bare the scale of the Islamic State group's arms industry. In the more than two years since it seized control over swathes of the country, IS established a sprawling and highly organised system that experts say no other insurgent group has matched. The capability has seriously boosted the threat from the group as it battles ferociously to cling to territory in Iraq and Syria - and the fresh intelligence could now prove vital in countering its plots to carry out attacks on the West. Iraqi army deminer Hashim Ali picked his way carefully through the rubble as he explained how IS transformed Mart Shmony Street in Qaraqosh, some 16km south-east of Mosul, into a production line of death after seizing the town in 2014 and forcing the mainly Christian population to flee. **eNCA**



Putin ready to meet Trump 'at any moment'

MOSCOW - Russian President Vladimir Putin says he is prepared to meet President-elect Donald Trump at any time.

When asked by journalists about the possibility of arranging a meeting with Trump, Putin said "we are ready at any moment. There are no problems from our side," according to an interview transcript released by the Kremlin on Tuesday.

Putin said "it's widely known that the elected presi-

dent of the United States has publicly called for the normalisation of the Russian-American relationship. We cannot but support this."

He added "we understand it will not be a simple task considering the extent of degradation of the Russian-American relationship. But we are prepared to do our bit."

Putin said, however, that a meeting between the two leaders was more likely after Trump's January inauguration. **AP**



READY: Russian President Vladimir Putin.

Venezuela opposition pushes for president's trial

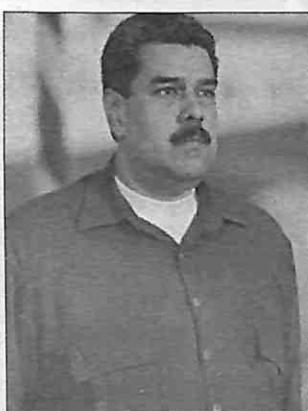
CARACAS - Venezuelan opposition lawmakers relaunched efforts to drive President Nicolas Maduro from power on Tuesday after negotiations to ease the country's political and economic crisis stalled.

Deputies in the National Assembly made a declaration ruling that the socialist president bore "political responsibility" for the crisis and urged state attorneys to investigate him with a view to prosecution.

The opposition MUD coalition has been divided over whether to pursue talks with Maduro's government.

Maduro has consistently blocked efforts by the legislature to challenge his power since the opposition took over the assembly in January.

He retains the support of the



TRIAL: Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro.

military and key state institutions including the Supreme Court, which has frequently overruled the legislative assembly.

Maduro's allies in the assembly boycotted Tuesday's ses-

sion, branding the motion a "coup d'etat."

Tuesday's move "is a blow from the legislature, but it does not mean the president will be deposed," Legal Expert Pedro Afonso Del Pino told AFP anticipating the lawmakers' declaration.

An economic crisis fuelled by falling prices for Venezuela's crucial oil exports has led to food shortages and riots over recent months.

The socialist president says the crisis is a US-backed conspiracy. The opposition blames his economic management.

"This is going to heat up the political process in Venezuela," said political scientist Carlos Romero of Tuesday's move.

"It is going to make the situation worse." **Reuters**

Mixed reaction to Trump's pro-Russian pick for secretary of state



REACTIONS: US President-elect Donald Trump.

NEW YORK - Donald Trump on Tuesday defended his nomination of ExxonMobil Chief Rex Tillerson as America's next secretary of state, dismissing concerns about the oilman's ties to Russia and saying US foreign policy needed a new direction.

The nomination, which capped weeks of debate about the right candidate, was the most keenly awaited in Trump's Cabinet as the world waits to see how the incoming Republican president intends to alter US foreign policy.

Trump has stoked alarm among Democrats and fellow Republicans ahead of his January 20 inauguration by calling for closer ties with Moscow, in contrast to

received wisdom in Washington that Russia remains a global security threat.

That sentiment - coupled with the fact that Trump is at loggerheads with some Republican senators over a CIA assessment that Russian hackers helped him win the election - may complicate Tillerson's confirmation hearings.

Trump, who announced the nomination early on Tuesday, hailed Tillerson as a "great diplomat" and "one of the greatest and most skilled global business leaders of our time" at a campaign-style rally on Tuesday night in the traditionally Democratic-leaning state of Wisconsin that helped elect him. **eNCA**

Death toll in Syria war rises to 312 000

BEIRUT - Syria's war has killed just more than 312 000 people since it began in March 2011, over 90 000 of them civilians, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitor said on Tuesday.

The Britain-based group said it had recorded the deaths of 312 001 people since the war began with anti-government protests, including nearly 16 000 children.

The toll includes more than 53 000 rebels and nearly 110 000 pro-regime fighters, among them over 60 000 Syrian soldiers, but also tens of thousands of Syrian militiamen, members of Lebanon's Shiite Hezbollah movement and other foreign fighters.

The group said nearly 55 000 jihadists had also been killed in the fighting, most of them from the Islamic State group or former Al-Qaeda affiliate Fateh al-Sham Front, but also from smaller groups.

The Observatory said it had also recorded the deaths of 3 683 people it had not been able to identify. Syria's conflict began with anti-government protests but spiralled into a brutal civil war after a government crackdown on dissent. It has drawn in proxy powers and attracted foreign jihadists, but successive attempts to negotiate a political end to the conflict have failed. On Tuesday Syrian pro-government forces were on the verge of retaking all of the city of Aleppo from rebel fighters, in what would be the biggest victory yet for President Bashar Assad in the conflict. **AFP**

France votes to extend state of emergency

PARIS - France's Parliament voted early on Wednesday to extend a national state of emergency until July 15, after next year's elections.

The security measures, in force since attacks in Paris that killed 130 people in November 2015, are now expected to be approved by the Senate on Thursday.

It is the fifth extension of the state of emergency, which gives police extended powers of search and arrest.

Passed

The overnight vote in the National Assembly passed by 288 to 32, with only Left Front lawmakers, protesting ecologists and a handful of centre-right Republicans voting against.

The extension, which will give the country its longest uninterrupted state of emergency since the Algerian War in the 1960s, will span the two-round presidential election in April-May and June parliamentary polls.

The government has cited a heightened risk of jihadist attacks coinciding with the polls.

Ahead of the vote new Interior Minister Bruno Le Roux stressed France faced "an extremely high" risk of a terrorist attack.

Since the last extension - shortly after the Bastille Day attack in July when a Tunisian jihadist rammed a truck through a crowd in Nice, killing 86 people. **eNCA**



WITH: Majaha Nkonyane

CHURCH NEWS



HIGH PRAISE ASSEMBLY'S DOUBLE SERVICE

HIGH Praise Assembly in Nhlanguano is hosting a homecoming service and a live DVD recording.

The homecoming service started yesterday and ends on December 20. The live DVD recording will be held tomorrow from 6pm.

Destiny Music is behind the live DVD and recording as they will be providing the sound on the night.

Tickets to the service are retailing at E100 per adult and E50 for children below 12 years; they are available at Destiny Music Manzini and Mbabane and all High Praise

Assemblies branches.

"The praise and worship team has healed many people through its music with many souls also won. It is the kind of music that will heal you from any situation."

Supported

Music flows easily from the founder of the church Apostle Jethro Malindzisa.

Blessings are forwarded to all people who also supported us during the fundraising dinner whose offerings were directed to this coming historic event in terms of the type of ceiling to be used during the recording the lights", the

church's Public Relations Officer Phendulile Zikalala said.

Advanced

South African brethren have already arrived from as far as East London to witness the event in conjunction with the Home Coming Convention celebration.

Preparations for the live DVD recording are already at its advanced stage.

This church will now act as a recording studio and is willing to assist anyone who wants to record gospel music.

The church was established in 2004 by Apostle Malindzisa. "He

is a humble servant of God who is a Pastor by calling and Apostle by office and is well known through his ministry of music that heals one from his seat," added Zikalala.

Believed

Ministers of the gospel who will be present during the Home Coming Celebration include Bishop Stephen Masilela, who is spiritual father to Apostle Malindzisa, and was to officiate during the opening yesterday, Pastor Jimmy Macharia, all the way from Kenya, who is believed and known as an anointed man of God who heals through prayer of any ailment, Pastor Wonderboy Khumalo in Manzini and many anointed men of God coming from as far as East London.



GUEST SPEAKER: Swaziland Conference of Churches President Bishop Stephen Masilela.

Yonder hosts thanksgiving service

YONDER Worship Centre, under the leadership of Apostle Bakhe Dlamini, will be having a thanksgiving service on Sunday.

The event starts at 10am to noon, at Woodlands, Ezulwini and the Guest Speaker will be the President of Swaziland Conference of Churches, Bishop Stephen Masilela.

The focus of the service will be to thank God for His protection and provision in 2016. Yonder Worship Centre will also be thanking the Almighty for the tremendous growth the church has seen in the less than two years of its existence.

"The Lord has been truly good, and we are inviting everyone to come thank the Lord with us for the advancement we are seeing in the church. Not only has the church grown numerically, but also spiritually."

"We are eagerly looking forward to 2017, for there is much more the Lord has in store for the church. "It is confirmed, the bishop will be present and we are eagerly looking forward to the day. Whether one will be visiting or a church member, one will get something from the message," Apostle Dlamini said.

The thanksgiving service will be a joint service with the Yonder pastor's appreciation service. Lives have been impacted, transformed, and the saints at Yonder will be appreciating their pastor. Bishop Masilela is also expected to impart a lot of wisdom at the gathering.

Linda Dlamini for Esigangeni parish fundraising

MULTI-award winning gospel sensation Linda Dlamini is billed to minister at a breakfast meeting tomorrow at Thokoza Church Centre.

The breakfast meeting is scheduled to start at 7:30am 10am under the theme 'Raising funds, for God's Kingdom'.

The Esigangeni Parish is in a mission to raise funds to cater for the building of a priest's house at Esigangeni - St. Luke Anglican Church- which is the parish mother church. The priest's house building project costs E300 000 and is expected



to be complete by November 30, 2017.

"We hereby invite the Anglican community and Christians from other denominations to join us as we raise funds for God's Kingdom. This is an event not to be missed as we are on a mission to build for the servant of the Lord," Parish Treasurer and building committee member Hlobile Skosana said. The event will have High Court Judge Qinisile Mabuza as a Guest Speaker; entertainment will come from Evolution Dynasty Group.

GUEST SPEAKER: High Court Judge Qinisile Mabuza.



TO MINISTER: Gospel artist Linda Dlamini.

Ocean Basket director guest speaker at Light of Christ fundraising

OCEAN Basket Director Thokozile Vilakati-Jele is the Guest Speaker for Saturday's fundraising festival being hosted by Light of Christ Ministries under Bishop Elias Shongwe.

Spokesperson for the church, Thokozani Mdluli, said they were honoured to have Vilakati-Jele grace the esteemed event to be held at their premises located at the Matsapha weighbridge.

"We further are excited and humbled to confirm that Sipho 'Big Fish' Makhabane and Nothando Hlophe have been added unto the line-up of entertainers for the day," Mdluli said.

Another SA artist billed to perform is Jabu Ngcobo, who was a lead singer with Makhabane, and

is famously remembered for the track 'Akukhalwa', which was also the title of the 2002 album.

Pastor Phila Simelane has also confirmed attendance though invitation has been extended to a number of pastors and businesspeople who are yet to indicate their attendance at the event.

Starting time for the fundraising event is 6pm on Saturday until the next day at 6am.

General tickets cost E100 whilst VIP ones are retailing at E200 and children below 12 years would part with E50.

Gospel artists expected at the fundraising event are now close to 20 with the recent additions of Makhabane and Hlophe of 'Khulul' Ugcobo' fame.

Light of Christ Ministries is looking at raising more than E10 million towards completing the under construction church structure located in Matsapha, Ndlunganye area, on your way to the University of Swaziland Kwaluseni Campus - opposite the weighbridge.

The fundraising would be held at the under construction church structure, which has already been roofed.

Other gospel music groups lined up to spice the event with music are; Ncandweni Christ Ambassadors, Shiba and Travellers, Mduduzi Nezinceku Zamagawugawu, Police Gospel Messengers, Frans Dlamini, Shongwe and Khuphuka Saved, Phathwakahle, Gcina Masuku, Nduduzo Matse, Come to Jesus,

Linda Dlamini, Apostle Vusumuzi Maculuvu and Phetsile Masilela.

Tickets are available at Mgavuzi, Nandos and VOC (Voice of Church) as well as at the gate.

Mdluli further expressed gratitude to brethren, companies and individuals who have supported them thus far since they began constructing the church a few years back.

Light of Christ Ministries has its headquarters in Khuphuka, which is the home area of the founder Bishop Shongwe.

Parking for VIPs with the invited artists would be at the church premises whilst music fanatics (general populace) have been allocated space inside the weighbridge property.

ISAIAH 40:31

31: But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.



RIKY RICK ADDED ON UMDABULA LINE-UP

By Phumelele Mkhonta

RENOWNED South African hip hop star and music producer **Riky Rick Makhado** who now goes by the name **'King Kotini'** has been added on the **Umdabula Festival** line-up.

Umdabula Festival is one of the highly anticipated crossover shows of the year that will last 48 hours. Riky Rick's addition to the line-up was revealed by Umdabula Festival Director Mbekezeli 'Mdabula' Zulu.

Rikhado Makhado (29), better known by his stage name Riky Rick but recently changed to 'King Kotini', is a South African rapper, actor, writer, composer and record producer.

He was born in KwaMashu, KwaZulu-Natal. His debut studio album 'Family Values' was released on April 3, 2015. He is signed to his own independent label and record company, Makhado Makhado Agency.

"I am excited to announce that Umdabula Festival is now bringing the iconic Riky Rick. Umdabula brand is focusing on

nothing but to present the best entertainment in the crossover party," said Zulu. He also urged fun lovers to buy tickets pronto as they were flying off the shelves.

Meanwhile, South African socialite and choreographer Somizi 'Somgaga' Mhlomo, who will be the Programme Director at the 48-hour crossover show, confirmed his attendance on his 'Somgig guide' on Instagram.

"I will be coming through to Swaziland for Umdabula Festival on January, 2," reads Somizi's post.



SWAZI NOMINATED IN AFRICAN YOUTH AWARDS

By Phumelele Mkhonta

SWAZI born yet South African based media personality **Michael Hlatshwayo**, has been nominated at the **African Youth Awards** as **'Media Personality of the Year'**.

Hlatshwayo is the founder, producer, Marketing Administrator and Communications Officer at Black and White Productions, a well-oiled production company that specialises in all audio visual presentation work.

Over 170 young Africans and organisations from 35 countries in the continent have been announced as finalists for the 2016 Africa Youth Awards. The shortlisted nominees, who were announced on the December 7, have been progressed to the final stages and are currently being voted for by the public ahead of the announcement of winners on January, 1.

The awards, which will be hosted during the Heads of State Summit in Addis Ababa next year, is in partnership with the African Youth Commission, Avance Media, Global Skills Exchange, My Naija Naira and Dream Ambassadors Foundation GH.

"It is extremely humbling honestly. I am lost for words. The nomination alone is a big deal for me. Even if I don't win in that category as the competition is quite fierce, being nominated with greats in the African continent in the industry is a huge honour."

OTHER CANDIDATES HLATSHWAYO IS COMPETING WITH:

1. Abd Traore
2. Akosua Hanson
3. Ameyaw Debrah
4. Anne Kiguta
5. Beatrice Ndung'u
6. Joey Muthengi
7. Michael Thandukwazi Hlatshwayo
8. Nana Diaby
9. Ngwane Hansel Masango
10. Yinka Brand



ABOUT AFRICAN YOUTH AWARDS

Africa Youth Awards, the continent's most coveted awards for young achievers and change makers. Launched in 2014, the awards have become a recognised and influential platform for young Africans to showcase what contributions they have made to the success of the continent thus far, and the potential that they possess to take Africa to

the next level across various key industries. The organisation is also known for the 100 Most Influential Young Africans list, which received strong endorsements from President Paul Kagame and other influential Africans, and sparked positive debates around the continent about the potential and role of young people.

"I would like to urge and encourage the Swazi community to take just a minute of their time to cast their vote as I am not representing the Republic

of South Africa only but the Kingdom of Swaziland as well because I am a product of the Kingdom of His Majesty," commented Hlatshwayo.

DJ H2O for Amanda Mo's show

By Majaha Nkonyane

The Amanda Mo live in concert event, which is slated for Saturday at Sibane Hotel chapel from 1900, has added DJ H2O, real name Banele Motsa to the line-up.

The event is hosted by Tall Tree Management.

The event will also have a live band that will be playing alongside Amanda, who is headlining the show.

DJ H2O will have his set before Amanda goes on stage and also play along in some of the tracks as she belts it out.

"We are very excited to host this event and are looking for-

ward to showcase Amanda's talent. We would like to invite everyone to join us at this event as we approach the festive season, and this is a show not to be missed", Tall Tree Management's Larry Mhlanga said.

The event will have special guest appearances from Mdura and Qibho Intallectual, whilst the MCs will be Makhosi Khoza from Rise FM and Lindelwa Mafa from SBIS.

Tickets are available at Sibane Hotel at E100 singles and E150 for couples.

The organisers (Tall Tree Talent and Management Agency) are willing to deliver tickets to all those who will purchase before the day of the event.

Keisha Bullock Foundation hosts first event

By Phumelele Mkhonta

SOCIALITE and entrepreneur **Keisha Bullock** has proven to have a heart of gold as she has formally established **'The Keisha Bullock Foundation'**, which hosted its first function on Tuesday at Mlilwane Game Reserve.

In a move to fund this brilliant initiative, Keisha has recruited most of her family members to join in the foundation and they were giving out hampers to the needy. They gave out hampers to children from New Life Children's Home, which is based at KaMfishane.

"I roped in a sponsor whom I will not reveal the identity for now. My foundation and the sponsor was excited to give out hampers to the less privileged," said Bullock.

She said the hamper consisted of packages for young females where

there were toiletries whilst young children were given clothes and toys by Santa.

"Everyone deserves to grow in every aspect and I am dreaming of the stage whereby I am the one who gives them the platform to meet their dreams."

Lifestyles

"I want to enhance their lifestyles and am yet to host events like fashion shows that will finance the Keisha Bullock Foundation," she said. The beauty roped in her mother, Miss Swaziland committee member Gladys Smith and her aunt Shirley.

"This would not have been possible without the ladies I roped in and God, who is my source of strength. Giving these kids and spending the day with them was amazing, I would do it over and over again just to see them smile and appreciate their hampers," commented Bullock.



BEAUTY: Keisha watching as Santa gives a girl her hamper.

BIG FIVE CROSSOVER TICKETS NOW OUT

By Majaha Nkonyane

Tickets to the 24-hour party are available across the country. The event is scheduled for CAFÉ Mamba at Esibayeni Lodge on December 31 and has a full Swazi line-up.

The tickets to the event are found at: Sharks Cellular at the New Mall and Prepaid shop at The Plaza in Mbabane, whilst at Ezulwini they are available at Sharks MTN Connect Store at the Gables.

In Matsapha, the tickets will be available at Esibayeni Lodge, Robs MTN Connect Store at Mahhala Shopping Complex.

The tickets have also been made available in Manzini at Celltronix, the Hub prepaid shop and MTN Connect Store at Bhunu Mall.

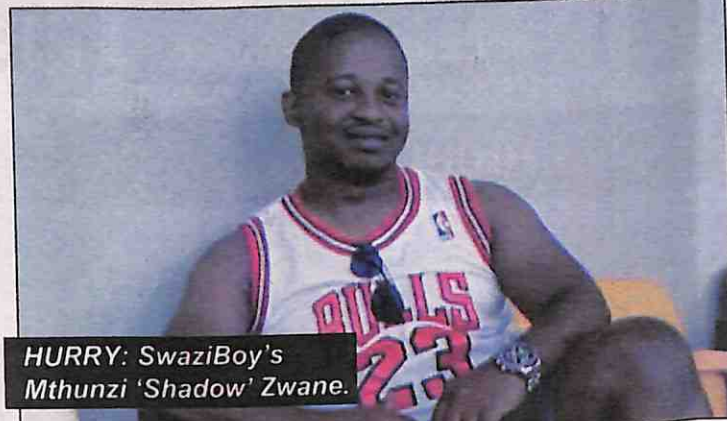
Tickets

The Lowveld of the country also has tickets available at MTN Matata Connect Store at the shopping centre and MTN Connect Store at the Plaza in Simunye.

Furthermore, Nhlanguano and Pigg's Peak fun lovers will get tickets at Maxi Connect Store.

"We are excited and looking forward to hosting this big event which will be one of the greatest crossover events the country has ever had."

"We would like to encourage everyone to join us for this one as it will be big. I would like to also encourage everyone to get their tickets as soon as possible to avoid a situation where they are disappointed on the night," Swazi Boy's Mthunzi 'Shadow' Zwane said.



HURRY: Swazi Boy's Mthunzi 'Shadow' Zwane.



ALSO THERE: Pastor Sikhumbuzo Shongwe glued to the proceedings of the day.

Comedians, Diba Diba thrill at wealth seminar

By Nomfundo Sifundza

LOL Comedy competition winner Smallz, Mandy and Ngwane hop artist Diba Diba delivered world standard performances at the Generational Wealth Seminar on Saturday.

The seminar was held at Mavuso Trade Centre, hosted by a poet who then used his adventurous brain for business.

Phinda 'Blackbremer' Mkhonta said his ultimate wish was to change the minds of young people through positively impacting the way they think.

The seminar was also attended by former Minister of Tourism Macford Sibande who dropped pearls of wisdom into the young people's hearts.



NGWANE HOP: Diba Diba dishing out his finest Ngwane hop lyrics. RIGHT - SWITCH THIS WAY: Comedian 'Smallz' in action on Saturday at the Re-think Africa Generational Wealth Transfer Seminar held at Mavuso Trade Centre. (Courtesy pics)

Kushile Finnest Fireworkx hosts Swazi artists

By Phumelele Mkhonta

In a move to continue promoting local talent, Khonz'ekasi Clothing is hosting an event dubbed 'Kushile Finnest Fireworkx', that will see strictly local artists showcasing what they do best.

According to Khonz'ekasi Clothing's Director and organiser of the show Mfunwa Nhleko, the event is supported by Swazi United Models and is slated for December 23 at Sibane Hotel in Ezulwini.

Artists on the line-up are: KrTC, Diba Diba, 80 Script, Prodigal Sonz, Gettho Villah, Switch, L.K Baba, Kangaroo, Shkubash, J-King, Dr-Shakes, Supa CDQ, Sea Water and many more. On the decks will be Supa CDQ, DJ Lolo, Speech Umlangeni and Charm.

"This event aims at bringing our art and talent together to celebrate the year 2016 with fans and embrace the time, hard work, dedication and passion that the artists put in their

work to give us good music all year.

"Moreover, the idea of being united as Swazi artists has been the key to the rise of our talent this year and we want to encourage this spirit to continue in 2017. We want to grow the recognition and support that the nation showed us thus improving our standard of music," said Nhleko.

Other supporters of the show are: Talent House Enterprise, Sibane Hotel, OutAfrica Clothing, Prodigal Sonz music group and Eardrumzz members.

Pre-sale tickets retail at E100 for early-bird, E150 for general ones and E250 VIP.



FUNNY: A section of the audience in stitches during Mandys set.



BRAINS BEHIND: The poet turned businessman, 'Blackbremer' who gave birth to the generational wealth seminar concept. RIGHT - HILARIOUS: Mandy gestures as she renders a hilarious comedy set.





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NEWS



HIGHLIGHTS



Chicago PD

Tonight 19:00 | M-Net City (115)
"S3/E1 - Life Is Fluid". The Emmy-winning creator of Law & Order brings us this series that follows a group of law

enforcement officers in Chicago. In the season premiere, a bust to bring down a heroin kingpin goes horribly awry.



The Librarians

Tonight 20:00 | Universal Channel (117)

The Librarians are back for the third season on Universal Channel. It looks like there are tough times ahead for Eve, Flynn and the gang as just some of the baddies they face this season

include both an Ice Giant and the Egyptian God of Chaos, and that's on top of the threat they face from new antagonist General Cynthia Rockwell of shadowy government agency DOSA, who are determined to take possession of all the Librarians' precious artefacts.



Game of Silence

Tonight 21:00 | M-Net City (115)

"S1/E1 - Pilot". The producer of 'CSI' penned this gripping drama.

In the series premiere, successful lawyer Jackson Brooks confronts his long-buried secrets when his estranged childhood friends resurface.



Operation Christmas

Tomorrow 15:30 | Universal Channel (117)

When her soldier boyfriend is

deployed before Christmas, a young mother and her children decide to help the struggling military families on his base.

HOOTEN & THE LADY

HOEN & The Lady is a joyful, rip-roaring, nail-biting, rope-swinging, treasure-filled adventure show with Hooten, a grizzled, cynical, laugh-out-loud funny all-action hero, and Lady Alexandra Lindo-Parker, the bright, glorious, clever, utterly enthusiastic and passionate representative of the British

Museum.

It's exciting, irreverent and fun. It's genuine adventure in jungles and deserts and underground shrines and ancient temples. It's escapism in its truest sense. The jeopardy isn't whether you'll come to understand that your parents' relationship has damaged you emotionally, but

whether you'll get killed by the big bloke with a machete. It's a show with chutzpah. And at its heart are two compelling characters. Two people who make each other better at what they do, but boy do they annoy each other in the process... Parts of this series were filmed in KwaZulu-Natal, Cape Town and Namibia.



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- Go to the account icon.

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- Choose the edit icon and update your personal details.
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FISH PARTY TO START WITH FARMERS SEMINAR

Stories by Majaha Nkonyane

THE fifth annual fish party to be held at Lubovane Dam, December 23 will kick-off with a farmers' investment seminar.

This information was confirmed by Mfundo Simelane, who is the event's Public Relations Officer.

Simelane said the farmers' investment seminar would be a one day business gathering for service providers to share information and new products with over 2 600 farmers under the LUSIP implemented by Swaziland Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (SWADE).

The seminar seeks to provide communities with the opportunity to generate income through sales of crafts and other wares. It will also

provide a bigger stage to young and aspiring artists.

"We would like to invite companies to participate by purchasing an exhibition stall in this adventure event. A space shall be at E1 500 per company.

Provide

Exhibitors are required to provide themselves with Gazebo, chairs and tables. Companies who purchase an exhibition stall will get a full festival pass for each purchase. Opportunities for a 30 minutes company presentations are still available."

The event will further have camping facility available to those interested; to those who will use camping equipment at the dam the camping fee shall be E100 per tent. Activities at the event will include fishing, which will be a family fishing adventure at this dam and boat rides will be available.

... E10 000 for grabs in dance competition

KAD Concepts is inviting dance ensembles from across the kingdom to take part in the E10 000 grand prize for the dance challenge at the fifth Annual Fish Party 2016 set for Lubovane Dam in Sphofaneni.

The dance challenge is scheduled for December 24 and 25 by the scenic dam, which will provide a platform for budding and established dance groups to showcase their talents. This will also be an opportunity to learn new tricks from the Botswana based dance choreographer, Sithembiso Magagula who is a member of the popular MJ Boys. Groups shall undergo an elimination phase in the competition, and qualifiers shall then participate in the various dance challenges. The winner of the competition shall walk home with E5 000 cash prize, whilst the runner-up will get E3 000 and the third position will get E2 000. Above the cash prize, the winner shall undergo further dance training under the guidance of Cyborg Dance Academy, established by the popular girls dance group, Cyborg Girls. To participate, a group should be made of three members, have a uniform and registration fee of E50.

International Celebrity News

Kourtney Kardashian shared Irish company's heartwarming product

CALIFORNIA - Kourtney Kardashian has just shared an Irish company's heartwarming product on her social media accounts.

The reality TV star posted a photo to Snapchat of a miniature door from The Irish Fairy Door Company.

Mother-of-two Kourtney showed the blue door with her son Mason's name on it, alongside a note reading: "Dear Mason, Happy birthday! Love, the Tooth Fairy."



SHARED:
Kourtney
Kardashian.

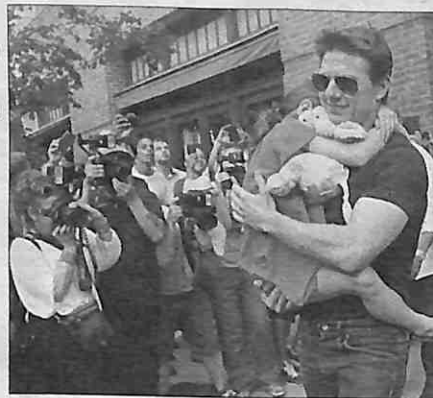
The Irish Fairy Door Company shared their delight with the post on their Facebook page, saying: "Look what just happened! Kourtney Kardashian just featured one of our fairy doors on her Snapchat story!! And breathe..." The company "helps fairies relocate into homes and gardens all over the world by producing high quality Irish fairy doors." The door that Kourtney featured retails for €24.95 and is available from theiririshfairydoorcompany.com.

Reuters

Cruise hasn't celebrated Christmas with daughter Suri

LONDON - Tom Cruise, who is rumoured to have cut ties with former wife Katie Holmes and daughter Suri, might not spend time with his 10-year-old daughter during the Christmas holidays for the fourth consecutive year, media reports suggest.

Reuters

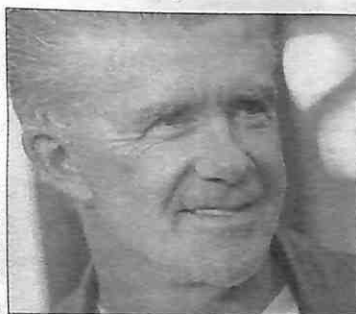


NOT YET: Tom Cruise with his daughter Suri.

Robin Thicke leads tributes to father Alan Thicke

LONDON - Actor Alan Thicke died on 13 December after suffering a heart attack Danny Moloshok.

Singer Robin Thicke has led tributes to his father, Alan Thicke, who died at the age of 69. Robin's ex-wife, Paula Patton, talk show host, Ellen DeGeneres and actor Bob Saget



NO MORE: Alan Thicke.

are among the other celebrities to remember the beloved TV figure. The Growing Pains actor suffered a heart attack in Los Angeles 13 December while playing hockey with his teenage son, Carter. Alan was taken to Providence Saint Joseph Medical Centre but was later pronounced dead.

Reuters.

Amber Heard accused ex-husband Depp of domestic abuse

LOS ANGELES - A new report has claimed that Johnny Depp's divorce settlement with his ex-wife Amber Heard has fallen apart after the actress publicly spoke about domestic abuse. The Hollywood heartthrob is believed to be furious with Heard for allegedly breaching the confidentiality agreement reached between the two as

part of the settlement. As a result, Depp allegedly stalled the \$6.8m (£5.37m) divorce settlement.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: Amber Heard with Johnny Depp.

The 53-year-old actor had earlier directly paid \$100 000 from the settlement to two charities, but legal documents suggest the actor is stonewalling rest of the payment to Heard after she wrote a letter for the December issue of the fashion magazine Porter.

Reuters

SA Celebrity News

Enhle, DJ Black Coffee's white wedding to be early next year

JOHANNESBURG - DJ Black Coffee and his wife Enhle Mbali are set to finally have that dream white wedding they've been planning for so long.

Speaking about the couple on his 5FM radio show on Monday, DJ Fresh said he had been invited to their wedding, Mbali and DJ to be held on the first Sunday of 2017. "Him



GETTING MARRIED: Enhle Mbali and DJ Black Coffee.

(Black Coffee) and Enhle are getting married on the first Sunday of January. We did the traditional (ceremony) in Soweto several years back. So, now I have to find a suit, or another one, because the one I own everyone knows," Fresh said. Fresh did not disclose where the ceremony would take place. The power couple got engaged in 2010, while on holiday. They tied the knot in a traditional ceremony several months later, but have waited nearly six years for their white wedding.. **Sowetan**

Ancestors, God protected me during mugging - DJ Tira

JOHANNESBURG - DJ Tira is grateful to have escaped with minor injuries and his life after being involved in a violent scuffle with thugs during an attempted mugging in Johannesburg. Tira, who was held up by thugs in an attempt to steal his cellphone, said he was protected by God and his ancestors during the mugging. Tira explained to TshisaLIVE that he was walking back to his car

after a show in Johannesburg this past weekend, when he was confronted by ten men, who tried to steal his phone. He fought them off until security guards were alerted to the incident. "I had to use violence and fight them off. Many of them ran away before the security came and helped me back to my car," Tira said.



PROTECTED: DJ Tira.

Tira later took to Facebook to share a picture of a deep cut he received to his arm while fighting off the thugs. **Sowetan**

Ukhozi FM DJ renews wedding vows with wife

JOHANNESBURG - Popular Ukhozi FM DJ Ngizwe Mchunu may have settled any disagreement he had with his first wife, after the couple apparently renewed their vows this past Sunday. According to Daily Sun, Ngizwe and



RENEWS VOWS: Ukhozi FM DJ

his first wife Sphelele Nxumalo celebrated their anniversary by renewing their wedding vows in an intimate traditional ceremony held in Zola, Soweto. Speaking to the paper, Sphelele said the couple had decided to renew their vows after going through a rough patch recently. **Sowetan**

'I will find the person selling my number online'

JOHANNESBURG - Rapper Emtee is spitting mad after discovering that a person has been selling his phone number to fans online. There will be a movie about me, says Emtee. Speaking to TshisaLIVE yesterday, Emtee said he had grown frustrated after being inundated with phone calls at all



FURIOUS: Rapper Emtee.

hours of the day and decided to investigate, to get to the bottom of the problem. "I get calls every two minutes from fans asking me for favours and wanting to chat. I can't spend time with my son. I can't do interviews. I can't even go to studio without someone calling me. I am becoming a receptionist for my own phone." **Timeslive**

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA

TODAY

Will Mehlemamba succumb to Lerato's advances? Iris overhears the Ngwenyas' diabolical plan. Ngwebedla finally gets what he wants. Zanele finds herself drawn to Qaphela.



SURRENDER:
Mehlemamba.

ISIDINGO

TODAY

Coming face to face with Rajesh upsets Kgothalo. Kamogelo bunks work to hang out with Jody. Sechaba encourages people to give for a good cause.



ENCOURAGES:
Sechaba.

Muvhango

TODAY

Azwindini's choice hurts Susan. Ndalamo pulls out all the stops to redeem himself in Onika's eyes. Nonny's strategy to get Pule to marry her begins unravelling.



CHIEF: Azwindini

RHYTHM CITY

TODAY

Suffo realises how deep Puleng's betrayal runs. Fats thinks Kop is bewitched. Dumi's disappearance threatens to pull Mapula's family apart. Lerato continues to plot against Bongi.



DISCOVERS:
Suffocate.

When you attend a funeral of someone that died owing you money.



TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

CAPRICORN

December 22 – January 19

You may notice a growing self-confidence and outgoing attitude at this time. You have brought to a close a time of inward examination and learning. You have a growing sense of direction and self-worth and will find yourself reaching out to establish yourself. You may be able to help family members when they ask you for ideas that are within your realm of talent. You are graciously able to use your main source of work to give advice.



CANCER

June 22 – July 22

Real estate is the topic of conversation this morning and you may work for a large real-estate company. It is time to encourage signatures and a client seems to continuously have one more question. And then another. Eventually you succeed and can breathe a sigh of relief. The price is good and the buyers are planning to meet next at the closing.



AQUARIUS

January 20 – February 18

You tend to take everything with great passion. Your drive to get at the heart and truth of things is constantly invoked and serves as a common theme in your life. This could be a touch-and-go time when it comes to your emotions and the environment in which you find yourself. You may be up against it for a while, as things get tight and progress is slowed. You may find that your personal growth may depend upon how you can handle a sensitive person now.



LEO

July 23 – August 22

You often take the most interesting path to experience your life, skirting the crowd and the commonplace, heading for parts unknown. Your approach to any problem is often original and you could invent things or discover new places or develop new ways of doing things. This is the best time you will have to make progress, push forward and rise to fame. It will be hard for you to do wrong, for all the cycles are working in your favour. This is also a time when you may marry or take on a new role in the community or with other people.



PISCES

February 19 – March 20

This is the day you will have new thoughts and sudden insights. You may get an unexpected boost in the way you think, speak or write. Communications are strong at this time—connections of all kinds, news and so on, are furthered—perhaps at the expense of tradition and established order. If you are a newspaper reporter, hold your head up high above the others as there is something in the air, something that will be your own scoop.



ARIES

March 21 – April 19

Career decisions that point to real success may be just where you are searching. Although you are happy with your position, there are openings all around you. Look at your friends or relatives that have no jobs and consider informing them of some new opportunities, especially if you are not interested for yourself. You are able to show your worth, strength and stamina to any professional position.



TAURUS

April 20 – May 20

Paying attention to the little things today when it comes to satisfying a client, patient or customer will be an important part of your day. If you are working for a company that has a production line, pay close attention to what a customer tells you about the working, or not working, product. Take nothing for granted. Do not jump to conclusions. This is a real time to pay particular attention and know what you do and how you take care of the little details defines you and your company to the customer as well as the competitor.



GEMINI

May 21 – June 21

Requesting a loan or obtaining any other type of acquisition is a positive. You have good practical job-related thoughts and ideas. Use that ability you have to communicate with superiors or describe what you see. You will find that you can really use your mind to think things through and make clear choices. The future of business in your country depends upon the children that are now being educated.



VIRGO

August 23 – September 22

Travel and adventure are compelling conversation temptations as you take in a bit of coffee at the nearest bookstore this morning. Your friends may join in on the conversations about exploration and adventure. Listen carefully; each person will have a favourite way to pack a backpack and tips for short or long trips. Time flows in one direction only and it is important not to get too carried away with conversations in order that the things you want to get accomplished, get completed.



LIBRA

September 23 – October 23

You will gain some good information about your professional future. You have plenty of energy to plot your path to success, especially if there is any competition. There are also breakthroughs regarding relationships and the social life in general. There are possibly unconventional approaches to partnerships. You may find yourself pursuing very eccentric or different methods of communicating and responding to others.



SCORPIO

October 24 – November 21

You are at your most practical when it comes to dealing and working with others. You know just what to do and can act without haste and emotion. You could find you are appreciated or valued for your ability to act and get things done. You are called on to make use of your natural abilities and common sense.



SAGITTARIUS

November 22 – December 21

An adventure is always interesting to you and after a friend brings up some new ideas you may decide some type of research is in order. There are ways to travel inexpensively within a group. You and a neighbour may combine your effort in a yard sale today, so as to help in travel expenses. Another aspect of having a garage sale is the new closet space you will now have.



BABY BLUES



BUCKLES

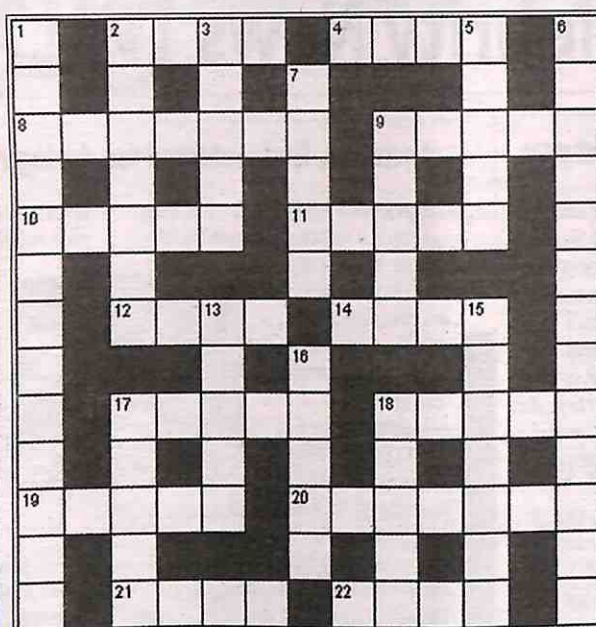


HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



THEMED CROSSWORD - 40

PUZZLE CHOICE



Across

2. Bond actor, ___ Connery (4)
4. Lee J ___ was one of the jurors in the 1957 movie classic, 12 Angry Men (4)
8. Laurence ___ won an Oscar for Best Actor in Hamlet (7)
9. Michael ___ won an Oscar for Best Actor in The Quiet American (5)
10. Tim ___ was the voice of Buzz Lightyear in Toy Story (5)
11. Actor / Director, ___ Eastwood (5)
12. ___ Hayworth starred in the 1958 movie, Separate Tables (4)
14. ___ McClure was Lt. Sam in the 1965 movie, Shenandoah (4)
17. ___ Puzo won a screenplay Oscar for The Godfather (5)
18. Sally ___ was Mrs Gump in the 1994 movie, Forrest Gump (5)
19. Star Trek actor, Leonard ___ (5)
20. Horror cinema icon, Boris ___ (7)
21. Michael ___ was Basil Exposition in the Austin Powers movies (4)
22. Friends character (4)

Down

1. Marlon Brando was Col. Walter E Kurtz in this movie classic (10,3)

2. Night at the Museum actor, Ben ___ (7)
3. Sigourney Weaver was Ripley in this 1979 movie (5)
5. ___ Eklund was Willow in the 1973 movie, The Wicker Man (5)
6. Classic movie starring Judy Garland as Dorothy Gale (3,6,2,2)
7. Die Hard actor, ___ Willis (5)
9. One of the Marx Brothers (5)
13. ___ Thomas was Sir Percy Ware-Armilage in the 1965 movie, Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines (5)
15. ___ Peck was Robert Thom in the 1976 movie, The Omen (7)
16. 1976 movie starring Sylvester Stallone in the title role (5)
17. 1992 movie with an Egyptian curse, The ___ (5)
18. Frances McDormand won an Oscar in 1997 for Best Actress in this movie (5)

NOT MY CAR



I went to the shop the other day. I was only in there for about five minutes and when I came out, there was a damn traffic officer writing a parking ticket for over-running the meter.

So I went up to him and said, "Come on, how about giving a man a break?"

He ignored me and continued writing the ticket. So I called him a pencil-necked Nazi. He glared at me and

started writing another ticket for also having parked partially on the pavement!!

So I called him a son of a mutant pig. He finished the second ticket and put it on the car with the first. Then he started writing a third ticket!! This went on for about 20 minutes and the more I abused him, the more tickets he wrote. I didn't give a damn.

My car was parked around the corner.

USELESS FACTS

1. Fingernails, toenails, and hair are all made up of dead cells. (Yet they require maintenance)
2. The easiest sounds for the human ear to hear, and which are carried best when pronounced properly, are in order, "ah", "aw", "eh", "ee," and "oo." (Is it a mere coincidence that this is the order of the Hindi alphabets?)
3. Unlike other organs, a person's nose and ears

continue to grow throughout his or her life.

4. Heavy beer drinkers hardly ever get diarrhoea because bacteria causes diarrhoea and beer makes stomach acid, which kills bacteria.

5. The average cough comes out of your mouth at 60 miles (96.5 km) per hour, while a sneeze can travel as fast as 100 miles per hour.

BRAinteasers
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

YESTERDAY'S BRAIN-TEASERS

1. Why is a river rich?
2. I have cities but no houses, forests but no trees; rivers without water; what am I?

Answer: A Map

TODAY'S BRAIN-TEASERS

1. A man jumped from a plane, but there was nothing wrong with him. Do you know why?
2. What man cannot live inside a house?

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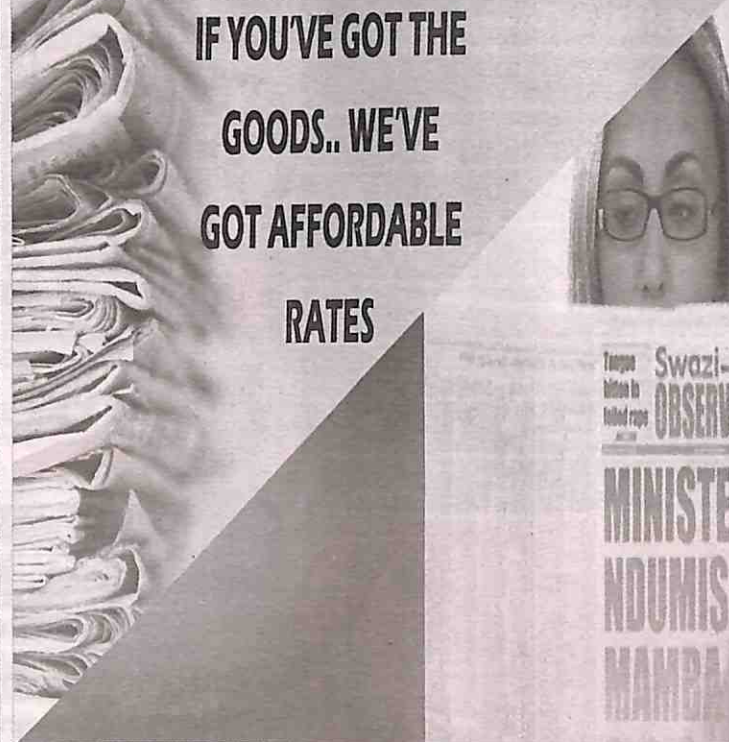
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18 DEATHS



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba **Lindelwa Friday Maseko** lobekatiwa ngekutsi ngu Mkhuzi kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Usishiye ngekutume ka lokukhulu. Ufihlwa ekhaya lakhe ka Shewula ngelisonfho mhlaka 18/12/2016 emuva kwemlindzelo ngeMgcibelo mhlaka 17/12/2016. Kwatiswa bekhakhakhe e Gundwini ka Shongwe, baka ka Khuphuka bekhahonina ka Dlamini kuto tonkhe tibndzawo nelibandala lakhe lema Nazarene libekhona lithola umsebenzi. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu yise wakhe Mfana Maseko egameni lemndeni.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni wa **Ester Lobatsakatsi Dlamini** lobekendze ku Joseph Nkambule Enyakeni kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa baka Nkambule Empuluzi nebhahonina ka Masina. Utawufihlwa ka Bhokinkhosi eceleni kwemphakatsi mhlaka 18 December 2016 ngelisonfho emvakwemlindzelo. Simemetelo sikhokhwa bantfwabakhe egameni lemndeni.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani kutsi **Elizabeth Ntfombencane Dlamini** sosishiyile emhlabeni. Kwatiswa nebhahonina. Ka Mkhathshwa e Nkhanga la nase Babovivi ka Velezizweni. Ufihlwa ngeLisonfho mhlaka 18/12/2016 ekhayakubo e Nkhanga la emvakwemlindzelo ngeMgcibelo 17/12/2016. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu mkakhe egameni lemndeni.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba **Bongile Khanyisile Zwane** ula Hlanze kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Ufihlwa ekhakhakhe emaloma-kalamvovo ngelisonfho mhlaka 18/12/2016. Emva kwemlindzelo lotaba sekhakhakhe emaloma-kalomvovo. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Myeni wakhe Raymond Zwelithini Zwane.

JOB 13:15

Though He slay me,
yet will I hope in him.
I will surely
defend my ways to
his face.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni wa **Elphas Lington Shongwe** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa indlu ya Mphikhulu, Basekhakhakhe ka Matse, bekhahonina ka Magagula Basemsebenzini wakhe emasotjeni naka Duvan. Utawufihlwa ngelisonfho mhlaka 18 December 2016 emvakwemlindzelo lotabe ngeMgcibelo ekhaya lakhe eLuvu. Kwatiswa Philani na Philisiwe. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu make wakhe Gogo Magagula egameni lemndeni.



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Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni wonkhe waka Mamba nebangani kutsi **Sakhephi Irene Mamba** wase Masiphula lobekendze ku Jonathan Mamba akasekho emhlabeni. Ufihlwa ekhakhakhe ka Mamba eMasiphula ku Mvudluthi ngemgcibelo 17/12/2016 ekuseni. Kutoba nemlindzelo ngalwesihlanu simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Mbhekela Phineas Mamba egameni lemndeni.



Friends and relatives of **Celimpilo Noxolo Mkhonta** are notified of her demise on 08/12/2016. She will be laid to rest on 17/12/2016 at 0600hrs. Night vigil on 16/12/2016 at 1000 hrs. Announcement by the Shongwe family.



Relatives and friends of **George Ntibane** are notified of his sudden demise. He will be laid to rest at Ngwane Park cemetery on Saturday 17/12/2016 after a short service at Dups Funeral hall at 0800 am. REST IN PEACE NTIBANE-CHIBI. Announcement by Thimothy Nando Ntibane.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni nebangani ba **Winile Lungile Mndzebele** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa baka kubo ePhayindane-Emanakayane, bekhahonina baka lokotfwako nelibandla le Gwamile Aspostolic World Faith Church. Ufihlwa ngelisonfho mhlaka 18/12/2016 ka Bhokinkhosi. Inkonzoyekumkhumbula ngeMgcibelo 17/12/2016 esonfweni e Gwamile Aspostolic World Faith Church ka Bhokinkhosi. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumndeni.



Relatives and friends of **Nokwanda Ndlovu** are notified of her demise. Memorial at Mayaluka Assemblies of God - Big Bend on Friday 16/12/2016. Time 12:00 pm. Funeral at Siteki on Saturday 17/12/2016 after a short service starting at 5:00 am. No night vigil. Announcement by her Parents on behalf of the family.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni wagogo **Lofala Jojina Mncina** nee Dlamini kutsi akasekho, Ufihlwa nge lisonfho ekuseni mhlaka 18/12/2016. Umlindzelo unge Mgcibelo kakhe e Maphalaleni. Sitheshi kuka Mncina e Msengeni. Kwatiswa nelibandla lakhe lase Maphalaleni Anglican Church. Simemetelo sikhokhwa ngu Lusekwane Mncina egameni lemndeni.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba **Mfanawempi Joseph Mtiti Gamedze** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa baka Gamedze eSiphofane bekhakhakhe ka Ndlovu eTimpandzeni nebaka Mamba ka Nkonjwa. Utawufihlwa 18/12/2016 ekhayalakhe ka Nkonjwa emuva kwemlindzelo. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumtwanawakhe Zonke egameni lemndeni.



Tihlobo nemndeni wa **Thobile Happiness Kunene** akasekho emhlabeni kwatiswa baka Kunene, baka Msibi ekhahonina, baka Masuku Ekupheleni ekhaya kubo ka Dlomo ngeLisonfho mhlaka 18 December 2016 ngemuva kwemlindzelo. Sikhishwa ngu. Elias Kunene mkhulu wakhe.



Kwatiswa bangani netihlobo ta **Nellswa Temakhonkhosi Hlophe** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa bekhahonina baka Dlamini embotjeni ka Hlatsi. Lebekafundza nabo eKobe Ramokgadi Advanced Learning Academy, Libandla lema Luthela kutsi ufihlwa ngemgcibelo mhlaka 17/12/2016 emva kwemlindzelo ngalesihlanu. Inkonzoyesikhumbuto itaba esonfweni lema Luthela kaManzini ngase old trade fair nga 1:00 pm. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngu Babe wakhe Mndeni Sydney Hlophe.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni ta **Celane Philisiwe Dlamini** lotalwa ngu Tryphina Dlamini kutsi atasekho emhlabeni kanya nelibandla lakhe eP.A.C ufihlwa ngemgcibelo mhlaka 17/12/2016 eLudzindzane emvakwemlindzelo. Simemetelo sikhokhwa ngu make wakhe la Gwebu.



Tihlobo nemndeni wa **Thobile Happiness Kunene** akasekho emhlabeni kwatiswa baka Kunene, baka Msibi ekhahonina, baka Masuku Ekupheleni ekhaya kubo ka Dlomo ngeLisonfho mhlaka 18 December 2016 ngemuva kwemlindzelo. Sikhishwa ngu. Elias Kunene mkhulu wakhe.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani **Bandezile Sarah Tsikati** (ulaMalambe) kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa baka Mamba bendlu ya Mphikeleli, baka Tsikati ka Zombondze ku Chibidze, nase Makhosini kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Ufihlwa ekhaya ka Tsikati ka Ndunazithi kuMgijila mhlaka 17 December 2016. Kute umlindzelo utawufihlwa nga 1300hrs ngemuva kwenkonzo lemfishane yekumpheketela. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumndeni waka Tsikati.



Friends and relatives of **Mrs Assienah Tlabedze nee Vilakati** are notified that she has answered to the Lords call. There will be a memorial Service at the 16th December at 3:00 p.m., which will be followed by a night vigil then laid to rest on the 17/12/2016 at her home Ezulwini. Announcement by family.



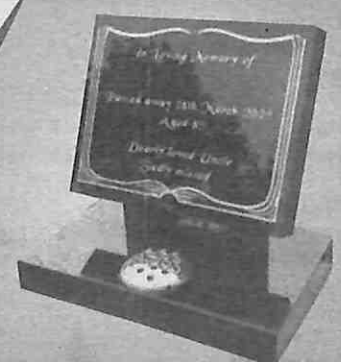
Lisuku lekukhumbula 17 December 2016. Kutaba nemlindzelo emcitsini 17 December 2016. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumndeni waka Nkwana.

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BARCLAYS

ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



Mourinho open to offers for Man Utd

MANCHESTER - Manchester United Manager Jose Mourinho has said he is more than happy to listen to offers as out-of-favour duo Memphis Depay and Morgan Schneiderlin near the Old Trafford exit door.

Signed by former Boss Louis van Gaal in 2014, Depay and Schneiderlin have found themselves on the fringes of the fold this sea-

son, repeatedly being over-looked by

Mourinho. Depay and Schneiderlin failed to make it on the bench for Sunday's 1-0

Premier League win at home to Tottenham, having been left out of the squad for the Europa League fixture in Ukraine last Thursday.

And as the January transfer window draws nearer, Mourinho is ready to cash in.

"I am always open to listen to offers for every player. More than that, I am always ready to listen to the players themselves," the Portuguese tactician said ahead of yesterday's match at Crystal Palace.

"So any

player who knocks on my door and is not happy and wants to move, when the offers are correct, I will never stop a player from leaving even if it is to a rival.

"When [Juan] Mata left Chelsea to come to Manchester United [in 2014], in my mentality. It was no problem at all. I am always open."

Mourinho added: "Sometimes in matches – and matches is the place where the evaluation is real – you get disappointed with a performance. But in training, the professionalism and the way they do it, I can only say good things about everyone."

"I am happy with the squad I have. I would like my squad to be my squad until the end of the season and I am not going to any player to say, 'You are going to leave' because I am not happy, because I don't want to have him."

One player who could stay beyond January is former Germany captain Bastian Schweinsteiger. Banished from the first team upon Mourinho's arrival in the off-season, Schweinsteiger made a surprise return to the fold in United's EFL Cup win over West Ham last month.

Schweinsteiger is yet to feature since but Mourinho said: "I do [expect him to stay]. Unless again, the player knocks on our door with a future that he wants to grab with both hands."

"We have Premier League, Europa League, then in the League Cup we have a two-legged semi and hopefully one more match in the final."

"The FA Cup is a lot of matches, so our number of players is not so big, even Schweinsteiger is back to the group which was exactly the intention because he is one more option for us."

Goal

Oscar set for £60m move to China

LONDON - Brazilian international midfielder Oscar is to become the latest big name to move to China in a £60 million transfer (\$76m, 71.5m euros) from Chelsea to Shanghai SIPG, British media reported yesterday.

The 25-year-old – who would be the second Brazilian star from the Premier League leaders to leave for China in a year – had been a target of Shanghai Manager Andre Villas-Boas since the Portuguese managed Spurs in the 2012/13 season. However, Oscar opted to join Chelsea – who had fired Villas-Boas during the 2011/2012 campaign – instead.

This time Villas-Boas has succeeded in persuading Oscar to join up with him, seeing off competition from rivals Jiangsu Suning, who bid for him in the close season, and Guangzhou Evergrande, managed by former Brazil handler Luiz Felipe Scolari. Oscar played under Scolari in the 2014 World Cup and scored the only goal for the hosts in the humiliating 7-1 thrashing by eventual winners Germany in the semifinals. Oscar, who would become Chelsea's most lucrative sale beating compatriot David Luiz' £50m move to Paris Saint Germain in 2014, has told his teammates he is leaving, according to the British press.

Oscar's transfer to China follows Chelsea's former Brazilian Ramires who joined Jiangsu Suning for £20m in January, and the move will make Chelsea a healthy profit, the player having cost them £25m when he signed from Brazilian outfit Internacional in 2012. **AFP**



MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF MBABANE

TENDER NO.169 OF 2015/2016

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF REFUSE COMPACTOR TRUCKS AND SKIP LOADER

- Tenders are hereby invited from suitably qualified and authorized Dealers for the supply and delivery of the following:
 - Two 12m3 refuse compactor trucks painted in Council colours
 - One 6 ton skip loader truck painted Council colours
- Tender Documents may be purchased from the Municipal Council of Mbabane Civic Offices for a non-refundable fee of E500 per set.
- The method of payment shall be cash or bank guaranteed cheque payable to the Municipal Council of Mbabane. The Municipal Council of Mbabane does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender and reserves the right to reject any or all tenders.
- Bids shall remain valid for a period of 90 days after bid opening and must be accompanied by a refundable bid security. Depending on whether a supplier is bidding for lot 1 or Lot 2 or both the vehicles and waste skips, the required bid securities are as shown below;

Lot	Vehicle type	Preferred Brands	Bid Security
1	Refuse compactor truck	Nissan, Isuzu, Toyota, Mercedes, Man or equivalent	E 10 000.00
2	Skip loader	Nissan, Isuzu, Toyota, Mercedes, Man or equivalent	E 5 000.00

- Tender Documents shall be delivered in a sealed envelope and deposited into the Tender Box located next to the Revenue Offices at the following address:

Municipal Council of Mbabane
P.O. Box 1
Civic Offices, Mahlokohla Street
MBABANE

not later than 12 Noon Swaziland time on 20th January 2017 at which time the tenders will be opened in public. On the outside of the envelope shall be clearly marked:

"CONFIDENTIAL
TENDER NO 169 OF 2016/17
SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF REFUSE COMPACTOR TRUCKS AND SKIPLOADER TRUCK
(Not to be opened before 12 Noon January 20, 2016)

GIDEON MHLONGO
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Swaziland National Housing Board

NOTICE OF LIMITED SERVICE

We wish to inform our valued customers and the general public that there will be limited service at our offices, as most of our staff will be away on vacation from **Wednesday, 21st December 2016**. Normal business operations will resume on **Monday, 9th January 2017**.

During this period, our Maintenance and Revenue Offices, both in Mbabane and Matsapha, will open from 8:30am to 3:30pm each day. Any inconvenience caused is regretted.

We wish all our valued stakeholders a safe festive season and a prosperous 2017!!

Contact numbers in case of emergency:

-Mbabane Maintenance Office: 2405 5071
-Matsapha Maintenance Office: 2518 6119/4309
-Mbabane Foreman: 7619 9624
-Matsapha Foreman: 7602 5705

DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES
Ms. Khulile G. Dlamini



RONALD KOEMAN GOADS WENGER

LONDON - Ronald Koeman reacted sarcastically to opposite number Arsene Wenger after Everton ended Arsenal's nine-month unbeaten away run in the Premier League in an eventful 2-1 victory at Goodison Park.

Arsenal Manager Wenger, defeated for just the second time this season, blamed referee Mark Clattenburg for awarding the first of a series of corners from which Ashley Williams headed in the 86th-minute winner.

But Koeman responded bullishly and claimed he had targeted Arsenal's weak points by instructing his players to adopt an aggressive approach against the Premier League title hopefuls.

"I'm not surprised about Wenger's comments because it is the third time in a row that I won as a manager at home against



SARCASTIC: Arsenal Manager Arsene Wenger and Everton Boss Ronald Koeman.

Arsenal," said the Everton manager after Tuesday's game.

"And that is three times in a row that it was about the referee. Okey, sorry Arsenal. We won through the referee tonight, sorry!

"Their weakness is if you go face-to-face, win battles, you run

and you go. Then you need a bit of luck and we deserved that.

"If you fight for every ball and are aggressive, you see the reaction of the crowd and with a lot of aggression, you can make life difficult. Then it is really difficult to beat Everton here. *AFP*

Conte denies Chelsea exit talks with captain

LONDON - Chelsea insist John Terry has not held talks over leaving Stamford Bridge at the end of the season, with Antonio Conte espousing his enduring importance to the Blues.

Captain Terry has featured in just five of Chelsea's 15 Premier League games this term, only one of which has come since Conte switched to a three-man

defence and embarked on a nine-match winning run. The former England captain was the subject of reports on Tuesday that he had been told he would not be offered fresh terms for next season, having only committed to the current campaign in May - after revealing he had been told similar in January this year.

However, a Chelsea spokesman

said: "It's the kind of discussion we have with players much later in the season.

"That discussion has not taken place between John and the club, it will take place later in the season."

And Conte was quick to laud Terry's continued impact on the first team from behind the scenes.

Goal

TIBIYO TAKA NGWANE

A NATION IN PROGRESS



Merry Christmas!

We would like to inform the public and our business associates that our offices will be closed from 16 December 2016 to 04 January 2017.

However, Tibiyo Taka Ngwane Luzidzini office will be open during this period

The Main Committee, Management and staff of Tibiyo TakaNgwane would like to wish you a Merry Chirstmas and a prosperous New Year.

**&
a Prosperous New Year**

NOTICE OF OFFICE CLOSURE

The Swaziland Investment Promotion Authority (SIPA) would like to notify its stakeholders, clients and the general public that our office shall be closed for business on the 16th December, 2016.

Normal business operations will resume on Wednesday, 4th January, 2017.

Wishing you all a merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.

EMERGENCY CALLS:

Investment Promotion
Martin Masilela: 78023486

Facilitation and After Care
Welile Tsela: 76023136

External Trade Promotion
Sibusiso Mnisi: 78023487

Domestic Trade Promotion
Siphehile Nkabinde: 78023485

Mavuso Trade & Exhibition Centre
Inspector of Works
Petros Gamedze: 76083070

Mavuso Trade & Exhibition Centre
Marketing Officer
Mangaliso Mkhathshwa: 76119136



Swaziland Investment Promotion Authority

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AUTHORITY"**



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Tel: 2404 0470/2/3/4 Fax: 2404 3374 Email: info@sipa.org.sz website: www.sipa.org.sz

Swaziland Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise Ltd



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Mkhondo, SWAZILAND

Tel: (0268) 24047950/1
Fax: (0268) 24047954
E-mail: swade@swade.co.sz
Web: www.swade.co.sz

NOTICE OF OFFICE CLOSURE

The SWAZILAND WATER & AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE LTD advises the public that it shall close business at 12:00 noon on Friday the 16th December 2016.

Normal business shall resume on Tuesday the 3rd January 2017 at 08:00 hours.

By Management

We wish
You a
Merry
CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY



New Year



TINKLER BLAMES DEFEAT ON FATIGUE

POLOKWANE - Eric Tinkler blamed fatigue for his side's 4-0 home mauling at the hands of Platinum Stars in the Absa Premiership on Tuesday night, saying they had not had enough time to recover from the Telkom Knockout final in Polokwane on Saturday.

City defeated SuperSport United 2-1 to lift the trophy, but then made the arduous journey back from the opposite side of the country to face a fired-up Stars side.

Tinkler says the travel and mental fatigue was to blame for his side's lacklustre display. "You could see it, it was pretty obvious," he said. "We didn't win a single ball, we were last to the second ball, they were running rings around us in those first 15 minutes."

"I knew then the writing was on the wall and that eventually they would break us down and they did. Obviously, there is a lot of disappointment from me, because I expected a better reaction from the players." *Mzansi Football*

MOURNS: Eric Tinkler.



CAVIN CHALLENGES MABENA TO PRODUCE MORE

JOHANNESBURG - Platinum Stars coach Cavin Johnson has challenged forward Ndumiso Mabena to turn in match-winning performances week in, week out this season.

Mabena scored his first goal of the campaign and provided two assists in the 4-0 mauling of Cape Town City on Tuesday night, and Johnson says it is the kind of showing he needs to produce more regularly. "I think he has a lot more quality than even that, and he needs to show this week in, week out," Johnson said. "He needs to be consistent and not only come [to the party] once in a while."

Mabena netted 10 goals last season but 13 games to find his first in the 2016/17 season. "If he plays like he did last year ... maybe after last year he just forgot that there are other months in between and now he has started scoring again," Johnson joked.

Johnson will hope Mabena can continue his form over the next week as Stars finish 2016 at home to Maritzburg United on Saturday and away at Highlands Park next Tuesday. *Mzansi Football*

I AM NOT LISTENING - PITSO MOSIMANE

PRETORIA - The former Bafana Bafana head coach has firmly established himself as one of the best coaches on the African continent, leading the Brazilians to five major trophies and a first appearance at a FIFA Club World Cup showpiece.

'Jingles' spearheaded Sundowns to the 2016 CAF Champions League glory with the Tshwane giants beating Zamalek 3-1 on aggregate to clinch a maiden continental crown.

Victory over the White Knights sparked rumours from within Egypt that Mosimane was set for a move to North Africa, but the Kagiso-born remains steadfast in showing his loyalty to Sundowns.

Mosimane also underlined his desire to return to the FIFA Club World Cup in the future, with the South African club having endured a disappoint-



PROUD: Mamelodi Sundowns' coach Pitso Mosimane.

ing result in their first game at the tournament, losing 2-0 to Japanese league champions Kashima Antlers.

"My phone has been ringing. Sometimes I don't want to talk because this thing can unsettle Sundowns," Mosimane was quoted as saying by Times Live regarding offers he has received from outside South

Africa's borders.

"Sundowns love me. And when you are loved, be nice. When you have a nice family look after it."

So, I'm not listening because I'm working on this product. I want to come back here [at the CWC] again. I need to win the Champions League again to come back." *Daily Mail*

Sundowns handed hiding in Club World Cup clash

CAPE TOWN - Mamelodi Sundowns were handed a 4-1 hiding by South Korean outfit, Jeonbuk Hyundai, in their FIFA Club World Cup fifth-place playoff match yesterday.

After losing 2-0 in the quarter-finals to Japanese outfit, Kashima Antlers, Sundowns had a last chance to lift their spirits before boarding a plane back to South Africa.

However, it was not to be as Pitso Mosimane's charges were once again humbled at the Suita City Football Stadium in Osaka, Japan. It took Jeonbuk 18 minutes to break the deadlock as Kim Bo-kyung blasted the Koreans into the lead from close



SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST: Percy Tau in action with a South Korea player. (Getty Images).

range. Eleven minutes later, Sundowns were two goals down following a beautifully taken

free-kick by Lee Jong-ho that beat Denis Onyango in goal. *Sport24*

TEAM OF CHOICE SURPRISE PIRATES

JOHANNESBURG - Maritzburg United stunned Orlando Pirates 2-1 in an Absa Premiership game which was played at the Harry Gwala Stadium on Tuesday night.

The Team of Choice moved up to eighth on the league table following their win, while the Buccaneers remain fifth on the table. The home side applied some pressure on the Bucs defence in the opening stages of the game as they looked to grab an early goal.

Kwanda Mngonyama found some space outside the Pirates box in the 10th minute and he forced goalkeeper Brighton Mhlomo into a decent save.

At the other end, 11 minutes



WHAT A SURPRISE! Orlando Pirates suffered their second league defeat of the season, as they went down 2-1 to Maritzburg United in an Absa Premiership clash. (Getty Images)

later, Pirates winger Luvuyo Memela pounced on a loose ball outside the box and he fired over the crossbar.

The visitors should have taken

the lead two minutes before the half-hour mark, but Issa Sarr headed over the crossbar from close range.

Backpage TXT

PIRATES STAR TO JOIN AL AHLY ON A FREE?

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates midfielder, Issa Sarr, is still wanted by Egyptian club, Al Ahly, who are looking to land the player on a free at the end of the season.

As previously reported by the Siya crew, Issa Sarr, who is in the final months of his contract with the Soweto giants, is a wanted man in North Africa, and the player's representative, Denis Idrissa, confirmed to the Siya crew that advanced talks and negotiations had taken place with the Egyptian giants.

However, indications are that Al Ahly are keen on waiting until the end of the season for the 30-year-old, which means the club is looking to land the player's signature on a pre-contract in the upcoming January transfer window. With just two weeks to go before the January transfer window period, Pirates will be in a race against time to tie the player down on a new contract, if they opt to extend his stay before he enters the last six months of his current deal.

Now, it remains to be seen whether the club will look to open up negotiations with the player in the coming weeks.

Pirates Administrative Officer, Floyd Mbele was contacted via email to enquire about Sarr's contract situation at the club, but he did not respond at the time.

SoccerLaduma



IN DEMAND: Former Kaizer Chiefs left-back Levy Mokgothu.

ROYAL EAGLES ONCE AGAIN SHOWING INTEREST IN MOKGOTHU

JOHANNESBURG - National First Division side Royal Eagles have re-ignited their interest in former Kaizer Chiefs left-back Levy Mokgothu.

The player trained with Eagles at the beginning of the season, yet failed to earn a move after suffering an injury while on a training programme he was put on by the club. Yet after the first failed attempt, it seems Eagles may be ready to swoop in once more.

"Keep in mind that the player was there at the beginning of the season, that's when he got injured," a source tells KickOff.com. "He was on the verge of signing. The club chairman himself is the one who recently phoned the player. That shows how serious they are."

Eagles, who are currently second on the NFD log, are facing stern competition for Mokgothu's signature from rivals Jomo Cosmos and Thanda Royal Zulu who are believed to have also made contact with the player.

PSL duo Bloemfontein Celtic and Highlands Park are also believed to be interested in luring the 27-year-old to the top-flight next month.

'ERTUGRAL SHOUTED BUT NOT BECAUSE OF ANGER'

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates defender, Justice Chabalala said people on the outside would not have understood the way head coach Muhsin Ertugral communicated with the players.

In an exclusive interview with Soccer Laduma, the 25-year-old opened up about his experience with the Soweto giants, since parting ways with Free State Stars and joining up with Bucs in July this year. However,

only experiencing a few months under the mentorship of Pirates' former head coach,

Ertugral, the player revealed he had a good relationship with the Turkish-born coach, but sometimes the team didn't understand his expectations.

"Muhsin is a very good coach.

I know at times he used to raise his voice and to people outside that looked like he was treating us badly, but it was not like that. He wanted us to go the direction he wanted us to go. He is a good coach, but at times we didn't understand what he wanted. He also shouted, but not because of anger," Chabalala told Soccer Laduma.

"He treated me well and we had a good relationship. He used to talk to me a lot and sometimes he would have dinner with everyone. All the guys were also good to him."

When asked about the incident of Ertugral handing in his resignation, Chabalala revealed he was surprised and didn't expect him to step down from the helm.

"I was surprised. 6-1 is a big score and too much for a club like Orlando Pirates, but I didn't expect him to step down afterwards."

That's why I sometimes we didn't understand him. When we drew or won by 2-1, he would be unhappy because he expected quality football. He would be angry sometimes, but he is a good coach," he said.

To read the full interview, check out this week's edition of Soccer Laduma, issue number 1003.

Daily Mail

BOSS: Former Pirates coach Muhsin Ertugral.

MURRAY BROTHERS NAMED ITF WORLD CHAMPIONS

PARIS - Andy Murray capped a stellar season by being named alongside his brother Jamie on Tuesday as International Tennis Federation (ITF) World Champion for 2016.

It is the first time that two brothers have been named as men's singles and doubles World Champions in the same year.

Angelique Kerber won the women's award becoming Germany's first World Champion since Steffi Graf in 1996.

Andy Murray sealed the year-end number one ranking after defeating Novak Djokovic to win the ATP World Tour Finals.

The 29-year-old won a total of nine titles during the year, including a second Wimbledon

crown and a second Olympic singles gold in Rio.

"It means a lot to me to be named ITF World Champion," said Murray.

"I have had such a memorable year, winning again at Wimbledon, retaining my Olympic title, and clinching the year-end Number 1 ranking in the last match of the season. "It is particularly special with my brother Jamie also becoming World Champion."

Kerber, 28, defeated Serena Williams to capture the Australian Open, before winning the US Open, and silver at the Olympics.

Jamie Murray and Bruno Soares of Brazil were named men's doubles World Champions, while French pair Caroline Garcia and Kristina Mladenovic won the women's doubles award.

Sport24

CHAMPION: Andy Murray.

I'D HAVE MORE BALLONS D'OR THAN MESSI - RONALDO

MADRID - Real Madrid superstar Cristiano Ronaldo believes he would have won more Ballon d'Or trophies than FC Barcelona Lionel Messi if they played for the same team.

The Argentine has won the prestigious individual award five times in his career, while the Portugal captain claimed his fourth on Monday night.

In an interview with France Football, Ronaldo was asked if he thought he would have won more Ballons d'Or if he and Messi played for the same club.

"It's a difficult question. I don't know," Ronaldo answered.

"It would be interesting to see both of us in the same team. I think great players should play together. So if we were in the same team, I think I would have more than him, but he wouldn't be far off. "Everyone knows Messi is a great player. He's won five Ballons d'Or."

The Portuguese forward also said he will be trying to draw level with his



BELIEVES: Real Madrid superstar Cristiano Ronaldo.

arch-rival in 2017. "I'm going to try," Ronaldo added. "I'll be in the fight, as always, but my objective now is to win the Club World Cup, an important trophy. "After that, to win La Liga. It's a title that Real wants to win. And if possible, the Champions League again and

the Copa del Rey. I always want to win everything."

The 31-year-old has made 17 appearances in all competitions for Los Blancos so far this season, scoring 12 goals and assisting six further strikes.

Daily Mail



STAR PLAYERS: Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo.

MESSI, RONALDO BOUND TO BE TEMPTED BY CHINA

MADRID - Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo could eventually ply their trade in the Chinese Super League due to the ceaseless amounts of money available, China's official Xinhua news agency believes.

A number of highly reputable players have made the decision to leave the European leagues to play in Asia as China continue to build their reputation.

Reports from the Daily Mail sug-

gest Chelsea midfielder Oscar could be set for a €60 million switch to the CSL with Shanghai SIPG, which would beat the Asian transfer record of €58.5m which Shanghai paid for Hulk in the summer.

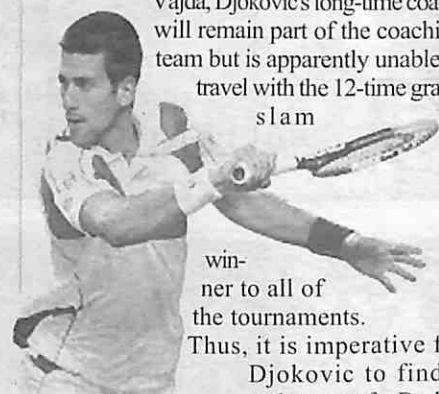
The 25-year-old has been a regular for Chelsea since joining the club in 2012 but has found himself playing a bit-part role under Antonio Conte and hasn't started in the league since the 2-1 defeat by Liverpool in September. *Goal*

'REPORT SPARKS DJOKOVIC COACH RUMOURS'

BERLIN - A report from a Serbian publication revealed Novak Djokovic could sign up Nenad Zimonjic as a new coach.

According to Telegraf, Zimonjic - a fellow Serb, a former doubles world number player and three time grand slam winner - could replace Boris Becker as head coach of Djokovic's team. The German legend and Djokovic split earlier this month following a disappointing end to the year, where he lost his world number one ranking to Andy Murray. Marian Vajda, Djokovic's long-time coach, will remain part of the coaching team but is apparently unable to travel with the 12-time grand

slam



winner to all of the tournaments.

Thus, it is imperative for Djokovic to find a replacement for Becker in the near future.

TO FIND NEW COACH: Novak Djokovic.

Sport24

WOODS TO PLAY AT RIVIERA IN FEBRUARY

CAPE TOWN - Tiger Woods on Tuesday confirmed plans to play in February's Genesis Open in Los Angeles, returning to the tournament where he made his PGA Tour debut for the first time in 10 years.

Woods, who returned to golf earlier this month at the Hero World Challenge in the Bahamas after a 15-month injury layoff, said he was looking forward to the February 16-19 event at the Riviera Country Club in the affluent suburb of Pacific Palisades.

"I'm very excited to come back to Riviera and compete in the Genesis Open. This is where it all started for me," Woods said.

"It was my first PGA Tour event, I was 16 years old, I weighed about 105 pounds, and it was a life-changing moment for me."

Woods' charity arm, TGR Live, is the host of the Genesis Open, which benefits the former world number one's Tiger Woods Foundation.

"It's an honour to have TGR Live running this historic event that will benefit my foun-

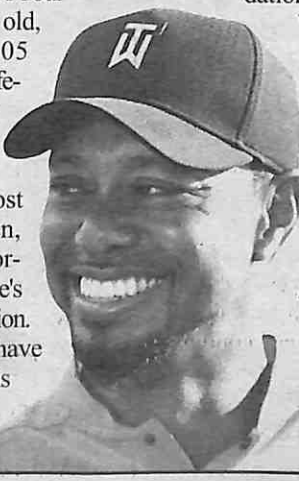
ation," Woods said.

Woods made an encouraging return to golf in Nassau this month, finishing at four-under-par in the 18-player event.

So far, the Genesis Open is the only event the 40-year-old has confirmed on his schedule for 2017.

Sport24

CONFIRMS: Tiger Woods



SIKHUMBUTO TIMPHISINI REGIONAL LEAGUE E25 000 LAUNCH



FULL HOUSE: Horo Clinic employees and club directors who had attended the function, listening attentively.



FIRST ASSIGNMENT"
Newly-appointed Timphisini Chairman John Mavuso addressing the teams.



STRESSING A POINT: HRFA Chairman Comfort Shongwe making his remarks. This was during the Sikhumbuto Timphisini Regional League sponsorship launch on Saturday.

MC: HRFA member Mduduzi Dlamini directed the programme.



I'M HERE TO STAY: Timphisini MP Sikhumbuzo Apton Ndlovu addressing the teams during the launch. (Courtesy Pics)

FOOTBALL FOR HEALTH: The Horo Clinic nurse teaching the clubs how important it is to keep one's body fit and healthy in fighting TB and HIV.



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NO LIMITS BASKETBALL CAMP



NO LIMITS: Participants of the fourth edition of the annual No Limits basketball camp pose for a group picture. This was during the last day of the camp held at the Bosco Skills Centre yesterday. (Pics: Sibusiso Dlamini)



HAPPY: Coach Andile Thwala and SNBA Head of Coaches Size Nxumalo pose with the youngest group of players that attended the camp.



SUCCESS: Swaziland Milling's Kim Venter and SNBA Head of Coaches Size Nxumalo.

(RIGHT) WE GOT THIS: The VI 'Queens' were also part of the camp.

(RIGHT) YOU DESERVE IT: Angel Nkambule receiving her leadership certificate from Motsa and Nxumalo.



GOOD WORK: Ex-Mr SD Sifiso Motsa and Nxumalo presenting Zuzizwe Dlamini with his leadership certificate.



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● Chelsea have accepted a £60m offer from Chinese club Shanghai SIPG, managed by former Blues boss Andre Villas-Boas, for midfielder Oscar. The 25-year-old Brazilian will make the move in January. (*Daily Telegraph*)

● Arsenal are close to finalising new deals with striker Olivier Giroud, 30, and midfielder Francis Coquelin, 25, and while forward Mesut Ozil, 28, could agree a five-year contract, the Gunners have concerns over 27-year-old forward Alexis Sanchez's future. (*Daily Mail*)

● Manchester United are close to signing 15-year-old Ajax forward Daishawn Redan, who has played for Netherlands Under-17s. (*Squawka*)



● United winger Memphis Depay, 22, and midfielder Morgan Schneiderlin, 27, are free to leave for Everton in January. (*Daily Mail*)

● Red Devils boss Jose Mourinho fears striker Marcus Rashford is struggling to cope with the hype around his talent and was furious the 19-year-old was nutmegged twice against Tottenham on Sunday. (*Sun*)

● Borussia Dortmund have told Liverpool not to make an approach for 18-year-old United States winger Christian Pulisic in January. (*Bild, via Liverpool Echo*)

● Former Arsenal and Germany player Jens Lehmann has told Liverpool Manager Jurgen Klopp not to drop goalkeeper Loris Karius, 23. (*Talksport*)

● Chelsea have added Southampton defender Virgil van Dijk, 25, to their list of transfer targets but will not make a decision on 36-year-old captain John Terry's future until the end of the season. (*London Evening Standard*)

● Southampton want £40m for Van Dijk, with Manager Claude Puel denying there is a £25m buyout clause in the centre-back's contract. (*Daily Mirror*)



● Crystal Palace want to sign Tottenham and Wales defender Ben Davies, 23, on loan. Palace have also been made aware of the potential availability of Aston Villa striker Rudy Gesteira, 28. (*Guardian*)

● West Ham United and Liverpool are preparing January offers for Sassuolo striker Gregoire Defrel, 25. (*Calciomercato, via Football Italia*)

RSP TEAMS CRASH OUT OF ZONE VI CLUB CHAMPS

By Qondile Ntiwane

VOLLEYBALL—LOCAL teams RSP men and ladies have crashed out of the Zone VI Club Championships.

The male team was first to be booted out of the regional tournament after losing 3-0 to Botswana Police XI.

The first set saw the opposition record a 25-17 score and winning the second set by 25-19. The locals tried to make a comeback in the second set but were unfortunate as it was eventually won by their Botswana counterpart on 25-23 score. The ladies team, on the other hand, suffered a 3-1 defeat at the

hands of Zimbabwean outfit Support Unit. RSP volleyball team Manager Mxolisi Matsenjwa confirmed that the teams were now out of the tournament. But he stated that they were happy with the exposure received by both teams during the games.

"Our teams gained so much during the games. They played very well and we are confident they will give local teams a run for their money during domestic tournaments looking at the experienced they got in these championships."

"The attendance here was very impressive. Also worth noting is that teams there are other police teams that participated in this tournament and these we normally meet in the SARPCCO Games,



CAUCUSING: Local RSP ladies team.

which we are looking forward to. These include Namibian police, Support Unit and Police VI from Botswana," he said.

Matsenjwa said they were indebted

to the National Commissioner Isaac Magagula for affording the team the opportunity to be part of these Games.

NO LIMITS CAMP A HUGE SUCCESS

By Sibusiso Dlamini

BASKETBALL—THE fourth edition of the No Limits basketball camp held at the Bosco Skills Centre was a huge success, as it recorded a turn-out of over 80 children.

The camp, which was running from Monday till yesterday, saw children aged 6 to 18 coming from all over the country to learn all not just only the basics of the basketball sport, but life skills as well. They also got to meet local hip hop star KrTC, who was the special guest for this year's edition.

Speaking on behalf of the sponsor, Swaziland Milling's Kim Venter said the company was very proud of the work being done by the No Limits basketball academy.

"Andile came to us and told us they needed help with the camp. Unfortunately it was too late for us to do something big for them, but we tried to help

them where we could. Swaziland Milling is a very kind company that is always happy to give a helping hand where we can, and this is one undoubtedly good initiative for the youth," she said.

One of the youngsters who were part of the camp was Manzini Raiders' Khetho Maseko, who has always attended since its inception and couldn't stop heaping praises to the organisers.

Amazing

"Being here each and every single year is always amazing. I have been part of it every year, and it always feels like a first. The biggest thing about this camp is it is not just your average camp where you only sharpen your skills but you learn about life as a whole. All the life skills we need, we get - from basketball, academics to religion."

Swaziland National Basketball Association's head of coaches Size Nxumalo was also in attendance. "These are the kind of

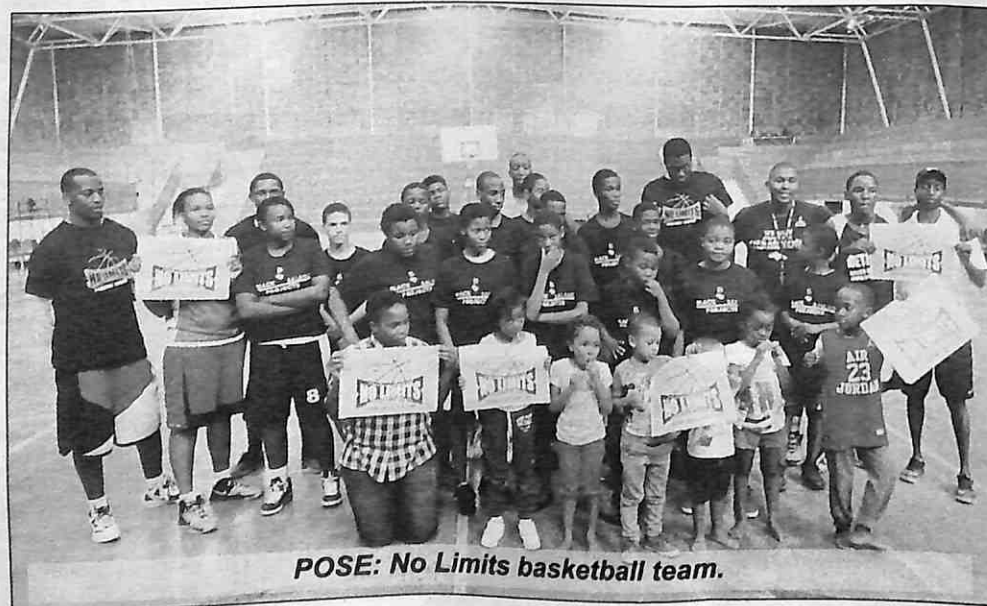
initiatives we encourage in the sport. The camp has been running for four years, and it's always been successful. It is always growing every single year. During our era, it was all about the basketball skills when we would have the opportunity to attend camp like these, but now, this generation gets to learn about everything.

These children are the future of this country, and we should all assist parents in making sure we mould the best possible future citizens for our country," he said. In his closing remarks, top coach Andile Thwala revealed how happy and overwhelmed he was.

"I am very happy with the camp, and it's been a great two days with the kids.

It's always overwhelming to see the camp grow in leaps and bounds in every edition.

I would like to thank the sponsors, the SNAB for their support and the parents who have allowed their children to come through."



POSE: No Limits basketball team.

SSSA mourns AAS' Thulani Nkambule's death

By Qondile Ntiwane

ATHLETICS—The Swaziland Schools Sports Association (SSSA) has mourned the death of Athletics Association of Swaziland (AAS) Road Race Chairperson Thulani Nkambule.

Nkambule, who passed away last Saturday morning, will be buried at Enhlulweni in Mankayane on Saturday at 2pm while a memorial service will be held in his honour at the John Wesley Church in Msunduzi today starting at 1pm.

SSSA PRO Victor 'Mavikane' Dlamini said they were saddened by the death of Nkambule who has served the sport for a very long time.

"As SSSA we want to send our condolences to the AAS and the Slojos Athletics Club where he was a member. As Schools Sports, we had requested the athletics association to help us in the management of athletics and Mr Nkambule was always there for us." "His demise has really shocked us, especially because it comes so soon after the death of the AAA President Themba Makhanya last year. We have lost a great man and we urge the association to be united now more than ever," he said.

He said it was also time that sports associations in the country support each other in times like these. "We would also like to extend our heartfelt condolences to the Nkambule family, friends and all those who were touched by the deceased. We believe God will see them through this very difficult time," he said.



SADDENED: SSSA PRO Victor 'Mavikane' Dlamini.

'BOMBER', FREDERICK FOR COSAFA AGM SATURDAY

Stories by Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCER - NATIONAL Football Association of Swaziland (NFAS) President Adam 'Bomber' Mthethwa joined other leaders during the COSAFA Annual General Meeting (AGM) this weekend.

The president is accompanied by the CEO Frederick Mngomezulu to the meeting held at Sun City, South Africa on Saturday. The football officials left the country on Monday to be part of the series of workshops in the neighbouring country. The first meeting, which started on Tuesday, was the FIFA Forward Workshop which started on Tuesday until yesterday. Some of the issues discussed during the event include the FIFA concept and principles, regulations explanations, amongst other things.

"Through this workshop, FIFA aims to provide a platform where the FIFA member associations can discuss the new FIFA FORWARD programme in an interactive manner. The FIFA FORWARD pro-



OFF TO SA: Football Association President Adam 'Bomber' Mthethwa making his remarks while FA executive members Johannes Sibiza (L) Comfort Shongwe and CEO Frederick Mngomezulu (R) listen.

gramme will be explained to the invited FIFA member associations and allow them to discuss any issues that will have an impact on the

implementation of their plans and activities under the FIFA FORWARD programme," said NFAS Media Officer Muzi Radebe yes-

terday. Also attending the workshop was the Football Association's Finance Manager Nkosinamandla Mavuso.

FA CLOSSES OFFICE TOMORROW

SOCCER - THE National Football Association of Swaziland (NFAS) will close office tomorrow until next year.

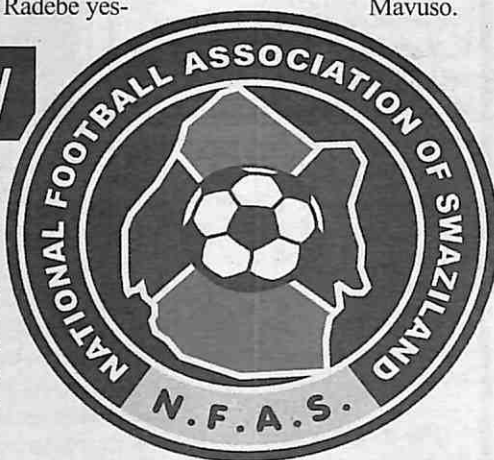
FA Marketing and Communication Officer Muzi Radebe said they would close for the festive season and would resume business on January 5.

"Members and stakeholders are consequently encouraged to guarantee that all matters necessitating the response of the national office would be addressed between now and tomorrow."

He said the NFAS appreciated the collaboration and good rapport evidenced throughout

the first half of the football season which showed improvement in terms of development and organisation.

"We wish our members and their staff, clubs, officials, players and all stakeholders in the beautiful game of football a merry Christmas and prosperous new year," he said.



Elphas Ngcamphalala attends FIFA Integrity Course

SOCCER - NATIONAL Referees Association of Swaziland (NRAS) Chairman Elphas Ngcamphalala is amongst local officials attending the FIFA Integrity Workshop in South African.

The ongoing workshop is also attended by the NFAS President Adam 'Bomber' Mthethwa and CEO Frederick Mngomezulu.

NFAS Media Officer Muzi Radebe said Ngcamphalala was attending the course by virtue of being the association's integrity officer.

"This will be an opportunity for FIFA and the workshop participants to exchange ideas on match integrity through structured presentations and activities.

Integrity

The aim of the FIFA Integrity workshop is to establish a region-wide integrity approach for COSAFA as well as to establish objective-defining integrity initiatives in each member association.

The participants for the FIFA Integrity workshop are the president, general secretary and the integrity officer of each member association," he said.

He said some of the issues to be covered during the event included a roadmap towards establishing a national integrity initiative, the roles and responsibilities of an 'integrity officer' and specific point of contact, defining tangible objectives and implementation plans for the national integrity initiative, as well as identifying already existing resources to help deliver parts of the national integrity programme, to name a few.

Qualification for Windhoek Lager Africa Jacket Golf Tourney

By Sibusiso Dlamini

GOLF - THE qualifying tournaments for the 2017 Windhoek Lager Africa Jacket Golf Tournament will begin on January 7.

Local golfers, who want to participate in the main tournament to be staged in Windhoek, Namibia, will have to battle it out in the qualifying tournaments which will be divided into four divisions.

Of note is that they will also be staged in four different golf courses in the country. Golf Union President Albert Mhlana confirmed the latest developments.

He encouraged players to take part in the qualifying games as they were the key to participation in to one of the most prestigious competitions in the continent.

"We encourage golfers to participate in numbers in these qualifying tournaments because it is the key to competing in Namibia against other African countries. We will reveal more infor-

THE DIVISIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1. A Division | Handicaps 0-9 |
| 2. B Division | Handicaps 10-16 |
| 3. C Division | Handicaps 17-24 |
| 4. Ladies Division | All Handicaps |

The times and venues of the games

- | | | |
|-------------|---|--|
| January 7 | - | Mbabane Golf Course (SRIC Month Mug Competition) |
| February 11 | - | Mananga Golf Course (Mananga Mug) |
| March 25 | - | Usutu Golf Course (Pots Masters) |
| April 29 | - | Manzini Golf Course (Swazi Air link Competition) |

mation in due course."

The A and B divisions will be played on gross medal, while the C and ladies divisions will be played in a stableford format.

"The three best scores will be considered to determine the qualifiers, and

in the event of a tie, the winners will be determined on a count-back basis on the last leg of the qualifying tournaments."

Also worth noting is that golfers must at least be 18 years old due to the fact that it is a Lager Tournament.

Lowveld 3 on 3 this Saturday

By Sibusiso Dlamini

BASKETBALL - THE annual Lowveld 3 on 3 will this coming Saturday host the fourth edition of the tournament.

The tournament is sponsored by Themba Hillary, a Mhlume born-and bred basketball player, who is now based in the United States of America (USA).

Development

Hillary used to play basketball for his school team - the St Marks basketball team, and then started this tournament as means of making sure he gives back to the Lowveld, and further help in development of the sport in the area.

The tournament will see each team having at least one female player.

"Each team (five players each) will be required to have at least one female player when registering. This is us playing our part in gender equality.

It will also be an added advantage for a team to have a female player because a three pointer scored by a girl will be counted as four points." Registration for the tournament is

The tournament is sponsored by Themba Hillary, a Mhlume born-and bred basketball player, who is now based in the United States of America (USA).

E100 and transport from Mbabane is available but interested individuals should be punctual as it leaves at 7am.

The tournament comes at a time when

the Swaziland National Basketball League is about to reach the playoffs stage, as the pending games which were scheduled for last week were postponed.

Snip



Highlands Park 2 - 1 Ajax Cape Town
Polokwane City 1 - 0 Chippa United
Free State Stars 1 - 0 Baroka FC
Golden Arrows 0 - 0 Bidvest Wits
Kaizer Chiefs 0 - 0 Bloemfontein Celtic

PLS warns players against festive hype

By Sibusiso Dlamini

SOCCER - TEAMS have two weeks to prepare for the last 16 games of the SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup and the Premier League of Swaziland has urged players to take care of themselves.

The games have been suspended to give way to the National Incwala Cultural Event and will now be held on the weekend of December 30-31.

It is also the festive period and PLS executive member Peter 'Touch' Magagula has urged players to behave and keep at it.

"Teams should take proper care of themselves and make sure they use the two-week break profitably as we will head into the enthralling round of 16 games soon after the break. They should make sure they don't let the festive season hype get to them, because it will definitely show in the field of play," he said.

He then wished everyone a merry Christmas.

The Ingwenyama cup round of 16 draw has already divided the streets.

Upset

Some of the interesting fixtures include the forces battle between Young Buffaloes and Royal Leopard.

'Buffis' beat Leopard 2-0 in their recent encounter and the police side will be all out for revenge.

In a repeat of last year's epic quarter final, on-form Moneni Pirates will face-off with Red Lions.

Ambitious National First Division outfit Matsapha United will take on Manzini Sundowns in another exciting encounter.

The "Kappa Boys" major downfall this season has been inconsistency as they have been blowing hot and cold and narrowly edged Bad Boys on penalties in their last match, while their opponents have been nothing but excellence, losing only one league game to Shiselweni side Amalanda in the league.

High flying glamour capital city giants Mbabane Swallows will play struggling Premier league outfit Manzini Sea Birds.

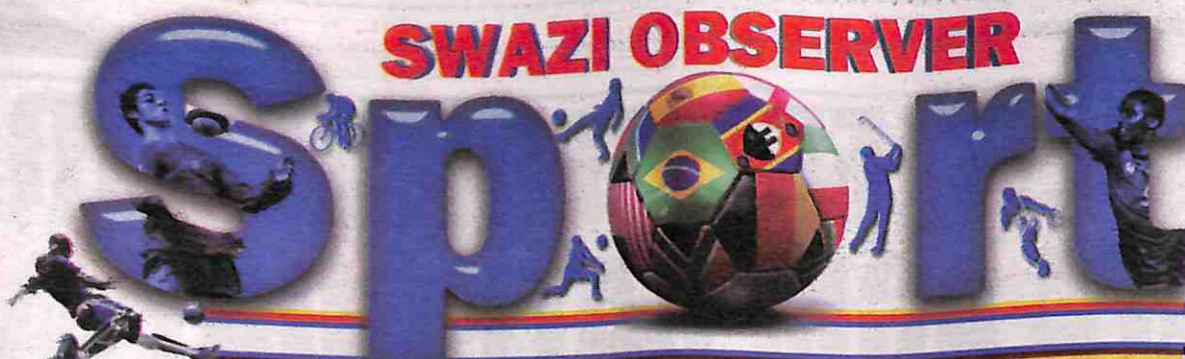
The 'Beautiful Birds' will look to continue with the dominance as they have won all their games this season while struggling Sea Birds will be looking to cause an upset.

THE FULL FIXTURE:

Royal Leopard	vs	Young Buffaloes
Manzini Sundowns	vs	Matsapha United
Mbabane Swallows	vs	Manzini Sea Birds
Red Lions	vs	Moneni Pirates
Manzini Wanderers	vs	Vovovo FC
Midas City	vs	Malanti Chiefs
Mbabane Highlanders	vs	Madlenya FC

The prize breakdown

Champions	E1.2 million
Runners-Up	E500 000
Semi-finalists	E400 000
Quarter-finalists losers	E300 000
Best finisher (NFD)	E30 000
Participation fee (NFD teams)	E60 000
Player of the tournament	E15 000
Top Goal Scorer	E10 000
Goalkeeper of the tournament	E10 000
Best Referee	E6 000
Assistant referees share	E8 000
Best print media	E10 000
Best photographer	E4 000
Best Sports Editor	E6 000
Best reporter	E5 000
Best PRO	E6 000
Administration costs	E245 000



IF SPORTS IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE'RE YOUR CHURCH

Thursday December 15, 2016



'RUBBER' TURNS DOWN CITIZEN MOVE

-Team wanted the former 'Bull' MD to join directorship structure with another Mbabane based businessman

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCER - AFTER boldly stating he was taking a break from football, former Mbabane Highlanders Managing Director Bheki 'Rubber' Simelane has turned down a move to return to the beautiful game.

Information gathered by this publication is the former 'Landers MD has allegedly found a new home with National First Division outfit Mbabane Citizen but Simelane said it was not true.

A reliable source revealed to this publication that Simelane had allegedly joined the team's Directorship with another Mbabane based businessman. The two are said to be joining long serving team Boss Jockey Ferreira.

Games

"The deal has been sealed and 'Rubber' is now part of the team's leadership. The deal was sealed during a meeting held at the Timbali Lodge at Ezulwini on Tuesday night," said the source.

The source added Simelane has watched a number of the team's



HAVE MET: Former Mbabane Highlanders managing director Bheki 'Rubber' Simelane and Mbabane Citizen Boss Jockey Ferreira.

games before allegedly officially joining the team.

Sought for comment, Mbabane Citizen Boss Jockey Ferreira confirmed meeting Simelane on Wednesday night.

"It is true I approached him to come and join the team but it didn't materialise. He stated he would love to help but was taking a break from football," said Ferreira.

The former Landers MD also confirmed the team's interest but said he was not keen on returning

to football anytime soon.

Focus

"Citizen is not the only team that has approached me but there are many others. But like I stated earlier, I won't be interested in being in football anytime soon. I resigned and all focus is on my business now," he said.

Simelane had been given a five-year contract as the Mbabane giants' boss but was forced to resign a year before it elapsed following a fall with the team's supporters.

The former MD relinquished the position after some of the supporters bayed for his blood and that of his brother Mandla Simelane after one of their games at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

The conduct of the supporters resulted in Simelane being whisked out of the stadium in a police caspir.

The former MD also had a stint with now Super League outfit Umbelelele Jomo Cosmos as a Technical sponsor about seven years ago.

Swaziland rejects Ronaldo in Ballon d'Or voting

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCER - REAL Madrid forward Cristiano Ronaldo walked away with the top prize for the fourth time in a glittering career, but not everyone thought he was the world's best in 2016, including local voters.

Some of those who didn't vote for the Portuguese international include former Sihlangu head coach Harries 'Madze' Bulunga.

The former Sihlangu coach is amongst three other people, who are eligible to vote for this very important football award including Sihlangu Captain Tony 'TT' Tsabedze

and former Swazi Observer Sports Editor now News Editor Kenneth Dlamini. Information gathered from Goal.com is that the country was amongst 11 nations that opted to leave Real Madrid's main man off their shortlist: Uruguay, Turkmenistan, Swaziland, Namibia, Romania, Libya, Iran, Central African Republic, Bolivia, Cape Verde and Andorra.

Ronaldo will now be hoping to convince them of his worth over the next 12 months, although there are further individual prizes on the horizon.

He has already claimed the Ballon d'Or and top spot in the Goal 50, and is expected to add FIFA's Best Player award to his ever-growing

collection in the New Year.

In total, the 31-year-old has netted 48 goals in just 52 appearances in the calendar year to date.

That return was enough to impress many of the Ballon d'Or voters, with Ronaldo receiving more than twice as many points as runner-up Lionel Messi.

The Barcelona talisman collected 316, while his rival polled 745, journalists from across the globe - 173 in total - were asked to cast their vote for a deserving winner, and they overwhelmingly favoured Ronaldo.

They awarded five points to their first pick, three to second and one to the man positioned in third.



WORLD'S GREATEST: Cristiano Ronaldo.