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COMMISSIONER LAUNCHES PROBE INTO WORKERS' ASSAULT

PAGE 3

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WATER SHORTAGE MITIGATION PLAN GETS UNDERWAY



TRYING ALL MEANS: As the water crisis deepens, the Swaziland Water Services Corporation has started the installation of water pipes to draw water from the Luphohlo Dam in order to supply the Mbabane City. Workers were found hard at work preparing for the installation of the pipes along the Hilltop-Siphocosini Road yesterday. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)

GOOD NEWS: RAINS TO BLESS COUNTRY IN OCTOBER

PAGE 2

GOVT OFFERS PUPILS BREAKFAST AT SCHOOL

PAGE 6

AFTER 53 PROBLEMS AGAINST HER...

MPs BLAST SIPA CEO

● They label her arrogant as they call for probe into issuance of tenders

STORY ON PAGE 3



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2 NATIONAL NEWS

Minister Gideon suspected of fraud

By Mbono Mdluli
Lobamba

MINISTER for Commerce, Industry and Trade Gideon Dlamini is being investigated by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC).

He told parliament he was being probed for alleged fraud.

This was during the tabling of the first quarter performance report by the minister.

This was done in front of the members of the portfolio committee of the commerce ministry.

Manzini South Member of Parliament (MP) Owen Nxumalo wanted to know the minister's stand because he did not understand what was happening.

"We need to know what is happening concerning the minister in

● Minister Gideon Dlamini pleaded with the legislators not to worry about his situation because he did nothing wrong. He said there was a team that had been assigned to work on the issue, with an intention of getting to the bottom of the matter.



NO LAUGHING MATTER:
Minister for Commerce, Industry and Trade Gideon Dlamini.

the commerce ministry. Nothing was communicated to us as MPs and we are in the dark about what is

happening," Nxumalo said.

He said it was disturbing for them to see the minister not appearing in public gatherings involving his ministry.

He pleaded with the minister to tell them what was happening. He told him he was at liberty to answer him in any forum he wanted.

"If the minister feels this is not the right forum to answer to my concerns, there is no problem.

He can answer in any forum he deems appropriate so he can be free to tell us what is happening," Nxumalo said.

Dlamini pleaded with the legislators not to worry about his situation

because he did nothing wrong.

He said there was a team that had been assigned to work on the issue, with an intention of getting to the bottom of the matter.

"There is a businessman we have been working with to introduce an online way of doing business.

When he introduced the idea to the ministry, we accepted it," Dlamini said.

The internet business, according to Dlamini, was ideal for every kind of business, especially small businesses. The businessman in question is said to be Fred Ngeri of Ngeri Group Holdings (NGH). The internet business project was known as Swaziland Traders Link Project.

The minister said the problem started to show itself when the time to collect data about the small businesses arrived.

He said the ministry had no bud-

get for that activity. The ministry, together with the businessman, was granted the money to collect the data. The money was then taken to a private account of that business with which they were doing the project.

The suspicion is emanating from the fact that the minister wanted to help himself to the money and that was why he did not deposit it to the treasury department of the government.

However, the minister yesterday told the legislators the money could not go there because it belonged to the private sector.

He assured the lawmakers his hands were clean because he did not even see that money.

He had been advised by the government to minimise appearing on public events, pending the investigations.

Country faced with shortage of tractors

Stories by Sabatha Dlamini
Lobamba

MINISTER of Agriculture Moses Vilakati says his ministry has a serious shortage of tractors with the ploughing season expected to begin next month.

Addressing members of his ministry's portfolio committee, Vilakati said they had 400 tractors, a very small number considering that farmers had paid for more than 40 000 hours to be ploughed.

For that reason, the minister said his ministry would need the assistance of privately owned tractors.

Ideally, the minister said one

tractor would have to service 20 people but presently the ratio was such that one tractor serviced 200 people, which was not good because farmers wanted to plough almost at the same time.

The parliamentarians, however, complained that some of the tractor owners who were engaged during the last ploughing season were not paid.

LaMgabhi MP Sicelo Jele wanted to know if the private tractor owners would be paid and engaged this year.

The minister conceded that indeed some of the farmers were not paid for various reasons. He said some of the tractors were not submitted to the ministry by their registered owners while

others contracted foreign registered tractors, eventually complicating the payment process.

Some farmers, however, had difficulty preparing the payment claims.

The parliamentarians also wanted assurance from the minister that the country would receive good rains that would enable them to plough this season.

In response, he said these days it was difficult to give a long weather forecast spanning at least six months but assured the MPs the country would receive enough rains to allow them to plough.

The minister said the SADC regional weather forecasters met



SHORTAGE OF TRACTORS: Minister of Agriculture Moses Vilakati.

in Zimbabwe and their findings were that the region would receive normal rainfall generally.

He said the question now was the intensity of the rains and in some areas there would be pockets of rainfall.

Farmers should be registered

HHUKWINI MP Saladin Magagula told Agriculture Minister Moses Vilakati that farmers should be registered, especially now that they were being subsidised.

Magagula said that would avoid duplication in the event they were given inputs.

He said the ministry must have a way in which to identify the farmers because currently, he suspected one farmer would receive several farm inputs but simply registering in different names yet that was one and the same person. He said that would also help the ministry to know the number of farmers it was assisting and the crops they were growing in each and every region. He said that would help the ministry as well in distributing the farm inputs.



REGISTER:
Hhukwini MP Saladin Magagula.

3 000 farmers waiting for soil tests results

THE soil testing department of the ministry of agriculture is faced with a backlog of more than 3 000 farmers whose soil tests results are yet to be released.

Hhukwini MP Saladin Magagula said he was shocked when he saw those statistics in the ministry's first quarter performance report.

He now realised that the farmers from his constituency who had not received their results were amongst the listed ones whose soil had not yet been tested.

Magagula, however, thanked the minister for delivering farm inputs at the constituency centre on time.

Ndzingeni MP Jeremiah Ndwandwe requested the minister to ensure they



US TOO: Ndzingeni MP Jeremiah Ndwandwe.

brought their farming inputs at the Ndzingeni constituency centre or revive a nearby rural development area office of the

ministry.

Maphalaleni MP Mabulala Maseko said his constituency has the potential to become the country's bread basket.

Maseko said it was high time the ministry recognised that and constructed earth dams in the area.

He said it was wrong for the government to take all the agricultural projects to the Shiselweni region where SWADE is currently based.

Despite the ongoing drought, Maseko said some farmers at his constituency have been getting good maize harvest.

Maseko also discussed the issue of overstocking, arguing that in most areas they kept more livestock yet their grazing areas were not large enough.

Introduce ear-tags for donkeys

Victims

MP Phila said donkeys were posing serious danger in the country's roads, causing car accidents only to find that the

victims were unable to identify their owners.

He said the donkeys should be identified with tags the same way livestock, especially cattle, were identified

RAINS COMING IN OCTOBER

By Nozipho Sibiyi
Mbabane

SWAZILAND is set to receive normal to above-normal rainfall in the forthcoming 2016-2017 season, the meteorological department said.

Presenting the country's seasonal forecast outlook at Sibane Hotel yesterday, the Met department said there was a slight chance of normal to above-normal rainfall over most parts of the country during the October-November and December 2016 (OND).

"The January, February and March (JFM) 2017 period is likely to have the entire country's rainfall trend receiving towards normal-to-below normal rainfall," Swazi Met's Sifiso Nzalo said. Presently, he said, the seasonal-to-inter-annual forecasting allows predictions for large areas over seasonal timescales.

"This means, seasonal forecasts may not fully account for all factors that influence local and time specific climate variability so shorter time scale climate variations may occur, which can be determined through daily and 10-day weather forecasts and monthly climate outlooks," he said. He said updates would be continuously provided as the season progresses, which may have more details. Users are therefore encouraged to look for these updates. He also mentioned that the country would experience a weak La Nana phase.

However, Director of Swazi Met Dudu Nhlengetfwa said despite the slight chance of normal rains expected, the country should always be prepared for the drought effects.

Also, she said although chances of LaNina have been reduced, the country should brace itself to experience some effects of LaNina.

"We should be ready for everything since the weather patterns keep on changing from time to time." The department also advised government to continue with the mitigation plans they were already implementing. They also urged government to distribute all necessary materials for the mitigation to all regions of the country early.

"We should always be prepared for drought or effects of La Nina. It is extremely rare that we will receive the same normal rains till March," she said. She added "there is need to continue with the water harvesting programmes already underway." They said the 10-day forecast would be the accurate guidance for weather this season since climate keeps changing.

IT'S A COLD WEEKEND AND EXPECT THUNDERSTORMS

By Nozipho Sibiyi
Mbabane**TEMPERATURES are expected to drop this weekend.**

Forecasters said Sunday will be cold, especially in the Highveld.

During the seasonal weather presentation, senior forecaster Phephisa Sihlongonyane said with all the

warm and humid air there, would be a convergence zone in the western parts of the country.

The public should expect thunderstorms later today. "It will be sunny and hot to very hot in the Lowveld with a few afternoon thunderstorms over the western parts of the country," he said. Sihlongonyane said the weekend would be cold and wet until Monday afternoon.

Mbabane	Mankayane	Manzini	Siteki	Mhlume	Big Bend
15/32	16/33	17/35	17/34	18/37	19/38
Tomorrow, there will be morning fog at places, otherwise partly cloudy becoming cloudy mild but warm in the Lowveld with isolated thunderstorms.					
14/18	15/19	16/21	16/20	17/23	18/24
On Sunday, there will occasional light rain and fog at places, otherwise cloudy and cold and cold especially in the Highveld.					
6/12	7/13	8/15	8/14	9/17	10/18

Angry MPs lambast exposed SIPA CEO

COVER STORY

Stories by Mbono Mdluli
Lobamba

MEMBERS of Parliament (MPs) yesterday took turns in lambasting SIPA boss Phumelele Dlamini for the conflict currently going on at the government's investment company.

SIPA stands for Swaziland Investment Promotion Authority. It is an organisation that was established with an intention of enticing investors to start businesses in the country.

This was done in order to improve the economy of the country and create job opportunities.

Dlamini leads the authority as its Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

The MPs who grilled Dlamini are the ones in the portfolio committee of the ministry of commerce, industry and trade, which is chaired by Shiselweni II MP Mthokozisi Kunene.

This was during the tabling of the first quarter performance report by Minister for Commerce, Industry and Trade Gideon Dlamini.

The first MP to raise the SIPA issue was Mhlume MP Sifiso Magagula. He wanted the minister to explain to the members of the portfolio on what was happening at the authority.

Mafutseni MP Christopher Gamedze also expressed concern what was happening at SIPA. He expressed his con-

● The fact that SIPA CEO has been given 36 demands by her employees is disturbing to us. One wonders why almost every employee would complain about the CEO



LAMBASTED: SIPA boss Phumelele Dlamini.

cern after he praised the organisation for hosting a successful Trade Fair, which started from the end of August and ended at the start of this month.

Gamedze then said it became a cause for concern that such an organisation could be rocked by conflicts.

"The fact that SIPA CEO has been given 36 demands by her employees is disturbing to us. One wonders why almost every employee would complain about the CEO," Gamedze said.

He said there was no smoke without fire and the fact there were such complaints, was not good at all.

Gamedze also condemned the fact that the CEO was now witch-hunting the employees who leaked the information to the newspapers. He said the employees were expressing their rights to speak about the treatment they were

getting there because they were not treated fairly.

He pleaded with the minister to find a way of sorting the mess at SIPA because the organisation had done a good job by creating 540 jobs in the past financial year.

Manzini North MP Jan Sithole said he knew SIPA as an organisation that promoted investments in the country.

"But now, what is happening tells me the organisation is now promoting conflicts and disputes at the workplace. This does not augur well for the country because we have to get more investors to start businesses in the country," Sithole said.

He went on to say the intimidation should stop at the workplace because workers have a right to voice out their concern about the state of affairs at the authority.

The workers are, among other things, complaining about the alleged bullying they suffer from the CEO and use of derogatory words. She is also accused of doing as she pleases.

Cleaners have also raised concerns about the manner they are treated by the CEO who does not recognise them as human beings.

They are also not happy about working on contracts.

The CEO has vowed to hunt down all those who leaked information to the newspapers.

...CEO described as arrogant

MANZINI South MP Owen Nxumalo described SIPA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Phumelele Dlamini as arrogant.

Nxumalo, who spoke about this issue with passion, stated in no uncertain terms that the way in which the CEO was running the authority showed arrogance. He spoke about the Trade Fair issue, in which he was reported by this newspaper to have prevented a strike, which was to be staged by SIPA employees.

Nxumalo said some of the workers were residents in his constituency. He said they were hired by the authority as temporary employees. They had worked under such conditions for a year.

Permanent

"The time for which they had worked there was enough to convince me they had been employed on permanent basis. I was surprised when they told me they were told that their contracts would not be renewed," Nxumalo said.

The legislator, who seemed to be angered by this issue, said the workers wanted to strike during the Trade Fair.

He had to personally go to them at the Trade Fair to calm them down so they could continue doing their work.

Nxumalo said he then approached the CEO to talk to her about this issue, only to be met by a high degree of arrogance he had never seen before.

As Nxumalo was making the submission, Kunene had to interrupt him. He did so with an intention to calm him down because he was now speaking on a raised tone of voice, as if he was shouting.

He was also directing his submission to Minister Gideon



SPEAKS OUT: Manzini South MP Owen Nxumalo.

Dlamini when, in fact, he was supposed to address Kunene, as Chairman of the committee. Nxumalo apologised to Kunene and everyone and admitted the issue got him hot under the collar.

He said, however, the way he spoke was just his way of expressing himself about such issues.

Attitude

He then spoke again, stating he had no other way of describing the CEO's attitude because what she did, in his knowledge, was arrogance.

This prompted Mhlume MP Sifiso Magagula to call Nxumalo to order. "I beg the honourable MP to calm down as he talks about this important issue because you might find the CEO will not be given an opportunity to respond to this issue," Magagula said.

Nxumalo then asked the minister to institute a probe into what was happening at the organisation.

"How are companies given tenders to work for the organisation? This needs to be investigated, Minister," Nxumalo said.

SIPA workers have a right to speak - Minister

MINISTER Gideon Dlamini said SIPA workers had a right to voice out their grievances.

He said the authority was established by the government and the minister responsible appointed a board to deal with such issues.

Dlamini pleaded with Parliament to respect the fact that the issue was being probed within the structures of the authority.

He apologised to the legislators for such a state of affairs within the authority. He then asked for all stakeholders

to give the board an opportunity to investigate the issue and get to the bottom of it.

He said he would consult with the board from time to time to find out how the progress was going, regarding the issue.

Commissioner vows to deal with brutal cops if...

By Sizwe Dlamini
Piggs Peak

THE National Commissioner of the Royal Swaziland Police (RSP) Isaac Magagula has invited the assaulted Plantation workers to report these allegations for investigation.

Magagula emphasised that police are not supposed to assault anyone but were expected to protect citizens.

Priority

He said he expected the affected workers to come forward and lodge complaints that would be given priority as regards investigations.

"Anybody who feels their rights

have been violated in any way, has a right to report the issue to the Royal Swaziland Police who are bound by their duty to investigate the matter for purposes of confirming or disputing the allegations made," stated the no-nonsense Magagula.

Magagula stated that generally speaking the police had no right to

assault any member of the civilian population unless the situation dictated.

"A police officer is to use their professional opinion to exert such force that is deemed necessary or appropriate to the proportionate situation at hand and we strongly condemn any action that is otherwise and if anybody is found guilty by a court of law of using excessive force against any member of the public, that individual will be

brought to justice," he stressed.

Magagula was reacting to allegations made by Plantation Forest Company workers that the police had assaulted them during the month long strike action in separate instances.

The most severe of these assaults allegedly happened last Friday evening where police assaulted five females and one male, breaking three of the females' legs and breaking the man's arm in the process.

4 NATIONAL NEWS

MTN DEVELOPING TALENT AT ALL LEVELS

By Mandla Luphondvo

IN a quest to nurture talent at all levels, Swazi MTN has partnered with Mauritius-based African Leadership University to recruit young, talented graduates in the areas of Engineering, and Information Communication Technology.

This is part of Swazi MTN Early Talent Development Programme, known as *Umtsentshe*, launched in November last year.

As part of this program, Swazi MTN is currently hosting three graduates. These are: Thembeke Manana, who is focusing on Business Intelligence and analytics; Lizwelethu Mhlanga who focuses on Business Intelligence Mining, and Sihle Magagula looks at Network.

Graduates

African Leadership University, from which these graduates come, is a new university, which has been dubbed 'the university of the future.'

It offers accredited undergraduate and postgraduate degrees which are hailed as creative. Through the partnership with African Leadership University, Swazi MTN has agreed to provide opportunities for partnership when it comes to internship for students.

Head of Human Resources at Swazi MTN, Mncedzi Ngomane, says Swazi MTN Early Talent Development Programme is an integrated framework designed to engage, and create opportunities for high school and university

● As part of this programme, Swazi MTN is currently hosting three graduates. These are: Thembeke Manana, who is focusing on Business Intelligence and analytics; Lizwelethu Mhlanga who focuses on Business Intelligence Mining, and Sihle Magagula looks at Network.

students.

"Additionally, the programme serves as an early talent identification structure for MTN which enables to the business to build a pipeline for leadership, and critical skills that are required for business sustenance, explains Ngomane.

This initiative has been given a vernacular name '*Umtsentshe*' - a special kind of piercing grass, commonly used in a vernacular expression - *Umtsentshe uhlaba usamila*.

Training

This expression speaks of the fact that any kind of coaching and training works well when started pretty much early in life.

Within this integrated framework, Swazi MTN works with Junior Achievement, and the University of Swaziland, to identify, and engage learners in job shadowing, and internship programmes.

Job Shadowing involves strategically selecting learners from local high schools to be engaged in the world of work.

This assists them have a practical sense of what goes down there.

Speaking of the significance of Job Shadow, Junior Achievement

Executive Director Siboniso Madlopha says the program is useful in addressing stereotypes about professions.

"For instance, it helps students appreciate that you don't need to be a pilot to work in an airport. You can be an accountant in an airport, or an engineer even. In other words, the program makes students appreciate the bigger picture, and other processes that contribute to support what may be perceived as the 'key career' in a particular field."

Madlopha notes that some students are inspired by seeing their work incorporated as part of a finished product in the workplace.

"Those attached at the Swazi Observer for instance, were inspired to see their articles published. The cherry on top was that they began to appreciate the full scale; the processes that go into publishing a newspaper," added Madlopha.

The other wing of this integrated framework is internship programmes where strategically selected learners pursuing various graduate programmes locally and abroad participate in the world of work, in this case, at Swazi MTN.



HOME-GROWN: Landokuhle Dlamini, who works as a Coordinator at Swazi MTN Foundation.

This is how it works

A partnership is established with individuals who demonstrate high levels of potential.

The high school students, who are potential candidates for job shadow programme, become a feeder of the internship programme. For university students, who are potential candidates for the Internship programme, become a feeder of Graduate in Training Programme, often known as GIT, in brief.

Swazi MTN has previously attached graduates, in the different shades of talent development initiatives.

Some of these exceptional graduates are now employed by Swazi MTN featuring in different departments like Marketing, Corporate Affairs, and Network departments, to mention a few.

Landokuhle Dlamini, a Marketing graduate from the University of Swaziland, joined Swazi MTN through an internship program.

Today she works as Coordinator at Swazi MTN's

corporate social investment wing known as MTN Foundation. She had always nursed an aspiration to work at Swazi MTN.

"When I was afforded an opportunity to intern at Swazi MTN, I was over the moon. The program was useful in bridging the gap between theory-based coursework, and the real-life work experience," says Landokuhle.

Internship

A passionate musician, skilful events manager, and marketer, Landokuhle further notes that through the internship program, she was exposed to platforms and activities which have hugely helped her grow professionally.

"Being within MTN meant I could showcase my capabilities, and skills to the relevant people, with a view to secure full-time employment after I graduate. The internship program was certainly a launching pad to what is now a fulfilling career at MTN," says Landokuhle, full to the brim with contentment.



SITEKI TOWN COUNCIL

PUBLIC NOTICE

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORTING AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The residents, business community, rate payers, rate payers association, service providers and stakeholders are hereby invited to the presentation of the annual performance report and audited financial statements of Siteki Town Council. The audited financial statements are now open for public inspection without payment as stipulated in Section 103(3) of the Urban Government Act, 1969 during Council's business hours. For further information, feel free to call our offices at 23434 408/485 or email sthembile@stkouncil.co.sz

Venue: Ministry of Agriculture conference room - Siteki.

Date and time: Saturday, 24th September 2016, 1:30 pm

SITHEMBILE SIMELANE
TOWN CLERK / CEO

DOC:11133

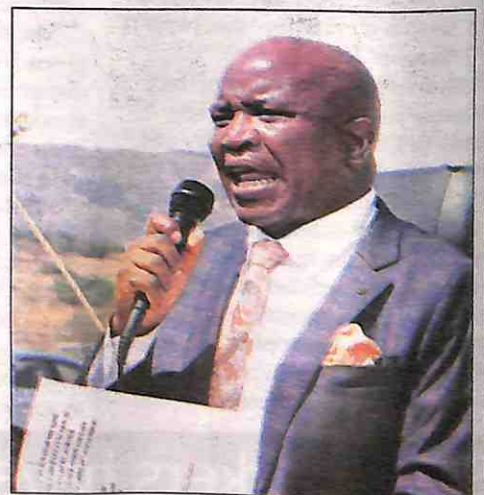
Benjamin Masuku's farewell ceremony



FAREWELL: Senator Ndumiso Mdluli presenting gifts to retired Prince Simon Primary School Principal Benjamin Masuku who was joined by his wife Thuli and children Musa and Gugulethu. This was during Masuku's farewell ceremony at the school yesterday where the Senator was the guest speaker. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



FOR THE SCHOOL: Senator Ndumiso Mdluli presenting a E1 000 cheque to the school Head Teacher Zanele Zwane-Mbingo and Chairman Pastor Maphendukane Simelane.



MY REMARKS: The guest speaker Senator Ndumiso Mdluli addressing the gathering.



HONOURED: Retired Head Teacher Benjamin Masuku



2016 INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE OZONE LAYER



RESTORED BY A WORLD UNITED

Working towards reducing global-warming HFCs under the Montreal Protocol

The theme for this year's International Ozone Day recognizes the collective efforts of all parties to the Vienna Convention and the Montreal Protocol towards the restoration of the ozone layer over the past three decades and the global commitment to combat climate change. The theme is complemented by the tagline:

'Working towards reducing global-warming HFCs under the Montreal Protocol'

It has been realised that as a result of concerted international efforts in implementing the Montreal Protocol, the ozone layer is healing itself and is expected to recover by the middle of this century (2050). Furthermore, the Montreal Protocol has significantly contributed to the mitigation of climate change by averting the emission of more than 135 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere by simply phasing out ozone-depleting substances (ODS). This is because these chemicals which are known to deplete the ozone layer also double as greenhouse gases. So the mandate of the Montreal Protocol to reduce and eliminate their production and consumption has significantly reduced their abundance in the atmosphere, hence the healing of the ozone layer and prevention of greenhouse gas emissions.

The table below shows a few ODS and how they double as greenhouse gases; and compare to carbon dioxide in their global warming potential (GWP) and contribution to climate change;

SUBSTANCE OR MIXTURE	ODP	GWP
CO ₂	0	1
CFC 12	1	8,500
HCFC 22	0.055	1,810
HCFC 141b	0.110	725
R401A	0.037	1,100
R411A	0.048	1,597

For nearly thirty years, the world has been striving to reverse the depletion of the ozone layer, benefitting millions of people by preventing two million cases of skin cancer annually and many more from suffering caused by cataracts. Such efforts have saved more than US\$2.2 trillion in health expenses and have further protected agriculture, ecosystems and materials from degradation. The success achieved through the Montreal Protocol has led to its recognition as the most successful international environmental agreement in history and a turning point in global cooperation.

The Montreal Protocol's mandate also contributes to the achievement of some of the sustainable development goals (SDGs) which were adopted at the United Nations Development Summit in 2015 as highlighted below;

SDG 1: End poverty and all its forms everywhere- by supporting small, medium and large scale enterprises to convert to new technologies, ensuring business continuity, retaining of jobs and maintaining competitiveness.

SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture- the phase-out of ODS can protect the productivity of agricultural land and other ecosystems. In addition, by supporting the refrigeration sector the Montreal protocol has played a key role in extending the shelf life of food products permitting their long-range transport and promoting sustainable food production.

SDG 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all- the Montreal protocol contributes to reducing the illnesses which result from the thinning of the ozone layer. These include melanoma skin cancer, eye cataracts, premature ageing and suppression of the immune system.

SDG 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all - the phase-out of ODS often comes with efficiency benefits as most of the alternatives/replacements are more energy efficient, reducing costs for energy consumers.

SDG 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation- through Montreal protocol projects there has been upgrade of industries through the transfer of clean and environmentally sound technologies that allow for the phase-out of ODS.

SDG 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns- to ensure that the past achievements of the Montreal Protocol are not cancelled out by an increase in the use of products that contain low ozone depletion potential (ODP) but high global warming potential (GWP) chemicals,

the focus has been on introducing natural replacements to ODS. These have absolutely no impact on the environment.

SDG 13: take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts - the Montreal Protocol has already contributed to the fight against climate change through phasing out ODS, which are also greenhouse gases. During the period 1989 - 2013, the protocol has reduced much more CO₂ equivalent emissions than other global policy action combined.

In his message for the 2016 Ozone Day, the Secretary General for the United Nations Ban Ki Moon, echoed that we should turn ambition into action; and strengthen climate change protection by harnessing the power of the Montreal Protocol to make progress in slowing the near-term warming caused by hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), which are the fastest growing of the greenhouses. HFCs have been widely adopted as an effective alternative to substances that deplete the ozone layer, particularly those used in refrigeration and air conditioning. However, research has revealed that while HFCs have greatly reduced the threat to the ozone layer, their damage to climate is significant. So the replacement of ODS has come with unintended consequences.

As mandated by the "Dubai Pathway on Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)" adopted in 2015, parties are working within the Montreal Protocol towards an HFC amendment in 2016 by first resolving challenges and coming up with solutions on managing HFCs. These challenges include establishing baseline, schedule on which the phase-down will be based and providing for high ambient temperature regions, where HFC alternatives may not be effective; and ensuring funding for developing states like Swaziland. According to scientific information, reducing HFCs under the Montreal Protocol can avoid 0.4°C of global warming by the end of the century. This will be a significant contribution to the 2°C reduction target set by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and affirm the importance of combined efforts. This reminds us of the success that has been accomplished and the need to do more to protect our atmosphere. Through such combined efforts, we can build a safer, healthier and more resilient world for all people while protecting our planet.

In its implementation efforts, Swaziland has been able to completely replace ODS in the refrigeration manufacturing sector and these have been replaced with ozone friendly and climate friendly alternatives. This has contributed to a huge reduction in the use of ODS in the country; and coupled with training of relevant stakeholders and awareness raising the country will remain compliant with its obligations under the Montreal Protocol. As part of the collaboration with the Customs Department in monitoring ODS imports, there has been apprehension of about 3000kg of illegal imports. This is a consignment of CFCs, which were banned in 2010, in terms of the Ozone Depleting Substances Regulations (2003). Below is part of the consignment and test results showing it is a banned ODS



It is such efforts that will ensure that our country is not turned into a dumping ground for substances and products that are banned in other parts of the world.



**2016 WORLD OZONE DAY WILL BE COMMEMORATED AT
THE ROYAL VILLAS on THE 16TH SEPTEMBER 2016, starting at 09:00**

500 000 to require food aid by December

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

NATIONAL Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) Chief Executive Officer Russell Dlamini says an estimated 500 000 people, which is half of the population, will require food assistance by December if the current situation does not improve.

Dlamini said it is for that reason the agency needs to strengthen its resource mobilisation strategies. He revealed that of the pledges made from February when drought was declared a national emergency, only 25% had actually been received.

"We received so many pledges and some have already come in some, are still coming in and some are still to come. We received pledges amounting to E97 740 000 but we have only received E24 880 000, which is only 25% of the whole amount.

The donors have only given us that amount so far, this means the need is still great and we are still seriously engaged in resource mobilisation," he



REMARKS: NDMA Operations Manager Sihle Mzileni briefing the gathering on the operations.

said. This was revealed by Dlamini at a press briefing held at Sibane Hotel yesterday. Meanwhile, Dlamini said the agency has procured E6 589 028.26 of food for breakfast in schools in the country. He said the food was funded by the Government of Swaziland and was distributed with the help of the ministry of education and training and ministry of public works and transport.

Dlamini said NDMA also trained 2 800 principals, schools' committees about the drought and its implications in schools. "There are about 700 officials who were trained from each region. They were trained on how to manage the effects of the drought within their areas," he said.

He said NDMA augmented school's water storage system in schools to make sure water does not run out in school, for purposes of water sanitation "We have three water trucks on standby that are purely for refilling water in schools for purposes of hygiene," he said.

The CEO further said the agency also supports Swazi farmers in that they procured over 5 000 hay bales to Swaziland to help cattle farmers. He said the ministry of agriculture and NAMBoard was working with the agency in this exercise. "We then sell it to the farmers at a subsidised price. This helps them because since the drought, the normal prices of the hay bales have gone up. The ministry of agriculture is also providing cattle farmers with water to help sustain the cattle," he said.

Govt biggest sponsor of drought

NDMA Chief Executive Officer Russell Dlamini said government was the biggest sponsor of drought.

He, however said the agency has other important partners such as Save the Children, Red Cross, ADRA, Caritas, World Vision, World Food Programme, ACAT, etc.

"In most cases when we do distributions in the communities, it is these partners that are visible and people also lose sight of government intervention," he said. He said in August alone, NDMA with the aid from government, donated to 153 167 beneficiaries. "WFP donated to about 7 635 beneficiaries with World Vision also donating to about 7 500 people in August alone. This then means government is the largest sponsor of food in the country," he said.

He further revealed that ECHO, through the European

Union, has donated a further E58 million (Euro 3.6 million) to support cash distribution to the Shiselweni region. Dlamini further said the cash transfers that were distributed in Shiselweni between May to July, benefited 4 200 people and the donation was for E10 million. He revealed that the Red Cross would be continuing with the cash distribution to the constituencies that benefited plus two more. "Zombodze and Sandleni have been added to the list. They will start getting the money from the next cash transfers that are funded by Red Cross. "The cash transfers will benefit 100 000 people, 50 000 people will receive the distribution from WFP and the other 50 000 people will get the cash distribution from Red Cross. Each household will be receiving an amount of E550 per month," he said.



NEW LOOK: The new logo which was also unveiled.

Mbabane Fire Network Upgrade

The Swaziland Post and Telecommunications Corporation (SPTC) would like to notify all her valued customers and stakeholders that there will be an upgrade to the existing telecommunications network at the Mbabane Fire site, on Saturday the 17th September 2016; starting 1000hrs with minimal interruptions until 1700hrs.

Customers near and around Mangwaneni and the Highway off-ramp will be affected.

This upgrade is aimed at improving service delivery and also to enhance high speed data (internet) services.

In the event you experience problems in regards to your services after these stipulated times please contact our toll free line: 800 2000; or 910 for assistance.

We apologise for any inconvenience customers and stakeholders may experience during this period, and would like to reassure all our customers of our continued commitment to service excellence.

Corporate Communications Department

Swazi Telecom



Phutfumani Building,
Mahlokohla Street, Mbabane
P.O. Box 125 Mbabane, H100 Swaziland
Tel: (+268) 2405 2000 FAX: (+268) 2405 2001
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TOLL FREE: 800 2000

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FACEBOOK: sptcswaziland

DOC11984



WATER MATTERS: SWSC's Nomahlubi Matiwane making her remarks.

NDMA to distribute farming inputs

THE National Disaster Management Agency will during this ploughing season distribute farming inputs to farmers to help them start ploughing for next year's harvest.

NDMA CEO Russell Dlamini said this would help

them to be self-sustaining from next season. After next year's harvest, there will be no food distribution from the humanitarian organisation.

He said NDMA would provide station coordinators in the constituencies to ensure they utilise the farming

inputs accordingly so that by the next harvest, households would be self-sufficient.

He said the seeds to be distributed differed from one region to the next. He said they would range from maize seeds, sweet potatoes, sorghum and many others.

NDMA to rehabilitate boreholes

NDMA Operations Manager Sihle Mzileni said the agency was currently rehabilitating 28 boreholes in the communities.

He said with the expectation of rainfall this season, they were rehabilitating 28 boreholes around the country. "The focus is to rehabili-

tate 60 boreholes, 22 have already been rehabilitated in Shiselweni and Lubombo. Rehabilitating each borehole costs E27 000," he said.

Mbhilibhi uses employees as shield to evade E4m taxes - SRA

By Linda Jele
High Court

SWAZILAND Revenue Authority (SRA) boss Dumisani Masilela has accused Mbhibli Earthmoving Specialists Managing Director Adrian Van Wyk of using his employees as a shield to evade a E4 million tax debt for his other company.

Masilela is the SRA Commissioner General and he said this in his opposing affidavit against Mbhibli's application to cancel SRA's acts of locking up his premises.

Mbhibli had run to court after SRA officials locked up his premises. Van Wyk alleged that the officials had locked in some of his staff members executing a directive for alleged failure by AJ Van Wyk (Pty) Ltd to pay E4.3 million.

He filed an urgent application to reverse the lock up which included his employees and won



BIG BOSS: Swaziland Revenue Authority (SRA) boss Dumisani Masilela.

a consent order to have the locks removed.

Masilela, in the affidavit filed by SRA's lawyer Sidumo Mdladla from SV Mdladla and Associates, punched holes in the allegations made by Van Wyk and claimed that he misled the court with incorrect information.

Masilela also quashed Van Wyk's allegation that the officials had locked up Mbhibli's premises instead of those where AJ Van Wyk occupied.

However, Masilela claimed that Mbhibli Pty Ltd and AJ Van Wyk Pty Ltd had the same directors and shareholders. He claimed that on August 31, 2016 SRA officials proceeded to lock up AJ Van Wyk's premises as stipulated by section 44 of the Value Added Tax Act of 2011.

Empowers

"The law empowers the respondent (SRA) to do so, to protect the revenue of the state and the interests of other honest faithful tax payers. From the look of the situation, it is clear that Mbhibli Pty Ltd, AJ Van Wyk Pty Ltd and Van Wyk Jacobus are being used interchangeably to avoid the full effect of the law," Masilela said.

He claimed that when his officers went to lock up the premises, Van Wyk told the employees who were on site not to move

out and this left the SRA officers with no option but to lock, leaving them within the premises.

He also claimed that Mbhibli Pty Ltd has misled the court by citing premises occupied by the Gables Mall as where it operated and then the exact premises as those occupied by AJ Van Wyk.

"The applicant has given a false impression that SRA is a law unto itself, which acts indiscriminately without facts. This is far from the truth. It is the applicant which has mischievously placed false information before this honourable court. It is the applicant that has used its employees as leverage for unwarranted sympathy," he said.

He submitted that SRA had an obligation to fairly and transparently discharge its duty to the country without fear and favour. He said AJ Van Wyk had an obligation to pay its taxes. He said the law would apply with equal force as other tax payers.

The matter is pending before court.

LIMKOKWING STUDENT STEALS CHOCOLATE AT SHOPRITE

By Pheheya Kunene
Mbabane

MBABANE Magistrate Sifiso Vilakati told a 21-year-old Limkokwing University student that she was a big embarrassment to herself after being charged with shoplifting.

The close to tears woman could not say much when she was asked by Vilakati why she shoplifted besides saying she was sorry for her actions.

Sihle Dlamini from Mpolonjeni pleaded guilty to the charge and she was found guilty and convicted as per her won plea. She was sentenced to pay a fine of E500 or spend five months behind bars for her unlawful actions. "This is embarrassing for you, you should be in class but here you are for shoplifting. Stop the habit of going around shoplifting," Vilakati said.

Dlamini committed the offence on Wednesday at Shoprite where she stole items that included a chocolate valued at E108. The stolen items include a 200g chocolate valued at E35; tennis biscuits valued at E15, 200g Kit Kat chocolate valued E20 and 250ml Nivea body cream valued at E40.

The young girl, who cut a remorseful figure in court, appeared at the Mbabane Magistrate's Court. For the past few years, the Shoprite retail has constantly fallen victim to cases of shoplifting involving both young and old people.

On another note, a Mbabane Pick 'N' Pay employee lost his job after being charged with stealing a pack of chili bite meat valued E24.60 at the same shop.

The 22-year-old man from Mangwaneni received a few but critical words from Magistrate Sifiso Vilakati with regards to his wayward actions.

"How inconsiderate of you, how can you steal from your own employer, you were not supposed to bite at the hand that feeds you young man.

Look at yourself now, you do not have a job," Vilakati said, before sentencing the man to a fine of E500 or five months in jail. Mxolisi Simelane pleaded guilty to the offence and was convicted as per his own plea.

I have a weakness for 'Yellow Bones'

By Pheheya Kunene
Mbabane

LIGHT-SKINNED women, better known as Yellow Bones, are a major weakness for the man charged with indecent assault after allegedly masturbating and ejaculating on a 26-year-old woman while aboard a kombi.

It is alleged that Bheki Shongwe masturbated while seated next to a light-skinned woman from Mbabane while covering his private parts with a black sports bag.

It is said the woman, who works at a popular hotel along the Ezulwini corridor, boarded a kombi trading between Mbabane and Lobamba just before 12 noon.

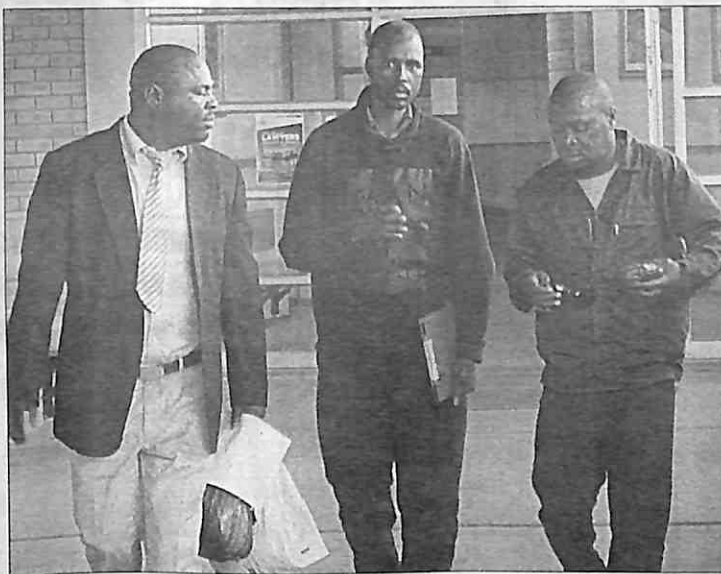
Waiting

After picking a seat by the window in front of the back seat and waiting for the kombi to be fully-loaded, the woman was allegedly joined by Shongwe in her seat.

While leading evidence in court, the woman said Shongwe did not waste time as he sat very close to her and kept coming closer while the kombi was moving.

The victim said Shongwe told the police at Satellite Police Post at Ezulwini that his main problem was light-skinned women, better known as 'Yellow Bones' nowadays.

The shaken woman related the whole ordeal in court. "He placed the bag on his legs and kept getting closer to me. I told him that he was making me uncomfortable but he told me he could not sit up straight as he has long legs," the traumatised woman said.



WEAKNESS IN YELLOW BONE: Bheki Shongwe sandwiched by plain-clothed police officers after making an appearance at the Mbabane Magistrate's Court. (Pic: Pheheya Kunene)

She alleged that what disturbed her was that Shongwe did all this in full view of the other passengers inside the fully-loaded kombi as it was already on its way to Lobamba when Shongwe displayed these disturbing antics. "He repeated this thing of getting closer to me and I shook him off and asked what his problem was," she added.

It is believed by this time, the man had already started masturbating while he covered his private parts with the bag and it is alleged he cared less about the other passengers inside the moving kombi.

However, the victim said when she finally boldly asked the man to stop what he was doing, Shongwe allegedly complained about being

struck by a cramp in one of his legs.

"He kept digging something in the bag suspiciously and I was wondering what he was doing because he was leaning against me when making these suspicious movements until I saw his bodily fluids splashed all over my left thigh," she continued narrating the ordeal.

In an attempt to avoid embarrassment, it is alleged Shongwe offered to give her money for dry cleaners as the fluids had splashed on her pants and jacket.

"I was shocked and felt humiliated. It was a trauma for me. In shock, I asked him what he was doing and he said he was going to

give me money to go wash my clothes. He then took out a white dirty sheet and wiped the kombi seat," the woman continued to explain in utter disgust.

While trying her best to control herself, the victim said she felt disgusted to even talk about this ordeal as she said it was humiliating.

Moreover, after the shocking discovery, the Mbabane-based woman allegedly argued with Shongwe and further asked the driver to drive straight to the nearest police station.

Statement

"We went to the Satellite Police Post and when we got there I showed the police his mess and a statement was recorded. I'm still not ok about this," she said.

After being turned back at the Mbabane Magistrate's Court on Wednesday, the accused finally appeared yesterday afternoon before Principal Fikile Nhlabatsi. "The victim's clothes which were dirtied have been taken for examination and investigations are continuing.

The stains on the clothes will be tested in a laboratory," the source in court explained.

Shongwe pleaded guilty to the offence and further apologised for his actions while explaining that this was a sickness he has been treating for quite a long time now. "I did ejaculate your worship but I did not do this on purpose, it also shocked me as I did not expect it too," the man pleaded. The matter was postponed to September 22 for continuation.



WORDS OF WISDOM

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 - Manzini 16 High End Flats fully occupied E10M

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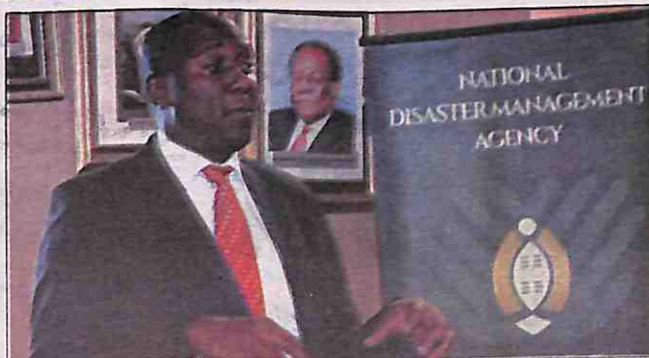
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!WARNING!

Everything we Touch turns to SOLD!

8 PICTURES

NDMA CEO Russell Dlamini briefing Editors and stakeholders on the situation on the ground regarding the urgent drought disaster faced by the country. The briefing session was at Sibane Hotel yesterday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



NDMA BRIEFING SESSION AT SIBANE



ALL EARS: Editor's Forum Chairman Mbongeni Mbingo and Secretary Jabu Matsebula with NDMA's Setsabile Sibisi and SWSC's Nomahlubi Matiwane as they followed the presentation by the CEO.



JUST LIKE THIS: SWSC Nomahlubi Matiwane explaining the water movement plan in case of rationing.



CONVERSATION: NDMA Technical Manager Victor Mahlalela in conversation with UNDP Disaster Risk Reduction Advisor Joseph Mutsingwa.



Strengthening the National Protected Areas System of Swaziland (SNPAS) Project Community Liaison Officer (Nationals only)

Location:	Swaziland
Application Deadline:	28 th September 2016
Type of Contract:	Service Contract
Position level:	SC 6
Starting Date:	1 st October 2016
Duration of Contract:	12 months (renewable annually based on performance)

BACKGROUND

Swaziland's formal Protected Areas (PAs) cover approximately 4% of the country's total land area, and are relatively rich in biodiversity with their share of endemism as represented in various ecosystems. Furthermore, the country has set targets for the conservation of its ecosystems and species in line with the National Development Strategy (Vision 2022) and other international targets such as the Aichi Targets under the auspices of the Convention on Biological Diversity. While some of the critical ecosystems and species are found in existing PAs, some are found in areas where there is prone to unsustainable utilization and overexploitation of resources, thereby threatening livelihoods and impeding sustainable development.

The Strengthening National Protected Areas Systems (SNPAS) in Swaziland is a six-year (2014-2020) Project funded by GEF, aims at developing, expanding and effectively managing the capacities of Swaziland's PAs network in order to adequately protect the biodiversity. This will be undertaken through the "landscapes" approach that will involve integrated land and natural resource management that transforms the current PA patchwork into network and enhances vulnerable communities' livelihoods, in particular those adjacent to the PAs. The SNPAS Project has been organised around three components: (i) knowledge-based platform operationalised at the national, regional and community levels to address current and emerging threats to PAs and biodiversity conservation; (ii) Expansion of PA network, and (iii) strengthening PA functioning through improved conservation management and operational support for existing and new PAs, including both formal and informal. PAs will be established and managed in critical biodiversity areas as clusters, integrating different sites that are managed by the Government of Swaziland (GoS), the private sector and local communities and enable a matrix of complementary land-use activities across board.

Community mobilization and participation is central to the SNPAS Project to address biodiversity conservation through the landscape approach in the four (4) clusters: Ngwempisi, Malolotja, Mkhaya and Lubombo. The services of one (1) Community Liaison Officer (CLO) is required to facilitate activity implementation in the project areas ensuring full participation and beneficiation by community members from the SNPAS Project for the Ngwempisi cluster.

OBJECTIVES

The Community Liaison Officer working with the Project Managers will facilitate the establishment of sustained networks with traditional leaders and communities in the clusters and ensuring participation and ownership of the SNPAS activities. This will be enabled through a better understanding of the community roles, and stewardship over outcomes, which centre on enhanced conservation management and economic growth.

SPECIFIC TASKS

The Community Liaison Officer (CLO) will work under the Project Managers with guidance from the National Project Manager and the Swaziland National Trust Commission (SNTC) and:

- Mobilise communities to be aware, participate and own the SNPAS Project activities and outcomes.
- Establish and sustain networks with community traditional leadership advocating for a better understanding of the different roles and responsibilities of all the stakeholders in the Project implementation.
- Assist in the mapping of all the SNPAS Project Clusters, Chiefdoms and Communities.
- Facilitate the SNPAS Chiefdom Development Plans and Community Participation Strategy, establishing SMART indicators for the various communities' activity for measurability of outcomes.
- Facilitate the community organization and participation in the Project assessments: GIS, Biodiversity, Land-use, Sustainable Financing etc.
- Ensure effective coordination of project activities and collaboration working closely with development partners, including the government, community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other UN Agencies to enhance complementarities, in particular at community level.
- Facilitate establishment of at least one (1) Community-based Natural Resource Management (CBRM) initiatives/models in the country.
- Provide capacity building for the communities, and other relevant technical staff from the government, NGOs and private sector for the development of landscape management initiatives.
- Support the tracking and documenting of lessons learnt for the project and assist in making recommendations for achievement of better outcomes.
- Organise regular meetings with the communities and PMU.
- Prepare and present monthly and quarterly progress reports at community level.
- Perform other tasks as may be requested by the PMU.

EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

The desirable applicant(s) should have the following qualification and experience:

Education:

- At least a Bachelor Degree in social, development studies, eco-tourism, conservation management, biodiversity management, business management, land-use planning, agricultural or related. Knowledge of Geographic Information System (GIS) applications would be an added advantage.

Experience:

- At least 2 years working experience in community based natural resources management.
- Experience working in PA management, conservation management will be an added advantage.
- Ability to effectively network and coordinate a multidisciplinary team of community members.
- Demonstrated experience in project organization and ability to serve as an effective negotiator.
- Basic knowledge in business planning, ecotourism management, conservation management.

Competencies:

- Good client orientation skills.
- Be a team player-ability to maintain good working relationships with colleagues and clients.
- Good writing and communication skills including the ability to prepare clear reports.
- Computer skills, in particular mastery of all applications of the MS Office package and Internet search.
- Good command of English and knowledge and fluency in SiSwati.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Interested and qualified candidates may submit their application together with a letter of interest and pertinent documents on-line at <http://jobs.undp.org>, or to the registry.sz@undp.org or physically handed to the UNDP offices (5th Floor, Lilunga Building, Somhlolo Street, Mbabane) on or before 28th September 2016 marked as follows: SNPAS Project: Community Liaison Officer - Ngwempisi Cluster.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- Applications received after the closing date will not be considered.
- Only those candidates that are short-listed for interviews will be notified.
- Qualified female candidates are encouraged to apply.

DOC: 11242

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**SWAZILAND
COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION**

GENERAL NOTICE

No. 8 of 2016

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR AN INDIVIDUAL ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK AND INDIVIDUAL ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE LICENCES TO PROVIDE PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN THE KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND

The Swaziland Communications Commission ("SCCOM" or "the Commission") is the regulatory body for the communications sector in Swaziland, encompassing telecommunications, broadcasting and postal services. In accordance with the Electronic Communications Act, Section 11, read together with the Electronic Communications (Licensing) Regulations (2016), the Commission hereby invites applications for the provision of public telecommunications services in the Kingdom of Swaziland.

The Commission hereby issues this Invitation to Apply ("the ITA") for:

1. an Individual Electronic Communications Network ("I-ECN") Licence, and
2. an Individual Electronic Communications Service ("I-ECS") Licence

The Commission will issue both licenses to a single party to enable the provision of technology and service neutral network and voice, data and value added services. The successful bidder will furthermore be awarded a Frequency Spectrum Licence and will have access to spectrum in the 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz and 2300 MHz bands in accordance with the National Frequency Plan and the Electronic Communications (Radio Communications and Frequency Spectrum) Regulations, 2016.

Through this ITA process, and the issuing of new Electronic Communications Network ("ECN") and Electronic Communications Service ("ECS") licences to fixed and mobile operators and ISPs in Swaziland, the Commission is making strides to change the market structure in Swaziland to promote competition, improve the quality of services offered to people in Swaziland, increase affordability and enable customer choice – ultimately leading to the attainment of the goals and objectives of the Electronic Communications Act, 2013 and the National Information and Communications and Infrastructure (NICI) Policy Implementation Plan 2012–2016.

The Commission welcomes applications from all suitably qualified bidders, and stresses the importance of this process on improving ICT services, increasing universal access and service and making the ICT sector in Swaziland more competitive for the benefit of consumers. The successful applicant will be determined through a competitive bidding process, which is described in the ITA.

A complete set of Invitation to Apply (ITA) and Application Forms which have been prepared in English may be viewed and purchased on the submission of written application to the address set out below upon payment of a non-refundable fee of E50, 000.00 (Fifty Thousand Emalangeni) between **13th September 2016** and **30th September 2016** after which no more ITA and Application Forms shall be sold.

Queries in relation to this process should be addressed to:

The Acting Chief Executive Officer
Swaziland Communications Commission
Mbabane Office Park, Block 1, Fourth Floor, North Wing
P. O. Box 7811, Mbabane
SWAZILAND
Email: info@sccom.org.sz
Website: www.sccom.org.sz

**ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SWAZILAND COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (SCCOM)**

57 Mbabane Municipality employees sent home

Stories by Samukelisiwe
Ginindza
Mbabane

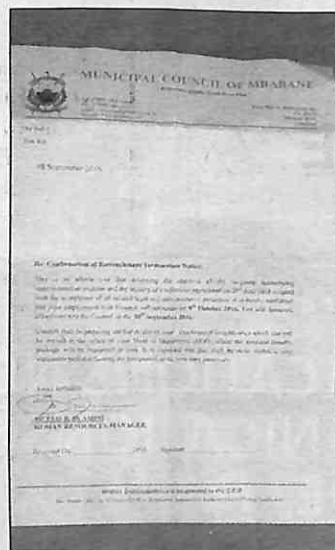
AT least 57 long serving employees of the Municipal Council of Mbabane have reportedly been sent packing after the long impending retrenchment exercise was finally effected.

Even though the exercise was apparently long overdue as the speculation about such a move has been ongoing for some time, the retrenched employees are bitter.

Arrangement

They claim to have been let down by the management, especially since they were promised they would not be the first to go should this arrangement be implemented.

"The management assured us that long serving employees will



be the last to leave yet they were just pulling wool over our eyes as they still retrenched most of us and I guess they are celebrating having the last laugh," the source said.

Raphael Mthupha* claims to have been with the Council for over 20 years, yet he was only

given a gift in his package to the value of E900.

"That cannot be a gift for a person who has been serving the company for two decades. Maybe for one who has served for a year or less, those are peanuts and will only aid in creating more taxes on our packages than doing us any good," Mthupha said.

Grievances

The employees' long list of grievances are alleged to have been the cause of the retrenchment, which is something they were reportedly told prior to the exercise.

"We were told the municipality has no money yet some of them are paid lucrative salaries every month, yet we earn peanuts.

We were actually okay with it but they decided to send us home," Mthupha argued.

All the affected employees were served with letters which

indicate their employment termination will come into effect on October 8. However, they are expected to effectively exit the Council premises on September 30.

"The Council shall be preparing the full details of your exit terminal benefits after which you will be invited to the office of your head of department, where the terminal benefits package will be explained to you," the letter reads.

Threatening

However, it was also revealed that some of the employees were allegedly advised against leaking the matter to the media, as management would cut their exit benefits should they be found to have leaked information. Attempts to reach the Public Relations Officer Lucky Tsabedze proved futile as his phone rang unanswered after he had requested to get more facts about this matter.

'Adulterous' pastor demoted, removed from church

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

IN a bid to restore its dignity, the church which was recently reported to be engulfed by allegations of adultery, has since demoted and removed the implicated pastor.

This newspaper had recently reported on a pastor who was being accused by congregants of being involved in immoral acts of adultery.

The church, which is situated within the perimeters of Siteki town, is one of several branches of a well established church with its headquarters in Manzini.

For the past few months, the membership of the Siteki branch was reported to be dramatically declining due to the allegations of adultery which revolved around the branch overseer.

The pastor was being accused of being in an illicit relationship with one of the church members. The female church member was allegedly making questionable visits to the pastor's house, which was also situated within the church structure.

According to close sources, elders of the church attempted to engage the pastor on the matter on several occasions but in vain.

The matter was subsequently reported to the headquarters, after which the pastor was summoned to a meeting of the church elders.

A source has disclosed that the pastor was eventually found guilty of the allegations. This translated to him being demoted and removed from the church.

"The pastor had evidently caused a lot of confusion amongst the congregants as his immoral acts were now an open secret," said a source.

After the removal of the pastor, membership of the church has improved as those who had already left the church are now returning.

The church elders have also introduced a new pastor at the church while the demoted one was deployed to another branch where he is now a junior pastor.

Our union failed us - workers

THE retrenched workers have blamed their union, the Swazi Town Council (WUSTC), for the manner things developed regarding their retrenchment.

They claim to have never been engaged by the union prior to

them signing anything with the management of the Council.

Arranged

"We had previously demanded a full year's pay after the retrenchment and that was the only thing we were willing to accept, yet they signed a five

months agreement. And the worst part of it, was this was signed without us," the workers said.

Deadlock

The affected workers revealed that during the deadlock, management allegedly kept in touch with the Council's CEO Gideon Mhlongo, consulting about

everything yet the union representatives never did such with the workers.

Exercise

"Right now, we are thinking where else can we find jobs as we heard through the grapevine that such an exercise will be implemented in all the country's municipalities," said Mthupha.



IN THE HIGH COURT OF SWAZILAND

IN THE HIGH COURT OF SWAZILAND HOLDEN AT MBABANE ON THE 9TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2016 BEFORE THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE T. DLAMINI

HELD AT MBABANE

CASE NO. 1386/2016

In the Petition of:

HLALAWATI SAVINGS & credit
CO-OP SOCIETY LIMITED

(for an order in terms of Section 32
Of the Deeds Registry Act No. 37/1968)

Petitioner

Having heard Counsel for the Petitioner.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:-

COURT ORDER

1. A rule nisi is hereby issued calling upon all interested persons to show cause why an order in the following terms should not be granted:-

1.1 That the Registrar or his lawful Deputy, of this Honourable Court should be authorized and directed to take all such steps as may be necessary to sign all documents and consents for purposes of effecting transfer into the name of your Petitioner, HLALAWATI SAVINGS AND CREDIT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED of the property known as:-

CERTAIN: Portion 8 (a Portion of Portion 2) of Farm No. 313, situated in the Manzini District, Swaziland.

MEASURING: 4000 (Four Zero Zero Zero) Square metres

2. That this order be hereby published three (3) times in both local newspapers and the Government Gazette.
3. That the matter be returnable before this Honourable Court on the 30th September, 2016

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL AT MBABANE ON THIS 9th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2016

BY ORDER OF COURT
REGISTRAR - HIGH COURT

DOC11134

Ex-employee wins against Central Bank

By Linda Jele
Industrial Court

AN employer has no powers to stop an employee from resigning even if it is for the purposes of instituting disciplinary proceedings.

This was a ruling by Industrial Court Judge Dumisani Mazibuko in a matter where a former employee of the Central Bank of Swaziland challenged being disciplined by the bank when she had tendered her resignation. Cebisile Masuku had been employed as Senior Facilities Officer, having been employed in 1990 until she resigned on December 16, 2015.

Disciplinary

Her resignation came at a time after the bank had invited her to appear before a disciplinary tribunal to answer on charges of dishonesty.

She had allegedly failed to inform the bank she was associated with a company that was doing business with the financial institution.

However, she served the bank with a resignation letter, to which she was told the disciplinary pro-

ceedings would go ahead even in her absence.

She ran to court seeking an order declaring that her employee-employer relationship with the bank terminated when she resigned.

The bank opposed the application on the grounds there were exceptional circumstances that warranted employers to override the principle that resignation cuts an employer's relationship with an employee.

The bank stated it had internal policies which provided for payment of benefits to staff that resigned, unless the employee has been convicted of fraud or serious misconduct.

It submitted that it needed to avoid instances where an employee resigned to run away

from a hearing, but benefit from her own wrongs.

She was represented by lawyer Happy Mkhabela from Mkhabela Attorneys in the matter.

It was submitted that she did not serve notice, but opted to sell her leave days and the judge said she was in her right to exercise that option.

The financial institution, through its lawyers, stated its circular pointed out that if an

employee has been convicted of an offence, they forfeited benefits.

"The power of an employer to exercise disciplinary action, for misconduct allegedly committed at the workplace, is limited to his employee only. The purpose of a disciplinary hearing is for the employer to determine whether or not the

employee is guilty of an offence with which he is charged.

If the employee is found guilty, and all the other necessary processes are followed, the employer would then issue a sanction for the said offence," Judge Mazibuko said.

The judge said a sanction could either be a dismissal or a warning and a sanction against a person who has ceased working was null and void, therefore, a futile exercise.

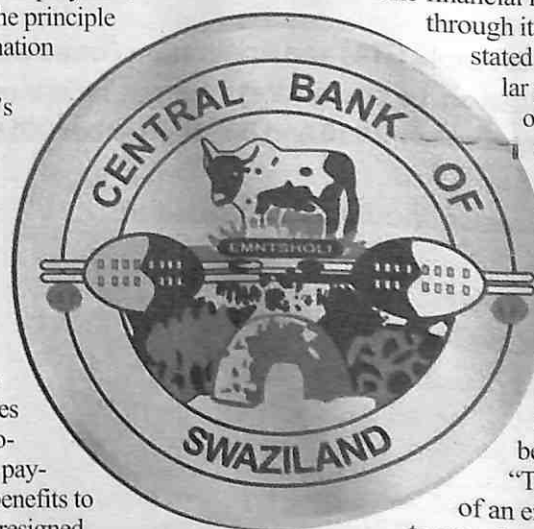
Terminate

He also said the Industrial Court did not have power to interfere with the legal consequences of a resignation of an employee who exercised the right to terminate an employment contract.

"In other words, the court cannot order an employee to remain employed, against her will. An employer has no power to interfere with the right of an employee to resign from work," he said.

He said if such could happen, it would amount to forced labour. He issued an order declaring the employment contract between the bank and Masuku ended on December 16, 2015.

He said the bank did not have authority to discipline Masuku since she was no longer its employee. Each party was ordered to pay its own costs.



'Army disrespecting parliament'

Stories by Sabatha Dlamini
Lobamba

MEMBERS of Parliament were very disappointed by the national defence ministry's alleged blatant disrespect for parliament.

Senior officials of the ministry, consisting of mainly members of the Umtsozi Swaziland Defence Force (USDF), failed to attend a first quarter performance budget debate of the ministry.

The legislators were outraged by the unavailability of the executive command of the USDF. Amongst those available, the highest ranking officer was a colonel.

All the brigadier generals, major generals, lt. generals, going up the hierarchy to the USDF commander, were conspicuous by their absence.

What further irritated the MPs was that the substantive Minister, Chief Mgwagwa Gamedze,



UNAVAILABLE: Minister Chief Mgwagwa Gamedze.

was not present. The ministry's Principal Secretary, Andreas Mathabela, was also not present. Both Chief Mgwagwa and Mathabela were represented by Minister Princess Tsandzile and Principal Secretary Athony Masilela, respectively, from the home affairs ministry.

Nkwene MP Sikhumbuzo Dlamini lashed out at the portfolio committee Chairman,

Maphalaleni MP Mabulala Maseko, asking him if what transpired was not exactly what he told him that the ministry's senior staff had no respect for the institution of parliament. Dlamini said it was clear that parliament's portfolio committees had become ineffective.

MP Dlamini said he could not even debate the report because there was nobody to respond to his questions. Those who were present when they were allocated the budget were all absent and had sent lowly ranked officers. "Would anybody disagree with me if I said they had chosen to run away from us?" asked Dlamini.

He said he would not be surprised to see them resurface in March next year to request for another budget, only to disappear once appropriated.

MP Maseko concurred with his Nkwene counterpart, saying they had noticed that when in need of the state funds, they knew and respected the institu-

tion with its committees only to disappear once they had received what they wanted.

Maseko said it did not mean they wanted to spy on the USDF or the ministry but only wanted to cooperate with them and assist where they could.

Dvokodvweni MP Musa Sitezi Dlamini, who deputised the portfolio committee chairman, said he was equally disappointed at the poor attendance by the defence ministry's officials. He said the reason they voiced that out was because they wanted it addressed.

He said it was very important the army returned to account for the funds they were appropriated by the legislature.

Kubuta MP Njabulo Mabuza said it was clear they would end up entertaining private officers. In the army, a private officer is the lowest rank, just slightly above a recruit.

MP Bambumuti Sithole asked the acting minister if that was because the substantive minister was not present.

MPs decry USDF's disinterest in farming

MEMBERS of the House of Assembly expressed their disappointment in the manner the USDF treated their farming projects.

In its performance report for the first quarter, the national

defence and security ministry comprising mainly of the USDF, reported that farming was not their core mandate. "Farming is nobody's business but everybody's business.

So don't complain about it not

being your core business," said MP Bambumuti Sithole.

MP Sithole said although the ministry complained about drought and other factors leading to poor harvest, their main complaint was that farming was

not their main function.

Sithole wondered why the USDF spent so much state resources buying farming equipment, including tractors and developing their farms at very high costs only to turn around and argue that farming was not their core business when they were expected to deliver the yield.

Chiefs badly treated by security officers

PARLIAMENTARIANS have complained that traditional chiefs and other very important people in the country were badly treated by security personnel, members of the USDF in particular.

MP Prince Magudvulela, himself a Chief at KaNdwandwa in Hhohho, said he had observed on numerous occasions the conduct of security officers towards such high

ranking leaders as chiefs and other VIPs. He pleaded with Acting Minister Princess Tsandzile, who represented Chief Mgwagwa Gamedze, to ensure the alleged bad treatment was stopped.

He said chiefs were performing similar duties with the USDF because while they ensured national security prevailed, chiefs were performing same duties.

He said they were also deeply involved in maintaining peace and stability in the country. The treatment they were getting, however, the chief said, was closer to being described as crime against humanity. He said all he was trying to do was amplify the need for government officers to give these leaders the decency and respect they deserved.

He said he would be watching

at the upcoming national events in the Shiselweni region how the chiefs would be treated.

Mhlangatane MP Mbalekelwa Ndwandwe concurred with his chief and colleague, Prince Magudvulela, on the matter.

MP Ndwandwe said undermining the country's leadership was tantamount to undermining the political system of the country and giving ammunition to the system's detractors to label it as one that did not care for its leadership.

Govt cannot help poor ex-soldier – Winnie

By Mbono Mdluli
Lobamba

GOVERNMENT cannot help the soldier who appeared at the Ludzidzini Cattle Byre to tell his sad story of being injured at work.

This was said by Minister for Labour and Social Security Winnie Magagula to the Senate portfolio committee of her ministry when there was a debate of the Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill of 2015. She said the soldier, who introduced himself as Mngisi Dlamini at the cattle byre, could not be helped because the Workmen's Compensation Act No. 14 of 1983

prohibited such. Magagula responded after being asked what was being done to help the soldier because he made his submission before the whole nation.

The question was raised specifically by Deputy Senate President Ngomuyayona Gamedze and Senator Prince Kusa. They both expressed the pain about the soldier's situation. They expressed hope that the ministry of labour and social security was doing something about the matter.

Before Magagula could respond to the concerns, other senators questioned the inclusion of soldiers in the workmen's compensation programme.

Senators Vuka Moi Moi Masilela, Princess Phumelele and Prince

Kekela all questioned the workmen's compensation programme.

Masilela even called for the minister to consult with the relevant authorities before the law could be passed, to avoid a situation where Parliament would be accused of including soldiers in workmen's compensation.

Princess Phumelele wanted to know why the soldiers were not included in this programme by the Workmen's Compensation Act No. 14 of 1983. She said it would be advisable to look at why such was done before any amendments could be made.

Prince Kekela wanted to know if the minister was aware that soldiers had a certain oath of office they took before they could start their career.

In response, Magagula said it was

important to include soldiers in the programme because there were situations that were dire back in her office.

She was making reference to Dlamini, who appeared at Sibaya. She said the ex-soldier could not be helped because the current act did not allow such. She said Dlamini's case was one of many where soldiers who got injured at work would flock the ministry of labour to seek workmen's compensation.

"They find our officials, who then use this act to explain why they cannot give them the compensation. It is sad we express such with heavy hearts because we feel for them, but cannot help them," Magagula said. She then pleaded with the senators to pass the Bill so that such instances could be addressed. She said soldiers who participated in the Second World

MPs call for army recruitment

By Sabatha Dlamini
Lobamba

PARLIAMENTARIANS have urged the Umtsozi Swaziland defence Force (USDF) to recruit more soldiers into the army to fill vacant posts.

The MPs said the first quarter performance report of the national defence ministry indicated that several soldiers had exited the army for various reasons, therefore, those vacant posts should be filled.

Mhlangatane MP Mbalekelwa Ndwandwe said the USDF was the only institution they banked on in terms of recruiting the unemployed young Swazis, especially those who did not make it academically.

He said the electorate always sought answers from them on issues pertaining to government, including the recruitment of soldiers.

He asked the minister to inform them if during this financial year they would conduct any recruitments at the various tinkhundla centres in the country.

He said there was a need that people got the information well in advance so they could prepare themselves physically.

Newly-elected Nkhamba MP Menzi Dlamini, however, complained about the manner in which the army recruitments were conducted.

MP Dlamini said it was disturbing that at his constituency, a boy who outran all those he was competing with in the last recruitment was not eventually employed by the USDF.

He said the youthful aspiring soldier participated in two competitions and in both of them emerged tops, further excelling in the physical exercises, only to be disqualified because he could not answer a question on who was the grandfather of the reigning king.

MP Dlamini said this raised questions on whether the army intended recruiting people that would defend the nation or historians.

Meanwhile, some MPs called for the establishment of a fully-fledged airwing within the USDF. MP Sitezi Dlamini said wars were now fought using fighter jets adding it was important the country improved its airwing department.

Dlamini said the reliance on ground troops was an old strategy that most countries had abandoned.

Nkhamba's Menzi Dlamini said the country should start by establishing an air base and then train pilots. He said in the SADC region most countries already had an airwing.

War were included in such programmes. Such an arrangement was made by the British Government because the soldiers who fought there were helping them.

Magagula said even the relatives of those who died there were paid by the British.

She mentioned that even if soldiers were to go to other countries in peace keeping missions, an arrangement for their payment would be made by the government who would benefit from their participation.

The minister said it was unfortunate that such was not the case in Swaziland. She pleaded with the senators to pass the Bill, which was eventually amended.

The Senate portfolio committee will then table a report before the whole sitting ahead of the Bill being passed.

Stories by Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Matsapha

UNISWA STUDENT BREAKS EX-LOVER'S VIRGINITY WITH FINGER

A University of Swaziland (UNISWA) student has handed himself to the police after he violated his ex-girlfriend's virginity using his finger and offered to pay lobola as compensation for the damage.

Zakhele Mbingo is said to have entered his ex-girlfriend's flat Ntombi* who is 23-years-old on Monday, after he discovered that there was another man who had slept over there.

The incident happened in Matsapha where the two rented adjoining flats outside the Kwaluseni campus known as Z.

It is said Mbingo entered her flat and started accusing her of having sexual intercourse with the man he had seen leaving that morning.

Ntombi said she tried to reason with her boyfriend and told him that

she did not have any sexual relations with the man identified as Njabulo.

It is said Mbingo did not believe that, and told Ntombi that he wanted to personally check if she was still a virgin.

This newspaper understands that when they started dating in 2013, she was a virgin thus he insisted on checking personally to make sure that she was indeed a virgin.

Ntombi said she tried to refuse but Mbingo pushed her to the bed and opened her thighs and proceeded to insert his finger in her private parts.

Narrating her ordeal in court before Magistrate Lucia Lukhele, she said while he forced his fingers into her, she felt something snapping which is when Mbingo stopped.

She said Mbingo realised that he had injured her as there was a pool of blood on the bed.

It is said upon realising what he had done Mbingo apologised, however, Ntombi would hear none of what her assailant was saying.

Called

Ntombi said she called her father after the incident while Mbingo begged her not to do so and promised that he would pay for the damages by officially making Ntombi his rightful wife.

Mbingo also told Ntombi that if she rejected the offer he would hand himself over to the police because he did not see a future without her in his life.

She said when Mbingo realised that she was not taking any of the

options, he stormed out of the room telling her that he was going to hand himself over to the police.

Arrested

He then went to police officers who had staged a road block next to the Kwaluseni Campus and handed himself in.

He made his first court appearance before Magistrate Lucia Lukhele and pleaded guilty to the charge of indecent assault.

Lukhele condemned Mbingo's actions and advised him to seek psychological help. In passing the sentence, the magistrate gave him two years in a correctional facility with a fine option of E4 500. He apologised to the court and pleaded that his fingerprints be not taken.

...He has been
abusive-ex girlfriend

ZAKHELE Mbingo has promised to pay lobola cattle for Ntombi after realising that he had broken her virginity.

Appearing before Magistrate Lucia Lukhele, Mbingo said he realised that he ruined Ntombi's virginity thus the offer to pay lobola for her.

The accused said they had just completed their studies at UNISWA with Ntombi and was committed to her. He claimed that he could not come to terms with the fact that he was losing her. However, when Ntombi was asked about her feelings towards the accused, she told the court that the accused has been abusive. She said she was not happy in the relationship because at one point in time he slapped her. "Wangbuta kutsi uma ngimtsandza phona ngitjengisa Ngani ngatsi mine angati wase uyangshaya," Ntombi narrated in vernacular. She added that Mbingo also harassed her for spending more than an hour talking to another man.

Saw player limping out
of girlfriend's room

NTOMBI'S former boyfriend has claimed that he saw a man in the morning coming out of her flat and had the sound of a cracking bed the previous night.

He said thus he concluded that Ntombi had had sex. Mbingo told the court that he was living next door to her adding that the man that came out of Ntombi's house had been limping. "I suspected that they had sex as he was limping in the morning," he said.

"Ebusuku ngabo 12 ngeva kukhala umbhedze Nkosi yenkantolo kani Ntombi ungene nesi ngani sakhe lesisha kwase kutsi ekuseni saphuma sesichuta," Mbingo explained in vernacular which sent the courtroom into fits of laughter.

Doctor confirms
girl is a virgin

A doctor said the complainant in the matter had not been sexually active.

Ntombi had been taken by the police to a doctor who examined her for injuries. A medical report which was presented to court stated that the doctor found that indeed Ntombi was not sexually active. The report stated that the doctor's findings showed that a blunt object was used to break Ntombi's hymen. The doctor said however the damage was not that bad since a finger was used, but he confirmed that there were blood clots. The doctor said the victim would heal in no time.



Ministry of Public Works and Transport

PUBLIC NOTICE

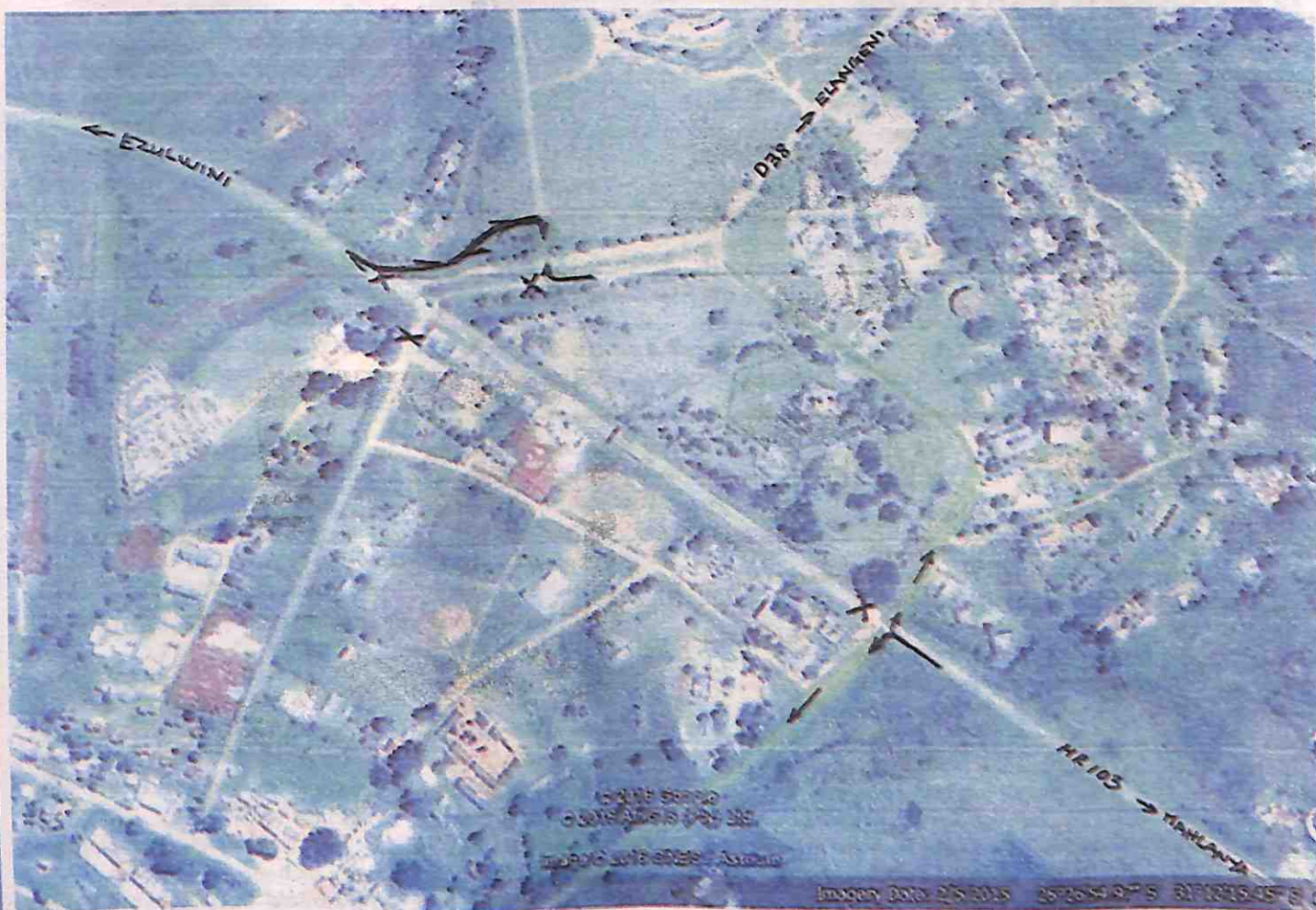


REHABILITATION OF LANGENI PARLIAMENT - LOBAMBA - NKHANINI ROADS

The Public is hereby notified that a section of Mr103 next to Lobamba police station will be closed starting from 14th September 2016 up to 20th October 2016.

Road users are advised to use detours as sign posted with due caution.

We apologise for any inconvenience that may be caused during this period



S.M. Mncawe
Principal Secretary

DOC11270

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TWO ACCUSED OF TAKING TURNS IN RAPING GIRL (15)

By Phesheya Kunene
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

TWO men have been accused of taking turns in raping a 15-year-old girl.

The duo, Sandile Dlamini and Sicelo Dlamini appeared before Magistrate Sifiso Vilakati to answer for the charge of rape.

They both pleaded guilty to the offence of statutory rape, according to the Girls and Women's Protection Act 39 of 1920.

It is alleged the two men from Lobamba raped a girl from the same area who was still a virgin.

According to the state witness' evidence, the victim had run away from home after having an argument with her father.

Due the cold weather that fateful day, the young girl went around asking for warm clothes from people she knew around Mashibini, until she came across one of the suspects who offered to give her a jersey.

A police officer while leading evidence, alleged that on April 29, she

received a report about a minor being raped by two men from Nkosingiphile Shabangu and that was when she proceeded to interview the said victim.

"During the interview with the victim your worship, she alleged that after the argument with her father she went out to wind off some steam under the gum trees at Mashibini until late. She said she then went to her father's friend, Machawe, to borrow a jersey but

could not find him and that is when she went around looking for someone who could give her a jersey,"



Dlamini said.

She said with Sandile they allegedly went to his house, and he left her there.

"She told me that he came back later

and found her in bed, she said he slept on the floor until midnight and he asked to join her as he complained of cold.

After jumping into bed, he then asked to have sex with her, and she agreed," she said.

The police officer said the young girl had told her that Sicelo came in the morning.

"She said Sicelo asked Sandile's whereabouts but he had left and he also asked to sleep with her and she agreed. This happened for about two days, the accused took turns in raping her as one would go and the other one come," she said.

Examination

The young girl ended up in the Lobamba police station and the police took her to the Mbabane government hospital for examination. It was confirmed that she was penetrated. The two suspects were arrested on May 5.

Magistrate Sifiso Vilakati postponed the matter to September 27.

"You are remanded out of custody, go and think properly and come back with made up minds. Do not cause havoc in the meantime," the magistrate cautioned the accused.

Wife pleads with husband to sleep with her sister

By Sizwe Dlamini
Nyakatfo

A man from Nyakatfo was assaulted by his estranged wife for having sex with his sister-in-law at her request.

The assault happened at Abraham Dlamini's* homestead at Nyakatfo on Tuesday evening. Dlamini said his wife, name withheld, assaulted him with a bush knife after he was caught having sex with his sister-in-law. He said because his wife was barren, she asked him to impregnate her younger sister as per the Swazi tradition. "My wife asked me to impregnate her sister last year as I wanted a child of my own, unfortunately for me my sister-in-law was still at vocational college in Mbabane pursuing her studies at the time. Then when she came to visit us at our homestead, my in-laws informed her of the arrangement and she agreed but informed me that she will only come visit us mid this year," the man said. The man said she agreed and last week the wife's sister visited and they decided to honour the wife's decision by sleeping together while the wife was at work. However, the wife came home early and found her sister inside the main bedroom. "When my wife came back, she started arguing with her sister and I then reminded my wife of her previous year's agreement, she went to the kitchen and pulled a knife threatening to cut her sister's breasts. I took the knife away for her then she went outside," added Dlamini. Dlamini then said when he was going back to the bedroom, his wife came from behind and struck him with the blunt side of the bush knife, adding that he turned around and she continued striking him on the chest.

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GENERAL NOTICE NO. 5 of 2016

SWAZILAND COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION APPLICATIONS FOR GENERAL ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE LICENCES FOR THE PROVISION OF INTERNET SERVICES

INTRODUCTION:

On the 31st July 2013, the Swaziland Government passed two pieces of legislation, the Electronic Communications Act and the Swaziland Communications Commission Act. The main tenants of these two Acts is the advancement, including competitiveness of the electronic communications sector and its effective regulation.

In line with the Electronic Communications (Licensing) Regulations, 2016, the Commission has received and considered applications for General Electronic Communications Service licenses for the provisioning of internet services within Swaziland. The applications were received from the following applicants:

- Zoya Technology solutions(Pty)Ltd
- TouchIT Technologies (PTY) Ltd,
- Prime Technologies,
- CommIT (PTY) Ltd
- Jingu Clouding Technologies (PTY) Ltd.
- Orange Online Swaziland

In this regard the Commission hereby gives notice that above set out applicants will be granted new General Electronic Communications licences to provide internet and any other services allowed under the licence with effect from the 20th September 2016.

The reasons for the decision and structure of the General Licence to be issued to all the applicants in this notice are available in the Commission's website www.sccom.org.sz

**THE ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SWAZILAND COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

HMCS BUILDS HOUSE FOR 74-YEAR-OLD GOGO

Stories by Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane

HIS Majesty's Correctional Services (HMCS) has come through for a 74-year-old impoverished woman by building her a house.

HMCS's gesture follows an article by the Swazi Observer which reported that Hilda Metfula from Hhukwini lived under bad conditions. This touched Commissioner General Isaiah Mzuthini Ntshangase thus he pleaded with his team to help the woman.

Speaking during the first day of construction on Wednesday, Ntshangase said they were deeply touched by the reports of the elderly woman who lived in a dilapidated shelter together with her seven grandchildren.

Ntshangase said lending a hand was Swazi culture which motivated the decision to ask officers from the department to contribute towards the construction of the house.

On Wednesday, a delegation led by the commissioner general visited the



LEADING BY EXAMPLE: Commissioner General leads by example as he digs up the foundation for the house being constructed for Hilda Metfula at Hhukwini.

elderly woman to relay the good news to the beneficiary and also commence the construction of the

house.

Amongst those present were inmates who had amassed building skills through HMCS rehabilitation programmes.

The commissioner general explained that having the offenders take part in the construction of the house was one way for them to show their repentance to society.

The inmates further exhibited the acquired skills which they would also use upon release from custody in order to sustain themselves.

Ntshangase thanked officers for responding positively when approached to render such help.

Hilda Metfula has been struggling to make ends meet ever since her husband died in 1989.

In an interview, she said four of her sons had also died over the years and the remaining three girls were unemployed.

The elderly woman was later presented with food parcels by Ntshangase who said they were also cognisant of the unavailability of food to feed the seven children. The commissioner general said he hoped Metfula would make use of the little the department had offered her.

Neighbours join HMCS in house construction

SOME Hhukwini residents joined the HMCS in constructing the house for the elderly woman.

The youth of the area and its neighbours joined HMCS commissioner and his team.

Ntshangase who was dressed up for the task left many astonished when he dug up a large portion of the foundation.

Obviously motivated by such exemplary leadership, a group of boys from the village also joined hands in the construction of the house.

One of the neighbours,

Mathokoza Magongo thanked the commissioner general for being helpful as the woman needed help the most.

He said as neighbours, they were aware of the conditions that the elderly woman was living under and requested other community members to help the woman where they could. Magongo later presented the elderly woman with two full buckets of maize. On the other hand, Mfunwa Makhanya a resident of the area sent words of appreciation to the HMCS for its generosity.



CHATTING: Commissioner General Isaiah Mzuthini Ntshangase sharing a light moment with the elderly woman.

Gogo struggles to feed seven grandchildren

SPEAKING after the completion of the first phase of the construction, the elderly woman expressed her appreciation to the HMCS for their life changing gesture.

She said she was short of words as total strangers (HMCS) had literally rescued her.

"It is still hard for me to believe what Ntshangase and his team has done for me, and I pray that God blesses them."

The obviously emotional woman said she was struggling to feed her grandchildren since her only surviving daughters were also unemployed.

She said six of the grandchildren attended school at Lamgabhi primary school and would sometimes go to school without any food.

The old woman further thanked HMCS for the food parcels, expressing her excitement that her grandchildren would now have meals before going to school. The children are aged from four to twelve (12) years.

The food parcels consisted of spinach, cabbages, beans, sugar, mealie-meal, cooking oil, onions, vaseline, candles, matches and others.



AND THIS: Commissioner General with Senior Correctional Officers presenting Hilda Metfula with groceries.



VIEW: An aerial view depicting the two-room house which His Majesty's Correctional Services is constructing for the elderly woman at Hhukwini.

Ntshangase urges companies to join hands

COMMISSIONER General of HMCS Isaiah Mzuthini Ntshangase has implored companies and other departments to join hands, improving of the lives of the less privileged.

He said Vision 2022 would be attainable when basic necessities such as infrastructure, access to good

health services as well as proper housing were available.

"For us to attain the first world status we need to join hands in assisting those who are less privileged.

Value

It is through such social responsibility that the department has been able to add value to the lives of dis-

advantaged and vulnerable members of the community," he said.

Ntshangase further congratulated His Majesty King Mswati III and the Swazi nation for successfully hosting three major events namely; SADC Summit, National Reed dance as well as the Swaziland International Trade Fair (SITF) 2016.



WORKING HARD: Chief Officer David Dlamini assisted by members of the community during the construction.

Shiselweni Forestry Company locked out

Stories by Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlango

THE Shiselweni Forestry Company (SFC) employees, who are now facing charges for engaging in an illegal strike, now blame the department of labour in the region for 'sleeping' on its job.

The employees have alleged the department failed to address a number of their concerns pertaining to their welfare and treatment they were subjected to.

They identified a certain officer of the department as the one who was letting them down and further stated he should be fired.

The employees were engaged by labour broker, NDZ Consulting Company, which deals with them directly. A total of 140 employees were put on ice after they allegedly participated in an illegal strike.

Now they have since started accusing the labour official, with some even making unfounded claims about him which were sensitive.

"There should be an overhaul in that department, we are in this situation because of the department of labour.

Yes, the employer is also wrong to reach the decision of kicking us out, but the labour department must shoulder the blame should something happen," said one of the employees. The employees, who identified the officer in question, said should they be eventually fired,

he should expect him to cater for their needs. "There have been numerous complaints regarding the treatment we have been subjected to at work.

We have verbally communicated and also wrote to the department registering our grievances.

We were promised these would be attended to, but to date, this has not happened. Instead, we have been kicked out of the company," said one of the employees.

Adding, the employees also wanted to know if court orders were not supposed to be respected. They said courts issued an order that they should return to work.

"We are now confused as when our lawyers took our issue to court, it ruled in our favour, but we have not been allowed back. Instead, our employer has slapped us with charges."

Matters

Other employees said considering the time they had spent away from work, they were now planning to do something. Meanwhile, the officer from the labour department when reached for comments denied being involved with their employers.

He stated he had advised the employees to follow the right procedures when experiencing problems at work.

He was not taking sides on this issue adding he would also not entertain those breaking the law; whether it was an employer or an employee.

Water shortages might disrupt classes in rural schools

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

WATER shortages faced by many areas of the country is most likely to disrupt classes in rural schools.

Some schools situated in remote areas such as Mambane, Dvumane, Magwane and Sithobela in the Lubombo region, are reportedly facing a serious shortage of water.

Even though the ministry of education and training has promised to work tirelessly to manage the situation, some schools under the cited areas are reportedly without water.

The shortage of water in many parts of the country has been caused by the drought which ravaged the nation, leaving thousands of people without food.

Drought

Apparently, the drought situation worsened a situation which already existed for some of the schools.

Schools such as St Lorreta Primary at Sithobelweni were reported to be facing the water shortages as early as the first term.

This was also confirmed by the Principal Mduduzi Ngwenya, who



said the school would at times go for several days without water. This would subsequently disrupt classes as there would be no water for cooking food for the children. Ebenezer Primary School, situated at Maphungwane, is also on the verge of running out of water. According to the Principal, Joseph Mazibuko, the school is currently depending on a

borehole. Mazibuko said the borehole was also now drying up.

"It seems we will soon be facing a very difficult time as we might run out of water any time from now," said Mazibuko.

He said even though they also had water tanks, it was strenuous when time comes for them to be refilled.

MP 'Small Joe' aware of issue

MASEYISINI Member of Parliament Mduduzi 'Small Joe' Dlamini says he is concerned with the unresolved issue involving 140 employees of the Shiselweni Forestry Company whose fate is yet to be decided.

He said he had learned that when the matter was deliberated in court, the employees were ordered to go back to work. Dlamini said he had addressed the employees on this issue on numerous occasions. "This issue was brought to my attention sometime ago, and I met with the employees' legal team. What is happening now is bad, and if the court made a

ruling but someone cannot respect that order, then there is a problem.

Court rulings should be respected and if we have situations where an employee has differences with an employer, when that matter is deliberated in a court of law and a ruling is made, then one has to abide by that ruling and there is no debate about that," said the MP. While he was aware how the issue could get out of hand if it remained unresolved, he still nursed hopes that all parties involved would finally find one another in dialogue. "This issue now needs the ministry of labour and social

security's attention. I have full confidence that the minister will do everything in making sure this issue is sorted out without any further delay," said the MP.

Meanwhile, it has also been established that some of the employees who were part of those served with letters to appear before a disciplinary hearing returned to work on Tuesday.

It could not be ascertained how that decision was reached but others claimed some of them could be those who were part of the shift which was on duty on the day the employees embarked on the alleged illegal strike.

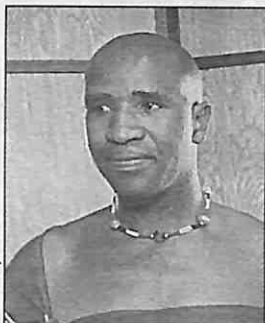
Wednesday. But when the employees arrived for the hearing, their labour broker said it was not ready to proceed and a postponement was made. "We requested to be given time to prepare our defence," said one of the employees.

Striking workers' DC postponed

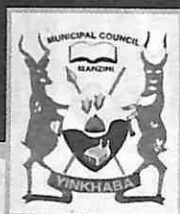
THE disciplinary hearing for the first group of the Shiselweni Forestry Company (SFC), which was slated for Wednesday, has been postponed indefinitely.

A total of 140 employees who are working for the

company but under the employment of a labour broker, NDZ, are facing three charges. They were served with letters last week, inviting them for the disciplinary hearings which were staggered with the first group to appear on



INFORMED:
Maseyisini MP
Mduduzi Dlamini.



MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF MANZINI

TENDER NOTICE

TENDER NO. 52 OF 2016 / 2017

PREPARATION OF THE 2016 / 2017 SUPPLEMENTARY VALUATION ROLL

The Municipal Council of Manzini wishes to invite suitably qualified firms of property valuers to prepare the Supplementary Valuation Roll of immovable properties in the Manzini Urban Area.

Tender documents may be collected from the office of the Town Treasurer in the Municipal Council of Manzini civic offices after paying a non-refundable fee of E300.00 (Three Hundred Emalangen). Interested firms are requested to collect the appropriate documents beginning 13th September 2016 between the hours of 0830 and 1600 hours.

Completed tenders should be sealed with the following address clearly printed on the front:

Tender No. 52 of 2016 / 2017
Town Treasurer
Municipal Council of Manzini
P.O. Box 418
Manzini

Tenders should be deposited in the tender box located in the office of the Town Treasurer Personal Assistant, Municipal Council of Manzini Civic Offices. They should be submitted not later than 12:00 noon on the 23rd September 2016.



manzini news

L.P. DLAMINI
TOWN CLERK

Website: www.mzcitycouncil.sz



Postal & Telecoms On Observer

With: Nqobile Magagula
SPTC Corporate Communications Manager

Tel: 24052298

Email: nqobilem@sptc.co.sz



CONGRATULATIONS: SwaziTelecom and SwaziPost employees with management pose after winning the first prize for Stand Excellence in the Parastatal Category.

SWAZIPOST CARES FOR HER CUSTOMERS

SWAZIPOST has introduced insurance services in partnership with leading insurance companies in Swaziland.

The insurance services are offered under SwaziPost Insurance that currently offers customers two insurance products namely:

- A Funeral Cover
- A Family Support Benefit

FUNERAL COVERS

The loss of a loved one can be an emotional stress on family members left behind. With the high costs of funeral arrangements, it can quickly become a financial stress as well. SwaziPost insurance Funeral Cover is designed to assist during these events. You will have peace of mind know-

ing you have the best protection against unforeseen events.

The SwaziPost Insurance Funeral Cover, which is underwritten by Liberty Life, has introduced Silver and Gold cover plans, which interested clients could choose from according to their needs and affordability. In both covers, clients can have their cover paid out in 24 hours after a six months waiting period.

Available Cover Options:

Cover Option	Benefit Level	Monthly Premium
Silver Plan	E5 000	E32.00
Gold Plan	E10 000	E53.00

Extended Family

Each of the cover options covers the policy holder, one spouse and a maximum of four children with a choice to add two biological parents and parents in law as well as extended family members. For both funeral covers, an additional amount of E15 for each extended family member and E22 for each of the biological parents or in laws has to be paid.

Double Cash Benefit

In the event the policy holder passes away due to an accident, double the cash benefit as per the cover option selected gets paid out to the family. In the event the main member passes away, SwaziPost Insurance Funeral Cover pays out a family support benefit of E3 000 to the remaining family

members. The benefit will ensure the family is looked after even when the main member is no longer there.

Funeral Cover Eligibility

In terms of eligibility, only persons between 18 and 70 years can register as policy holders. For extended family members registered by the policy holder, only persons below 65 years while parents that can be registered must be below 80 years.

FAMILY SUPPORT BENEFIT

As a post-box holder, SwaziPost Insurance now offers you the family Support Benefit which is aimed at making sure your family is able to meet monthly expenses should you pass away. The Family Support Benefit, underwritten by Metropolitan Swaziland, covers monthly expenses for a period of three to four months from as little

as E6.60 a month.

Cover Options

The Family Support Benefit has two cover options:

Cover Option	Benefit Level	Annual Premium
Cover Option A	E3 000	E79.16
Cover Option B	E4 000	E105.55

Eligible Membership

- Members should be a post-box holder
- Post-box payments must be up-to-date
- Maximum entry age is 74 years in respect of the main member

The public is reminded that "old" coins are still being collected at the Post office until December 31, 2016.



SPTC Bank Account Details Reminder:

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Please be reminded that when making payments, please use the

Customer Number on your statement/invoice as reference so your account can be credited quicker and to avoid misallocated payments.

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Current	First National Bank	6E+10	280134
Current	Standard Bank	9E+12	663164



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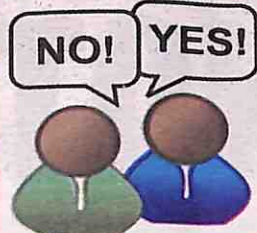
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| 3. Hluti | 6. Mpaka | 9. Nttonjeni | 12. Motshane | 15. Luyengo | 18. Lemahasha |

Ts and Cs apply



FEATURES & OPINION

REFRESH WHAT YOU THINK...

info@observer.org.sz



WHITHER 'DOORS' AS SA STEPS UP CONTROLS

...on contraband Swazi gospel



MAN OF GOD: Pastor Chris Oyakhilome.

IN the aftermath of invasion of the South African market by counterfeit gospel, that country is stepping up its game to stem the flow of half cooked teachers of the Christian doctrines from poisoning its people.

This protection comes shortly after one such Swazi manufactured pastor, a miner by profession and experience, Mandla 'Doors Are Open' Mhlanga, was peddling bottles of orange juice at E50 claiming he had infused in the juice luck and charging E5 000 for prayer sessions to the afflicted.

This only did not spark indignation among that country's competitors in the religion industry, but also invoked jealousy from Mhlanga's likes who felt he was draining money that would otherwise be fleeced by local religious quacks. Ilanga, a South African publication, was quoted saying Mhlanga had set up shop at Nondabuya near Jozini where he plies his trade to unsuspecting South Africans.

We all recall how Mhlanga made his name by instilling fear of the devil among followers back in Swaziland during his heydays, rallying unemployed and hard up jailbirds from the streets to train them as propaganda agents. He would buy airtime at a private television station to parade the vagabonds who in turn would tell harrowing tales of how they returned from the dead, courtesy of Mhlanga.

How they toiled beneath the sea making hairpieces that are sold in Asian shops around town while King of Darkness Lucifer sat majestically on his throne to supervise the works. Were it not for Mhlanga, they would still be working as agents of Lucifer who also worked through other pastors, Mhlanga's competitors, to scout for blood by deliberately causing the country's road carnages.

All road traffic accidents were not as a result of bad driving, bad weather, bad roads, poor state of health, shoddy campaigns by the Road Safety Council but were a result of the thirsty Lucifer who lived by swig-

ging human blood.

Mhlanga was always beaming with a smile from one ear to the other on the television screens scaring the wits of his audiences, spicing his 'sermons' with testimonies about how the Word came to him while he was digging minerals for his employers deep in the bowels of the earth in South African mines.

It was after this encounter at the mines that Mhlanga, all of a sudden, became an authority in Christianity and brought salvation to Christianity starved Swazis. Mhlanga, after committing to his memory a few relevant verses, was able to gain sufficient confidence to hit the road and start his own church, with Mvutjini being the most vulnerable given the community of sex workers that come along with the hospitality industry. Spurred by media houses that had no regard for anything ethical, Mhlanga was able to build his paper castle empire until he had created a large following with his claims for healing powers and all the hogwash that goes along with the business of this nature.

But Mhlanga once lost his cool when he was challenged on his work ethic, especially in the manner he handled private parts of his women followers.

A case in point involved a Somnjalose High School girl whose identity he failed to conceal in his television programme whereby he fondled her private parts and ordered her to confess that apart from having a continuous period she also became rather wet each time she received a male organ.

Seeing the repercussions of that story, Mhlanga took to the television station to question the author of the story and almost created a diatribe. However, tensions eased when he called members of the fourth estate to Tinkers dancing home in Manzini through a politician intermediary, complaining that bad publicity was chasing away customers from his church.

The conversations went smoothly, what with the flowing waters of mortality from the Rivers of Babylon, courtesy of Mhlanga. But before

Mhlanga threw in the towel back then, he came live ranting on Channel Swazi alongside a self-confessed devil worshipper he had brought himself before the cameras to accuse other pastors of his calibre of baying for his life because of his successes. He said his success emanated from his adherence to the Christian gospel to the extent he had been able to uncover the dirty works by his colleagues who served the devil.

He accused 11 of the pastors whom he said had hired the devil worshipper who had since converted to his camp to kill him. He could not name the murderous pastors.

The devil worshipper, as if reading from a Harry Potter book, testified how he used to travel in the night by some remote spiritual transport to Tanzania to acquire certain powers with which to drive the congregation into a frenzy.

The self-confessed devil worshipper also claimed if the pastors involved with the devil failed to make the appropriate contributions, he would be assigned to take lives (kill) from the churches involved, hence the many deaths in most of these new churches.

That was back in 2010 and Mhlanga is still peddling the same fiction even beyond his country's borders. We are not told whether 'Doors Are Open' operates legally in South Africa but maybe we shall see the dust gather inside the courts as he claims his professional rights to commercialise his contraband in that country.

In August last year, renowned alleged Nigerian gospel peddler in the person of Pastor Chris Oyakhilome, ran to court to complain against the Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights

of Cultural, Religious Linguistic Communities for launching a national investigation which it describes as an investigation "into the commercialisation of religion and abuse of people's belief systems".

Around the same time, the Commission pounced on controversial Prophet Mboro of the 'Doors Are Open' stock demanding his financial statements and he flatly refused and was threatened with arrest.

'Doors Are Open' may have been enticed by disgraced 'Apostle' Jeremiah Dlamini who went to peddle 'anointed' T-shirts in nearby Piet Retief, South Africa, but returned home unceremoniously after the environment became hostile with congregants seeing beyond what the man was made of.

There are a host of other pastors, prophets, apostles, bishops who travel to the Swazi and Zulu speaking audiences across the border in search of fortunes after falling from popularity back home. Some are even known for asking for as little as indigenous chicken as offering in exchange for busting of demons that manifest in the form of inflation, homelessness, poverty, destitution, ill-health, taxation and the high cost of living.

Surprisingly the South African publication makes no mention of the many Swazis who take their hard earned money across the border in the form of tithes to the 'mother' church.

There are many other pilgrims to mountains in South Africa to deliver loads of cash and also to throw buckets of coins into the Indian Ocean for holiday makers and herdboys to collect after the waves had washed same to the shore hours after the rituals. Is Swaziland considering stepping up its controls of the similar traffic from South Africa, Nigeria, Malawi and the United States of the likes of 'Doors Are Open' from jamming our space?

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ON THIS DAY

...September 16

1400 - Owain Glyndwr was proclaimed Prince of Wales after rebelling against English rule. He was the last Welsh-born Prince of Wales.

1620 - The Mayflower departed from Plymouth, England. The ship arrived at Provincetown, MA, on November 21st and then at Plymouth, MA, on December 26th. There were 102 passengers onboard.

1630 - The village of Shawmut changed its name to Boston.

1782 - The Great Seal of the United States was impressed on document to negotiate a prisoner of war agreement with the British. It was the first official use of the impression.

1810 - The Mexicans began a revolt against Spanish rule. Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, a Catholic priest of Spanish descent, declared Mexico's independence from Spain in the small town of Dolores.

1893 - The "Cherokee Strip" in Oklahoma was swarmed by hundreds of thousands of settlers.

1908 - General Motors was founded by William Crapo "Billy" Durant. The company was formed by merging the Buick and Olds car companies.

1924 - Jim Bottomley knocked in 12 runs in a single game setting a major league baseball record.

1940 - U.S. President Roosevelt signed into law the Selective Training and Service Act, which set up the first peacetime military draft in U.S. history.

1940 - Samuel T. Rayburn of Texas was elected Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. He served for 17 years.

1941 - "The Arkansas Traveler" debuted on CBS Radio. The show was later renamed "The Bob Burns Show."

1953 - "The Robe" premiered at the Roxy Theater in New York. It was the first movie filmed in the wide screen CinemaScope process.

1953 - The St. Louis Browns of the American League were given permission to move to Baltimore, MD, where they became the Baltimore Orioles.

1963 - "The Outer Limits" premiered on ABC-TV.

1965 - "The Dean Martin Show" debuted on NBC-TV.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

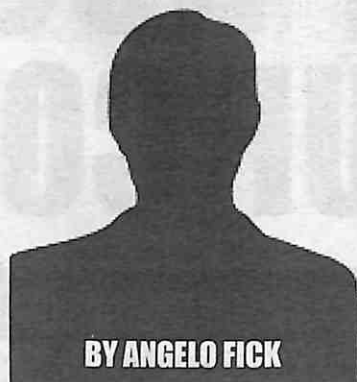


FLO RIDA (RAPPER)
-September 16,
1979 - 37 years



MARC ANTHONY (POP SINGER)
-September 16,
1968 - 48 years

LAUGHTER IS NOT THE BEST MEDICINE



JOHANNESBURG - The president of the Republic of South Africa had come, once again, to Parliament to answer questions from the people's elected representatives, members of the National Assembly.

This was his constitutional duty, and as a constitutional being, the president had an obligation to fulfill to his oath of office, to the Republic, and to the people in whose name and on whose behalf he led the country's government.

This, after all, is post-millennial, post-apartheid, 'free' South Africa. This is democracy at work. This is accountability, and the working out and through of those checks and balances on political power. We dare not forget these, though they read like platitudes, like the ritual incantations of religious folks who have lost faith but cannot live without the habits of observance for the sense of comfort they provide. We cannot afford to reduce substance to habit, not yet.

Changed

But, as of the last general elections in 2014, the dynamic in the National Assembly has changed. The tone has been different, and some of us have not yet adjusted to it. It is a discomfiting tone. Jibes and jeers have become cruder, more direct, and more frequent. We have seen physical violence on the floor of the 'August Chamber', and in the corridors outside it. We have had stun grenades fired at students. We have seen the blood of young people on the cobble stones inside the precinct of the legislative assembly. We have come a long way.

And so, a day after Treasury confirmed his having repaid his portion of the costs for the upgrades to his private residence at Nkandla, Jacob Zuma appeared in parliament to answer questions as president of the Republic. Again, this may need stressing, because it is sometimes unclear whether some of the people of South Africa are able always to distinguish between his position as head of government and head of state on the one hand,

...for freedom's unfinished business



REQUESTED: Nkandla's owner SA President Jacob Zuma.

and president of the party which won more than 60% of the vote in 2014. Sometimes it appears even Jacob Zuma is among those who conflate his roles.

After the customary delay - custom since August 2014 - in which arguments between the Speaker and members of parliament for the opposition parties about how to proceed and whether rules are being followed or misread are rehearsed and rehearsed again, and the departure of some parties' caucuses, things get under way. The word 'August' seems misplaced given the inanity of the bickering and sniping which have taken up the first half-hour or so. But it is a word often used to describe 'the house'. Other words which feel similarly inappropriate are bandied about: honourable, point of order, recognise, and so on.

Conduct

For five years I used to conduct oral examinations for students studying logic and scientific argumentation. They had to make an argument on a set topic, showing an understanding of how scientific arguments are made, and how propositions were best substantiated by evidence. They had to proceed logically, whether from cause to effect, or whether tracing the reverse process from the observed effect to the postulated causes as far back as they could. It was not a particularly joyful experience for either those taking the examination, or for those who had to administer it. In one particularly dreadful semester I had to administer 465 such oral examinations.

Listening to members of parliament reminded me of that terrible time.

Words were being used without any respect for their meaning. The substantiation of an argument with evidence was the rare exception, rather than the rule. There was much rhetoric, but little substantial, logical, rational argument. Between the insults, which occasionally had the echo of wit or the veneer of irony about them, and the jeers, it was mostly an underwhelming performance.

But wit and irony is not what these people are paid for, I have to remind myself. They are not to be judged by their ability to turn a phrase amusingly, or beautifully, or elegantly, or effectively.

They are meant to do the work of holding the executive arm of government to account, and the executive arm (or its representative) is meant to account to them: answering the questions.

Answering a question, as many teachers will attest, means more than just using words to fill up time or cover sheets of paper. In the years when I taught English literature and Sociology courses, and marked essays and examinations, I learned this again and again.

Essays

Students would produce long essays, most of which was little more than hollow verbiage, sentence after sentence moving towards the word count. They were meant to demonstrate what they had learned, or interrogate someone's argument, or present their own. Instead, they only wanted to write until they could stop, at 1500 words, or 2500 words, or, in the case of some graduate students, at 30 000 words.

Listening to the answers given by the president to the written ques-

tions that had been submitted to him, I was reminded of those long nights of reading page after page after page, covered in words and sentences, all signifying little. The follow-up questions were little better.

They were displays, the sort of thing one often still sees at academic symposia, where the person asking the question spends so much time displaying what they know one does begin to wonder whether they really want an answer in response.

Display

Parliament cannot become a space of mere display, a sort of burlesque show, a low comedy in which vitriolic exchanges meant to draw laughter is interspersed with acts of physical violence, laughter, and banal chatter. There are 54 million and more of us who depend on parliamentarians and those who appear before them to do their jobs, the jobs they are paid to do.

The president of the Republic of South Africa may not like the tone and timbre of the MPs, but it is not his prerogative to suggest what tone they ought to take. They are not his servants, they are ours. The MPs, even and especially those who are in the same party the president of the Republic also happens to be president of, must realise their job is not to defend him or to side with him.

They took an oath of office to the Republic, the Constitution, and the people.

These people are all the elected servants of the people. They ought to take their instruction from us. They ought to work for us. We, after all, all of us, pay their salaries, and in the local context, they are paid very, very well.

We must remind ourselves that a pensioner will receive less than R20 000 per year from the state, while each one of those elected officials will receive close to R1 million.

At that cost, the words used in parliament, given who pays for them, ought to matter more. They ought to have greater substance, and greater consequence. They don't have to be bravura performances of rhetoric, but those who are paid to use words to make our freedom, to guarantee its continuation, and to affirm its exercise in our lives in South Africa in 2016, must remember who they owe their allegiance and loyalty to.

This is no laughing matter.
- Angelo Fick -

your HEAL+H section



ALLERGIES: Steward says her extreme allergies become worse in the wind and she has to sleep with the aid of a breathing mask.

'I'm allergic to the weather':

A woman was forced to move abroad to find relief from excruciating pain, violent seizures and paralysis which she claims are caused by the weather.

Katie Steward suffers from a rare chemical intolerance - known as Multiple Chemical Sensitivity - leaving her sensitive to airborne chemicals and mould.

She says her allergies are so severe that when the wind blows she feels "poisoned" and as though her brain and spine will explode. The 39-year-old, who is so sensitive to light, sound and touch she must spend hours alone in a darkened room.

Doctors have diagnosed her with chronic fatigue syndrome, also known as ME, and agoraphobia - but after researching her symptoms, Steward is certain she has extreme allergies.

In 2014, she moved from her home in Chelmsford, Essex, to Spain and is now fundraising to move to a remote 'chemical-free' mountain location in New Mexico.

"For years I had believed what doctors had told me - that while ME may feel awful, it wasn't a dangerous illness.

"Then suddenly, without any warning, I was dying," she said. "Everything gave way at once - my gut broke down, I began having seizures, I became incontinent, I couldn't raise my head from the pillow or tolerate light, noise, movement or any stimulation at all. I got to the stage I was in such excruciating agony I couldn't tolerate any touch or anyone coming into my room." *Dail Mail*

ONE STEP CLOSER TO A SLIMMING PILL?

...Scientists discover wonder ingredient to suppress 'fat genes' in the brain and stop us gorging on food

SCIENTISTS have successfully used drugs to suppress 'fat genes' in mice - sparking hopes of one day developing a slimming pill.

The gene, Rap1, has been associated with metabolism, weight gain, and overeating in previous studies.

But until now, scientists could not determine a direct link.

Now, a team at Baylor and Texas Children's Hospital has successfully suppressed the gene in lab mice and stopped them from overeating - simply by using a drug.

The finding has been hailed as a breakthrough in weight-loss research as America grapples with a burgeoning obesity epidemic.

To explore the role, Rap1 plays in a mouse model, the scientists selectively deleted the Rap1 gene in a group of neurons in the hypothalamus, a region of the brain that is involved in regulating whole-body metabolism.

The scientists had two groups of mice.

In one group, the mice were genetically engineered to lack the Rap1 gene, while the control group had a functional Rap1 gene. Then, the scientists fed the mice in both groups a high-fat diet in which 60 per cent of the calories came from fat.

As expected, the control mice with a working Rap1 gene gained weight.

But, in comparison, the mice



SUPPRESSED GENE: A team at Baylor and Texas Children's Hospital has successfully suppressed the gene in lab mice and stopped them from overeating - simply by using a drug.



WEIGHT-LOSS RESEARCH: The finding has been hailed as a breakthrough in weight-loss research as America grapples with a burgeoning obesity epidemic. (AP)

that lacked Rap1 had markedly reduced body weight and less body fat.

When both groups of mice were fed a normal diet, both showed similar weights and body fat.

The scientists then looked closer at why the mice lacking the Rap1 gene had not gained weight despite eating a high-fat diet.

"We observed that the mice lacking Rap1 were not more physically active. However, they ate less and burned more

body fat than mice with Rap1," said Fukuda.

"These observations were associated with the hypothalamus producing more of a hormone that reduces appetite, called POMC, and less of hormones that stimulate appetite, called NPY and AgRP."

These mice also had lower levels of blood glucose and insulin than controls.

The scientists also were interested in studying whether leptin changed in mice lacking Rap1. *Daily Mail*

I've spent R1 million keeping my face young

LONDON - This year I turned 50 with, I hope, a face that does not believe my age.

Some of it is down to me: I've never smoked, I'm not a big drinker and my fair skin means I have avoided the sun.

But I may as well be honest: mostly it's down to the R1 million I've spent on smoothing and tweaking over the past 13 years. I was 37 when I started having Botox, a decision that surprised even me.

I'd just spent £8 000 on cosmetic dentistry to correct my gappy smile. Suddenly I had lovely, straight, shiny white teeth sitting in a 'lived in' face. That didn't seem right. What was the sense in my smile being dazzling if the rest of me was haggard?

I always thought I would grow old gracefully and be happy with what I had. But Mother Nature was doing a right hatchet job on me.



My forehead was becoming furrowed and as for my laughter lines — as Victoria Wood once said — 'surely nothing's that funny'.

The problem with Botox is it's like the crack cocaine of the beauty world. Once you've tried it you just can't give it up. It works so beautifully and achieves what no expensive face cream ever can. I fell in love with that muscle-freezing

toxin.

We had brief fallout when I was 45 and decided to quit my R5 793 a time, four-times-a-year Botox habit — but I only lasted six months. Some may learn to love their wrinkles, but I'll never be one of them.

Throw into the mix the rejuvenating facials, occasional jowl-zapping with a laser and the face, eye and neck creams I slather on (not to

mention the insane amount I spend cutting, colouring and taming my wild hair) and it all adds up to a £4 000-a-year habit.

It's the cost of a nice holiday or a new wardrobe (both of which I need), but I choose to spend it on my face instead. Gone are the days when all a woman had to rely on was good genetics, a dollop of cold cream and a lot of wishful thinking. A time when fashion doyenne Coco Chanel famously quipped: "Nature gives you the face you have at 20. Life shapes the face you have at 30. But at 50 you get the face you deserve." Today, it would be far more accurate to say that, at 50, a woman has the face she can afford. I like the face I can afford — I suspect the face I deserve would scare small children. Mine is the first generation of women whose birth certificates may confirm they are middle-aged, but if they have the will and the budget, can boast a face that suggests otherwise. *Daily Mail*

Wit and Wisdom

1. "Without ambition one starts nothing. Without work one finishes nothing. The prize will not be sent to you. You have to win it." — *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

2. "Change the way you look at things and the things you look at change." — *Wayne W. Dyer*

3. "Although the world is full of suffering, it is full also of the overcoming of it." — *Helen Keller*

4. "I will not try to convince you to love me, to respect me, to commit to me. I deserve better than that; I AM BETTER THAN THAT...Goodbye." — *Steve Maraboli*

5. "Renew, release, let go. Yesterday's gone. There's nothing you can do to bring it back. You can't 'should've' done something. You can only DO something. Renew yourself. Release that attachment. Today is a new day!" — *Steve Maraboli*

6. "Whatever the mind can conceive and believe, it can achieve." — *Napoleon Hill*

7. "You have to accept whatever comes, and the only important thing is that you meet it with the best you have to give." — *Eleanor Roosevelt*

8. "It's not what we do once in a while that shapes our lives. It's what we do consistently." — *Anthony Robbins*

9. "Never say anything about yourself you don't want to come true." — *Brian Tracy*

10. "Make the most of the best and the least of the worst." — *Robert Louis Stevenson*

11. "A person doesn't have to change who he is to become better." — *Sidney Poitier*

12. "I can't think of anything more disheartening than living a life without a clear purpose." — *Daniel Willey*

13. "You are where you are right now because of the actions you've taken, or maybe, the inaction you've taken." — *Steve Maraboli*

14. "At school, new ideas are thrust at you every day. Out in the world, you'll have to find your inner motivation to seek for new ideas on your own." — *Bill Watterson*

15. "Grateful souls focus on the happiness and abundance present in their lives and this in turn attracts more abundance and joy towards them." — *Stephen Richards*

16. "You make mistakes, mistakes don't make you" — *Maxwell Maltz*

17. "A photograph shouldn't be just a picture, it should be a philosophy." — *Amit Kalantri*

18. "You are the perfect creation of God. Don't allow you to be down. God is experiencing through you." — *Amit Ray*

BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

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VITALS

Prime Rate	10.5%
First National Bank	
Inflation Rate	8.0%
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 15 Sept 2016

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	14.3000	14.3500
British Pound/SZL	18.9418	19.0080
Japanese Yen/SZL	7.1247	7.1476
Swiss France/SZL	14.6968	14.7376
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.3299	1.3460
Australian Dollar/SZL	10.6750	10.7209
Canadian Dollar/SZL	10.8202	10.8539
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	5.4787	5.5537
Euro/SZL	16.0868	16.1430
Gold	1,340.2000	
Oil	45.9400	

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Moving Forward

GOVT RAISES E178m IN SG026 BOND

By Linda Dlamini

GOVERNMENT has raised E178 million in the sales of the SG026 bond as the auction was oversubscribed by E28 million.

According to the Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) SG026 seven year bond auction results announcement, the greenshoe option of 50 percent of the amount on offer was exercised up to 38.2 percent thus resulting in a further E28 million allotted.

A greenshoe option allows the underwriting syndicate, in this case CBS to offer additional shares if public demand for the shares exceeds expectations.

The total amount on offer was E150 million, however the total

amount allotted or raised was E178.65 million.

"The total amount of competitive bids received was E206 million whilst the total amount of non-competitive bids was E650 000," reads the statement as part.

Competitive bidders included pension funds, banks, insurance companies and investment management firms.

It would appear from the response from institutional investors that they were very interested in the seven year bond.

According to the pricing supplement of the bond, dated August 31, 2016, the SG026 would pay investors prime minus

1.5 percent per annum payable semi-annually.

As the bond was linked to prime, and with the prime rate at 10.5 percent, the rate of interest of the bond was currently nine percent.

This auction comes after the government has just raised E178 million from the sale of the SG025 bond, which was auctioned on June 2016. Therefore, government thus far

has raised over E678 million in the debt markets.

The CBS bond issuance calendar for the financial year 2016/17 highlights that government hopes to raise more money in the coming months.

The calendar states that there was an anticipated floating of bonds in October, December and February 2017, all of which the amount to be raised is E150 million so combined that will be E450 million.

The target for the CBS is to raise at least E1 billion as part of governments drive to finance the budget deficit. However, the bank said it was not under pressure and that their auction calendar was the same as last year's calendar.

A greenshoe option allows the underwriting syndicate, in this case CBS to offer additional shares if public demand for the shares exceeds expectations.

Slip

INFLATION RATE LEAPS TO 8% AGAIN

By Manqoba Makhubu

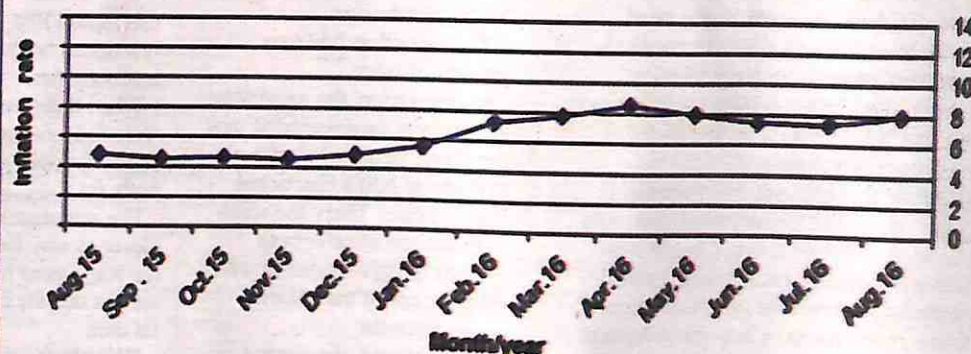
THE country's headline inflation rate has leaped from 7.4 percent to eight percent in August.

The inflation rate only breached the eight percent mark in April and May, recording 8.5 percent in April, further decreased to 8.0 percent in May. Thereafter, it eased further to 7.5 in June and later to 7.4 in July.

According to data released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) this annual rate of inflation was 0.6 index points higher than the corresponding annual rate of 7.4 percent observed in July 2016 and 0.8 percent in proportion. CSO attributed the recent higher headline inflation to increasing annual rates of change reflected in the price indices for

food and non-alcoholic beverages, miscellaneous goods and services and clothing and

Inflation rates from August 2015 to August 2016



footwear in August.

CSO said food and non-alcoholic beverages increased from 15.5 percent in July 2016 to 17.4 percent in August 2016.

"Fish and sea-food, fruits, vegetables and confectionery products have contributed to the higher index. Miscellaneous goods and services increased from 3.8 percent in July 2016 to 5.1 percent in August 2016. Clothing and footwear increased from 6.5 percent in July 2016 to 7.3 percent in August 2016."

However, CSO said the increasing rates were slightly counteracted by decreasing rates of growth in the price indices for education, which decreased from 3.1 percent in July 2016 to 2.4 percent in August 2016 and transport, which decreased from 8.8 percent in July 2016 to 8.7 percent in August 2016.

In its recent Monetary Policy Consultative Committee (MPCC) report, the Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) revised its annual inflation projections upwards by 0.64 percent, to average 7.7 percent. Hence, the CBS has kept the bank rate unchanged at 7.0 percent despite the recent decrease of inflationary pressures.

Thus far, the annual inflation rate average sits at 7.5 percent, still below the CBS projections which signals a continued tight monetary policy going forward.

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Govt vulnerable to liquidity risk

By Linda Dlamini

THE lack of long-term government bond issuances introduces a liquidity risk for government as it seeks funds to repay the short-term bond maturities.

This observation was made by the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA) capital market department in its quarterly statistical bulletin.

"The lack of long-term government debt restricts the asset man-

agers and pension funds from diversifying their spread of investments in debt instruments. Thus, hindering development in other areas of the economy," reads the update as part.

The Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) recent economic development report July/August said total government bonds stood at just over E2 billion.

Of note was that all this government debt would mature in the next 10 years as all these government securities have a maturity of less

than 10 years.

The FSRA noted the government through CBS maintained eight bonds with different maturities, ranging from three, five, seven and ten years. Corporate bonds continued to fare below that of government as corporates seek other avenues to obtain debt.

The CBS report said credit to businesses amounted to E5.7 billion in July 2016 which was an increase in of 5.9 percent when compared to the previous month.

The FSRA, on the other hand,

said the total value of corporate bonds outstanding was about E673 million, this represents 11 percent of the credit to businesses.

"In the quarter under review Select Limited issued four bonds with a total value of about E80, million.

Swaziland Development Finance Corporation (FINCORP) also issued four bonds with a total of E140 million," the FSRA said.

The regulator said this is evidence that the listing of bonds is a viable way to raise capital for companies.

Municipalities approve E229m building plans

By Linda Dlamini

CONSTRUCTION companies could benefit from the E229 million worth of building plans approved by the different municipalities in the country.

Residential building plans approved for the second quarter of 2016 increased by E58 million when compared to the previous quarter.

According to the Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) recent quarterly report in the first quarter of the year, residential building plans approved amounted to E103 million whilst for the second quarter they amounted to E162 million.

"They were 152 residential building plans approved in the first quarter whilst there were 169 plans approved in the second quarter," reads the report in part.

This means that the construction companies and building material suppliers have some business in the next couple of months.

With regards to industrial building plans the report noted that 42 industrial building plans have been approved in the second quarter, in the first quarter 21 plans had been approved.

"The value of the industrial building planned to be built have a total value of E58 million for the second quarter whilst for the first quarter it as E53 million," the CBS said.

Residential

The bank said there were building plans that could not be quantified as either residential or industrial and these had a total value of E8 million in the second quarter of the year; in the first quarter the value of the buildings planned to be built was E4 million.

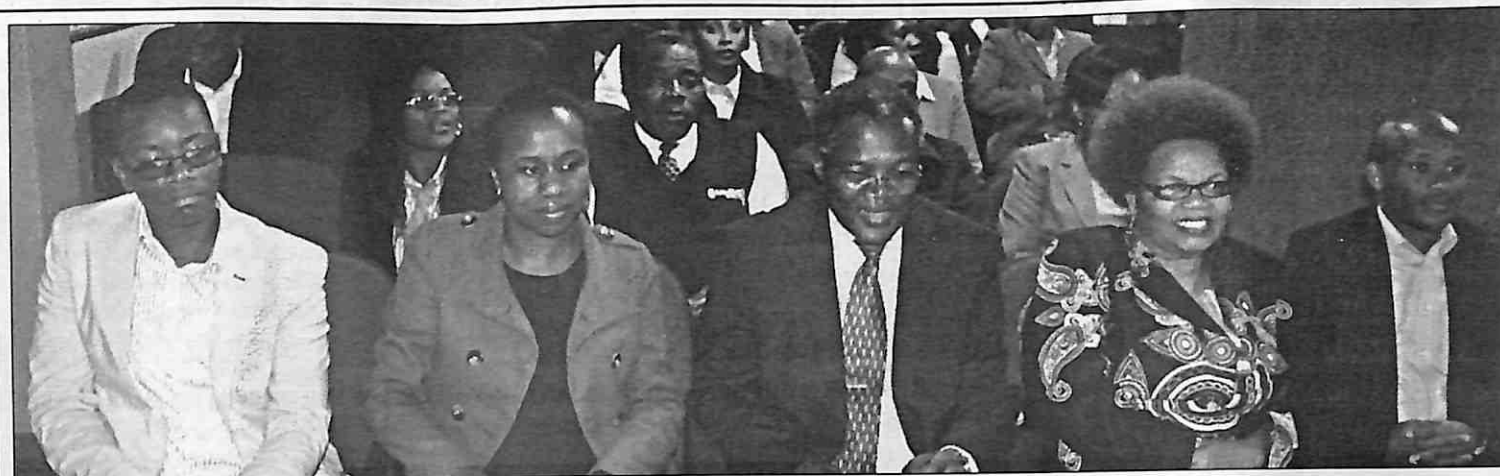
The CBS said the data included above related only to building activity in the urban areas which includes all municipalities like city councils, town councils and town boards.

"The data presented is not final and is subject to change as the data set is preliminary," the banks said.

The CBS report said a total of 38 residential buildings were completed, in the second quarter of the year, and these had a total value of E35 million.

Meanwhile the real estate sector is the leading sector which took loans from the formal banking sector.

"Total amount of bank loans and advances made to the real estate sector was E1.3 billion as of June 2016," reads the report in part.



FOLLOWING: Ecosol Managing Director Ncamiso Nkambule, Enactus Swaziland Acting Country Director Tecler Maphosa, SwaziBank Managing Director Zakhele Lukhele, JA Board Chairperson Nokukhanya Gamedze and Executive Director Siboniso Madlopha following the proceedings during the event. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)

JA National Expo winner to represent SD in Zimbabwe

Stories by Manqoba Makhubu

THIS year's winner at the Junior Achievement (JA) National Expo will represent the country in Harare, Zimbabwe in the regional competition to be held in early December.

The National Expo, which open doors for the regional contest will be staged at the University of Swaziland (UNISWA) Sports Emporium in October 27.

Last year's National Expo winners, Manzini Nazarene High School Company, Econovative PTY LTD set the expectations high at the regional contest and scooped three awards which were the JA Company of the Year Award, Best Social Entrepreneurship Award and Best CEO Award.

Apart from, at regional level, Swaziland has consistently won the JA Company of the year regional awards three years in a row – a feat which has set the standards very high for the rest of

the African countries.

JA Executive Director Siboniso Madlopha said 70 schools were involved during the preliminary stages of the National Expo.

He said they were now working towards finalising the top 10 schools from the 70 participating high schools for the National Expo contest.

Madlopha said the schools were fairly distributed throughout the regions of the country, "about 67 percent of the schools are rural schools, while only about 33 percent comes within the urban cor-

ridor."

Last year Gundwini, Lusoti, Ngomane, St Francis, Londunduma, Matseta Nazarene, Mhlume, Our Lady of Sorrows, Manzini Nazarene and SOS Herman Gmeiner High Schools participated in the competition.

The purpose of the National Expo is to expose the best performing school in the various categories after an exposure to the experience of starting a company from scratch and run it for a period of 15 weeks.

'IT'S BEEN A HANDFUL AND GREAT EXPERIENCE'

SIFUNDZANI High School founded company Infinite Light's Human Resources Manager, Cheliswa Simelane says participating in the JA Company programme have been a handful and great experience.

She was speaking during a SwaziBank donation handover to JA and Enactus, held on Wednesday at the bank's head offices in Mbabane.

The company produces candles made from waste as a solution for load shedding.

She said although she was reluctant to join the programme at first, she had learnt a lot in being a young leader after being exposed to different roles including meeting attendance monitoring, payroll management and arbitration in their company disciplinary committee.

"In all the things that we have

gone through, I have also learnt that it is important to work as a team and to value and appreciate one another," she said.

On the same note, the compa-

ny's Managing Director Thembele Sukati said they have learnt valuable lessons under the programme, "the power of teamwork, appreciating one another,

to improvise, and plan properly."

"We are grateful to have been afforded an opportunity to discover ourselves and bring solutions."



A ROUND OF APPLAUSE: A section of the attendants appreciating the presentation made by the Sifundzani High pupils.



Lilangeni strengthens against major currencies

By Manqoba Makhubu

THE external value of the local currency, lilangeni, has strengthened against major currencies.

The local currency lilangeni was pegged one-one-one with the South African currency, the rand.

According to the Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) recent economic development report of August 2016, the domestic unit strengthened by 4.8 percent to average

E13.74 against the US Dollar, by 5.2 percent to average E18.01 to the Pound, and by 3.6 per cent to average E15.40 to the Euro in the month of August 2016.

"The lilangeni reached a low of E13.28 versus the US Dollar in mid-August 2016, the lowest in a year, partly due to investors looking for higher-yield securities after the Bank of England cut its policy rate and minutes from the US Federal Reserve's July meeting indicated that the majority of board members did not support a rate hike in

September," reported the CBS.

Adding, the CBS said the local unit also received a small boost after South Africa's municipal elections on August 3 ran smoothly, putting the centre-right pro-business opposition party in control of major metropolitan areas. Under the review period, the local unit edged at E14.45 to the US Dollar, E18.93 to the Pound Sterling and E16.10 to the Euro. However, the strengthening of the local currency, according to the report, has slightly affected the size of the country's income



from exports, as exports have been benefiting largely from the weaker lilangeni exchange rate against major world currencies.

Hence, the trade account recorded a lower surplus amounting slightly

over E1 billion during the first quarter of 2016 compared to the E1.6 billion posted in the fourth quarter of 2016, although there were other contributing factors like reduced economic activity.

FAO predicts stable maize prices

By Linda Dlamini

THE Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) expects maize prices to be stable for the year.

According to a statement released by the FAO last week, prices of

mealie-meal in Swaziland were generally stable, but were at levels well above those in July last year after the sharp increases in the past months.

"The high price levels reflect the supply pressure following a second consecutive drought-reduced harvest in 2016, which is estimated 60 percent down from the previous

year's output," reads the statement in part.

The FAO said the higher import costs from South Africa which supplied the bulk of the country's consumption requirements, also underpinned prices.

Converted

Maize is the staple food of the country and was often converted into mealie-meal by milling machines.

Thus this would not come as

goods news to consumers as they have already complained that the price of mealie-meal in the country was too high.

The increased mealie-meal importation from 20kg to 50kg per household could, however, cushion the effects of mealie-meal prices.

Minister of Agriculture Moses Vilakati on Thursday during a press conference held at the ministry of agriculture offices in Mbabane, announced that govern-

ment, in line with Section 37 of the Constitution, has seen it proper to review restrictions of the import and export of mealie-meal as an interim measure in alleviating the drought problem.

Vilakati said the change would apply for the next three months with effect from yesterday to December 2016, wherein the next review would be considered to fully assist and support the affected communities.

BUSINESS EXTRA

ESKOM disappointed with Moody's downgrade warning

JOHANNESBURG - Eskom says it is disappointed after ratings agency Moody placed the power utility's credit rating on immediate review for a downgrade on Wednesday.

It says this puts a damper on its financial and operational progress.

In May, Moody's warned that Eskom's outlook would be downgraded if government failed to improve the parastatal's financial profile.

But the power utility maintains it has improved its finances, and implemented a turnaround strategy.

The news adds to the growing list of problems for Eskom.



Last month Asset Management Company, Future Growth, stopped loans to the country's parastatals, including the power utility.

Moody's might also downgrade ratings of other state-owned firms, including the South African National

Roads Agency (SANRAL), the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) and the Land Bank after it placed them on immediate review for a downgrade on Wednesday.

Moody's primary concern is to assess whether the companies will continue to have access to the debt market in the future and whether they will be able to absorb higher funding costs.

Some economic analysts believe the move by the rating agency indicates heightened investor concerns over state-owned companies.

eNCA

Fuel price expected to increase

JOHANNESBURG - South Africa's recent period of fuel price reductions is set for a reversal as the weakening Rand and stronger international petroleum prices combine at the pumps.

This is the view of the Automobile Association (AA), which was commenting on unaudited mid-month fuel price data released by the Central Energy Fund (CEF).

"The Rand's slow, steady appreciation against the US dollar during July and August was dealt a considerable setback by the controversy surrounding the Hawks' investigation of Finance Minister, Pravin Gordhan," the AA said.

"At around the same time, international petroleum prices

began to appreciate, and the combined effect will be particularly significant for users of petrol."

While diesel and illuminating paraffin are currently showing increases of around 24 cents per litre, the current data on petrol shows the hike is likely to be around 51 cents.

"With the Rand still on a weakening trend against the US dollar, the fuel price move at the end of September will depend largely on international petroleum prices," the AA said.

"Any significant international event which leads to further oil price strength is almost certain to be bad news at the pumps for South Africans," the Association concluded.

eNCA

OUTA goes after parties privy to SAA, BnP Capital deal

JOHANNESBURG - The Organisation Undoing Tax Abuse (OUTA) laid criminal charges against BnP Capital Director, Daniel Mahlangu, yesterday at OR Tambo International Airport.

This is part of OUTA's ongoing investigation in the irregularities of South African Airways (SAA), the civil society group said in a statement.

This follows reports earlier this year where OUTA exposed an unlawful deal between the airline and the boutique financier. SAA agreed to pay BnP R256m to restructure its debt of R14.6bn. According to OUTA, these services could have been sourced at one fifth of the cost, for anything between R42m and R85m.

The deal was terminated on July 21 amid increasing scrutiny.

"Laying criminal charges should send

a clear message that companies who make themselves party to dubious transactions, can also be held accountable for being an instrument in the decay of government's financial systems and the looting of taxpayers' hard earned money," said Ivan Herselman, Director of Legal Affairs at OUTA.

The charges laid against Mahlangu are on various grounds.

These include BnP Capital's failure to disclose information to SAA. This being that the company's financial services board (FSB) licence had been suspended. The company also had contact with a direct competitor prior to its bid which it failed to disclose.

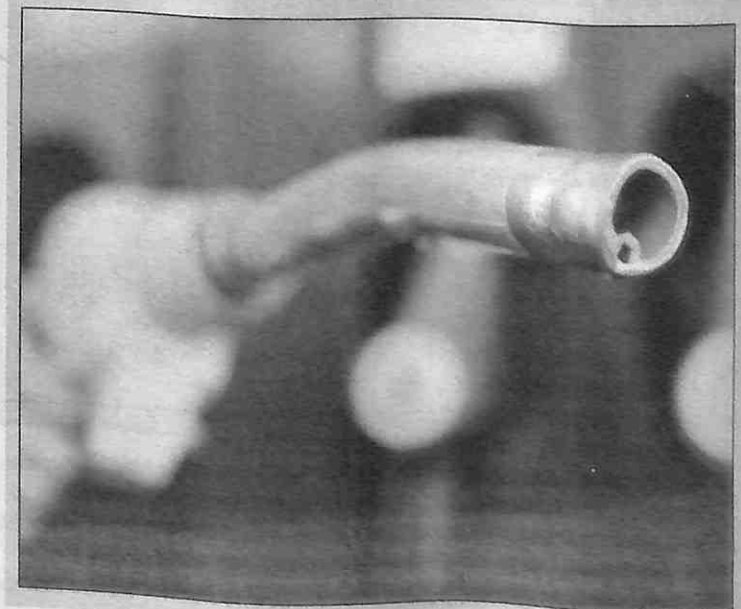
OUTA alleged that the company fraudulently misrepresented itself. This is with regard to the parties it indicated would be part of the project team, some of which had never heard of BnP

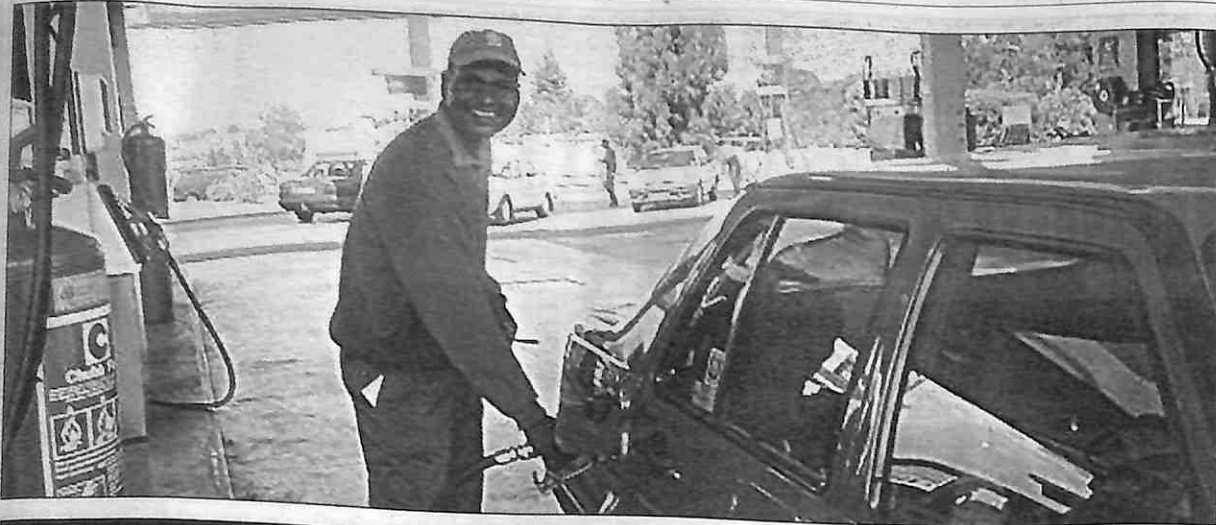
Capital and who did not have aviation experience.

OUTA also laid a charge against Mahlangu for "attempting to persuade" SAA to pay a cancellation fee of R49.9m due to costs incurred.

OUTA believes that Mahlangu did not act alone. "We know Mr Mahlangu was not the mastermind behind this shady deal, and hope he will use this window of opportunity to reveal the truth about the true beneficiaries and the people behind this seemingly corrupt deal," stated Herselman.

OUTA added that those within SAA who assisted in putting the deal together are not "off the hook". Previously, Chairperson of OUTA, Wayne Duvenage told Fin24 that the medium to long term plan would be to carry out litigation against various members of the SAA board. **Fin24**





PETROL PARTY TURNS SOUR WITH EXPECTED 51C PRICE HIKE

CAPE TOWN - The recent period of fuel price reductions is set for a reversal as the weakening rand and stronger international petroleum prices combine to cause pain at the pumps.

This is according to the Automobile Association (AA), which was commenting on unaudited mid-month fuel price data released by the Central Energy Fund.

The AA said the current data on petrol shows the hike is likely to be around 51 cents a litre. Diesel and illuminating paraffin are currently

showing possible increases of around 24c/l.

The petrol price decreased from R13.34/l inland and R12.86/l at the coast for 95 unleaded to a respective R12.17 and R11.69 currently.

"The rand's slow, steady appreciation against the US dollar during July and August was dealt a considerable setback by the controversy surrounding the Hawks' investigation of Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan," the AA said.

"At around the same time, international petroleum prices began to appreciate, and the combined effect

will be particularly significant for users of petrol."

By 12:08 the Rand was trading at R14.26/\$ and Brent crude oil at \$46.11 a barrel.

"With the rand still on a weakening trend against the US dollar, the fuel price move at the end of September will depend largely on international petroleum prices," the AA said.

"Any significant international event which leads to further oil price strength is almost certain to be bad news at the pumps for South Africans."

Fin24

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Building confidence shows slight uptick

CAPE TOWN - Although the FNB/BER Building Confidence Index has shown a slight increase, more than 60 percent of respondents are dissatisfied with prevailing business conditions.

After falling to 34 in the second quarter of 2016, the index lifted by 4 points to 38 in the third quarter. This returns it to the level recorded in the first quarter, with all the sub-sectors - excluding building sub-contractors - registering higher confidence in the quarter. Main contractor confidence rose to its highest level in more than a year to 44 in 3Q2016, from 38 in 2Q2016. "Confidence moved higher primarily due to an increase in profitability," said FNB property economist John Loos. The prof-

itability boost came about through less keen tendering price competition, as building activity was largely unchanged from 2Q2016. But there are encouraging signs for the near-term outlook, as according to Loos "a decreasing number of respondents indicated that the lack of demand for new work is constraining business operations". With many of the results for the residential market standing at, or close to, their long-term averages, the non-residential market is looking increasingly weak. "One could argue that the residential market is now registering normal growth in building activity and profitability," said Loos. Residential main contractor confidence jumped 10 index points during the quarter to 49. *Fin24*

Samsung struggles with critical Note 7 recall

SEOUL - Samsung said Wednesday it was doing its best to push through a challenging recall of its Galaxy Note 7 smartphones, as it offered a software fix to jolt users into returning defective devices.

The success of the recall is seen as crucial to Samsung retaining brand trust and loyalty and preventing customers defecting to arch-rival Apple's new iPhone 7 or cheaper Chinese-made models.

The South Korean electronics giant moved quickly earlier this month to suspend sales of its latest large-screen smartphone and announced a recall of 2.5

million units already sold, after faulty batteries caused some handsets to explode during charging.

Samsung had advised consumers in 10 countries to trade their handsets for temporary replacement

phones provided by the firm until it releases new Note 7S.

But many users have snubbed the offer, choosing to wait until the new phones were available, citing the inconvenience of switching devices for an interim period.

And different regulatory practices in different countries - as well as varying reactions from carriers - have caused a degree of customer uncertainty and confusion that is hampering Samsung's efforts to get the recall behind it as quickly and painlessly as pos-

sible.

"It's not something that can be done overnight," said a Samsung spokeswoman.

"The process is different for each country because they have different regulations and we also have to talk with the carriers in those countries," she said.

In an effort to steal a march on Apple, the Note 7 was given an early launch in the key US market, making that a priority for the recall effort.

Samsung is working with the US Consumer Product Safety Commission, but has yet to provide a specific date for replacing returned units.

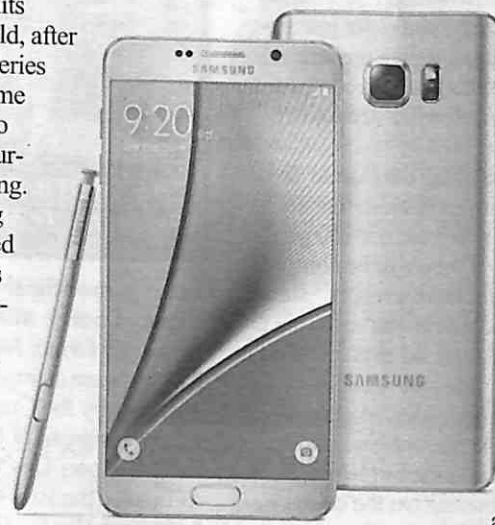
"We would like the consumers to receive their new phones quickly and easily but the situation is different for each country and we are doing

our best in the given circumstances," the Samsung spokeswoman said.

In a half-page advert carried by major South Korean newspapers on Wednesday, Samsung announced a Note 7 software update that will limit battery recharges to 60 percent of capacity.

It would prevent the phones from overheating, and thus exploding, but would effectively mean a downgrade of the high-end device -- and therefore an incentive to turn it in.

News24



Virgin Active-owner Brait seeks UK listing, new funding

JOHANNESBURG - Brait SE, the South African investment company that owns UK chains Virgin Active and New Look, plans to trade its shares on the London Stock Exchange and will consider selling new equity to fund future deals.

A capital raising could take place at the same time as the proposed London listing, the company,

whose biggest shareholder is South African billionaire Christo Wiese, said in a statement on Wednesday. Brait [JSE:BAT] plans to move its registered office to the UK from San

Gwann, Malta ahead of the float, it said. "The company is at a size and stage of development where it has become increasingly important that

it can offer its existing investors the benefits of a listing on a major international developed market,"

Brait said.

The move "would

enhance the profile of Brait and improve its access to a wider range of international investors and deeper

pools of capital to support any future capital raise".

The decision marks a new chapter in the development of Brait, which significantly increased its exposure

to the UK last year by acquiring majority stakes in fitness chain Virgin Active and clothing retailer New Look and boosting its holding in discount grocer Iceland. South Africa Chief Executive Officer John Gnodde said in June that the businesses are "strong enough" to withstand any repercussions from the country's vote to leave the European Union. Brait will keep its listing in Johannesburg after the move to London, which must be approved by shareholders.

The shares were trading 2.2% higher at R117.74 by 13:32 on the JSE on Thursday.

On Wednesday the shares dropped 0.8% to R115.20, extending losses this year to 30%, after more than doubling in 2015. The announcement was made after trading in the South African market had closed.

News24



Focus on SA scene

GUPTA REPORT TO BE READY BEFORE MADONSELA SAYS FINAL GOODBYE

JOHANNESBURG - A report on the Gupta family will be ready before outgoing Public Protector Thuli Madonsela finishes her term, she said on Wednesday.

Speaking at the Rhema Bible Church's Truth Be Told conference, Madonsela told journalists that while she could not guarantee a comprehensive one she would have some sort of report available before she leaves her office.

"We are doing our best to complete all investigations that are in our hands. We are not 100 per cent sure if they will be complete but we will have a report," she said. Madonsela was speaking at the conference on gender-based violence. She said while she believed dialogues on gender-based violence were necessary, 20 years into the implementation of the Constitution the country should be doing better on the matter.

Madonsela urged attendees to ask government to implement chapter 5 of the Equality Act which spoke against abuse and gender violence.

Earlier this year Madonsela was asked by the Catholic Dominican



THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE: The Gupta family and outgoing Public Protector Thuli Madonsela.

Order to investigate whether Deputy Finance Minister Mcebisi Jonas and former MP Vytjie Mentor were offered Cabinet positions by the Guptas, whether the appointment of local government Minister Des Van Rooyen as finance minister was known beforehand by the Gupta family and whether two senior advisers with links to the Gupta family were appointed to the National Treasury alongside Van Rooyen, without following proper procedure.

Breaches Of Executive Ethics
They also asked Madonsela to

investigate allegations of state capture by the Guptas and all Gupta family business dealings with the state to establish if there had been any corruption or improper conduct.

"The specific request is to look into tenders or state contracts, mining licences and advertisements on the New Age newspaper," said Madonsela's spokesperson Oupa Segalwe at the time. The Public Protector was further approached on the basis of the Executive Members' Ethics Act by the DA in Parliament to look into suspected

breaches of the executive ethics code by President Jacob Zuma in relation to Cabinet appointments.

This was in reference to claims by Jonas and Mentor that they were offered executive positions by members of the Gupta family in exchange for favourable executive decisions and beneficial business interests.

The Guptas have been accused of using their position as close friends of Zuma to influence Cabinet decisions that would allow them to score government tenders. *News24*

Limpopo pastor kills girlfriend for calling him a 'bad blesser'

Limpopo - A Limpopo pastor has been reportedly sentenced to 10 years behind bars for the murder of his girlfriend, who called him a bad "blesser" for failing to buy her a brand new television, *News24* reports.

According to the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), Maphakele Reuben Phathakge, 50, pleaded guilty to murder and handed himself over to police after he shot his girlfriend at her home in Greenside

Phokoane village, in the Sekhukhune District, on February 12.

"The deceased started to insult him, as he couldn't be a good 'blesser'.

The deceased further mentioned that the accused was not a real man. He said he lost his temper and shot the deceased in the head," NPA's Mashudu Malabi-Dzhanghi said.

Phathakge was sentenced by the Limpopo High Court on Tuesday. He has reportedly been banished from the community and ordered to pay for the burial. *Citizen*

...Phathakge was sentenced by the Limpopo High Court on Tuesday. He has reportedly been banished from the community and ordered to pay for the burial.

Ramaphosa, Malema celebrate 80th with Winnie Mandela

CAPE TOWN - Political foes, the Mandela family and friends celebrated Winnie Madikizela-Mandela's 80th birthday at the Mount Nelson Hotel in Cape Town on Wednesday.

Economic Freedom Fighters leader Julius Malema, Cape Town Mayor Patricia de Lille and ANC Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa put aside their differences to share in the celebrations.

Ramaphosa, who was one of the keynote speakers, complimented Madikizela-Mandela's beauty and strength, before ending his speech with a recital of Maya Angelou's poem Still I Rise.

"Mama, thank you for bringing, as you've always done, for bringing various people together. Even people who may disagree a little bit here or there from time to time. Bringing Patricia de Lille, myself and others in



SMILE: EFF leader Julius Malema, Winnie Madikizela-Mandela and ANC Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa. (*News24*)

the ANC and Julius and Dali, wow. You are indeed the mother of the nation," said Ramaphosa. EFF's commissar Advocate Dali Mpofu, who has had ongoing run-ins with Ramaphosa over the Marikana tragedy, was also in the crowd and mingled with the Deputy President. Winnie's daughter, Zindi

said, "I just want to say ma that I can't even imagine where I would have been without you. You've held me up and you've given me hope when you knew yourself that tomorrow wouldn't bring anything new, but you made us believe it and because we believed it we saw it."

ANC wants answers on 'highly-paid' PA who earns R100 000 a month

CAPE TOWN - The African National Congress in the Western Cape has requested a meeting with the mayor of Kannaland municipality about the town's decision to pay a personal assistant a salary of R100 000 a month.

ANC regional secretary Major Sokopo said: "As the ANC we have called the mayor to come to us and explain what is happening. This move has been done at provincial level. We will have to have a discussion [about the PA] because it is something that is not acceptable."

"We have to have discussion and get a report from her telling us what has happened and how they have arrived at that decision. That municipality cannot have a person that gets that much pay. As the ANC, we

are saying it is wrong but we want full details about it and we will attend to it after we get the full report."

The Cape Times reported recently that the PA's salary was indicated as R100 000 a month on the council's agenda - making her salary higher than that of the outgoing municipal manager, who received R1.1 million annually, equating to R91 000 a month.

On Wednesday, the chief financial officer of the small municipality resigned in the midst of a debt crisis and the news about the personal assistant's salary.

The Democratic Alliance said a "recovery plan" was

urgently needed to deal with the municipality's debt crisis. Masizole Mngasela, chairperson of the Standing Committee on Local

Government in the Western Cape Provincial Parliament, disclosed that as at the end of August 2016, the Kannaland Municipality owed debtors R37.6

million, in addition to having its primary bank account in overdraft to the tune of R1.82 million.

The Kannaland municipality, the mayor of which is Magdalena Barry, is situated between Laingsburg, Robertson and George in the Western Cape. *Timeslive*



HOW TO MAKE YOUR PHONE BATTERY LAST LONGER

NEW YORK: Apple claims its new iPhone 7 has extra battery life to help combat some of the complaints from users of previous models, but how long with this additional capacity last.

Now chemists have released a series of tips to help ensure you can get the best out of your smartphone's battery.

They suggest never letting your device's power to drain completely. In lithium ion batteries like those used in most modern smartphones, this can actually reduce their capacity.

All batteries have the same three basic parts - a positive electrode known as a cathode, a negative electrode called an anode and a chemical layer in between known as an electrolyte.

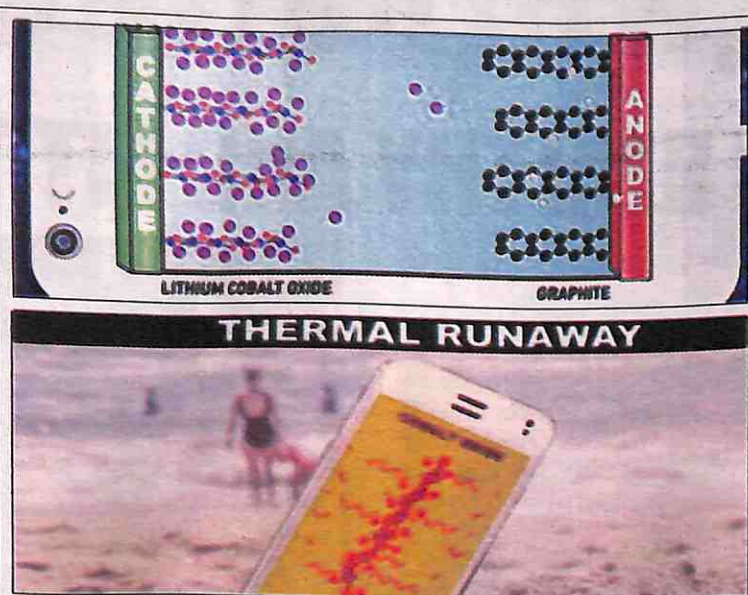
The electrolyte allows electrical charges flow between the electrodes.

In lithium ion batteries cathode is usually lithium cobalt oxide while the anode is made from graphite.

When your battery charges, electrons entering at the anode attract lithium ions, which then nestle in sites between the graphite's carbon layers. During use, lithium atoms at the anode start losing their electrons, allowing electrons to zip through the circuits in the phone to provide power.

Meanwhile, lithium ions journey through the electrolyte to be reunited with electrons at the cathode.

These processes keep going until all ions reach the cathode, causing that dreaded flashing battery symbol. Every time your battery uses 100 percent of its charge, known as its capacity, it has been through a single charge cycle. Each charge cycle, however, reduces the battery's total capacity by a tiny amount. The scientists also advise not leaving your device turned off for long periods unless it is 50 percent charged. Allowing your phone to get too hot can also damage the battery's lifespan and they advise keeping it cool in hot weather in



CHEMISTRY: Chemists have revealed why letting your phone overheat can decrease the life-span of your battery and why you should never drain your device to zero battery. This decreases the ability of lithium ions to attach to the anode during charging (illustrated). Allowing your phone to get too hot can trigger what is called a thermal runaway reaction, where the cathode will get warmer and warmer, causing the electrolyte to boil. If the pressure gets too great, the battery can explode. (AP)

the car or on the beach. A video by the American Chemical Society said: 'As your phone battery gets warm, the heat speeds up the chemical reactions that cause the battery to go caput.'

They explain how lithium ion batteries charge up because the flow of electrons into the device causes lithium ions from the positive electrode - or cathode - to accumulate on the negative electrode, usually an anode made from graphite. However, when the device gets hot, the number of sites for the lithium ions to accumulate are reduced. In some cases the battery can get so hot that it eventually explodes. It is not yet clear whether this is behind Samsung's Galaxy Note 7 battery failure, which has caused some of its phones to explode.

The ACS states: "These reactions

break down the electrolyte and pour products onto the anode.

"This blocks lithium ions from nestling into the graphite. Fewer sites means less capacity and you will have to charge your phone more often.

"Even worse, heat can start a thermal runaway. Once the cobalt oxide (cathode) gets hot enough, it starts a cycle of reactions that throw off more and more heat.

"All of this heat starts to boil the liquids in your phone's battery building pressure until the phone explodes."

The Society also advises that due to the chemistry of lithium ion batteries, users should not allow them to run completely flat.

While previous generations of batteries that used nickel in their cathodes needed to be completely discharged to ensure they retained

their capacity, the same is not true in lithium ion batteries.

Indeed, the chemists point out, the opposite is true.

They state: "When you drain your phone to zero, your phone will lose more capacity so you charges won't last as long.

"So make sure your phone battery doesn't die if it's on the verge of death. Just turn it off."

They also warn that leaving your phone sitting unused for long periods of time when its battery has discharged can also harm the battery.

"If you are leaving a fully discharged battery alone for a while, it can get unstable," explains the narrator in the video.

"Fortunately for us modern batteries trip a self-destruct circuit before destabilising. Unfortunately self-destructing batteries will never work again."

They advise that if turning your phone off while away on holiday, it is best to do so when the battery is around 50 percent charged.

For longer periods they recommend turning the device on every six months or so to make sure it is charged to around 50 percent.

They added: "This way you avoid both self-destruct and capacity loss."

SQUEEZE MORE FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE BATTERY

With power-hungry apps like Pokemon Go surfacing, now many people struggle to make it through the day without charging up their smartphone.

But according to engineers, there are some clever tricks that can help you squeeze a little extra life out of your phone's battery.

Paul Shearing, a chemical engineer at University College London offered some tips to MailOnline.

SHUT DOWN APPS

Smartphones use up a lot of power just to keep multiple apps running.

"Most phones will tell you the percentage of battery that apps are

using so that people can find out which ones are using the most," says Mr Shearing.

CLOSE LOCATION SERVICES

Location services use GPS, which also zaps battery life. When not using maps, turning these off can preserve power throughout the day.

TURN OFF PUSH NOTIFICATIONS

Notifications for new emails and updates on social networks like Facebook, Twitter and Instagram can use up lots of juice.

For anything that is not urgent, it is best to turn off push notifications where possible.

UPDATE SOFTWARE

"Most phones have built-in software that's designed to save energy and maximise battery life," says Mr Shearing.

Many phones also feature a dedicated power-saving mode that be switched on to make batteries last even longer throughout the day.

TURN OFF BLUETOOTH

While useful, it can be an extra drain on battery life so it is best to turn it off when not in use.

LOWER THE SCREEN BRIGHTNESS

Turning on automatic brightness settings can save battery, as the screen will be dimmed when less backlight is needed.

To save even more battery, the screen can be manually dimmed even lower, particularly when inside brightly lit buildings.

KEEP WI-FI ON

Accessing data over a Wi-fi connection takes up less power than over a mobile network connection, so it's best to keep it turned on at all times. Wi-fi can usually be turned on using the main settings menu.

REMOVE THE CASE

Mr Shearing said: "Some cases are better removed when charging the phone, particularly designs that insulate the handset.

But this is probably quite rare - most cases should be fine".

Daily Mail

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BRIEFS

Terror attack plotter arrested

PARIS - French police on Wednesday arrested a 15-year old suspected of planning an attack and using encrypted social media channels to communicate with a French Islamist militant believed to be in Syria or Iraq, sources said. In an operation led by France's domestic intelligence agency, police swooped on the teenager in Paris' eastern 20th arrondissement. Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve confirmed the operation.

Reuters

Israeli planes hit Gaza

JERUSALEM - Israel's air force hit the Hamas-run Gaza Strip early yesterday after Palestinians fired a rocket into southern Israel, the military said. "Israel Air Force aircraft targeted three Hamas posts in the northern Gaza Strip," an army statement said. "The Israel Defence Forces hold Hamas responsible and accountable for all attacks emanating from the Gaza Strip." A rocket from Gaza hit open ground in Israel late on Wednesday night, but the military reported no casualties from the attack.

AFP

Difficult to alter US elections

WASHINGTON - President Barack Obama's homeland security adviser said on Wednesday that it would be very hard for someone to hack into America's voting systems in a way that could alter an election outcome. Lisa Monaco, speaking at an event commemorating the 10-year anniversary of the Justice Department's national security division, said election systems by and large are not hooked up to the Internet and are diffusely operated by state and local governments.

AP



Clinton to spin off health project

NEW YORK - The Bill, Hillary & Chelsea Clinton Foundation would spin-off its flagship health project into a "completely independent" charity if Hillary Clinton were to win the US presidency in November, the charity announced on Wednesday. The Clinton Health Access Initiative, which has focused on reducing the cost of HIV medicine in sub-Saharan Africa, currently accounts for about two thirds of the foundation's annual income and expenses, according to disclosures online.

Reuters

Driverless cars take to streets

PITTSBURGH - The launch of Uber's self-driving pilot programme in Pittsburgh yesterday marks the public unveiling of the company's secretive work in autonomous vehicles and the first time self-driving cars have been so freely available to the US public. More than two years ago Uber identified autonomous driving technology as the springboard for the next stage of growth. The startup has already shaken up taxi services, earning a valuation of \$68-billion.

Reuters



'CLINTON HEALTHY AND FIT TO SERVE'

NEW YORK - Hoping to put the issue of her health behind her as she gets ready to return to the campaign trail, Hillary Clinton on Wednesday released an updated review of her physical fitness and details about a recent bout of pneumonia.

"She is recovering well with antibiotics and rest," said her doctor, Lisa Bardack, in a letter released by her campaign. "She continues to remain healthy and fit to serve as President of the United States."

The details made public by the Democratic presidential nominee included a description of the pneumonia diagnosis she received last week. Her illness became public after she left Sunday's 9/11 memorial service in New York early and was seen on video staggering while getting into a van.

The health episode fueled long-simmering conservative conspira-

cy theories about Clinton's health and provided a fresh line of attack for rival Donald Trump, who has frequently questioned whether Clinton has the stamina to serve as commander in chief.

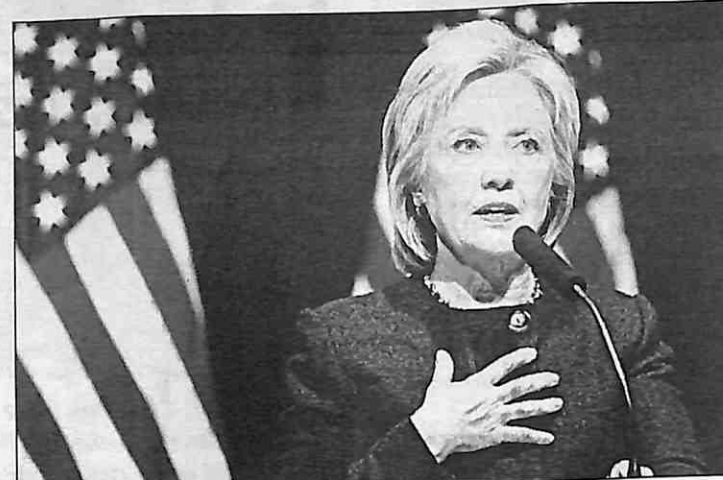
At a Wednesday evening rally in Canton, Ohio, Trump noted the room filled with 5 000 people was hot.

"You think Hillary would be able to stand up here for an hour and do this?" he asked. "I don't think so."

Trump later added at the same rally, "We want her better, we want her back on the trail".

The Republican nominee, meanwhile, handed over a one-page summary of a recent physical exam to the celebrity doctor Mehmet Oz while taping an episode of Oz's talk show. But voters will have to wait another day for details: The show aired yesterday.

The letter from Bardack, the



FIT FOR OFFICE: Hillary Clinton.

chair of internal medicine at CareMount Medical in Mount Kisco, New York, said a chest scan revealed the candidate had "mild, non-contagious bacterial pneumonia". She was treated with a 10-day course of Levaquin, an antibiotic used to treat infections.

The letter says the illness

stemmed from a bout of seasonal allergies that developed into an upper respiratory tract infection and cough. Clinton's pneumonia symptoms began around the start of this month, and she saw Bardack on September 2 for a low-grade fever, congestion and fatigue.

Daily Mail

Aid for Syria waits on Turkish border due to disagreements

CILVEGOZU, Turkey - Two convoys of aid for the Syrian city of Aleppo were waiting in no-man's land on Wednesday after crossing the Turkish border, held up by security fears and disagreements between combatants on the third day of a ceasefire.

The convoys, each of around 20 trucks carrying mostly food and flour, set off from the Turkish border town of Cilvegozu, 40 km (25 miles) west of Aleppo, on Tuesday but made it little further than the Turkish customs post on the Syrian border.

The delay was a sign of the difficulties facing the ceasefire, brokered by the United States and Russia today with the aim of reviving talks on ending Syria's civil war.

The Syrian Observatory for

Human Rights, which monitors the war through contacts on the ground, said it had recorded no deaths during the first 48 hours of the ceasefire, which came into effect on Monday night, although six civilians had died in Syrian strikes on hardline Islamists excluded from the truce.

Deliveries

On Wednesday evening, the US State Department said US Secretary of State John Kerry and his Russian counterpart, Sergei Lavrov had agreed it was holding and to extend it by 48 hours, part of a step-by-step process envisaged by the deal.

Russia said it was preparing for the Syrian army and rebel fighters to begin a staged withdrawal from an Aleppo road expected to be used for aid deliveries yesterday.

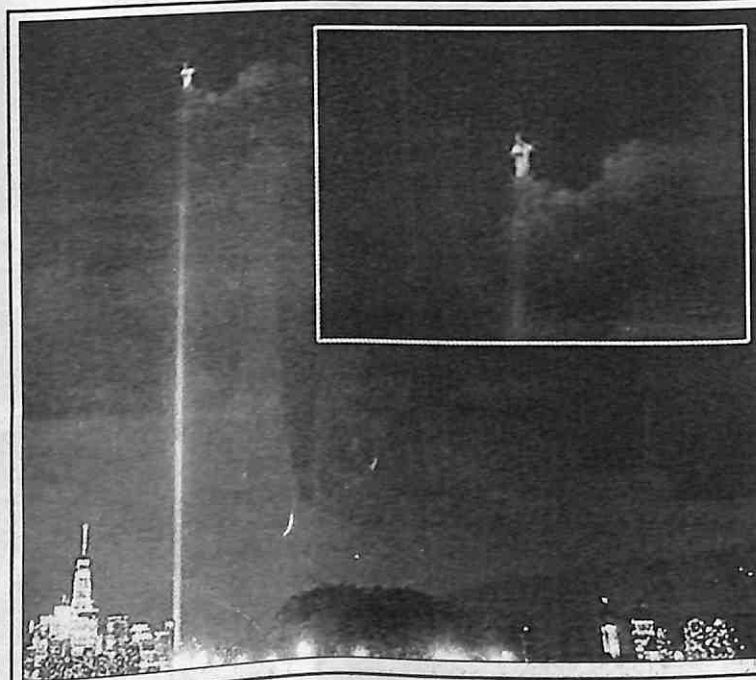
Zakaria Malahifji, of the Aleppo-based rebel group Fastaqim, told Reuters that rebel groups intend to comply with the plan to withdraw 500 metres from the Castello Road in order to make it a neutral space, but the government must also pull back.

The aid is badly needed.

The United Nations estimates that well over half a million people are living under siege in Syria, whose five-year conflict has killed hundreds of thousands and displaced more than 11 million.

On Wednesday, both Moscow and Washington spoke positively about the deal, with the Kremlin saying it raised hopes for a peaceful solution to the crisis and Kerry arguing it was a "last chance" to keep Syria together.

Reuters



IS JESUS BACK?: Rich McCormack from Jersey City got more than he bargained for when he snapped the symbolic memorial in New York with many U.S. residents claiming the silhouette is a religious symbol. The photographer took a number of photos last week, but the 'angel' only appeared in one of them. While some have said it is God watching over them, others - including Mr McCormack himself - believe it to be Jesus. (Daily Mail)

Mexico investigator in 43 missing students' case, resigns

MEXICO CITY - Mexico's head of criminal investigation, who has faced a probe into his handling of the investigation of the disappearance of 43 students, resigned Wednesday but was given another government job.

Attorney General Arely Gomez accepted the resignation of Tomas Zeron as director of the Criminal Investigations Agency, the federal prosecutor's office said in a statement.

The move comes two weeks before the second anniversary of the 2014 tragedy, which has caused international outrage while President Enrique Pena Nieto's administration has faced criticism at home for failing to resolve the case. Gomez "recognised the efforts" of Zeron as head of the agency and "wished him success in his personal and professional projects," the statement said.

Pena Nieto later named Zeron as "Technical Secretary" of the National Public Security Council, in a government statement saying it was a "recognition of his actions" and experience in previous jobs.

The statements did not say why he quit the attorney general's office. But parents of the missing students had called for his resignation over his conduct in the investigation into the disappearance of the 43 trainee teachers in the southern city of Iguala on September 26, 2014.

Daily Mail



ZIMBABWE DROPS PLAN TO CUT JOBS AND BONUSES

HARARE - Zimbabwe's government has dropped plans to cut public-sector jobs and bonuses a week after they were announced as activists call for more protests against economic mismanagement.

Finance Minister Patrick Chinamasa announced the unpopular cuts on Thursday last week, saying they were essential to rein in spending and a ballooning budget deficit.

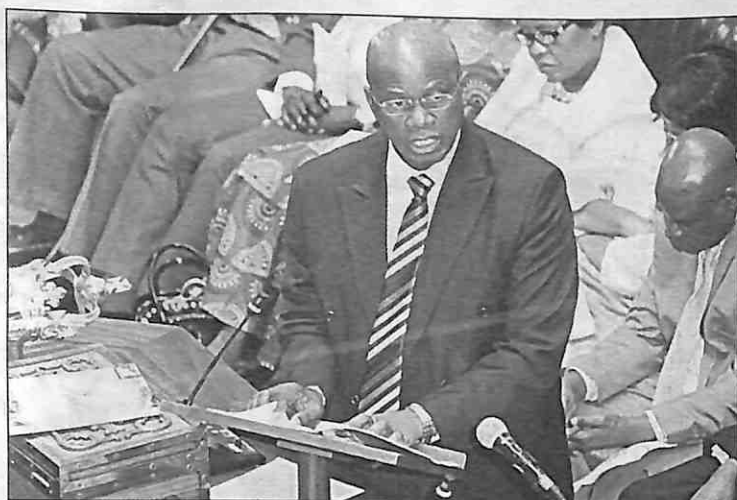
But yesterday Information Minister Christopher Mushohwe said the cabinet had rejected the proposals.

The about-turn raises questions on how Harare plans to tackle a financial crunch that has fuelled protests and alarmed neighbours.

"The president and cabinet want to assure the civil servants, the farmers and the public that the proposed measures are not friendly," Mushohwe said yesterday.

"After extensive deliberations, cost-cutting measures relating to the civil service were rejected."

Cuts in the wage bill were a central part of the reforms



ANNOUNCED: Finance Minister Patrick Chinamasa.

Chinamasa is pursuing as he seeks new funding from lenders.

Anger over cash shortages, citizens being unable to pay for utilities such as water and electricity, and a jobless rate of more than 80 percent has spilled on to the streets, leading to violent clashes between protesters and police.

The police slapped a month-long ban on protests against the government and President Robert Mugabe. But opposition parties shrugged off the ban and said

they would press on with tomorrow's countrywide demonstrations.

Zimbabwe has been struggling to pay workers on time for the past three months and managed to settle outstanding 2015 bonuses for some public servants only in July.

The government has not announced pay dates for September. Soldiers, who are paid on the 14th of every month, said they were not paid yesterday.

day.

Zimbabwe plans to introduce local banknotes next month with the US dollar, which Zimbabweans fear could open the door to rampant printing of cash, as happened in 2008 when sky-high inflation wiped out savings.

Zimbabwe's High Court yesterday ordered the release on bail of protest leader Promise Mkwanzu, spokesman for the pressure group Tajamuka, which has called for a national strike to pile pressure on Mugabe.

Pastor Evan Mawarire, the founder of #ThisFlag movement, which was at the forefront of the first anti-Mugabe demonstrations earlier this year, is preparing to march against Mugabe outside the UN in New York on Saturday and Wednesday next week. Mugabe is expected to address the 71st Regular Session of the UN General Assembly.

"Zimbabweans are coming from everywhere to descend upon New York City on Saturday and Wednesday," said Mawarire.

Reuters

Boko Haram releases new video without embattled leader

KANO - The jihadist group Boko Haram has released a new video without its embattled leader Abubakar Shekau, lending weight to claims by the Nigerian army he had been gravely wounded in an air strike.

The 13-minute video posted on YouTube late Tuesday shows an unidentified man in a flowing white robe and a sword dangling by his side presiding over Eid prayers in a mosque.

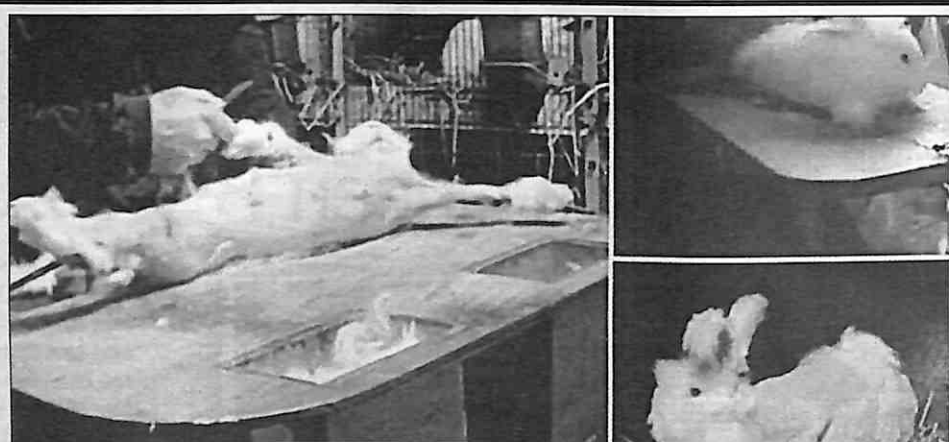
Hundreds of poorly fed villagers and children, who are apparently Boko Haram supporters, are seen in the video filmed on Monday.

The man says he is representing Shekau, who had allegedly been ousted by the Islamic State to which Boko Haram pledged allegiance in March 2015.

"My brethren, today is Eid...in the Islamic Caliphate under the leadership of Abubakar Shekau, may Allah protect him," he says, speaking in the local Hausa language.

The Nigerian army claimed on August 23 Shekau had been seriously wounded in the shoulder in an air raid in which several commanders were killed.

AFP



RABBITS: New footage has revealed how angora rabbits on French farms are being bred in pens similar to battery hens before they are pinned down and have their fur plucked from their skin to make angora wool. The secret footage was recorded by French animal rights charity One Voice, who visited six French angora rabbit farms over a six month period. Many of the rabbits writhe around in pain and cry out as they undergo the painful process, with some even having their skin torn as they are sheared.

DR Congo warlord on 7th day of hunger strike at ICC

DR CONGO - Congolese former rebel leader Bosco Ntaganda on Wednesday again refused to attend his war crimes trial on the seventh day of a hunger strike which is posing a legal dilemma for international judges.

Ntaganda is protesting his treatment in detention and

has said he is "ready to die", accusing the International Criminal Court of failing to give him a fair chance to defend himself.

"The situation is not developing for the best," his defence lawyer Stephane Bourgon admitted to the court in The Hague where his trial opened a year ago.

"He has not eaten for seven days. There are no signs that he will resume eating," Bourgon said, adding his client had told him earlier Wednesday "he did not feel well enough to attend".

"And if they come and get me, I will refuse to go," Ntaganda said, according to his lawyer. *News24*

BRIEFS

Man gets 100 years for abuse

NAIROBI - A young Kenyan man who followed three young girls from a funeral to a church and locked them inside to sexually abuse them, was sentenced to 100 years in jail on Wednesday. Harrison Kinyua, aged 20, was handed the sentence by a court in the central town of Embu after pleading guilty to "defiling" two 13-year-olds and a 10-year-old in a church in the village of Kangaru in December.

AFP

Unity rivals seize 'oil crescent'

TRIPOLI - Forces opposed to Libya's unity government on Tuesday seized a fourth oil port, completing their takeover of vital installations in the North African country's "oil crescent", a military source said. The battle for control of Libya's oil assets has renewed fears of a civil war in the country, which plunged into chaos after the 2011 uprising that toppled and killed dictator Muammar Gaddafi. The UN-backed Government of National Accord based in Tripoli is struggling to assert its authority and has been facing staunch resistance from a rival administration based in Libya's remote east. *Reuters*

Woman gives birth on rescue ship

BRUSSELS - A Nigerian woman has given birth to a baby boy aboard a rescue ship during a migrant crossing from Libya. Doctors said mother Faith and baby



Newman Otas were doing fine on Wednesday after the Aquarius rescue ship docked in Brindisi, on Italy's Adriatic coast. The Aquarius, which is operated by SOS Mediterranee and Doctors Without Borders, had rescued about 140 migrants over the weekend. Faith, who had been in labor for three days, gave birth Monday aboard the Aquarius. *Reuters*

AU to send observers to Gabon

LIBREVILLE - The African Union says it plans to send observers to help Gabon's Constitutional Court with a legal complaint lodged by opposition leader Jean Ping, who accuses President Ali Bongo of cheating to secure victory in an election last month. The dispute has led to riots that killed at least six people and brought unwelcome international scrutiny for Bongo, whose family has ruled the central African OPEC member for nearly 50 years. *Reuters*

Cameron blamed for Libya collapse

LIBYA - The bloody collapse of Libya - which triggered a refugee crisis and aided the rise of Isis - has been blamed on David Cameron's blunders when he intervened to overthrow Colonel Muammar Gaddafi. A damning report by MPs condemns the 2011 military campaign for lacking both "accurate intelligence" and a coherent strategy for the aftermath of removing the dictator. *The Independent*



Eswatini Entertainment

NEWS
REVIEWS
STAR SIGNS
CELEBRITY WATCH
CARTOONS

SUPER QUIET WEEKEND...

But until next week here's to this weekend

IT is the middle of the month and at this time, pockets favour nobody of course.

Life is beautiful and every moment should be lived like it were the last. We give you the gig guide for this weekend but remember not to drink and drive; arrive alive.

Shiselweni maidens make their way to the Mbangweni Royal residence today and which means the Shiselweni reed dance is upon us.

Festival

Last night the first episode of the MTN Rhymes and Laughter kicked off at the UNISWA campus whilst Bholoja launched the 'Yebo Gogo, Yebo Mzala' festival which will take place from September 30 - October 1.

TONIGHT

What: Beko's EP Launch

Where: The Alliance Francaise

At exactly 7pm tonight sister girl Beko the Storyteller launches her first ever EP which contains six of her poems including one bonus track.

Entry is only by Invitation and the CD would be available for sale at the event.

What: Something out of the hood

Where: Pub N Grill

The Pub N Grill presents something totally out the hood tonight and tomorrow.

The shows start at 7pm and entrance is E40 for ladies whilst gentlemen pay E50.

What: D Mid month groove

Where: TC Pub and Rest

As always TC Pub and Restaurant presents free entry but food and drinks are on sale. Doors open at 7pm until late.

DJ 711 is ready to make you dance until you drop.

TOMORROW;

What: Matsapha family fun day

Where: Royal Swaziland Police playground

There will be a lot of fun at the Matsapha family fun day as there will be soccer, meat and music of all genres.

Fun

Nothando Hlophe, Linda Dlamini and Sands will be there to make sure the entire family is treated to loads of fun.



Compiled By Nomfundo Sifundza

Oros goes back to NY with Queen B

By Phumelele Mkhonta

SOUTH African based-Swazi born flamboyant socialite Sakhile 'Oros' Msibi, has embarked on another trip to New York as a gesture from South African Bonang 'Queen B' Matheba.

According to Msibi, he went back to New York for it's Fashion Week.

Msibi has in recent years made a name for himself in the neighbouring country and is close acquaintances with Matheba. He is also a self established hair guru, extraordinary stylist, fashion fundi and PRO for Moloko to amongst other career interests.

Currently hoisting the Swazi flag up high as a celebrity he has a large clientele with the likes of Top Billing Presenter and Revlon Brand Ambassador Bonang Matheba, Queen of Bling Khanyi Mbau and Teko Modise's wife Lizelle, amongst others.

Matheba (28) is a South African television host, radio personality, fashion icon and business woman.



She is recognised for having presented the popular SABC 1 music show Live Amp previously known as "Live". She is currently a presenter on South Africa's television magazine show SABC 3's Top Billing and is also a radio host, presenting the show "The Front Row" on SABC's radio

station Metro FM.

Fashion

Msibi jetted out with Matheba to New York on Monday night. Upon their arrival, Queen B and Msibi sat in the front row as fashion designer Leanne Marshall unveiled her latest dreamy and romantic collection in the

Oros befriends Christina Milian

WHILE in New York, socialite Sakhile 'Oros' Msibi had the privilege to mingle and mix with giant names in the entertainment industry, one of them being the beautiful actor and singer Christina Milian.

Milian is an American singer, songwriter and actress. At the age of 19, Milian signed a contract with Def Jam.

In 2001, Milian released her self-titled debut album, which featured the singles "AM to PM" and "When You Look at Me"; "AM to PM" charted within the Top 40 of the U.S.



Billboard Hot 100 and both peaked in the top three on the UK Singles Chart and she has been making it big since then.

Msibi and Milian took a beautiful selfie captioned "When Christina Milian gives me

her personal number and invites me to her private party..."

Msibi elicited excitement and gratefulness on this trip.

"Just the other day I asked God for something and guess what? He responded.

Tonight I jet off to New York Fashion week, another dream bagged!!! New York City are you ready for all this," said Msibi.

fashion capital. Queen B looked ethereal in a Maria Lucia Lohan sheer dress, styled with Yves Saint Laurent shoes.

They also attended the Byron

Lars show in a black sequined 5:13 Jerome jumpsuit, paired with a Tracy Reese coat, Steven Madden shoes and Yves Saint Laurent purse.

TMS' CORALEE ON DARK AND LOVELY POSTER

By Phumelele Mkhonta

TOP Model Swaziland's model, Coralee Vilakati's star just keeps shining this year as she has been featured on one of Dark and Lovely's poster.

Dark and Lovely is a reputable hair product which has been around for sometime; it originates in the United States of America and has been adopted in the Sub-Saharan region (including Swaziland).

This brand is associated with big names like Nonhle Thema (South African actress and bling queen) who was once the face of the product.

Vilakati just knows no boundaries as she has been quite busy this year, with many titles falling on her shoulders. Coralee was recently in the top 10 of Top Model Africa, she also participated in the Tshwane Fashion Festival, which is one of the biggest fashion shows in Pretoria, and was selected to do the Johannesburg Mercedes casting early last month.

Just recently, she has been selected as an SRTV presenter contestant after auditions.

Vilakati said it also came as a surprise to her that she was randomly picked to be in the Dark



and Lovely poster.

"My picture, which was selected, was from the Tshwane Fashion Festival and the poster vouches for natural hair.

To be honest, I do not know how my picture was selected; I just woke up and found myself tagged in the poster.

"You cannot imagine how that made me feel, I was so happy.

Dark and Lovely is a big brand; with every media sharing my pictures and shows being aired with me taking part in them, I feel like I'm a step closer to where I want to be.

And yes, thanks to my grandmother for the beautiful hair. Who would have thought a Swazi ordinary girl like me would one day be in that poster," said Vilakati.

E50 000 boost for Miss Cultural Heritage

By Majaha Nkonyane

PREMIER Swaziland has injected E50 000 donation towards the Miss Cultural Beauty Pageant.

The announcement was made by Premier's Brand Ambassador Tahmar Reid at a press conference held at the Swaziland National Council of Arts and Culture offices on Wednesday.

The sponsorship is broken down into E40 000 cash sponsorship and E10 000 consignments.

The consignment comes in the form of 'Lil lets' sanitary towels and branded water. The sanitary towels would be distributed at the Shiselweni Reed Dance this weekend where Suzuki and Ford Swaziland would provide 1 000 bottles of branded water and 'Tidvashi' for contestants.

The consignments were received by leader of Imbali Nonduduzo 'Zuzu' Zubuko. "Premier Swaziland is very proud to be making a contribu-

tion towards Swaziland Arts and Culture. Lil lets is a leading feminine care product range with a global footprint. Associating our Lil lets brand with Miss Cultural Heritage event shows that we do not let go of our cultural roots and traditions when we live in a modern and technologically advanced world," Reid said.

The presentation was attended by newly-crowned Miss Swaziland Linda Hutchinson who was in the company of the outgoing Miss Cultural Heritage Nosipho Dlamini. Also present was Swaziland National Arts and Culture Council CEO Stanley Dlamini, who expressed his excitement about the sponsorship. He said the Arts and Culture office has strong ties with Premier Swaziland.

The Miss Cultural contest will be closing its recruiting process at the Shiselweni Reed Dance to be held at Mbangweni Royal Residence this weekend, after the process the participating girls will be revealed.

Sibane Hotel gets busier

By Majaha Nkonyane

THE Ezulwini based Sibane Hotel will host two shows scheduled for September 30, these being Acoustic Night and Spring Time Praise.

The two shows are expected to draw fans from different genres as the Acoustic Night with Quad Element caters for Afro soul lovers whilst Spring Time Praise caters for gospel enthusiasts.

The Acoustic Nights are a series of concerts the hotel hosts and they have been a success, having hosted artists like Nomalungelo Dladla, Floewe, Khole and Tiyas.

The upcoming Acoustic Night with Quad Element will be at

7pm.

Quad Element has made a name for themselves as an Afro soul group that is always stylish and produces music well received by supporters.

The group has time and again made performances in Durban and in different places in the country.

On the same night, the hotel will be hosting Spring Time Praise.

This event will have different artists like: Sunshine M, Tshah and Symphony.

The line-up is also made up of four Swazi Praise members who will be at the event and these are: Nondumiso Nhleko, Mngqobi Maseko, Sihle Zwane and Nontobeko Mabundza.

SWAMA to introduce new show on SBIS 1

By Nomfundo Sifundza

SWAZILAND ARTS and Music Association (SWAMA) has partnered with SBIS 1 to flight a 45 minutes weekly slot dedicated to the local entertainment industry.

The show would unearth new talent in the country whilst promoting current music and artists.

On another positive note, the show would be hosted by two artists who know the music industry better and they would time and again conduct interviews with other artists.

New releases, upcoming events and challenges of the local music industry would also be tackled on the show.

The show was endorsed by the SBIS Director Martin Dlamini who expressed interest in the initiative taken by SWAMA.

Replace

The new programme will replace another one that had been on air for some time 'Takho Ngwane' which has since been taken off air after the retirement of the host, Edward Mtsetfwa. To give the new show the recognition it deserves from supporters, it would be launched in an event

that would see local acts gracing the big stage. SWAMA artists themselves were impressed by the initiative as they believe it would be a great push for their craft and an appropriate platform to inform the country at large who they are and what they do. SWAMA President Lutfo Dlamini said; "it is time that foreign music faces a major reduction from our local radio stations as the country actually has artists who are also as good as the internationals".

Dlamini was speaking during an interview he had with this publication.

Siteki historic Braai caters for children

By Majaha Nkonyane

THE much anticipated Siteki Historic Braai to be held at the bus rank on October 1 will also cater for the young ones through games.

Children would be treated to go karts, jumping castles, water slides, face paintings and swingers. In addition, the entertainment line-up also has Nonhle Mthethwa who will appeal to her peers on stage.

The braai will have a full line-up

of artists in the country offering different their music in different genres.

Artists

The line-up under the house music genre includes artists like DJ Karly B, DJ DD Cool and DJ Kweny.

On the other hand, gospel lovers will be serenaded by Mduduzi Nezinceku Zamagawugawu, Nonhle, When Women Worship, RSP Male Voice and Police Gospel Messengers.

"I would like to encourage people

to come to this braai and have a good time.

I would further urge parents to bring their children to this event as it will be a good time for them as well.

Entertainment

There are plenty of activities lined up for them to enjoy and have a good time." Children entertainment organiser Danice Ntshakala said. The show is meant to raise funds for Philani Maswati Charity Organisation.

Strictly Swazi deejays for Mbafi Swazi Braai

By Phumelele Mkhonta

THE famous and annual Mbafi Swazi Braai Seventh Edition is back this year and it is comprised a line-up of only Swazi deejays.

The Mbafi Swazi Braai is an initiative by Majaha Dlamini, a South African based Swazi. It is an annual braai hosted at Mbafi Lodge in Midrand. The paramount concept is for Swazis who are based in South Africa and those from the kingdom to gather in Midrand, South Africa, to relax and enjoy each other's company while listening to music rendered by Swazi deejays.

This year's event is on October

29 and Melusi 'Zox' Dlamini has been tasked to be the programme director of the show.

Spinners for the event are; Crooks, The Scientists, Cece, Rekorder, Mavisto, Soulful, Steel, 1D, Liz, Msi On Decks, LFA, Makie, Stickz, Smish, Paris, Yugo, Misto, Tonic, M'Eugie, Misto, Sphezo, Knoxman Hard Ass, Dreamers, ZB, and Flameboy Universe.

Confirmed

Dlamini confirmed there will be no international acts in the event.

"This show is meant to promote our pride, which is Swazi deejays based both in Swaziland and South Africa.

I promise good music and proper fun on that day," Dlamini said.



Feel every moment

NEWS

THE KING'S
SPEECH

DStv

HIGHLIGHTS



Don't tell the bride
Sunday at 20:02 on BBC Lifestyle (174)

Another series of the hit show, where brides-to-be must leave the biggest day of their lives in the hands of the men they love. Comic book-loving groom Anthony has just three weeks and £12,000 to plan a wedding for his bride-to-be Lauren. While Anthony wants to prove he can be a real super-

hero to Lauren with a comic inspired wedding in a cave, she is dreaming of a more traditional affair. Can this boy wonder impress his bride-to-be and her family with his theme? Will his Wonder Woman be swept of her feet? Or will this groom turn from superhero to super zero?



Straight outta compton
Sunday at 21:00 on M-Net Movies Premiere (104)

This riveting, Oscar nominated film tells the true story of the meteoric rise of one of

Hip-Hop's most influential groups of all time, NWA. Premieres this Sunday.



Deadliest catch
Monday at 21:00 on Discovery Channel (121)

Award-winning show, *Deadliest Catch*, returns for its twelfth season, following the real-life drama of one of the most dangerous jobs in the world - crab fishing on the unpredictable Bering Sea. The veteran captains are used to the challenges of one of the deadliest fisheries in the world, but there's a new generation stepping up. This series sees a new boat, *Brenna A*, with a new captain, Sean Dwyer, the show's youngest captain yet. Jake

Anderson takes his first full season at the helm of the *Saga*, breaking free of Sig Hansen's mentoring grip. Meanwhile on the *Cornelia Marie*, young skipper Josh Harris steps out of the shadows to claim his birthright on the legendary vessel once commanded by his father. With injuries, breakdowns and chaotic weather plaguing the fleet, do they have the drive and guts that it takes to become a legend?

NOZIPHO MAKES TLC FINAL LIST CUT

TLC in association with Colgate Optic White has announced Nozipho Mbhele as the seventh semi-finalist making it through to the next stage of the TLC Next Great Presenter search.

The 23-year-old from Johannesburg, South Africa, secured her spot in the "Lucky 13" from more than 1 500 auditions received from across the continent.

Nozipho discovered her passion for TV and radio presenting in university whilst studying drama. She has gone on to present a show on Radio DUT (her campus radio station) and even MC'ing some university and community events.

"Being chosen feels very exciting and unreal, I'm very happy and humbled to have made it this far," says Nozipho.

"TLC celebrates everything that I'm passionate about and that I stand for, so for me this is way more than just an amazing TV presenting opportunity," she continued.

The bubbly and driven student explains that she believes she has what it takes to be TLC's Next Great Presenter. "I live and breathe TV presenting! I've dedicated my whole life to grow and sharpen my craft. I'm energetic, fun and hardworking and I believe that's what it takes,"



she said.

Now, all roads lead to Cape Town for Boot Camp, as Nozipho along with 12 contestants from all over Africa aim to turn their 90-second video audition into their dream job. During the four-day Boot Camp, they will be put through their presenting paces by the judges and industry experts as they undertake screen tests, performance coaching, fashion styling, and brand and media training to see who really has what it takes to be a host on Africa's #1 lifestyle and entertainment channel.

It will be down to the star-studded line-up of expert judges to choose the Top 3 finalists at Boot Camp,

which includes; radio and TV personality Thando Thabethe, Head of Content at MultiChoice Aletta Alberts, editor of ZALebs.com Zee Dladla, celebrity publicist and communications strategist Jarred Doyle and VP of Channels for Discovery Networks CEEMEA Lee Hobbs.

Then, in the end it will be up to the TLC audience to decide who should be crowned the winner and travel to London to film the brand new series, TLC's Most Extreme coming to TLC Entertainment (135) in 2017. The winner will also feature in a special once off documentary and win a luxury holiday for two courtesy of Sun International.

MAMA 2016 lines-up performers

African stars Yemi Alade, Nasty C and Babes Wodumo are to dazzle fans with electrifying performances at Joburg's first ever edition of the MTV Africa Music Awards Johannesburg 2016 (MAMA).

The MTV Africa Music Awards Johannesburg 2016, brought to you by Joburg Tourism in partnership with Absolut and Google and in association with MTN and DStv, will take place at The Ticketpro Dome, Johannesburg, South Africa on Saturday 22 October 2016.

Highlighting the "gold standard" in contemporary music, creativity and achievement, The MTV Africa Music Awards

Johannesburg 2016 promises to be the biggest and best ever, with more than 15 000 fans expected to fill out the Ticketpro Dome for the unique celebration. Tickets for the awards go on sale on 7 September priced R250 (standing only) via www.ticketpro.co.za, and at Ticketpro retail outlets or dealers. Over 18s only. The definitive annual celebration of African and international talent and achievement, MAMA 2016 recognises and

rewards musicians and achievers who have made the most impact on African music and youth culture over the previous year. The ceremony will feature stunning performances from African and international artists along with the show's signature cross-genre and cross-border collaborations. MAMA 2016 will celebrate African talent across 18 award categories, including Best Male, Best Female, Best Song and Best Collaboration in partnership with Absolut. The contribution of artists from Portuguese and French-speaking Africa will also be recognised in the Best Lusophone and Best Francophone categories. Additional categories include the Africa Re-Imagined Award and Personality of the Year.

The nominations for the awards will be revealed on 21 September in Johannesburg, and in Lagos on 2 October. Celebrating the pan-African scope of the MAMA, the awards will encompass two stunning Road to MAMA events featuring MAMA nominees and superstar DJs, to be held in Durban and Lagos. Another much-anticipated element of MAMA 2016 will be a music industry workshop for aspiring musicians

held on the day prior to the awards (21 October).

First staged in 2008, the MTV Africa Music Awards has recognised the talent of musicians, achievers and personalities from across Africa, rewarding iconic artists and gamechangers such as 2Face Idibia, Big Nuz, Cassper Nyovest, Davido, D'Banj, Flavour, Gangs of Ballet, HHP, Fally Ipupa, Liquideep, Mafikizolo, Lira, Nameless, Lupita Nyong'o, Clarence Peters, Diamond Platnumz, Anselmo Ralph, Sarkodie, P-Square, Tiwa Savage, Cabo Snoop, Toofan, Trevor Noah, Zebra & Giraffe, Uhuru, Wahu, Yemi Alade, and many more. The MTV Africa Music Awards 2016 will broadcast live on MTV Base (322) and MTV (130) on Saturday 22 October at 21:00 CAT. The show will also be transmitted worldwide on partner stations and content platforms from October onwards, while MTV channels around the world will broadcast a one-hour MAMA-themed MTV World Stage.

For more information on the 2016 MTV Africa Music Awards, please go to www.mtvbase.com or www.mtv.co.za like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MTVBaseVerified, or follow us on Twitter and Instagram @MTVBaseAfrica. To join the conversation about the awards please use the hashtag #MTVMAMA2016.



International
Celebrity News

'I am actually in the process of fostering a baby'

HOLLYWOOD - Sinitta adopted her children Magdalena and Zac in 2007 following a series of heartbreaking miscarriages. And the former pop star, 52, has revealed she's close to adding another child to her home as she prepares to foster a baby. Speaking to The Sun Online, Sinitta said: "I am actually in the process of fostering a baby."

The So Macho singer explained how she had a conversation with someone who told her how they had provided love and assistance

to an ill homeless child during the last three weeks of their life. And so I've been struggling with the idea of fostering, thinking if I foster a child would I be able to give the child back to its mother or up for adoption when the time came?" said Sinitta. "Then, hearing this

story, I realised you know what? What about just being an answer to a need." Sinitta split from ex-husband Andy Willner

just seven months after the couple adopted Magdalena and Zac following five years of trying for a child of their own. *Showbiz*



SPREADING THE LOVE: Sinitta and her children.

Mixed feelings over nostalgia

NEW YORK - Beware the nostalgia bug. Sometimes it evolves into a beautiful, *Stranger Things*-level, *Seinfeld*-reunion-takes-Curb-Your-Enthusiasm-to-even-greater-places, smashing success. And other times.

It bites you in the butt. How is that possible, we wonder, when obviously one of the main pastimes in recent years—particularly online—has been looking backward in wistful celebration of whatever was going on then, because then must have been a better, simpler time.

From *Fuller House* and the upcoming *Gilmore Girls: A Year in the Life* on Netflix, to losing our stuffing every time former co-stars

reunite, to marking the 1-year, 5-year, 11-year, 17-year anniversary of everything ever, ours has become a culture

of glorifying what came before, sometimes because it was great, yet sometimes only because it came before. But that's what reruns and our memories are for. Not to mention DVD box sets, or epic downloading, or videos we snap in the moment and actually keep. *Daily Mail*

Seinfeld

Sharon Osbourne talks about 'mental breakdown'

HOLLYWOOD - She first opened up about her mental breakdown on Monday.

And on Wednesday, Sharon Osbourne decided to go into more detail, which she hoped could help others who find themselves stricken with similar circumstances. The 63-year-old television personality told Access Hollywood's Natalie Morales that currently, people are afraid to admit they



OPENS UP: Sharon Osbourne.

have a problem with depression. It's got such a stigma to it, and so many people are actually embarrassed to say they have a problem," she lamented.

She continued, "it's so common, so many

people suffer, it's nothing to be ashamed or embarrassed about." Later, she discussed how husband Ozzy was very supportive of his ailing partner.

Dailymail

Hilaria Baldwin posts selfie in her underwear

IBIZA - She gave birth to her third child on Monday.

And Hilaria Baldwin has already proudly flaunted her post-baby body.

The 32-year-old wife of Alec Baldwin took to Instagram to share a mirror selfie

while in her underwear on Wednesday morning. The yogi went on to explain in her caption that the image was not to gratuitously show off her body but

to prove a point about body image and challenge herself by documenting the changes in her body.

Hilaria wrote: "I took this yesterday when Leonardo was about 24 hours old. I did the same thing right after Rafael was born. "It always

makes me a bit nervous to do something like this, but I feel that in the age of such strong body shaming, I want to do all that I can to normalise a real body and promote healthy self esteem."



CRAZY MAMA: Hilaria Baldwin.

SA Celebrity News

Senzo's family will never see my child, says Kelly Khumalo

JOHANNESBURG - In what may be her most revealing interview yet, songstress Kelly Khumalo has bared her soul revealing intimate details about her romance with Senzo Meyiwa, being publicly ridiculed by his family and wanting the nation to know the truth about his murder. Speaking on Real Talk with Anele Mdoda on Wednesday afternoon, Kelly



NGEKE: Kelly Khumalo.

opened up about every aspect of her life including the drama that unfolded between her and Senzo's family after his death.

The Bafana Bafana captain was killed on 26 October 2014 during an alleged armed robbery at Kelly's family home in Vosloorus.

Senzo's father has on numerous occasions lambasted Kelly for her involvement with his son, often blaming her for his death.

Timeslive

Wright Ngubeni relives hijacking horror

KYALAMI - In May, a shaken Wright Ngubeni told the nation how he and his sister had been held up and briefly kidnapped in a hijacking incident while they were making their way home. After holding them up, the hijackers drove off with them, stripping them off their belongings and leaving them stranded near a plot in Kyalami. Four months later, and the effects of that horrible night still



STORY OF MY LIFE: Wright Ngubeni.

haunt Wright and his family. But the veteran actor is a little calmer and happier as he sits down with TMG Entertainment for a chat. "It's hard to explain the emotions we as a family went through. I never want to see my family in that state ever again," he says.

Like many victims of a traumatic experience, Wright has had to deal with a roller coaster of emotions over the last few months, especially feelings of anger towards his attackers.

Timeslive

Trey Songz set to collaborate with Emtee & DJ Maphorisa

NEW YORK - Coke Studio brings you an enthralling international fusion which is set to end season 2 on a high note. American R&B sensation Trey Songz has been confirmed as this year's Coke Studio international superstar who will be collaborating with renowned local hip-hop star Emtee. Trey, who will be jetting into Nairobi this

September, is set to record at Coke Studio Nairobi and perform live alongside artists from eleven participating countries, including Emtee. "I have always been committed to spending time on the continent of Africa yearly. My fans show me so much love when I'm there. I can't wait to visit Kenya and partner with the Coca-Cola Company on this initiative." *Timeslive*



COLLABO: Trey Songz.

Onalerona opens up about her divorce with Proverb

JOHANNESBURG - It's exactly a year ago since television personality and rapper Proverb and Onalerona Moreo parted ways. Onalerona has opened up about the pain she went through during her divorce with the father of her two children.

"Divorce is a painful process – the only thing you can do is ask God for wisdom – honour the process. Don't rush the healing process. Avoid a rebound relationship – honour the space between no longer and not yet. God is love," she posted on her Instagram account. *Drum*



IT WAS HARD: Onalerona Moreo.

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA

TODAY

Sihle's plan seems to be working. S'bu and Mabuyi are convinced Mandla can only make their situation worse. While Iris visits her son, Thandi drops a bombshell on Siphokazi. Jabu arranges something special for Zama.



BACK: Mandla.

ISIDINGO

TODAY

Lerato and Sechaba's wedding hangs in the balance. Eddie and Majola play good cop/bad cop with Obakeng. Gabriel's blossoming feelings for Nikiwe make him act out.



CHANGE OF HEART: Lerato.

Muvhango

TODAY

A Serithi corners Khomotjo. Thandaza agrees to give KK a percentage of her company in exchange for information. Hangwani and Gizara agree to give Rendani her surprise in time for her trip to Durban.



GREEN LIGHT: Thandaza.

RHYTHM CITY

TODAY

Niki asks David to help her set up a meeting with Suffo. David manages to convince Suffocate to get rid of Dolly and the prostitutes. In a moment of stress, Jamaica lets it slip to his grandfather that he and Mampho are getting married. Mapula has her first extra lesson with Mr Mokoena and we realise his connection to Sindiswa.



SETS UP A MEETING: Niki.



TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn - You learn things that may be somewhat of a surprise to you. Perhaps a takeover by some other company or an upcoming move is announced. You will do what you need to do for yourself now—the end results are positive.



Aquarius - You learn things that may be somewhat of a surprise to you. Perhaps a takeover by some other company or an upcoming move is announced. You will do what you need to do for yourself now—the end results are positive.



Pisces - You work well with those in authority who are independent and original. If you are not running a business yourself, you will probably be of great help in making a business run smoothly. Your organizational skills will find you coming to the aid of many an unorganised person in your lifetime.



Aries - There is a need to see both sides of an issue and strike a reasonable balance. Like the original Sherlock Holmes, you are able to ferret out information and all kinds of secrets. You are research oriented and security minded.



Taurus - Things should be just the way you want them right now. You have a lot of eagerness to pour into practical and career decisions. Careful, if you go too fast you could appear too commanding and assertive. Take time to enjoy where you are right now.



Gemini - You make your way now by using practical vision and common sense. This time could be some kind of high-water mark for your career. There is much recognition. A change of direction may be in order soon, finding you in a gradual curve toward more inwardness.



Cancer - You make your way now by using practical vision and common sense. This time could be some kind of high-water mark for your career. There is much recognition. A change of direction may be in order soon, finding you in a gradual curve toward more inwardness.



Leo - Fate sends opportunity your way if you listen to your instincts and give your natural sense of curiosity a free rein. Travel and education can help uncover some of the answers that will give you the power or advantage you seek now.



Virgo - Important changes in your life happen now. These changes include educational projects, travel, advertising and repair challenges. Most of the time, changes may seem a real hassle, but the changes today are just what is needed.



Libra - You discover that some difficult task is not as difficult as you thought. Educational plans need changing as you may now realize that they do not suit you as well as you would like. Anything connected with publishing, advertising or broadcasting requires examination.



Scorpio - This Friday you are at your best in the workplace, particularly with regard to practical matters and work-related situations. Solving problems is a given for you and you may even appreciate the buzz you get when you see how quickly you can put frustrating situations back onto a smooth path or solve equations faster than the last time you were facing the clock.



Sagittarius - Sophisticated technical equipment may become an important challenge for you now.



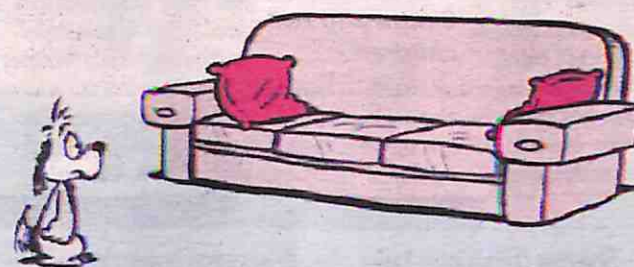
BABY BLUES



BUCKLES

A Dog's Haiku #103

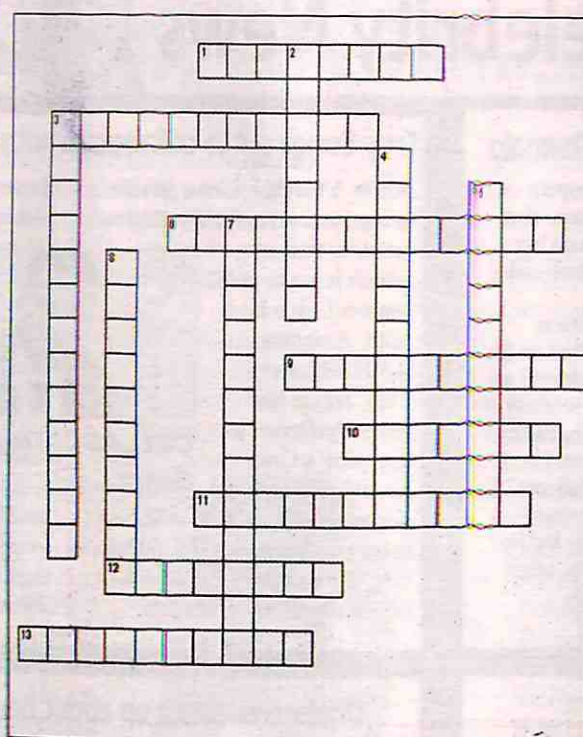
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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



PUZZLE CHOICE



Across

1. Arwen in The Lord of the Rings movie trilogy (3,5)
3. Brill in the 1998 movie, Enemy of the State (4,7)
6. Teddy Roosevelt in the 2006 movie, Night at the Museum (5,8)
9. Damon Wayans Jr and Shoshana Bush partner in this 2009 movie (5,5)
10. Kate Winslet was Rose DeWitt Bukater in this 1997 movie (7)
11. The voice of Princess Fiona in the Shrek movies (7,4)
12. Chris Pine is James T. Kirk in this 2009 movie (4,4)
13. Ginger Knowles in the 2001 movie, Swordfish (5,5)

Down

2. Robert Langdon in the 2009 movie, Angels & Demons (3,5)
3. Harry Potter in the 2008 movie, Burn After Reading (6,7)
4. John Travolta was Vincent Vega in this 1994 movie (4,7)
5. Ingrid Bergman was Ilsa Lund in this 1942 classic (10)
7. Harry Doyle in the 1986 movie, Tough Guys (4,9)
8. Robert De Niro was James 'Jimmy' Conway in this 1990 movie (10)

LOL

WIFE NEEDS TO DIE

A man charges into a bank wearing a balaclava and wielding a handgun.

He shouts 'this is a raid - everyone get on the floor!', and proceeds to empty the cash drawers.

As he runs towards the door with the loot, a brave customer yanks off his balaclava.

The robber immediately shoots the customer in the head and shouts.. 'Did

anybody else here see my face?'

The robber notices another customer peering from behind a counter and goes over and shoots him in the head also.

"Did anybody else see my face?" he shouts again, waving his gun around.

There is silence for a few seconds before a male voice is heard from a distant corner. "I think my missus here caught a glimpse...."

USELESS FACTS

1. All polar bears are left-handed.
2. China has more English speakers than the United States.
3. Elephants are the only animals that can't jump.
4. February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.
5. If the population of China walked past you in single file, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.
6. If you yelled for 8 years, 7 months and 6 days, you will have produced enough sound energy to heat one cup of coffee.

BRAinteasers
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERSYesterday's
Brainteasers

1. What do you throw out when you want to use it, but take in when you don't want to use it?

Answer:
An anchor.

2. What only gets wetter the more it dries?

Answer:

A towel

Today's Brainteasers
1. What is easy to get into, but hard to get out of?

2. A man is pushing his car along, and when he comes to a hotel he shouts, "I'm bankrupt!" Why?

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TESTIMONIALS

Master Maths is an excellent programme that not only helps me to master math and pass the exams, but to obtain knowledge and keep it. So far it has helped me gain confidence in answering math problems. It is an excellent source for math knowledge and all this results in me improving. I get a happy feeling too because my parents are happy. Another important point is that it is a good programme for revising quicker and hopefully I will finish studying every topic. Overall master maths is my only HOPE.

Maths I began to improve and started achieve better marks. My 80% average went up to 96%.

twenty to the top ten! Master Maths really changed my life.

Takhona, Grade 7, Khanyisile

My name is Ashleigh, I school at Umtshu Forest. In the first term I was struggling with Maths and did not understand the concepts. My first term maths results were 63%. In second term I started at Master Maths and I started understanding my work and Master Maths helped get my marks up and my second term maths results were 82%. I know that I will do good in high school because I have Master Maths on my side!

Ashleigh, Grade 7, Umtshu Forest

Johannes, Grade 7, Khanyisile

The purpose of writing this letter is to tell my improvement in maths. Before I joined Master Maths, I used to get fairly good marks. I thought I wouldn't need any help, but after joining Master

I was not good in maths but when I joined Master Maths I became good in maths. I no longer score low marks, instead my average in maths is above sixty which is such a huge improvement. From the top

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J.S England. At long last I now have things through you help without operation for the blocked fallopian tubes as earlier suggested, now I enjoy a happy marriage.

Mr Barbasy, morocco. I have succeeded many fields through your beauty therapy reduced weight tummy, west and the over bulging breasts. I now look ten years younger, slim and more attractive; I have been knocking at the wrong door for help. You are next non and my only hope, may god bless you with long life.

S.T Mabuza Swaziland. I had a long term illness. I appreciate your super shaft power tonic. No more itching, Bp, depression, stomach upset. Now my life is good.

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DEATHS



Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni kutsi **Hendry Walter Solwako Khoza** akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa bekhakhakhe kaDlamini kaBhekinkhosi nelibandla lakhe iAEC bakaSukati bagcugcuteli kanye nebase Bible Society. Usishiye emhlabeni mhlaka 9 September 2016. I Memorial Service ingeMgcibelo nga 1.00pm eNkiliji AEC. Ufihlwa ngeliSontfo mhlaka 18 September 2016 kulindzelwa ngeMgcibelo ekhaya lakhe eNkiliji. Simemetelo sikhishwa bantfwabakhe egameni lemndeni.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni wa **Siphwe Gezephi Shaya** lowendze kaDlamini kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa bekhakhakhe kaDlamini kuMalandzela naseNtabamhloshan kanye nebekhabonina kaMaphanga eMpofu eMdelezini. Ufihlwa mhlaka 17.09.16. Umlindzelo ungaleSihlanu mhlaka 16.09.16 ekhakhakhe kuMalandzela. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumyeni wakhe Mpendulo Nicholas Dlamini egameni lemndeni.



Friends, Relatives, Dlamini family and Bhembe family of **Wilson Mkhethwa Dlamini** affectionately known as Waneswa are notified that he has answered to the Lords Call. Funeral at Magele on the 17 September 2016 after a night vigil on Friday. Announcement by his wife on behalf of family.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba **Sikhombiso "Seven" Dlamini** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa bakaNkhosi eMpaka nebaka gogo wakhe ka Vilakati eNdzingeni naseNkambeni nebakaNdwandwe eBuhlebuyeza nebakaMdluli eNkambeni. Kulindzelwa ngeMgcibelo afihlwe ngeliSontfo ekuseni mhlaka 18 September 2016 ekhaya kubo kuMalindza. Siteshi kuse Maphepheni. Simemetelo sikhishwa nguMagolwane Dlamini egameni lemndeni.

JOB 13:15
Though He slay me,
yet will I hope in him;
I will surely
defend my ways to
his face.



Kwatiswa tihlobo ta **Bizi Moses Maseko** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Ufihlwa ekhaya kubo kaHlatsi kuMtsambama eceleni kwesikolwa eThembelihle mhlaka 17.09.16. Kwatiswa bantfwabakhe tonkhe tindzawo lapho bakhona lakaNgwane. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngubabe wakhe Edward Maseko uyise lomkhulu.



Friends and Family of **Sifiso Goodwill Madolo** are notified of his demise. Funeral service will be held at Piggs Peak Glen Township No. 73 on Saturday morning 17.09.16 after a night vigil on Friday. Announcement by family.



Friends and Relatives of **Nomvula Mtsetfwa** known as Mvulazane are notified of her demise. Funeral Service will be held at Buhleni (Tincatsaveneni) on Saturday morning after a night vigil on Friday. Announcement by family.



Kwatiswa tihlobo bantfwabakhe **Nkhosi beGundwini** kutsi umntfwane **Nkhosi Thandanani Dlamini** lebekasebenta eTown Council kaManzini kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa bekhakhakhe kaNkhambule eGundwini, bekhahonina ka Vilakati eNgculwini. Ufihlwa ngeliSontfo mhlaka 18.09.16 ngemuva kwemlindzelo ngeMgcibelo. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumntfwane **Nkhosi Zemu** egameni lebantfwabakhe.



Friends and Relatives of **Linah Lomasotja Dlamini** are notified that she has responded to the Lord. She will be laid to rest on 18.09.16 at her homestead at Mphosi, Macetjeni after a night vigil on Saturday. Announcement by her husband Dlamini Christopher.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni wa **Musa Masuku** kaLogoba eLuhlokohla lotalwa nguZembe Masuku kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Ufihlwa ngeMgcibelo emva kwemlindzelo ngaleSihlanu ekhaya lakhe kaLogoba. Simemetelo sikhishwa nguyise Zembe Masuku.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni waka **Mkhonta kaVelezizweni** nebaka Ndaba kuHhelehele kutsi **Makhosi Lorna Mkhonta** usishiye emhlabeni. Umlindzelo utawuba ngalesiHlanu entsambama bese ungcwatjwa ngeMgcibelo nga 6am. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumndeni wakaNdaba.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba **Mfundo Mndzebele** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Ufihlwa ngeliSontfo mhlaka 18 September 2016 ekhaya kubo eNgcoseni kaMnyani emva kwemlindzelo ngeMgcibelo. Kwatiswa bekhakhakhe kaJele, bekhahonina ka Msibi, labekasebenta nabo kuMatsapha kanye nelibandla lakhe nebantfwabakhe bonkhe. Simemetelo sikhishwa nguyise Andreas Mndzebele egameni lemndeni.

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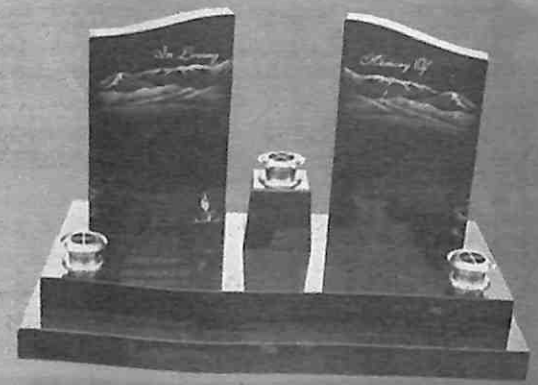
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UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Guardiola hails hat-trick hero Aguero

MANCHESTER - Manchester City coach Pep Guardiola praised Sergio Aguero's natural goalscoring ability after his hat-trick on Wednesday helped defeat Borussia Moenchengladbach 4-0 in their opening Champions League Group C match at the Etihad Stadium.

Aguero opened the scoring on eight minutes with a clinical finish and added a second just before the half-hour mark from the penalty spot.

The Argentina striker netted his ninth goal in five games this season

when he slotted past visiting keeper Yann Sommer in the 77th minute.

Guardiola, who joined City in the close season from Bayern Munich, refused to take any credit for Aguero's blistering start to the campaign, but said he is encouraging the striker to work hand in hand with his team mates.

"Sergio is good because he is good. He was good with (former City manager) Manuel (Pellegrini) and he is good with the national team," Guardiola told reporters.

"He just has a talent to score goals that is natural, I cannot teach him

that.

"What I can tell him is there is a team behind him that is going to help him. I want to convince him to help them and if it happens in that way he's going to score a lot of goals, just like Kele (Kelechi Iheanacho) and all our strikers."

Guardiola was thrilled with the cultured debut in midfield of Ilkay Gundogan, who was the Spaniard's first signing for City but was making his first appearance after suffering a dislocated knee.

Gundogan replaced David Silva in City's starting lineup.

"That shows how good he is, to play like that after three or four months out. We spoke with him (before the game) and he said 'I am ready'," said Guardiola, who added that Spain playmaker Silva has a minor injury and may not be fit for tomorrow's Premier League game against Bournemouth.

"He is so intelligent, he knew how to control his efforts. I thought he wasn't ready to play 90 minutes but he did it because he is so intelligent. He doesn't lose the ball, he can arrive in the box, he has quality in both feet." *Reuters*



PRAISED: Sergio Aguero.

Beaming Goetze on road to redemption

BERLIN - Mario Goetze could not stop smiling after scoring his first goal for Borussia Dortmund since his return in their 6-0 demolition of Legia Warsaw in the Champions League on Wednesday.

The 24-year-old's best appearance since his contro-

versial return to Dortmund in the close season following a hapless three-year spell at rivals Bayern Munich could not have come at a better time.

Dortmund notched their biggest ever away win in the Champions League in their opening group match, setting a marker ahead of their match

against reigning champions Real Madrid later this month.

Goetze had left Dortmund in 2013 in even more controversial fashion, with his move announced — the most expensive for a German player at the time with €35 million — only weeks before they met Bayern in the Champions League

final.

His transfer to their bitter German rivals had sparked fury among fans who had accused him of betraying the Ruhr valley club he had played for since childhood.

Goetze's return this summer was an equally heated affair with some fans angered by club bosses who welcomed him back with open arms.

But few will now think it was a bad decision after his dazzling performance on Wednesday, with the player unable to suppress his smile.

"I feel great and looking forward to what lies ahead, you can see it on the pitch that I feel good," he told reporters. "It was really fun

being out there and we can really be satisfied."

Once regarded as the most talented German player of his generation, the attacking midfielder was assured a place in the history books when he scored the winning goal in the 2014 World Cup final for Germany.

But that was also the last of his major career highlights, having failed to settle at Bayern with both coach Pep Guardiola and his successor Carlo Ancelotti refusing to guarantee him playing time.

His return to Dortmund was a surprise for many but Goetze brushed off his past few seasons with yet another smile.

Reuters

Kiev to host 2018 UCL final

KIEV - Kiev's Olympic Stadium will host the final of the 2018 Champions League, the head of Ukraine's soccer federation said yesterday.

The 70 000-capacity stadium, which hosted the final of the 2012 European Championship, will be confirmed officially following a meeting of Uefa officials in Athens but Andriy Pavloko, head of Football Federation of Ukraine, announced the news on his federation's website.

"The historical decision for the Ukrainian football was taken in Athens," Pavloko said.

"The final of the Champions League is the common win of every Ukrainian citizen. Now we can greet each other with this feast of football to be held in Kiev.

"This is an incredible event that will take its place in the history of the country," Pavloko added. "We will do all possible for this final to become exemplary."

Reuters

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UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Zidane unperturbed by late Real win

MADRID - Real Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane is tuning out the critics who claim the club's luck will eventually run out.

Zidane's side had to come from behind at home to beat Sporting Lisbon, 2-1, in their Champions League Group F opener on Wednesday.

The defending champions needed late goals from Cristiano Ronaldo and Alvaro Morata to collect three points.

Their performance paled in comparison to the rampant display of El Clasico rivals Barcelona, who rolled to a 7-0 win over Celtic in their first group game.

Zidane said he never doubted that Real would win, telling his club's official website: "It wasn't unexpected."

"I don't know whether we deserved it or not, but we kept believing right until the end."

"At any given time we can make the difference."

"We didn't throw in the towel and

that is important. The effort put in was tremendous."

Yesterday, El Mundo newspaper wrote "You can't always win at the last second or on penalties." The daily's reference was to Real's penalty shootout triumph over Atletico Madrid in the European final in May, and the 3-2 win over Sevilla in extra-time that gave Real the European Super Cup last month.

Zidane said Real's narrow victories were still important.

"When you win a game in this manner, it means a lot to the squad," the Frenchman said. "That's what I take away with me. We can't win all of our games 5-0."

Ronaldo, playing against his boyhood club, cancelled out Bruno Cesar's opener with an 89th minute free-kick before substitute Morata, who replaced Karim Benzema, headed in the winner on the last play of the game.

Real have won all of their games this



IN DENIAL: Real Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane.

season and lead the La Liga standings after three rounds but Zidane accepted improvement was needed.

"We're aware that the performance wasn't a perfect one," he said. "We can perform better than we did. We're only at the start of the season."

The Spanish media believe Zidane made a mistake by giving Benzema his first start of the season against Sporting with the French forward having only recently recovered from injury.

El Mundo labelled Benzema's performance "disastrous" and claimed "he is not even fit to play for (Real's reserves) Castilla."

Reuters

POCHETTINO FUMES AT PASSIONLESS SPURS

LONDON - Mauricio Pochettino accused his Tottenham flops of lacking passion after Monaco ruined their record-breaking night at Wembley with a 2-1 win in the Champions League.

Pochettino was hoping his side would mark their return to the Champions League after a five-year absence with a dominant display in front of an English club record attendance of 85 011.

But the north Londoners slumped to a lacklustre loss as goals from Bernardo Silva and Thomas Lemar handed the points to the French league leaders in the Group E opener.

Pochettino couldn't hide his frustration at Tottenham's below-par performance and the Argentine coach questioned his players' desire, as well as lambasting their sloppy defensive efforts.

"We need to show more

hunger and passion. We showed a lack of passion today a little bit because we cannot concede that first goal," Pochettino said.

"We need to be more aggressive when we have chances to score. That is what we said in the changing room."

"It was a fantastic opportunity. We waited a long time to be in the Champions League and we fight a lot last season to be in it. The feeling is why didn't we do more?"

"We need to show more hunger on the pitch. We need to show a different image than we showed in the first half."

Despite the record-breaking display from their fans, Tottenham never looked comfortable in their unfamiliar surroundings following the club's decision to move their European games to Wembley while White Hart Lane is being redeveloped. AFP



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST 2016/2017

Swazi Airways, a trading company, is a national airline that will be operating soon after the completion of the certification process. In preparation for our operation, we hereby invite suitable and reputable suppliers to express interest in providing services of the national pride. Our mandate as a national airline is: To provide air transportation to the Swazi nation and enhance tourism in the region.

To grow the aviation sector in Swaziland

To create trade opportunities with the rest of the world through air cargo.

1. OFFICE STATIONERY, PRINTING, CATRIDGES & TONERS
2. OFFICE FURNITURE, OFFICE FITTINGS & OFFICE EQUIPMENT
3. PROMOTIONAL ITEMS & CORPORATE GIFTS
4. ADVERTISING AGENCIES
5. BRANDING
6. EVENTS MANAGEMENT
7. MARKET RESEARCH
8. SECURITY EQUIPMENT & SERVICES
9. FIRE & PROTECTION SERVICES
10. COMPUTER HARDWARE, SOFTWARE & RELATED IT SERVICES
11. OFFICE CLEANING SERVICES & GROUNDS MAINTENANCE
12. CONSTRUCTION OF GUARD HOUSE

Interested Swazi companies should submit the following documents in sealed envelopes (clearly marked with the work for which the expression of interest (EOI) is submitted).

- Company business profiles
- Certified and Valid Tax Clearance
- Certified and Valid Trading License
- VAT/TIN registration
- Certified copy of Form J and C
- Certified copy of Certificate of Incorporation
- Labour Compliance Certificate or equivalent document
- Swaziland National Provident Fund (SNPF) and Employers Compliance Clearance Certification
- List of relevant trade references
- Recommendation letter from at least one client

The Expression of Interest (EOI) should be addressed and dropped in the tender box provided at Swazi Airways Head Offices.

The Chief Executive Officer
Gate No. 6, Matsapha International Airport
Matsapha
Swaziland

Deadline for submission is Friday 23rd September 2016

Swazi Airways reserves the right to accept/reject any EOI or stop the process of approval at any stage, at its sole discretion without assigning any reason and shall bear no liability whatsoever consequent upon such decision.

Late, telegraphic, electronic and faxed EOI will not be considered.

For further information, contact: Procurement Department at Swazi Airways Head Office, Gate No. 6, Matsapha International Airport, Matsapha, Swaziland. Telephone No: +26825188610 or send request to procurement@flyswazi.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL



The Central Bank of Swaziland (hereafter referred to as "CBS" or "the Bank"), being the apex Bank of the country, occupies a central position in the economic and financial development of Swaziland. In order to fulfill its vision of being a proficient Central bank in the Eastern and Southern African Region by 2022, the Bank is inviting the following request for proposal;

Tender Name	TYPE	Tender Reference
CALENDARS AND DIARIES FOR 2017	RFP	CBS_DIARIES_STRAT & COMMS_RFP_09-2016_L
MEDIA MANAGEMENT SOLUTION	RFP	CBS_MEDIA_STRAT & COMMS-RFP_09-2016_L
LYNC/SKYPE FOR BUSINESS DEVICES	RFP	CBS_LYNC ICT_09-2016_L
BCM SIMULATION TESTING	RFP	CBS BCM_RISK_09-2016_L

The CBS invites eligible interested service providers to access the RFPs on the CBS website; www.centralbank.org.sz under Tenders

Closing date: 30 September 2016 at 16:00hrs

Please address all Enquiries to: Secretary, Tender Committee
Tel: (+268) 2 408 2000 Supply Chain Division - Fax (+268) 2404 0063

Email: tenders@centralbank.org.sz

All tender documents should be sealed and deposited in the tender box situated at the Umntsholi Building (ground floor) clearly marked;

Secretary, Tender Committee
Tender Name & Reference

Central Bank of Swaziland, Mahlokohla Street, Mbabane, Swaziland

The Central Bank of Swaziland does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

LONDON - Antonio Conte has confirmed David Luiz will start for Chelsea in tonight's Premier League encounter with Liverpool and is confident the Brazil international will be ready.

The centre-back re-joined Chelsea from Paris Saint-Germain in the closing hours of the transfer window, but Conte was quick to stress he would need time to adapt to his new surroundings and benched the 29-year-old for the 2-2 draw with Swansea.

Luiz will feature from the start against Liverpool, though, with John Terry unavailable due to an ankle injury.

"Tomorrow David Luiz will play for the first time with us," Conte said at a media conference. "We are confident. We expect him to play well. We know he is a good player. We are working to get him in the best condition to get the best out of him."

Truth

"I said he needs time because that is the truth. It is normal that a new player needs time to adapt to your idea of football. But we need him against Liverpool."

"He has worked hard these days. I am confident he will do well."

Marcos Alonso also still awaits his



Chelsea debut following his move from Fiorentina, but Conte stressed the Spaniard is ready to make his bow if needed.

"Alonso is also a good player and I am pleased with him."

He is showing good things on the training pitch. I think he is ready to play," Conte added. "He can play tomorrow if necessary."

After the match against Liverpool, we have another tough game against Leicester and that could be

another good opportunity for him.

"Chelsea sit three points clear of Liverpool after four games, but Conte expects a difficult match against Jurgen Klopp's men."

"I expect a strong match, a tough game against a strong team," the Italian continued.

"I think Liverpool are a really good team. They play with high intensity and bring many players in attacking situations."

"They are a very good team. We must pay great attention. We know Liverpool are a very strong team."

Goal

team on my return," Dyer told the club website.

The winger, who has scored 31 goals since joining Swansea in 2009, never started in Leicester's title-winning league season, but scored once in 12 appearances from the bench.

Swansea, who have four points from four games this league season, travel to Southampton on Sunday.

Reuters

Dyer out for up to two months

SWANSEA - Swansea City's Nathan Dyer will be sidelined for up to two months with an ankle injury, the Premier League club said yesterday.

The 28-year-old, who signed a new four-year contract with the Welsh club last month after winning the

league title during his loan spell at Leicester City last season, will undergo a surgery on Monday to remove extra bone growth in his ankle.

"I am bitterly disappointed. There is not a lot I can do about it, but I am determined to work even harder after my operation to play my part for the

team on my return," Dyer told the club website.

The winger, who has scored 31 goals since joining Swansea in 2009, never started in Leicester's title-winning league season, but scored once in 12 appearances from the bench.

Swansea, who have four points from four games this league season, travel to Southampton on Sunday.

Reuters

Komphela sees positives for Chiefs

JOHANNESBURG - An improved second half performance held out positives for under fire Kaizer Chiefs, said coach Steve Komphela after their 1-1 draw at home to Platinum Stars on Wednesday in the Absa Premiership.

"We started a bit slow, I don't know why, but it picked up in the second half with a lot more energy. We challenged for the ball and I think were better in terms of chances. But in the beginning we didn't have any real confidence, it was only in the second half that we played with real purpose. But in the end I'm not happy that we didn't win and

that we conceded a goal."

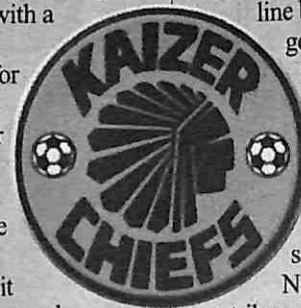
Chiefs had to come from a goal down to share the points and have now won just once since February in official competition - and that was against relegation-bound University of Pretoria last September.

They were a tad unlucky against Stars as Robert Ngambi's shot did not cross the line but still given as a goal by referee Victor Hlungwani.

"I don't want it to come across as an excuse but I didn't think it crossed the line," Komphela said.

Ngambi's 21st minute striker was cancelled out by an equaliser from Pule Eksteen in the 72nd minute.

Mzansi Football

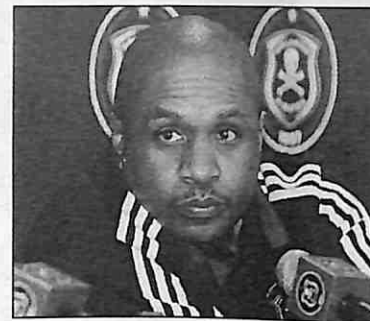


Pirates investigating Ertugral-Gyimah row

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates are looking into a reported altercation between Muhsin Ertugral and defender Edwin Gyimah which allegedly transpired at the Cape Town International Airport.

The Buccaneers recorded their second Premiership victory of the season with a 2-1 triumph over Ajax Cape Town, with forward Tendai Ndoro netting a brace.

The result has however been somewhat overshadowed by a video showing Ertugral and Gyimah being engaged in a heated argument, with the latter reportedly being calmed down by both his teammates and South African Police Service offi-



INVESTIGATED: Orlando Pirates defender Edwin Gyimah.

cials. The Ghanaian was substituted at half-time for Themba Sikhakhane and Pirates Football Administrator Floyd Mbele says the whole story needs to be heard before



conclusions are drawn.

"We need to establish the facts first," he said.

"We can't start casting aspersions without establishing the whole story. We will get reports from those who were there, the team management and then take the matter forward."

It's still unclear what happened, so before we can go anywhere we need to establish the whole story first.

"People are attracted to controversy. This doesn't take away from the fact that we have had a good start in the league," Mbele concluded.

Sport24

Wales return to top 10 of FIFA rankings

LONDON - Wales have moved up to 10th in the FIFA rankings, their highest placing for over a year, following their 4-0 win over Moldova earlier this month.

It is a fitting end to a glorious summer for Chris Coleman's side after their historic run to the semi-finals of Euro 2016, which ended in defeat by champions Portugal. The Welsh have moved up one place from their August ranking, but have not managed to usurp their highest ever rank-

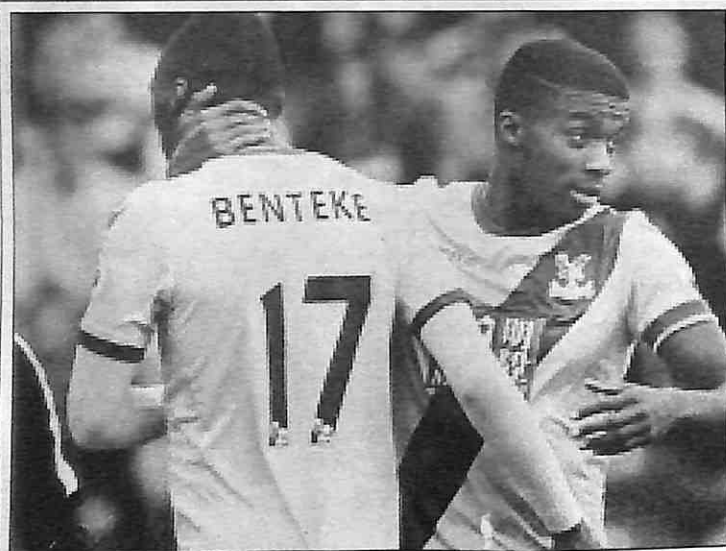
ing of eighth - attained only last year during their successful qualification campaign. A winning start to their World Cup qualification hopes was inspired by Gareth Bale, who scored twice against the Moldovans in Cardiff. Wales' success has seen them overtake Spain, who fell by three places to drop down to 11th despite an 8-0 win over minnows Liechtenstein. Brazil were the biggest movers in the top 10, rising from ninth to fourth, their highest ranking

FIFA WORLD RANKINGS (as of yesterday)

- 1 Argentina
- 2 Belgium
- 3 Germany
- 4 Colombia
- 4 Brazil
- 6 Chile
- 7 Portugal
- 8 France
- 9 Uruguay
- 10 Wales



since before they hosted the 2014 World Cup. **Dailymail**



Benteke backs his brother to make an impact

LONDON - Christian Benteke says the club's acquisition of his brother by Crystal Palace has nothing to do with his recent arrival at Selhurst Park.

"He has been training really well," the Belgium international told the Evening Standard.

"It is not because he is my brother. He had a few minutes on the pitch and I am sure he enjoyed it."

Jonathan Benteke joined the Eagles shortly after his brother's £27m club record signing

and upon his arrival, Alan Pardew lavished praise on the 21-year-old. "He is a young striker with natural talent and they are not easy to find. We checked him out and liked the look of him," Pardew told reporters.

"It was an opportunity for us that he is so young and relatively cheap to take a chance on."

Jonathan made his debut in the 2-1 win over Middlesbrough on Saturday afternoon at the Riverside.

Sport24

Weekend Sports Fixtures

Compiled by Sanele Jele

MTN Premier League full fixture:			Sibuyeni vs Sibovini 3:30pm			Barcelona vs Luvinjelo 3pm			Sunday at Ntsinini Sports Ground		
Tomorrow at Tabankulu Stadium			Tomorrow at Vusweni Sports Ground			Tomorrow at Bizza Sports Ground			Arsenal vs Silver City 11am		
Mbabane Highlanders	vs	Red Lions	V. Killers	vs	PMT	Junior Stars	vs	Manchester	Manchester	vs	Zinyane
		3pm			3pm			1pm			1pm
Tomorrow at Manzini Club			Tomorrow at Veni Sports Ground			Young Stars vs Khulungwane 3pm			Fast Movers vs City Stars 3pm		
Manzini Sundowns	vs	Manzini Sea Birds	Gordon Stars	vs	Burning Spear	Sunday at Maphalaleni Sports Ground			Sunday at Mthongeni Sports Ground		
		3pm			3:30p	Young Lovers vs XI Experience 1pm			Hot Fighters vs Democracy 1pm		
Tomorrow at Mayaluka Stadium			Tomorrow Embo Sports Ground			Professional vs Umkhokha 3pm			vs Chelsea 3pm		
Tambuti	vs	Midas City	Tinyosi	vs	Umbelebele	Pot Construction Sigangeni League			Sunday at Zinyane Sports Ground		
Royal Leopard	vs	Green Mamba			3:30pm	Tomorrow at Magilane Sports Ground			Celtics vs M. Professionals 1pm		
		4pm				Express vs Ntsetse Flyers 2pm			Lonhlanane vs Mpofu Aces 3pm		
Tomorrow at Mavuso Sports Centre			Sunday at Embo Sports Ground			Tomorrow at Sigangeni Sports Ground			Umnofu Fertilizer Ndzingeni League		
Moneni Pirates	vs	Manzini Wanderers	Mv. Invaders	vs	Wizards	M. Celtics vs Cannibals 1:30pm			Sunday at Bulandzeni Sports Ground		
Young Buffaloes	vs	Mbabane Swallows	Swazi Sun	vs	Billy Ocean	Kangaroo vs Community 3:30pm			Young Stars vs Mpumalanga Aces 1:15pm		
		4pm			3pm	Sunday at Esigangeni Sports Ground			Sweet Banana vs Professionals 3:15pm		
MTN National First Division			Northern Zone			L. Nationals vs United Stars 11am			Sunday at Bulandzeni Sports Ground		
Tonight at Mavuso Sports Centre			Sunday at Prison Sports Ground			U. Eagles vs Real United 1pm			White City vs Winners Park 9am		
Matsapha United	vs	Madlenya	Ndeya Galaxy	vs	Pachanga	Real Touch vs Total XI 3pm			Liverpool vs Supersport 11am		
		7:30pm	19 Celtics	vs	Mvuma	Sunday at Sibovini Sports Ground			Kubongeni Celtics vs Young Chiefs 1pm		
Tomorrow at Prince of Wales			Sunday at Ntongeni Sports Ground			Villa Sport vs KUPheleni 3pm			Bulandzeni Rebels vs Arsenal 3pm		
Mbabane Citizens	vs	Hlatikhulu Tycoons	M. Arsenal	vs	Nkonjaneni	Sunday at Ntsetse Sports Ground			Ntabempisi League		
		3pm	Vultures	vs	B. Swallows	Young Heroes vs SD Civil 3pm			Tomorrow at Mkhuzweni Sports Ground		
Sunday at Manzini Club Stadium			LFTC Sports			Buy Cash Piggs Peak League			M. United vs City Stars 11am		
Ludzeludze Brothers	vs	Malanti Chiefs	Manchester	vs	Horo	Sunday at Lazwane Sports Ground			Super Stars vs Kappa Kappa 1pm		
Bad Boys	vs	Vovovo	Sunday at Buhleni Sports Ground			Rise N Shine vs Mhlathane 1pm			Russian Bombers vs Seven Stars 3pm		
		3:30pm	Ndlalambi vs N. Swallows 3pm			Hotspurs vs Citizen 3pm			Sunday at Buhleni Sports Ground		
Sunday at Mayaluka Stadium			Mandla Mahewu Mbabane League			Sunday at Malanda Sports Ground			Buhleni Aces vs Fontotje 11am		
City Warriors	vs	Hub Sundowns	Tomorrow at Msunduzi Sports Ground			Phophonyane vs Bush Bucks 11am			Mduez vs Skom Boyz 1pm		
Sikhalo Se-Africa	vs	Amalanda F.C	Flying Stars	vs	Double Action	White Killers vs Mpolonjeni 1pm			M. Arsenal vs City Cosmos 3pm		
		3:30pm	Mbabane Celtics	vs	Amawele	Peak Forest vs Khanjana 3pm			Sunday at Ntabezimpisi Sports Ground		
PLS Under-20 fixture			Sunday at Msunduzi Sports Ground			Sunday at Plantation Sports Ground			Special Killers vs M. Sundowns 1pm		
Saturday at Uniswa Sports Ground			RealTec vs Manzana 11am			Piggs Peak United vs Supersport 11am			Hungry Lions vs Y. Professionals 3pm		
Sea Birds	vs	Green Mamba	FC Vaal	vs	Sandla	Thuluzobona vs Mangwaneni 3pm			Sunday at Fontotje Sports Ground		
Young Buffaloes	vs	Midas City	White City	vs	Thembellihle	Citizens vs Thuluzobona 1pm			Golden Arrows vs Sigodlo 3pm		
Moneni Pirates	vs	Mbabane Swallows	Sunday at Veni Sports Ground			Mangwaneni vs White Killers 3pm			Tomorrow at Mshinande Sports Ground		
		2pm	Imbumba vs Pot O Gold 11am			Sunday at Mzimba Sports Ground			Uprises vs H. Pirates 1pm		
Sunday at Uniswa Sports Ground			Veni Cosmos vs Mb. Arsenal 1pm			Sundowns vs Rangers 3pm			Ntintinyane vs Trounge 3pm		
Royal Leopard	vs	Red Lions	Pine Valley	vs	Corporation	Sunday at Hhukwini Sports Ground			Barcelona vs Black Stone 11am		
Mbabane Highlanders	vs	Tambuti	B.Division			Monaco vs Chiefs 11am			Teenagers vs Royal Madrid 1pm		
		12noon	Tomorrow at Police Sports Ground			Top Centre vs Arsenal 1pm			Mbabatane vs Chelsea 3pm		
Manzini Wanderers	vs	Manzini Sundowns	Mphalati vs Lusot 1:30pm			Rhinos vs Timbungulu 3pm			Sunday at Ntongeni Sports Ground		
		2pm	R. Dynamics vs Junction 3:30pm			Sunday at Nsukumbili Sports Ground			Hellenic vs United Aces 11am		
Milky Max Mbabane Juniors League E10 000 - U13			Sunday at Police Sports Ground			Rebels vs Green Sea 11am			Liverpool vs Seven Up 1pm		
Tomorrow at United Sports Ground			Wailers vs Movers 9am			All Stars vs Swallows 1pm			Express vs Zibonele 3pm		
Super Sport	vs	Imbumba	Never Die vs Mantsholo 11am			Kasiko vs Pirates 3pm			Swazi Trac Lubombo Super League		
Hellenic	vs	Mphalati	Classic vs Supersport 1pm			Tomorrow At Majotini Sports Ground			Mayaluka Stadium tonight		
Thembellihle	vs	M Swallows	Mbabane United vs Interstars 3pm			Shooting Stars vs Motshane United 1:30pm			CPL vs Dangerous Darkies 7pm		
Hurricane	vs	All Stars	Sidvashini			Majotini vs Manyisa 3:30pm			Magwanyana vs XI Men 9pm		
		11:30am	Darkies vs Mangwaneni 11am			Sunday at Motshane Sports Ground			Tambuti Sports Ground - Saturday		
Sunday at Dumping Sports Ground			Mpolonjeni vs Junior Aces 1pm			Barcelona vs Nkoyoyo 3pm			Ubombo Flyers vs Barcelona 3pm		
PMT	vs	Dark City	National Rangers			Sunday at Majotini Sports Ground			Siphoso Sports Ground - Saturday		
Amawele	vs	Killers	Bakhanyisele Mabulala Maphalaleni League			Dribbling Stars vs Atletico 11am			Ngcina FC vs Tabankulu Callies 3pm		
Umbelebele	vs	R Tec	Western Stream			Super Stars vs Ngwenya 1pm			Tambankulu Stadium - Sunday		
		10:30am	Tomorrow at Jubukweni Sports Ground			M. Celtics vs Marisburg 3pm			Equator vs Rail United 3pm		
Mbabane East Mbabane Juniors Knock-Out			Siphambanweni vs Academy 11am			Sunday at Ngwenya Sports Ground			Lavundlamanti Sports Ground - Sunday		
Tomorrow at Police Sports Ground			Jubukweni vs Rollers 1pm			Bafana vs Crocodiles 3pm			Black Swallows vs Lubhuku Liverpool 3pm		
Dark City	vs	Umbelebele	Happy Fighters vs Hill Stars 3pm			Shark Mhlangatane League			Malaheni Sports Ground - Sunday		
Hurricane	vs	Umbelebele	Sunday at Jubukweni Sports Ground						Young Aces vs Illovo 3pm		
New Stars	vs	Sivutsa	Sunrise vs Top Classic 11am								
Sunday at Msunduzi Sports Ground			Lunkanka vs Mighty Birds 1pm								
SOS	vs	Express	Love & Peace vs Early Sunset 3pm								
Celtics	vs	Citizens	Eastern Stream								
Flying	vs	Super Sport	Tomorrow at Maphalaleni Sports Ground								
		10:30am (U20)	Hot spurs vs Rangers 1pm								
Sunday at Dumping site Sports Ground											
Killers	vs	J Stars									
		11:30am (U15)									
Sunday at United Sports Ground											
Swallows	vs	Super Sport									
		12:30pm (U15)									
Sunday at United Sports Ground											
Umbelebele	vs	Checkers									
		12:30pm (U15)									
Swazi Trac Hhohho Super League											
Tomorrow at Hhukwini Sports Ground											
		1:30pm (U15)									

LOGS STANDINGS

Hhohho Regional Football Association logs										Shark Mhlangatane Regional Football League										City Stars										
Mp Sikhumbuto Timpisini Regional League										EASTERN STREAM										Southern Zone										
P	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	P	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	P	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	
1	M. Swallows	2	2	0	0	4	2	2	6	1	Rovers	1	1	0	0	3	0	-12	39	1	Burning Spear	2	2	0	0	5	1	4	6	
2	Golden Arrows	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3	2	M. United	2	2	0	1	6	2	4	6	2	Wizards	2	1	1	0	6	2	4	4	
3	AK 47	2	1	0	1	5	3	2	3	3	Swallows	2	2	0	0	4	1	3	6	3	Swazi Sun	2	1	1	0	6	4	2	4	
4	Stone Breakers	2	1	0	1	3	1	2	3	4	Xi Men	2	1	1	0	2	1	1	4	4	Tinyosi	2	1	1	0	3	2	1	4	
5	Mshweni	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	3	5	Seven Stars	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3	5	5	Billy Ocean	2	1	0	1	2	2	0	3
6	Star Wanderers	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3	6	Liverpool	2	1	0	1	4	4	0	3	6	Sibovini	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	3	
7	Soccer Rose	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3	7	T. Wizards	2	1	0	1	3	-4	-1	3	7	Gordon Stars	2	1	0	0	2	2	0	3	
8	Red Lions	2	1	0	1	2	5	-3	3	8	Tigers	0	1	0	0	0	0	1		8	Vusweni Killers	2	1	0	1	1	4	-3	3	
9	H Pirates	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	1	9	M. Bombers	2	0	1	1	2	3	-1	1	9	Umbelebele	2	0	1	1	1	2	-1	1	
10	Zamalek	2	0	1	1	1	2	-1	0	10	Home Defenders	2	0	1	1	3	5	-2	1	10	PMT	2	0	1	1	2	4	-2	1	
11	M Swallows	1	0	0	1	1	2	-1	0	11	Cosmos	2	0	0	2	1	3	-2	0	11	Sibuyeni	2	0	1	1	2	5	-3	1	
12	Ngonini	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0	12	Makweya	1	0	0	1	1	3	-2	0	12	Mv. Invaders	2	0	0	2	2	4	-2	0	
13	Njakeni	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3	0	13	New Castle	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3	0											
14	Blue Birds	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3	0																					
15	Mv. Sundowns	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3	0																					

Buy Cash Pigg's Peak Football League										Western Stream									
Promotion										P									
P	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts	P	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Rise n Shine	1	1	0	0	3	1	2	3	1	Zinyane	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3
2	Hotspurs	1	1	0	0	6	5	1	3	2	Arsenal	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3
3	Citizens	1	1	0	0	2	1	1	3	3	Chelsea	1	1	0	0	3	1	2	3
4	Phophonyane	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3										
5	Mangwaneni	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	1										
6	White Killers	1	0	1	0	2	2	0	1										
7	Mhlathuze	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										
8	Khanjama Rovers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										
9	Supersports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										
10	Morning Stars	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										
11	Mpolonjeni	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										
12	P Peak United	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0										



IMBUBE KING'S MARATHON LAUNCH



PROUD MOMENT: Prince Lonkhokhela making his remarks during the launch of the Imbube King's Marathon yesterday at Happy Valley. (Pics: Sanele Jele)



ALL SET: Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala addressing the gathering.



RULES AND REGULATIONS: SNPF's Sindi Mango briefing the audience on the marathon's rules.



IN DETAIL: Bhekiwe Sibandze of Swazi Slojos explaining in details the route of the marathon.



PRESENT: SNSRC's Zama Tsabedze and AAS's Thoba Mazibuko were also part of the event.



HERE TO ASSIST: SNPF General Finance Manager Langalakhe Dlamini responding to questions posed by the audience.



PAYING ATTENTION: Du-Van Developers' Seria Masilela, Melissa Vilane and IDM's Ntobeko Dlamini listen attentively during the event.



SHOWING SUPPORT: Ncedze Property's Smile Dlamini and SNPF's Jerry Gamedze.



REWARDED: Colani Malambe, a first year Computer Science student looks on as he was announced the winner of the logo design competition. Presenting the cheque is SNPF CEO Prince Lonkhokhela, DPM Paul Dlamini and Minister of Sports David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala.




Semi Final 2nd Leg

17 September 2016

20:15

Cape Town City

v

Bidvest Wits

sms "SAPLS" to 6464



ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE | FIXTURES

16 September 2016	18 September 2016
21:00 Chelsea v Liverpool sms "chelsea/Liverpool" to 6464	13:00 Watford v Manchester United sms "Manutd" to 6464
17 September 2016	
16:00 Hull City v Arsenal sms "Arsenal" to 6464	15:15 Crystal Palace v Stoke City
16:00 Leicester City v Burnley	15:15 Southampton v Swansea City
16:00 Manchester City v Bournemouth	17:30 Tottenham Hotspur v Sunderland sms "Premier" to 6464
16:00 West Bromwich Albion v West Ham United	
18:30 Everton v Middlesbrough sms "Premier" to 6464	

Get the latest scores and news updates as the game progresses



SPORTS DOCTORS DINNER



WELCOME TO SWAZILAND: South Korea 1992 World Olympic gold medallist Hwang Young Jo shaking hands with Swazi Observer Managing Editor Mbongeni Mbingo on Wednesday at Ramblas Restaurant during the sports doctors dinner of which Young Jo is the ambassador. (Pics: Sanele Jele)



FREE TO HELP: Some of the sports doctors who were at the event.



MY PLEASURE: The Swazi Observer MRE sharing a light moment with Swakor Medical Centre Vice-President Lee Ji Seon while Hwang Young Jo looks on.



LOVE AND PEACE: Some of the attendants posing for the lenses.



PRESENT: Dr. Vusi Magagula appreciating the guests.



ALL SMILES: Director Dr. Vusi Magagula greeting Mbingo during the function.



SHARING IDEAS: Swakor Medical Centre's Daniel Kim having a chat with the Swazi Observer's managing editor.



FOCUSED: Olympic Gold medallist Hwang Young Jo posing for the lenses.



OUT TO SUPPORT: House of Assembly Speaker Themba Msibi also attended the dinner.



TUCKING IN: Lobamba MP Michael Masilela (r) with Lobamba secretary.



INTRODUCTION: Heo Joon Young introducing himself.

football talk

all your latest world football news

● Tottenham are confident they will break the UK record for stadium naming rights once the club's new 61 000-seater ground is built. *(Sun)*

● Chelsea will make another offer for Lazio defender Stefan de Vrij, 24, in January after having a bid for the Netherlands international rejected in the summer. *(Calciomercato, via Daily Star)*

● Wales forward Gareth Bale is in negotiations with Real Madrid over a new long-term contract that stands to put him in the same pay bracket as team-mate Cristiano Ronaldo. *(Guardian)*

● Arsenal's Chile forward Alexis Sanchez, 27, wants a wage increase and a buyout clause included in any new deal he signs with the club. *(Daily Mirror)*

● The Gunners will offer new deals to Sanchez and Germany midfielder Mesut Ozil, 27, but the futures of England contingent of Jack Wilshere, 24, Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain, 23, and 26-year-old Kieran Gibbs are less certain. *(Daily Mail)*

● Manchester City boss Pep Guardiola wants the club's fans to forget their feud with UEFA and stop booing the Champions League anthem. *(Independent)*

● Manchester United and Everton both want to sign Juventus' 18-year-old Cyprus midfielder Grigoris Kastanos, who will cost around £17m. *(Sun)*

● Eleven English clubs, including Arsenal, Liverpool, Chelsea, Manchester United and Manchester City, sent scouts to Benfica's game against Besiktas on Tuesday. *(Daily Mirror)*

● Bayern Munich Chief Executive Karl-Heinz Rummenigge says the German champions capitalised on Manchester United's indecision to sign 18-year-old Portugal midfielder Renato Sanches from Benfica this summer. *(Bild, via Manchester Evening News)*

● Barcelona forward Neymar, 24, held summer talks with French champions Paris St-Germain, who were willing to give him a private jet and put his name on a chain of hotels, according to one of the Brazil international's representatives. *(ESPN)*

● La Liga is investigating how Barcelona handled Neymar's transfer from Santos to the Spanish side in 2013. *(Catalunya Radio, via AS)*

● Any takeover of Hull City would be welcomed by the local council, according to one of its senior councillors. *(Hull Daily Mail)*

● Former Aston Villa winger Charles N'Zogbia, 30, who had a trial at Sunderland this summer, will join French side Nantes. *(L'Equipe, via Birmingham Mail)*



DU'S CORNER

'THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT'

WITH DUMSANE SIBANDZE

PLS Youth Development Communications Manager



Y'ELLO MTN LEAGUE

MTN Swaziland, in collaboration with the Premier League of Swaziland (PLS), will present super games in what promises to be another fun-filled elite football action this weekend at different venues around the country.

Mavuso Sports Centre, Tambankulu, Manzini Club, Mayaluka and other stadiums, will be a bee-hive of activity this weekend as football lovers will be treated to a great feast of the beautiful game.

The nation is reminded that MTN games begin tomorrow, never miss these exciting fixtures as released by the PLS. Like I always say, the league continues to grow from strength to strength and we have learnt from our past mistakes hence it can only get better from here moving forward.

If we sit back and look years back, one is proud to say we have come a long way and it is indeed time our league is appreciated in all spheres. I spent some time with the PLS chief operations officer this week and he told me all stadiums will be the place to be this weekend as they have great fixtures for the weekend.

It is worth mentioning that MTN Swaziland has raised the bar this season and I urge all stakeholders to play their part. We are also humbled by the growing figures in the stadiums and this is an indication that we are on the right track, come vision 2022.

● ESTIBAYENI LODGE UNDER-17 LEAGUE LAUNCH

We would like to thank Esibayeni Lodge boss Desmond Oswin for deciding to partner with football again this season. As football people, we take that as a privilege because he could have sponsored other sporting codes. We cannot forget his family, who supported him in taking such a serious decision.



LAUNCH: PLS Marketing and Development Communications Officer Dumsane Sibandze with Yolanda Oswin during the launch of Under-17 Esibayeni Lodge sponsor yesterday at the company's premises. (Pic: Sanele Jele)

We promise we will not disappoint him by staging professionally-run games with no reports of violence. We further thank our Chairman Victor Gamedze for securing sponsorship as we know at the start of every season, its either he secures a new sponsor or negotiates a better package for the existing one.

We are proud to say he was able to negotiate for a much bigger package this season compared to the last one. Ours is to plead with our people for better and professional behaviour in our games so that we make the work of our chairman very easy when he is negotiating sponsorships. We do not want him to apologise for our wayward behaviour to sponsors.

● FOOTBALL TEAMS

It is with great hope that all the 12 teams have registered their players as such a process was opened a long time ago. As our games are starting this weekend, we expect no problems where registration is concerned because

we believe all teams are aware of what is required of them. For more information, they can get the fixtures from local newspapers for the weekend games. We expect all registration papers to be in order to avoid unnecessary complications.

● MEDIA

We again pass our sincere appreciation to the media for the good job they performed in the past season during these games. Their support was second to none as they kept football fans informed about the games, creating excitement in the process. As we head towards the start of the games in the new season, we again ask them to continue on the same path and support these future national team stars by showcasing their talent for the world to see.

● COACHES

We are thankful to those local coaches whom we all know are highly qualified but still find time to devote their precious time in

developing young talent. We know coaches like Penwell Malinga, Gcina 'Magiyane' Dlamini and Aaron 'Katalala' Mavimbela, who are highly qualified coaches but have huge passion for developing young talent. We hope to see more of such highly qualified coaches in our league in the future because that is where the future talent of this country has to be developed.

● FROM THE PLS COO

The COO Pat Vilakati has urged all football fans around the country to attend the opening league games this weekend in their numbers.

He has given an assurance that all is in place for the start of the games, warning fans to accept whatever results by not resorting to violence. He has also appealed to football people to support the PLS Development League activities like the recently launched Esibayeni Lodge Under-17s league. He concluded by wishing all the teams the best of luck as they gear up for the weekend games.

Four weeks to go for Inyatsi Swazi Frontier

By Sanele Jele

CYCLING – IT'S that time of the year and excitement is brewing since there are only four weeks until the wheels begin rolling in the 11th edition of the Inyatsi Swazi Frontier.

Locally-based international construction company, Inyatsi Construction, enters its second year as 'Title Sponsor' and the event is fuelled by Total Swaziland.

This year's race will be very interesting because it will be the

first time that riders will use GPS units to navigate the unmarked route.

This novel concept means each team must have its own GPS unit so it can download the track and be able to follow it. It is expected that many teams will be using GPS technology for the first time.

"When we started the Inyatsi Swazi Frontier 11 years ago, we had five 'race visions' which we

have continually focused on. One of these is to promote tourism and environmental protection since these two go hand-in-hand. Preserving our natural habitat, including indigenous flora and fauna as well as wildlife, is

essential if Swaziland is to continue to attract tourists," said race organiser Lesley Foss. "Riders, who have joined us on the Inyatsi Swazi Frontier in previ-

ous years, have been impressed with the beauty of rural Swaziland but we recognise it is under pressure. It is important to protect this and also to keep it litter-free.

"From the outset 11 years ago, we made a conscious decision that the Inyatsi Swazi Frontier would follow an unmarked route because we did not want to damage the environment by marking with spray paint.

We are hoping by using GPS technology, it will be easier to follow the unmarked route than in previous years."



King against discrimination in prize monies

Stories by Qondile Ntiwane

SPORTS - HIS Majesty King Mswati III is against the discrimination in prizes for winners in the Imbube Marathon.

This was revealed by Swaziland National Provident Fund (SNPF) CEO Price Lonkhokhela during the official launch of the Imbube Marathon to start at the Mavuso Sports Centre on October 8.

Making his remarks during the function, the prince said the King made it very clear that there should be no discrimination in the prize monies for males and females in the race.

"We have upheld this mandate by the King and that is why the

winners in the different categories will get the same amount where the prizes are concerned as opposed to having the men getting a larger share," he said.

Hopes

The prince said he had high hopes that the King would grace the marathon expected to attract thousands of athletes both locally and internationally.

He appealed with motorists to co-operate with them to ensure the success of this race.

"We want nothing but safety for our athlete and we, therefore, urge other road users to be cautious on the day.

"I will also be taking part in this race and will be competing in the 10km with the DPM, who has



NO DISCRIMINATION: SNPF CEO Prince Lonkhokhela.

proven to be a challenge for me on the road. I will give him a tough time, come October 8," he said.

DPM urges nation to prepare thoroughly for race

SPORTS - THE Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini has urged the nation to prepare thoroughly for the Imbube Marathon to avoid unnecessary disappointments.

Addressing the gathering during the launch of the event held at the Happy Valley Resort and Casino yesterday, the DPM said it was crucial to train and prepare for the race as opposed to waking up and participating in the race just to get a share of the prize money.

"This race needs a lot of preparation and I am expecting that athletes have started training. If not, all those interested in being part of the race should prepare for it so that we don't have unnecessary casualties on the day. Also, the athletes are urged to choose carefully the race that will best suit them as opposed to chasing after the money."

The DPM said such races were good platform to help people from the different sectors to grow in their work.

"One of the reasons that we don't improve even as businessmen is because we do not interact with other people. Taking part in

such races helps us to loosen up and this is when people give advice and constructive criticism, which in-turn help us grow not only as a person but in our work," he said.

He then urged the local athletes to strive to win at least the top three prize monies up for grabs.

"We want the money to remain at home. Our athletes should make sure to take home the top three prizes and then maybe leave the rest for the international athletes," he added.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala said it was pleasing to see His Majesty King Mswati III have a positive vision for the nation, especially where sports are concerned.

"Sports are a way of life and we do encourage the nation to come and be part of this race. The athletes should also know that the King will be there and he is a very good marathon runner and from where I am standing, maybe the internationals can take a chance against him but it will be tough," he said jokingly.

Athletes to use Mbabane-Manzini lane during Marathon

SPORTS - DRIVING to Manzini from Mbabane will be slightly disturbed during the Imbube King's Marathon as the lane will be used by athletes to compete in the inaugural race.

The route, according to Swazi Slojos Representative Bhekiwe Sibandze, will see the athletes start at the Mavuso Sports Centre and finish at the Prince of Wales in Mbabane Freeway.

"From Mavuso they join the Central road and then to Manzini Nazarene. They will run on the right lane of the freeway and then take the old Mbabane road when they reach Mahlanga.

They will then connect back to the freeway at Mvutjini, climb up Malagwane Hill which is the longest hill in this race. The athletes will then do one slope inside the POW before winning the race," he said.

He said the 21km race, sponsored by Standard Bank, would start at the Somhlolo National Stadium, in Lobamba while the 10km would be run around the capital city.

PROs WANT MORE INCENTIVES FROM MTN

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCER - PREMIER League teams PROs have urged sponsors of the Premier League of Swaziland (PLS), MTN to up their game as far as providing incentives for them is concerned.

The PROs said they were not happy with the level of commitment displayed by the communications' company in the welfare of the PROs.

They voiced their concerns during a lunch meeting with the sponsors' representatives held at Mdzimba View yesterday.

"We don't want to compare MTN with other sponsors but we will not hide it from

you that we are not motivated when it comes to marketing MTN Games.

We only go there because our teams are playing and nothing more.

We are appealing that you look into this matter so that we can start the new season on a good footing," said Young Buffaloes PRO Sandile Gwebu.

Sharing the same sentiments was Manzini Sundowns PRO

Muzi Matsenjwa, who urged the sponsors to make their products available to the PROs.

"PROs are important stakeholders when it comes to the marketing of games. We do appreciate being given this platform so we can voice out our concerns in the issue of incentives. I want to be honest and state that some of the PROs were developing a bad attitude towards the sponsor because of this issue and this is not good."

Other officials, who raised their concern over this matter, were National First Division Matsapha United CEO Celucolo 'Dino' Dlamini, Manzini Wanderers' Communications and Marketing Manager Senzo Dlamini and Red Lions PRO Comfort Shongwe. MTN Brand and Sponsorship

Manager Fisiwe Vilane assured the PROs that they would look into the matter.

"The purpose of this meeting is to get together, share ideas on how we can improve our relations going into the new season. As MTN we are determined to make our relations with the PROs better because they are people, who join us with the supporters of the game," he said.



Darts President Hall resigns

By Qondile Ntiwane

DARTS - AFTER a year of being elected to the position, Swaziland National Darts Association (SNDA) President J Hall has stepped down.

The president, who was elected into the position on September 19 last year, has already tendered his resignation to the SNDA executive committee where he cited work commitments as his reason to resign from the position.

The association's Secretary Phumlani 'Koffi' Ndwandwe confirmed the developments yesterday.

"Teams have been informed that our president has resigned and the executive committee has accepted the resignation. He did explain to us that he has a huge work load hence it will

be impossible to carry out his duties effectively.

"The reason we have accepted this is because he was skeptical during the elections because he suspected this," he said.

The secretary, however, noted that he was not lost to the sport

as he would continue to offer his assistance where needed.

"There are projects like the international tournament being handled by him and will continue with

the help of the executive," he said.

Ndwandwe added that Vice President Musa Manyatsi would take up the position on an acting basis.

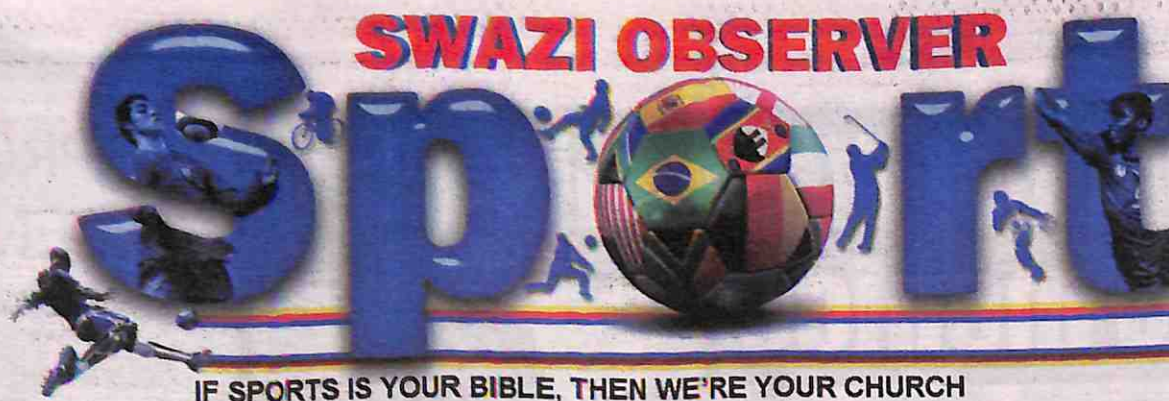
"We will have to elect a new president, but that is a process. We have to start with nominations and then the elections. Teams will be updated on this in due course," he said.



PARTICIPANTS: Some of the stakeholders who attended.

UEFA Europa League | RESULTS

Yesterday		
Zorya Luhansk	1-1	Fenerbahçe
1. FSV Mainz 05	1-1	St Etienne
Astra Giurgiu	2-3	FK Austria Wien
APOEL Nicosia	2-1	FC Astana
Maccabi Tel Aviv	3-4	Zenit
Viktoria Plzen	1-1	Roma
SK Rapid Wien	3-2	KRC Genk
BSC Young Boys	0-1	Olympiakos
Feyenoord	1-0	ManUnited
FK Qarabag	2-2	Slovan Liberec



IF SPORTS IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE'RE YOUR CHURCH

Friday September 16, 2016



Sihlangu ranked 100 in FIFA rankings

By Sanele Jele

SOCCER – SIHLANGU have moved three places in the latest Federation of International Football Association (FIFA) Coca Cola rankings that were released by the international football mother body yesterday.

True to Sihlangu Head Coach Harries 'Madze' Bulunga's assertion that his current squad is a work in progress, they now occupy the 100th position in the FIFA rankings.

Despite losing 0-1 to Malawi the Harries Madze Bulunga charges has improved their ranking.

The local squad has moved from position 103 which they were in last month.

They are now sandwiched by Togo, who are also 100th and Nicaragua, who are 102nd.

The latest ranking comes soon after Sihlangu bowed out of the AFCON qualifiers where they lost 0-1 to the 'Flames' of Malawi.

This means that the country will not take part in the AFCON finals to be held in Gabon next year. Sihlangu finished third in Group L with Zimbabwe finishing at the top as they are through to the AFCON finals.

The nation's pride has been on the rise in the ranking following the sterling performance in the COSAFA Castle Cup, held in Namibia in June, where they won a bronze medal as well their victory against Guinea in the AFCON qualifiers.



Moved

Malawi's victory against Swaziland have boosted them tremendously as they moved 28 places up, the 'Flames' are now ranked 99.

Guinea, who were in the same group with Swaziland in the AFCON qualifiers have moved five places and are ranked 61, while Zimbabwe have gone down three places despite qualifying for the 2017 AFCON finals, where they are ranked 113.

The top five in the table is comprised of Argentina, Belgium, Germany, Colombia and Brazil.

Sought for comment, the national team Head Coach Harries 'Madze' Bulunga said this was a step in the right direction. "Although we lost our game against Malawi which I believe if we had won, we would be amongst the best movers in the rankings.

However, this is positive news and we will work towards breaking into the top 50 in the rankings," Bulunga said.

E25 000 PRIZE FOR IMBUBE MARATHON CHAMPIONS

By Qondile Ntiwane

SPORTS – THE winners of the Imbube King's Marathon will walk away with a lucrative E25 000 first prizes.

According to the prize breakdown announced by Swaziland National Provident Fund (SNPF) Head of Corporate Services Sindi Mango during the official lunch of the race, the winners in the male and female categories will take home E25 000 each.

The second place winners will walk away with E15 000 each, while those finishing in third place will receive E10 000.

She stated that there are prizes for athletes, who would run under veterans, masters and grand master categories.

"The champions in these cat-

● kings advices against discrimination in prize monies

● Registration is already happening

● Race to be held on October 8



REVEALS: Swaziland National Provident Fund (SNPF) Head of Corporate Services Sindi Mango.

egories will walk away with E3 000 each, while the second and third place finishers will take home E2000 and E1 500,

respectively," she said

In the 21.1km half marathon, the winners will get E7 500 each, while the second place

The prize breakdown

42.2km

1.	E25 000
2.	E15 000
3.	E10 000
4.	E5 000
5.	E3 500
6.	E2 500
7.	E1 800
8.	E1 600
9.	E1 400
10.	E1 200

finisher will take home E3 750. Third place and fourth place winners will receive E2 500 and E1 750, respectively.

It will also be prizes galore in the 10km family fun run. The winner in this category will take home E5000 and the runners up E2 000.

Local athletes to strike it rich in race

SPORTS – It will be prizes galore for the first local athletes to cross the finish line in the different categories of the Imbube King's Marathon next month.

The first athletes in the 42.2km marathon stand to take home up to E7 500 in cash.

SNPF Head of Corporate Services Sindi Mango said E5 000 was put in place for athletes in both the male and female categories. She said there would be an extra E2 500 bonus if they finished in the top



10. In addition to the cash prizes, the athletes would receive registration and accommodation for two races of their choice within the SADC Region, as well as two pairs of

sneakers, one given per year.

The runners-up will receive E3 000 plus registration and accommodation for two races and two pairs of sneakers while the third place finishers, will get E2000 plus one pair of sneakers.

In the 21km, the first local runners will walk away with E2 500 plus free track suit and two T-shirts while the first locals, in the 10km, will get E500.

Esibayeni Lodge pumps in E200 000 for youth development

By Sanele Jele

SOCCER – THE second edition of the PLS Esibayeni Lodge U-17 League sponsorship saw an increment of E50 000 from its E150 000 purse in the previous season.

This was announced by Yolanda Oswin, who represented her father Desmond Oswin during the launch held at Esibayeni Lodge yesterday.

Making her remarks, Oswin said Esibayeni Lodge was fortunate to be provided the platform and privilege to support the development of the country's youth

"Our youth are the representation of future leadership in all professions.

The Under-17 league has provided the means to develop our youth and empower them in ways that may not have been possible before," Oswin said.

She further said the tournament would provide a platform to develop their skills and capabilities. Speaking during the event, NFAS Vice President Nicodimus 'Ace' Mashwama said they were grateful for the continued sponsorship.

"This will go a long way as far as developing football in the country

is concerned.

These are the future stars, who one day will be donning the Sihlangu jersey.

The Under-17 project promotes continuity in our game and we urge the stars to value this tournament by playing competitive football and displaying good behavior throughout the season," said Mashwama. PLS Development Communications Officer Dumisani 'DU' Sibande said the sponsorship increment showed how passionate the sponsors were about the development of football in the country. "We want to thank the

sponsor (Esibayeni Lodge) and PLS chairman Victor 'Maradona' Gamedze for working tirelessly for the improvement of soccer in the country, especially the development side."

"The fact that the future of the national team lies in the development cannot be over emphasised and we urge these young stars to value the sponsorship."

He said the PLS chairman played a vital role when it comes to luring sponsors both for the development side and elite league.

"He is a visionary leader and is immensely contributing towards the development of Swazi football." The event was also attended by PLS COO Petrus Vilakati.