

O SUNDAY Observer

observer.org.sz



The Right Place

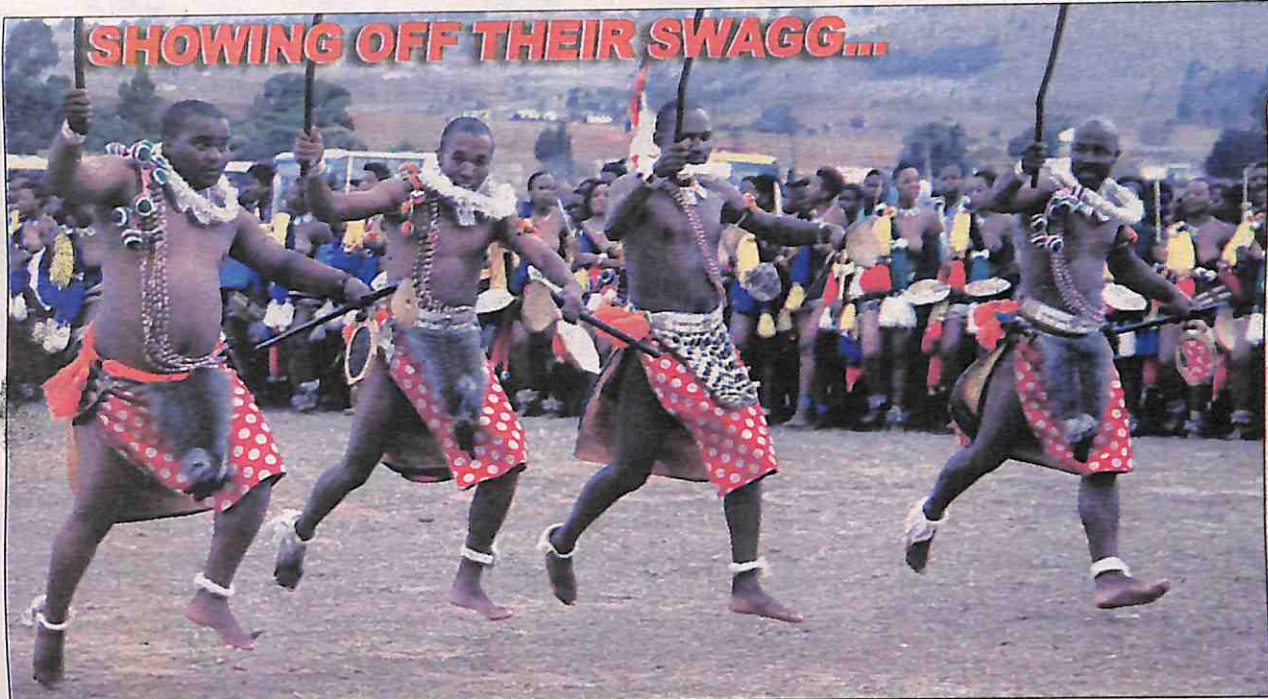
The Right Sunday



SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

PRICE: E5.90 (VAT INCLUSIVE)

Lugedlemba, Mdabulo, Malandvwa and Sidzidzi in full swing after appreciating the Imbali during the first day of the Shiselweni Reed Dance at Mbangweni Royal Residence yesterday. Today is the main day. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)



SHOWING OFF THEIR SWAGG...

Scene

Pull-Out



HEED YOUR CALLING

DVULADVULA ON THE CARDS FOR CEOs

Page 3

MPs NO SHOW AT SWAZIMED BRIEFING

Page: 15

DESPERATE TIMES...

FREE FOR ALL!



- Truck carrying 36 tonnes of maize looted in minutes
- Maize sold at accident scene
- SEA warns maize not to be eaten

STORY ON PAGES 2-3

KING'S MARATHON 2016

UP TO

E200,000.00

In Prize Money - Including a Prize For The

First Swazi



Standard Bank



Pushing the Limits

8th October 2016

www.swazislojos.com

CLARIFICATION

36 TONNES GM MAIZE

STORIES BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

Hundreds of Sidvashini residents and passersby flocked an accident scene yesterday morning under the Limkokwing-Engen Garage foot bridge and looted E140 000 worth of yellow maize destined for FeedMasters in Matsapha.

Mbabane bound traffic came to a standstill after a truck carrying 36 tonnes of genetically modified yellow maize failed to negotiate the corner after a suspected tyre burst and landed on its side blocking the two lanes while spilling its consignment on the road. The force of the accident spread the maize several directions as some was found over 40 metres away.

Immediately after the accident, a handful of residents, who were alerted by the loud screech of the rim against tar and subsequent

...at accident scene after truck carrying yellow maize intended for animal feed failed to negotiate a corner at Sidvashini



Hundreds of the Sidvashini residents helping themselves to maize which spilt on the road after a truck overturned after 7am yesterday morning. The road was clean within an hour. (Pics: Thembeke Dlamini)

banging of the carriage as the truck landed on its side, approached the scene and on noting that the consignment was

of maize, ran home to collect an assortment of containers while others called for the same to be delivered using their cellular

phones.

"Ngisayogaya, bantfwana bal-ambile," a woman, who only offered her identity as laVilakati,

HOW TO FIND US:

#Swaziobserver

Swaziobserver

MANAGING EDITOR:

Mbongeni Mbingo
e-mail: mbingo@observer.org.sz
Cell: 7602 9564
P.O Box A385, Swazi Plaza,
Mbabane, Betfusile Street
Tel: 2404 4437, 2404 4436, 2404 9600,
2404 9797, 2404 0706
Email: info@observer.org.sz
Website: www.observer.org.sz

EDITORIAL CONTACTS

SUNDAY EDITOR: Mbongeni Mbingo - 7602 9564
(mbingo@observer.org.sz)
NEWS REPORTERS: Thembeke Dlamini, Mlondi
Mpanza, Noxolo Nkabinde
(sunday@observer.org.sz)
SCENE EDITOR: (scene@observer.org.sz)
ACT.SPORTS EDITOR: Qondile Ntiwane - 7607 6305
(sports@observer.org.sz)
ASSISTANT SENIOR SUB EDITOR: Futhi Dlamini
(7615 8517)

MARKETING MANAGER

Sipheshile Mkhonta (7605 2296)
2404 8671/ 2404 8699
smm@observer.org.sz

CIRCULATION OFFICER

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

MANZINI OFFICE

Makhaya Convenient Centre, No:25
Sifiso Nhlabatsi Cell: 7674 6378
Tel: 2505 2320, Fax: 2505 7220

SITEKI OFFICE

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

PIGG'S PEAK OFFICE

Kai Kai Building opposite Shoprite,
Office No. 3, Tel: 2437 1083
Sizwe Dlamini Cell: 7670 0678
Email: observersipiki@realnet.co.sz

NHLANGANO OFFICE

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



Residents gathering the spilt maize despite the police trying to control the situation.



Former Sweet Bank's Managing Director Mduduzi Kunene was overheard bargaining.

Looted maize sold at scene

Notables like former Swaziland Women Economic Empowerment Trust (SWEET) Bank General Managers Mduduzi Kunene were heard negotiating for an estimated 70kg consignment which he had offered to buy for E350.

During the loud exchange, Kunene seemed to be dissatis-

fied that the maize he had successfully 'bid' for was being reduced in scale.

"Ukudojile yemake lomuntfu, muningi kakhulu lombila kutsi angawutsatsa wonkhe nga E350," a man who seemed to have disturbed the transaction said. During the exchange, more maize was being taken by another who seemed to have also promised to pay for it.

When asked what he would do about the maize, a preoccupied Kunene said he wanted to use it as animal feed.

Disappointed

Simon Lukhele* said he was disappointed that he couldn't get any maize. "I was here less than 30 minutes ago and I rushed to Nkoyoyo to get maize sacks only to return and find a nearly clean road," he

said as he went around trying to buy a few sacks from those who waited on the boundary of the accident. A mountain of maize was later seen at the car wash behind KaSonny while at a nearby homestead, a woman who had clearly been in the process of washing her clothes in a basin outside had spilled out water from her buckets and collected maize in them.

Do not eat that maize

The Swaziland Environmental Authority has issued a stern warning against eating the looted maize as it is genetically modified and has not been tested fit for human consumption.

Bio-Safety Registrar Bongani Nkabinde issued this warning at the site of the accident as he, together with three other officers from the authority stood by and watched helplessly as looters col-

lected over 36 tonnes of yellow maize.

"The consignment was headed for FeedMaster where it was intended to be animal feed," he said.

Dispirited

As they stood by, the dispirited officers tried to tell as many people as they could to not eat the maize or plant it as it would have irreparable effect on future maize production of the country

as well as the possibilities of future health problems due to the maize not having been tested for human suitability.

"Granted, the genetically modified maize is in the country legally since the company had an import permit to bring it here," he said while reiterating that it was intended for animal feed.

He said he could not be conclusive on how eating the maize

would affect humans as there had been no risk analysis tests done.

"It is not advisable to consume it or to plant," he said.

He relented that they had no control over the situation and only hoped that people would listen to their advice as he pleaded that the maize should not be planted as there was a possibility that other crops could be contaminated.

LOOTED IN MINUTES



Part of the action as cars were filled with the maize collected.

said as soon as she had secured 50kg of the loot.

Several children, who confessed to have been sent by their parents as they were able to run to the scene quicker, were also found using their hands and buckets as scoops in order to collect as much maize as they could.

The arrival of police officers failed

to deter the looters as there seemed to only be a handful with only one armed with a gun against the multitudes.

Attempts to stop them from collecting the maize ended up looking like a spectacle of fun as looters ran circles around two officers, one armed and the other with a stick, who earnestly tried to stop them

whereas their colleagues noted that their efforts would be useless and accepted to watch helplessly.

As residents collected in sacks, buckets and wheel barrows, some drivers who initially slowed down due to the traffic congestion, came to a complete halt around the accident scene and used anything they came across to collect the maize into their car boots. Most, due to the absence of containers, poured the maize grain directly into their cars.

Some of the residents who seemed to have collected more than what they needed immediately set-up stations along the concrete barriers and advertised by calling out that their maize was for sale.

With the first looters getting relatively clean maize, stragglers seemed undeterred by oil stained maize with most saying they were collecting it for their chickens.

Driver hurt, rushed to Mbabane Government Hospital

The lone driver of the truck, which lost its consignment of yellow maize destined for FeedMasters in Matsapha, was injured on his legs.

According to Traffic Officer Constable Londi Vilakati, their preliminary investigations attributed the accident to speeding.

Of note is that, despite the faint

drizzle, the road was dry thus ruling out slippery conditions.

Negotiate

"The driver said he was not used to the road and failed to negotiate the corner," Vilakati said while reiterating that speed was the major cause.

On the other hand FeedMasters Raw Material Coordinator Thulani

Nkambule discounted that the driver could have been sleeping.

"He called me before 7am and told me that he was waking up from his house beyond Ngwenya Border on the South African side and would arrive at Matsapha shortly,"

Nkambule said. He revealed that the consignment was from Witbank and it was intended for animal feed.

Food more important than water

Several residents from Sidvashini who used buckets to loot maize at the accident scene confessed to have spilt out their water in order to collect the maize.

"I can get water anytime from the water tanks," an unperturbed Wandile Dlamini said. He said he had spilt out about 100litres in order to collect the maize.

Sidvashini was yesterday on its third day of the cyclical four-day water rationing and looters came with basins and buckets as well. The rationing in Mbabane was effected by the Swaziland Water Services Corporation (SWSC) after Hawane Dam dried up gradually. This past Thursday, the corporation revealed that Hawane was at 1% and only good rains could save the situation.

We are hungry, don't care about GM

Several people who were told not to eat the maize said they had no choice as they had no food.

"Even though it is yellow maize and that thing (genetically modified) you are telling me about, I am on my way to have it milled so that my children can eat," a woman said. She said she found the justification not to eat the maize weak. "Which animals were going to eat this? Are we not in turn going to eat the animals intended for this feed? If

it is poison, why are they giving it to animals then," the woman said as she told her children to stand guard over the several buckets of maize she had collected.

Understand

She said she would understand if she had picked the oiled stained maize which was at the bottom of the spilt pile; "This maize is clean and I will only clean-off some of the visible dirt, otherwise it is good enough for me to eat," she said defiantly.

NEWS EXTRA

Idols SA contestant axed from show

JOHANNESBURG - Idols SA contestant Siyakha Tshayela has been withdrawn from the M-Net reality show on its Mzansi Magic (DStv 161) channel on DStv with immediate effect.

Tshayela (23) a full-time musician from Vosloorus in the East Rand was included in the group of Top 16 Idols contestants as one of the 8 women vying to win the current 12th season.

The singer informed Idols producers that she had discussions with an independent record label before she entered Idols. While she maintains that she did not sign a contract with the record company they insist that they made a record deal and signed a contract with her.

Upon entering the competition Idols contestants are told in no uncertain terms that they're not allowed to have any prior recording contracts with any recording companies.

Effect

"Siyakha Tshayela has been withdrawn from the 2016 season of Idols with effect from 15 September as a result of a dispute between herself and an independent recording company," says Idols. "Participants are required to sign an exclusive recording deal with the Idols appointed recording label when they enter the series."

"On 1 August Siyakha Tshayela informed us that she had entered into discussions with an independent recording company before entering



Siyakha Tshayela.

Idols, but she maintained there was no contract in place. The recording company insists there is."

Idols says there's been "no resolution" to the behind-the-scenes dispute. "Due to conditions stipulated by the Idols format rights holder we are unable to continue with a contestant that is currently involved in a legal dispute of this nature," says Idols.

Channel24

Dvuladvula on the pipeline for CEOs

...following revelation of process to review the controversial Circular No.4 of 2013

BY MLONDI MPANZA

A report looking into the remuneration packages of the country's Chief Executive Officers (CEO's) now awaits cabinet approval.

The report seeks to provide a solution to the concerns of managers, many of whom have left their organisations due to what they feel is uncompetitive remuneration within state owned enterprises.

This development is subsequent to a study which has recently been carried out to look into the unpopular Circular No. 4 of 2014 which has been a thorn in the flesh of CEO's in recent months.

The Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Bheki Bhembe made this revelation in an interview with the Sunday Observer yesterday.

He stated that the study focused on improving the terms in the remuneration packages of CEO's in the 50 Category A parastatals.

CEO's have in the past months made it known that they were unhappy about Circular No.4 and called for it to be reviewed so they could benefit from annual cost of living adjustment.

This has been a cause for concern because, according to the circular, the CEO's, chief financial officers (CFO's) and executive management were not entitled to a cost of living adjustment (COLA) while the rest of the staff enjoyed this benefit.

Result

As a result of such, this decision to implement this circular saw a number of the senior managers threatening to leave their organisations after the expiry of the contracts, especially for those it had been implemented before the elapse of their contracts and getting into new ones meant having to accept the blow in packages.

Bhembe said, "For now we do not have the circular, but I can confirm of plans to review it after concerns were raised by the affected parties. However, the report of the study from the consultancy company is still pending in cabinet."

He also stated that this comes after the managers had complained about the circular as being restrictive and not alive to developments pertaining to salaries.

The circular also sees the senior managers capped using the total assets in accordance to audited financial statements, experience required, staff complement, professional qualification required sector of operation, complexity of the job, reliance on government funding and risk.

Following the implementation stages, it transpired that a number of public enterprise CEOs, CFOs and executive manage-



The Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Finance Bheki Bhembe.

ment had reached the higher limit of the PEU Circular on pay packages and therefore were unable to implement the cost of living adjustment, hence the approval of the once-off payment package.

PS Bhembe shared that they were hoping to soon get a response from cabinet on the review of the circular which regulated the salaries.

In addition, one of the unfavourable requirements was that the least affected would get an 11 percent cut, whilst the most affected got a 20 percent cut.

For instance, this meant that if a CEO, who got a monthly salary of E142 000, had to take a 20 percent cut, in accordance to the unpopular circular he would have to do with a salary of E113 600 which was now E28 400 short.

Imposed

The circular was also described as being shoved down the CEO's throats as it was imposed on a 'take it or leave it' basis by government and this in turn affected the productivity and competitiveness of the parastatal.

Further, this caused a struggle for the managers in recruiting competitive staff as people were no longer willing to apply for jobs in these organisations because the packages were not attractive, while at the same time it had caused an exodus of employees.

This also deterred lower employees from applying for senior posts in fear of being deprived of the benefits which include the cost of living adjustment which they were enjoying at present moment.

Not only did the circular deprive them of COLA, but it also restricted on other benefits such as medical aid, housing and transport.

Some of the affected parastatals are the Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC), Swaziland Posts and Telecommunications Corporation (SPTC), Public Service Pension Fund (PSPF), Swaziland national Provident Fund (SNPF), Manzini and Mbabane Municipalities, to name a few.

THOUSANDS OF MAIDENS BRAVE COLD AT SHISELWENI REED DANCE



His Majesty King Mswati III and Her Majesty Indlovukazi following the action at the arena during the Shiselweni Reed Dance ceremony yesterday. The ceremony continues today.

BY NOMFUNDO SIFUNDZA

Multitudes of maidens from the Shiselweni region defied relatively cold conditions as they flocked to the Mbangweni Royal Residence to deliver reed yesterday.

According to Acting Imbali Overseer Hlangabeza Mdluli, the number of maidens who registered on Friday at Mbangweni Royal Residence increased from those who registered last year.

However, Mdluli could not disclose the total number of maidens who graced the Shiselweni Reed Ceremony as more maidens were still making their way to Mbangweni, "Even those from outside Swaziland are still coming in for this reed dance" he said.

The Shiselweni Reed Dance takes place yearly after the main reed dance at Ludzidzini. This year more than 98 000 maidens registered for the main reed dance which took place coincidentally with the SADC Summit in which his majesty the King assumed chairmanship of SADC.

Mdluli further revealed that the increasing number of maidens required them (Imbali overseers) to find

other means of accommodating the maidens as the prepared marquees were all full. Other maidens were taken to nearby schools such as Evelyn Baring and Nhlanguano Central High Schools.

The jubilant Shiselweni maidens braved the cold and brought quality reed to the royal residence.

The maidens later on danced in front of their majesties displaying well choreographed dance moves.

Maidens from the armed forces as usual put their best foot forward as Imbali from His Majesty's Correctional Services stole the show with a new composition of the song 'Sicela kuthula ku SADC'. The new

lyrics went thus; 'Tsine siyimbali sitobonga sihlalo sa SADC. The maidens sang this song congratulating the King on his new SADC Chairmanship seat.

The highlight of the ceremony was when His Majesty King Mswati III took to the arena to do what is known as 'kudlaliselisa'.

After the King did 'Kudlaliselisa' the leader of the Imbali Nonduduzo 'Zuzu' Zubuko then took to the arena and displayed her dance moves much to the amusement of spectators who complimented the Indvuna's dance moves saying "ulichalachala Zuzu" loosely translated 'she is quite a good dancer'.

After Zubuko, 'Livivane' also took to the

arena and displayed her dance moves. She was then followed by Her Royal Highness Princess Temtsimba who also did her best in the arena, dancing with an adorable smile on her face.

Her Royal Highness Princess Temaswati was the last one to take to the arena.

The Princess also did not disappoint as she displayed flexibility and love for the culture as she danced whilst singing along to the songs also with a smile plastered on her face.

Today marks the main day of the Shiselweni Reed Dance where maidens will assemble at the arena and dance in front of their majesties.



His Majesty appreciating the Imbali during the kudlaliselisa session. This was during the first day of the Shiselweni Region Reed Dance ceremony yesterday. The ceremony continues and ends today at the Mbangweni Royal Residence. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



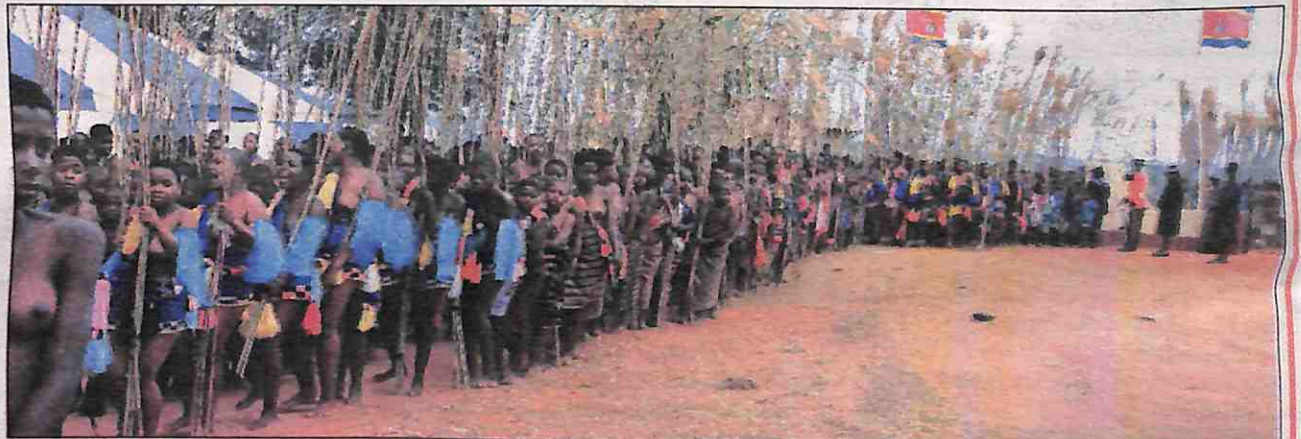
Princess Temtsimba joined by Emakhosikati in song and dance.



Princess Temaswati who led the Imbali joined by her brothers, Emazinyane, during her dancing session.



Imbali leader Nonduduzo Zubuko leading Imbali as they delivered the reed before their Majesties.



Imbali came in their numbers to deliver the reed before the King and Indlovukazi.



The young and old maidens came through to be part of the ceremony.



The beautiful Imbali captured in song and dance.

The value Medscheme Swaziland delivers to the members of the scheme

Your medical scheme...some basic truths

Medical aid cover is one of life's key expenses, when you are not well – you do not want to find yourself not having the funds or cover needed to look after your health and that of your loved ones.

There are some basic essentials that make a medical scheme work.

The members select trustees to serve as the board of the scheme, however members must ensure that the elected individuals continuously make decisions that safeguard the medical aid's future success and sustainability.

A medical scheme is a pool of funds made up of members' contributions: The major portion of your contribution is needed to cover in-hospital and emergency medical costs because this is the major risk area and the most expensive type of claims. On most plans, a portion of your contribution goes into a Medical Savings Account (MSA), which you control and use for out-of-hospital expenses like general practitioner visits and medicine.

Let us look at the differences between a scheme and the administrator:

Swazimed the "Scheme"

The Scheme is a non-profit body that is owned by its members and an independent board of trustees. Any member of the public can freely join in line with the Scheme rules. Members have the right to be informed of any changes and to be part of any decision making process that will affect the Scheme.

The purpose of the Scheme is to help you pay for health related fees like doctors' fees, medical costs, hospital fees and so on. As a member you pay a monthly fee to the medical aid scheme, which allows you to be covered for medical treatment up to a certain amount. The last thing you want to worry about in a life or death situation is how you will be paying the medical fees that may just assist you to stay alive. It is important to insure your health with medical aid cover since health status is changeable.

Medscheme "the administrator"

Medscheme, the administrator, is a service provider to the Scheme. It provides services to members through well trained people, information technology and applied processes. These processes are often reviewed and updated to align with the Scheme's rules. The services include:

- Financial management
- Claims assessing and management
- Customer services
- Electronic communication
- Processing member applications
- Managing the walk-in customer service centres

These services are supported by Medscheme on issues of policy formulation and best practices to continually improve offerings and efficiencies.

The benefits for Swazimed of utilising Medscheme as its administrator

- Members enjoy the convenience that comes with Medscheme's claims systems that seamlessly coordinates the submission of claims from health providers and the Scheme.
- Affordable healthcare costs because of Medscheme's bargaining size to negotiate discount rates with hospitals and doctors, especially in South Africa (Swaziland's healthcare infrastructure is limited and so patients are sometimes referred to hospitals or specialists in RSA, mostly Nelspruit and Gauteng).
- The members have access to Medscheme's provider network covering general practitioner, specialists and private hospitals in South Africa at a discounted fee. Without this, doctors and hospitals will charge members private rates which are higher.
- Members have no fear of going to the hospital because they don't have to pay large deposits or settle claims upfront before treatment can start. Online self-help services on the Medscheme platforms are available to members.
- Hospitals and doctors trust Medscheme's predictable claims paying ability which means that they are comfortable to see Swazimed patients without needing upfront payment from patients.

In conclusion

The agreement between a scheme and its administrator balances risk and reward for both parties, leading to fairness, sustainability and the best outcomes.

In effect, it frees both organisations to do what they do best by contracting for results, and not activities – which allows for innovation, improved service and continuous value creation.



AfroCentric
GROUP

A Member of AfroCentric Group

medscheme



...Mbabane River gives constant supply to Mountain Inn, surrounding areas

The luckiest people in Mbabane happen to be those who live in the prestigious Mountain Inn suburb as they have a constant supply. This was revealed by Swaziland Water Services Corporation (SWSC) Public Affairs Manager Nomahlubi Matiwane after her explanation of the rationing during the NDMA press conference.

She said the river which cuts through Mbabane had ensured constant supply for the area while explaining which boreholes yielded enough water for consumption.

Matiwane said there were four boreholes which yielded the optimal three litres per second. Stating their location, she said they were situated at Mbabane Government Hospital, Nkwalini and Mqolo which were in constant use. The one located at the Mountain Inn off ramp was not being used despite having water due to the area being supplied by the Mbabane River water which was about 10 Mega Litres per day.

When asked whether the none-usage of the borehole meant that there was no rationing in Mountain Inn and Bahai, she replied to the affirmative.

Pit latrines for Mbabane

Mbabane schools situated within the urban boundary have been given latitude to construct pit latrines in order to mitigate the effects of water rationing caused by drought.

Most areas of the city have about four days without water every six days due to rationing and the issue of water supply has become an albatross for school heads who have to ensure a constant supply for their toilets.

In urban areas, pit toilets are not allowed. Revealing the latest development in the water crisis, Mbabane Municipality Information and Public Relations Officer (IPRO) Lucky Tsabedze said schools can approach the council and apply to have latrine structures.

He said this allowance was to enable them to use even after the drought. Concerning residential pit latrines, Tsabedze said there were stringent measures in place. The council has previously stated that the latrines should be sealed in order to avoid contamination of the water table.



NO RATIONING FOR SOME MBABANE FOLK

STORIES BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

Despite the water crisis in the capital city having reached critical proportions, some residents have never experienced the agony of their taps running dry.

Several residences, known to this publication, located in places where others are plagued by the four-day cyclical rationing, always have water.

Explaining reasons behind places which experience rationing first and the return of water later than others, Swaziland Water Services Corporation (SWSC) Public Affairs Manager Nomahlubi Matiwane, using a glass of water, stated how the hilly feature of Mbabane affected water distribution at such a time.

This was during the press briefing held by the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) at Sibane Hotel on Thursday where the SWSC was invited as a stakeholder.

She demonstrated how water distribution pipes filled at the bottom first whenever water returned resulting in those at the top of the hills getting it last due

...use of Mbabane River sees Mountain Inn to Bahai with constant water supply



SWSC Public Affairs Manager Nomahlubi Matiwane.

to people filling their tanks whenever the valves to the areas were open.

Making an example of some of the people who stormed SWSC head offices a few weeks back, Matiwane said whenever the person assigned to go and close the valve at the beginning of each rationing cycle; the motorbike drove past one of the complainants home and the water would cease flowing out of the tap immediately.

On the other hand, those down the hill would have water for more than a few hours as they sometimes would have it through the days they were being rationed due to water left over in the pipes.

She said this was causing difficulties in some understanding how they had no water while others went on living their lives normally.

While the conference proceeded, Matiwane was privately asked

by this publication if it was safe to say that some people do not know or have not felt the effects of water rationing to which she responded with a "Yes."

She however, said they were not aware of the places which had the advantage of not having their water running out despite being rationed.

She said the issue of rationing water for certain hours per day was raised but due to the problem of water taking time to fill the pipes so as to be used by those residents situated up-hill defied the purpose.

She said such a scenario would see those down the hills benefiting all the time as she demonstrated.

She admitted that the issue of people 'harvesting' water into their tanks was a problem which they could not stop as they were only mandated to supply water.

"Those who connect the tanks they use to collect SWSC water into their houses are not saving water while those who collect it in tanks and use buckets to collect save a lot as they use less," she said dejectedly reiterating that the tanks plumbed into households did not realise the full purpose of rationing.

Water issue regional

The water crisis is not affecting Swaziland only.

According to Swaziland Electricity Company General Manager-Generating Doctor Hlongwane said the below normal levels of the Mbuluzi River had Mozambicans question "...where we have put the water."

This he said during the Swaziland National Climate Outlook Forum (NACOF) meeting which was held at Sibane Hotel on Thursday which saw different stakeholders in attendance.

Several

There were representatives from the Swaziland Umbutfo Defence Force (USDF), National Maize Corporation (NMC), University of Swaziland (UNISWA), Save The Children, Nazarene Compassionate Ministries, Woman Farmer Foundation, Co-operation for the Development of Emerging Countries (COSPE), Swaziland

National Fire and Emergency Service as well as the National Disaster Management Agency and several United Nations agencies in attendance.

He said it was time that the issue of water supply be looked at in earnest instead of policy makers prioritising on other issues as water shortages had the potential of causing major disagreements which had the potential of being explosive.

Reiterated

He reiterated how a Mozambican drove into the country after noting that it had rained whereas rivers which flow towards that country remained dry. He further accused the country's parliamentarians of only realising that there was drought after rationing started in Mbabane.

"They only feel drought because it is affecting Mbabane," he said further calling for long term solutions.

E594 000 used on rehabilitating 22 boreholes countrywide

The National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) has embarked on a countrywide water reticulated scheme which will see long term solutions being put into place.

This includes rehabilitating 22

vandalised boreholes which will see about 60 in total operational. The agency said the cost of rehabilitation was the same as new ones due to the extent of damage to them which called for removing foreign objects and harnessing new hand pumps.

No change in 4 day rationing; Hawane 1%

With Hawane Dam depleted to one percent of its capacity, Swaziland Water Services Corporation (SWSC) has allayed fears that they could resolve to closing taps completely.

According to highly placed sources, a meeting of stakeholders was held last Thursday afternoon where the issue of closing the water completely and reverting to only supplying with tanks was on the agenda.

"The next step could be to close all water supply and only distribute from trucks," the source said. This was after rains which fell on Tuesday and Wednesday were quantified to be too little to make a difference in water source levels around Mbabane.

Responding to questions concerning the outcome of the meeting, Swaziland Water Services Corporation (SWSC) Public Affairs Manager Nomahlubi Matiwane would not commit herself on whether the discussions went up to that level save to say rationing would continue as it had been the last two months when the four day was initiated. The negligible drizzle was recorded to be 6.5mm in Mbabane which was the highest amount countrywide.

On the other hand the ministry of public work's Richard Dlodlu said it was time that the country

acknowledged mistakes made leading up to the drought. He said it was disheartening to note that there was no planning for Mbabane as there were new connections using the same reservoirs. He further labelled the dredging of Hawane a political decision. Without saying it was the wrong decision, he described how Hawane was a wetland and did not have a major river supplying it while questioning the reasons behind de-silting it. He said the country had to look at decisions made holistically while aligning priorities. The Swaziland Electricity Company, through, General Manager-Generating Doctor Hlongwane, said the use of Luphohlo Dam as an alternative water source for Mbabane would create a dent in the country's ability to produce hydro electricity since the water in the dam had been saved for critical levels of demand. "We last used Luphohlo for electricity generation in January while Dwaleni stopped in October and depleting the amount of water in the dam will have dire consequences in the future supply of electricity."

Hlongwane said the country needed floods to replenish depleted dam levels, not above normal rainfall as predicted by the Swaziland Meteorological Services.

BY THE INFORMATION
OFFICE OF THE JEHOVAH'S
WITNESSES

ABOUT 103 TAKE AN OATH

...to 'Remain Loyal to Jehovah' through baptism

Over 100 members of the Jehovah's Witnesses were baptised during the second day of the convention titled 'Remain Loyal to Jehovah'.

The youngest amongst them to be baptised was 10 year-old Nompilo Zwane from Nkili, while the oldest was Johane Maseko (84), also from Nkili.

During the baptism address, Mphicwa Dlamini urged those who were ready to be baptised to 'never abandon their loyal love for Jehovah'. They were invited to special seats in front of the platform before their address which started at 11:45am.

Dlamini made them aware that they were making an oath that they would be required to keep as long as they live.

He encouraged them to imitate David's example, "David's friendship and oath with Jonathan is a remarkable example of loyalty."

In 1 Samuel 20: 42 David said to Jonathan, "May Jehovah be between you and me and between your offspring and my offspring forever."

Dlamini said David fulfilled that oath, even after Jonathan's death and took care of one of his friend's siblings, Mephibosheth.

"This is a perfect illustration of loyalty which teaches us to remain loyal to the oath and more so to Jehovah!" he said.

He assured them that the promise made by Jehovah 6000 years ago in

Genesis 3:15, to totally destroy the devil is still to be fulfilled, though some might feel that it has taken a long time. This makes Jehovah a perfect example of loyalty himself.

"Jehovah will always remain loyal. Therefore, we also have to be always loyal to Him" Dlamini said.

After the address those who were ready for baptism were invited to openly declare, 'through a word of mouth,' that they vowed to serve Jehovah for the rest of their lives.

After that they were directed to change rooms and later baptised. Following the example of Jesus Christ when baptised by John, all 103 of them were fully immersed in a pool of water.



21-year-old Boniselo Mahlalela being baptised during the ongoing Convention which was on its second day yesterday at the Somhlolo National Stadium. (Courtesy pictures.)



A section of the members of the Jehovah's Witnesses watching the proceedings during the convention.



Members of the Jehovah's Witnesses reading the scripture as the convention went on.

Mad rush to import 50kg mealie-meal from SA

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

The news of the increasing of the mealie-meal importation restriction from 20kg to 50kg per household has been met with great joy by Swazis, especially those residing near the country's border posts.

Following the Minister of Agriculture Moses Vilakati's announcement that was published in the local media including state broadcast media, residents jumped on the opportunity to purchase more mealie-meal.

The controversial restriction was announced early this year, which was enforced by the National Agricultural Marketing Board (NAMBoard) was not welcomed by the public who had resorted to importing mealie-meal due to the hiked local prices. While the minister officially announced on Wednesday that the increase in the allowed imported mealie-meal, coming into effect that same day, by the time print media published the article on Thursday people had already flocked outside the country to purchase the 50kg bags. The main reason that was cited by the minister was the drought effects that were currently experienced in the country as a result of the El Nino phenomena. He said government had seen it proper to review restrictions of the import and export of mealie-meal as an interim measure in alleviating this drought problem. "Following the prevailing drought situation, we have observed that some areas have been severely affected to the extent that the concerted efforts by His Majesty's Government, through various agencies, such as the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) and civil society have not yielded the desired assistance," Vilakati said.

MELISSA MAZINGI GONE RURAL BOMAKE MD

BY LUNGELO NKAMBULE

Gone Rural Bomake has announced Zimbabwean Auditor and Entrepreneur Melissa Mazingi as their new Managing Director.

Melissa Mazingi replaces Julie Nixon who played a major role in elevating the work of Gone Rural in the country and at an international scale. In a statement released by Gone Rural, Mazingi has been described as a professional with a passion for rewriting the African narrative, telling new and compelling stories of the continent through taking exciting African products to the world.

Mazingi is a Bachelor of Commerce Degree in Accounting and Auditing holder, a professional and the founder of zedlabel an



online store for Zimbabwe fashion designers.

Mazingi is also a Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) Mandela Washington Fellow and is reportedly excited to continue Gone Rural Swaziland's work of

exposing the world to contemporary Swazi design and craft. Mazingi boasts of vast experience in different fields; she previously worked as an auditor at Ernst & Young Harare.

In their statement, Gone Rural



stated that they were looking forward to working with Mazingi and they were confident that her addition to the team would help the company grow and develop further not just in 2016 but beyond.

Oxford changes to Global University; now offering education courses

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI

As the academic year for higher institutions in the country has begun, people who want to pursue their education courses but were not admitted to the government run universities or colleges now have a chance to pursue their dreams.

Oxford Institute, which is now known as Global University, is now offering education courses including a Diploma in Primary Education.

Global University Marketing Officer Nonhlanhla Kunene said this new development is a result of the institution's affiliation with City of University College of Science and Technology which is based in Zambia.

"We will now be offering academic courses," Kunene added that before they used to offer only professional courses.

The Marketing Officer said this new development will see students being able to apply to universities if they want to continue

to further their studies or can just join the workforce. Kunene said due to the changes they also had to relocate as they were required to have a permanent structure as per government's regulations to avoid fly by night colleges.

Kunene said for now the university is running programmes which are part time, she said however from next year they will offer full time courses. The diploma courses offered by the institution takes three years and for one to be admitted he or she needs to

have five credits.

However, learners who are lacking the required credits are not left out but they may enrol in the Foundation Programme before being registered in their programme of choice.

Kunene said a number of programmes particularly at Diploma and Degree levels, will demand a student to be attached to a relevant department in an organisation. The fees range from E5 000 for a certificate up to E7 000 for a degree per semester.



Founder of the Limkokwing University of Creative Technology Dato Dr Limkokwing (centre) at the official presentation of the award by AISC Chairman Maurice Dimmock.

LIMKOKWING LEADER INSPIRATIONAL - AISC

BY LUNGELO NKAMBULE

The Accreditation Service for International Colleagues (AISC) has referred to Limkokwing founder/president as inspirational and the University a true Global Tertiary Vocational Education Training (T.V.E.T) Model

University.

This was during the awards ceremony held at Limkokwing University's main campus in Malaysia where Limkokwing University founder/president, Tan Sri Dato Sri Panduka Dr Limkokwing was awarded Transformational leadership in Global T.V.E.T by AISC.

Speaking at the event Chairman,

Maurice Dimmock, said that the students at the University acquire knowledge and skills from basic to advanced levels across a wide range of institution and work settings and in diverse socio-economic contexts. "It is in this environment that it gives me great pleasure to give these awards to Tan Sri Limkokwing and to the Limkokwing University," he said.

He also said that AISC will also work with Tan Sri Limkokwing and the University to network them with world networks such as Intentional Vocation and Education and Training Association (IVETA), TVET-UK, UNICEF and UNESCO.

"This will give them access to regeneration projects in Botswana, Zambia, Malawi, Namibia and the Congo.

"UNESCO procures goods and services estimated at around USD125 Million per annum," he said. "In addition to the requirements for the implementation of the programme are activities under the main themes of education, natural sciences, social and human science, culture and communications."

According to Dimmock, Limkokwing University, with its rich history of transformational education is perfectly aligned to be successful in procuring these contracts and making a real difference in these countries and indeed would be a continuation of what the University have been doing for the last five years in Africa.

"It is in recognition of this work of Limkokwing University and of Tan Sri Limkokwing's vision and dynamic, transforming leadership that AISC wish to honour them both today," he said.

Limkokwing University of Creative Technology is a truly Global TVET Model University, led by an inspirational leader in

Tan Sri Limkokwing. This recognition encompasses the successful systematic delivery of industry-relevant programs across its campuses in Asia, Africa and Europe. Programs which prioritise digital skills, creativity and design to produce human capital imbued with the skill set needed by industry to manage the challenges of a globalised technology driven workforce."

Limkokwing University has about 30 000 students worldwide and 12 campuses in Asia, Africa and Europe.

The University's award winning website attracts 300 million 'hits' a year from 229 countries and territories and the University is now amongst AISC recognises the University's successful systematic delivery of industry-relevant programmes across the globe as well as its Founder and President's pioneering efforts in education.

ASIC, an independent, government approved accreditation body specialising in the accreditation of schools, colleges, universities, training organisations and online and distance education providers, is a member of the British Quality Foundation (BQF), sits on the Quality Standards Group of UK NARIC.

Tan Sri Limkokwing is a well-known global creative force for innovation and drive for transformation in tertiary education and the President/Founder of Malaysia's most globalised University.

Calling All New Students

Limkokwing University's Worldwide is Malaysia's leading private and most globalised university. It is very unlike traditional universities. Rather it is a ground-breaking one committed to fostering innovation and pioneering leadership in creative education which is industry-ready graduates able to compete in the competitive global marketplace. We are proportionately the fastest-growing university in the world with

LIMKOKWING
UNIVERSITY
OF CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY

— SWAZILAND —

twelve campuses in ten countries across three continents. With around 30 000 students from over 150 different countries we are building human capital across the globe. To better enable us to continue our journey of shaping the young global leaders of tomorrow we need dedicated academic professionals to provide the inspiration and mentoring to our students to ensure they achieve their goals and aspirations.

All Semester One students
Registration as follows:

Tuesday 20th from 08:00 am

Design And Innovation

Graphic Design
Architecture
Creative Multimedia
Music Design

Business Management and Globalisation

Business Management
International tourism
Hotel Management

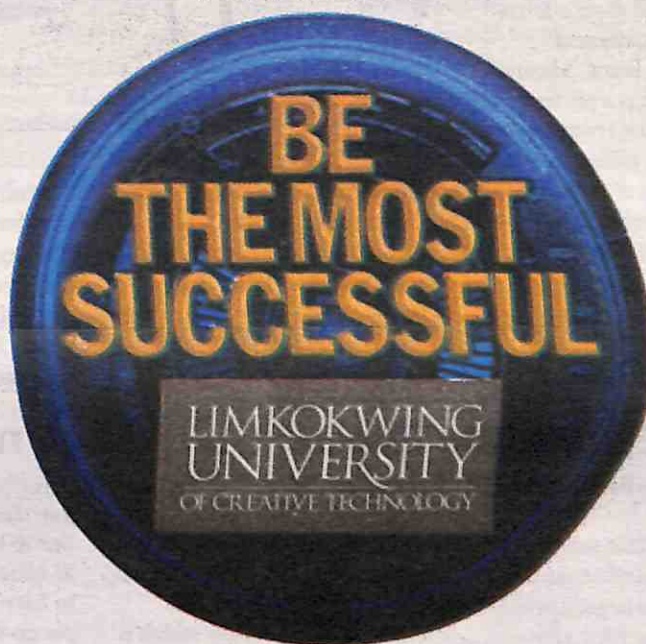
Wednesday 21st from 08:00 am

Information Technology

Information Technology
Business Information Technology

Communication Media and Broadcasting

Journalism and Media
Events Management
Public Relations
TV and Film Production



Orientation Days are as follows

Thursday 23rd from 08:00 am

Friday 24th from 08:00 am

Requirements for registration

STUDENTS ARE REQUESTED TO BRING THE FOLLOWING WITH THEM

- NATIONAL ID
- ACCEPTANCE LETTER
- E100.00 REGISTRATION FEE
- E150.00 SRC REGISTRATION FEE

PROOF OF PAYMENT WILL BE REQUIRED FROM NON-GOVERNMENT SPONSORED STUDENTS. INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ARE REQUESTED TO BRING THEIR STUDENT PASSES OR VISAS

Limkokwing University of Creative Technology, P. O. Box 2336 Mbabane @ address enquiry@limkokwing.ac.sz

Tel: +268 2422 0532/2422 0528 Fax: +268 2422 0434

'BHOLOJA' LAUNCHES 'YEBO MZALA, YEBO GOGO' ARTS FESTIVAL

BY PHUMELELE MKHONTA

The upcoming 'Yebo Mzala, Yebo Gogo' Arts Festival was launched successfully at Corporate Place Food Court on Thursday evening.

The festival is the brainchild of award-winning Swazi guitarist and vocalist, Mbongiseni 'Bholoja' Ngubane and Liladi.

The festival will take place on Friday 30th September and Saturday 1st October at the Swazi Plaza precinct.

Headlining artists include legendary Vusi Mahlasela, Nigerian-born jazz guitarist Kunle Ayo, Afro-jazz songbird Siphokazi, The Muffinz and a long list of Swazi and South African musicians.

The launch, which was attended by the media, musicians and sponsor representatives, started on a high note, ending with a grand joint performance by Bholoja and South Africa bands, Urban Village and sensational bass guitarist Gally Ngoveni.

In his remarks, Bholoja thanked the sponsors for the event and said Swaziland was exploding with talent which required investment, pleading with sponsors to consider partnering with this first of many artist development projects he had lined up.

"One has to grow and, for me as an artist, I have realised that I can't grow alone if I want to sustain myself in this industry.

"I have made it my personal mission to hold the hands of other younger and upcoming Swazi artists so that we grow together, because in that way, we will be able to teach and learn from each other.

"I am really humbled and touched by the generosity of the companies who have pledged and committed their support," he said.

Speaking for Real Image, one of the main sponsors, a representative of the company said they bought into Bholoja's vision because as a company they also supported arts and development in Swaziland.

Also making remarks at the event was Sibongiseni Mamba, a friend to Bholoja, who said he was one of the few people who have seen Bholoja's career rise from the ground.

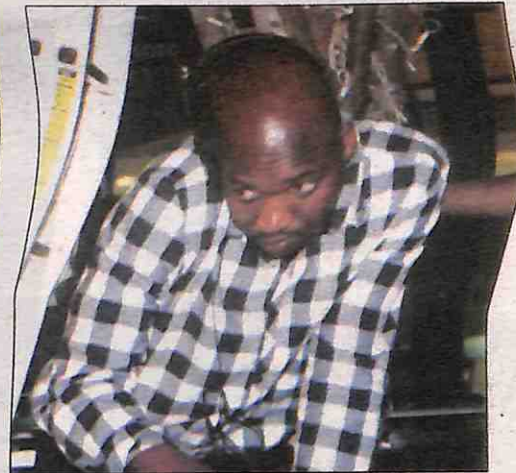
He thanked the company that manages and markets Bholoja's music, Makopotong Sound Studios for recognising and developing 'Bholoja's talent.

Strategic Plan:

- Food Court - Country music area.
- Clothing Shop Area - Children's play area and Swazi theatre exhibition area.
- In front of Truworths - Art exhibition area.
- Service Provider Area - Fashion show.
- Behind Edgars - General area for jazz session.
- Second Floor Parking - VIP Area for jazz session.



Mbongiseni 'Bholoja' Ngubane flanked by Real Image representatives at the 'Yebo Mzala Yebo Gogo' launch at the Swazi Plaza Corporate Place Food Court in Mbabane on Thursday night. Real Image is one of the sponsors. RIGHT - DJ Cash on the ones and twos.



GENERAL NOTICE

No. 6 of 2016

NEW LICENCES FOR SWAZILAND POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION (SPTC), SWAZI MTN LIMITED, REAL IMAGE INTERNET, COMPUTRONICS (PTY) LTD, DATA NETWORK SERVICES AND POSIX

INTRODUCTION:

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

Section 50 (1) of The Electronic Communications Act, 2013 requires the Commission to issue new licences to existing licensees, after the effective date of above legislation, lawfully providing electronic communications networks or services consistent with the provisions of the new legal framework dispensation.

According to Section 9 (2) of the Electronic communications Act, the Commission hereby gives notice that the under listed Licensees will be granted new **Individual Electronic Communications Network and Service Technology Neutral Licences** to provide voice telephony and any other service allowed under the licence with effect from the 20th September 2016;

- Swazi MTN Limited
- Swaziland Posts and Telecommunication Corporation

Furthermore, in accordance with section 9(1) of the Electronic Communications Act, the Commission also gives notice that the under listed Licensees 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;

- Real Image Internet
- Computronics Systems (PTY) Ltd
- Data Network Services
- POSIX

The structure of the General and Individual Electronic Communications Network and Service Licences to be issued to all the above licensees are accessible on the Commission's website (www.sccom.org.sz).

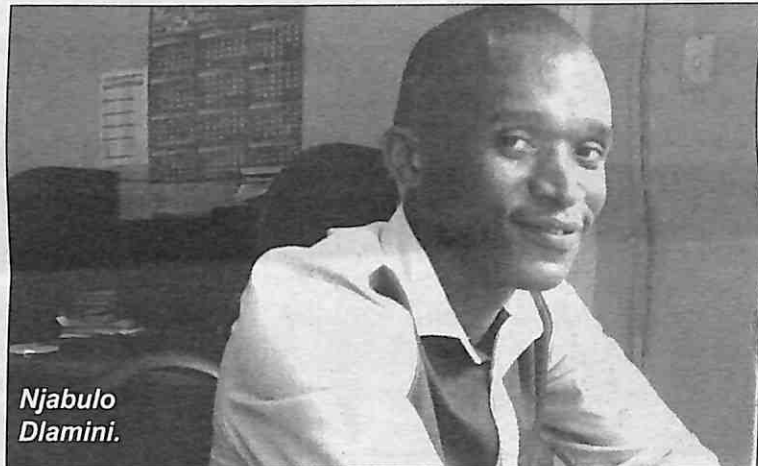
THE ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SWAZILAND COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (SCCOM)

MAKE SIGN LANGUAGE AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

STORIES BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

With more than 30 000 people with hearing impairment in the country, the deaf community, through the Swaziland National Association of the Deaf (SNAD), is calling for the country to recognise and embrace sign language as an official language.

Having lobbied several members of parliament in the past to no avail, the association which has noted with dismay how their members have been left to wallow in their own worlds of varying degrees of silence, SNAD is advocating for their language to be taught throughout the country as a third language to allow their members to contribute to society without constraints. "English is not our language," SNAD Executive Director Makhosini Makhubu said in a previous interview. This past Friday,



Njabulo Dlamini.

Makhubu called for the recognition that deaf people are part of society and should be included in policy formulation in order for them to contribute to the economy as equals and not dependants. He further informed that the last week of September was International Week of the Deaf and further revealed that the theme for the year was 'With Sign Language I am equal.'

Makhubu said, "If Sign Language is accepted in policy documents and the constitution, it will mean that deaf people are equal to those with no hearing impairments. We can achieve a lot in common in particular promotion for (sic) the hard working deaf people at work and in school." Having introduced Swaziland College of Technology third year student Njabulo Dlamini

(26) in the previous interview, the visionary scholar echoed his mentor's sentiments on Friday.

"I want to complete my studies so that I can improve the learning situation of the deaf community," Dlamini said.

The completing Diploma in Information, Communication and Technology in Education student said he wanted sign-language to be recognised after he realised that even though he had come this far, others could not due to limitations.

"At the school for the deaf in Siteki, children fail, not because they are not smart, but because communication is difficult when the syllabus is not tailored for them," he said. He said he intended to go as far as he could in his studies so as to enable himself to be the advocate he couldn't have. He said it was difficult for them to be taught, translated from English whereas their first language was

sign language. "They are forced to learn in English which is difficult for them," he said while recognising that he had an advantage that got him this far seeing as he previously could hear until he lost his hearing while being treated for multiple drug resistant tuberculosis MDR-TB which he got while doing Form IV as a pupil at Herman Gmeiner High School, better known as SOS.

He said he hoped that it would be every child's right to learn sign language seeing as the population of those with hearing impairments was increasing every year.

He called for the curriculum in schools to match the requirements of sign language so as to include those who were born deaf.

He recounted how most of his frustrations have been caused by the fact that the deaf community gets substandard treatment in the education sector and said this left a lot of their abilities untapped.

He said he was fortunate to have had the support of his family and SNAD which enabled him, to break barriers and complete his Form V after struggling to return to his high school as he he could not continue at the school for the deaf as they did not have Form IV at the time he lost his hearing in 2009.

How Njabulo lost his hearing

As a Form IV pupil at Herman Gmeiner (SOS) in Mbabane in 2008, Njabulo Dlamini got what he thought was a cold.

The healthy young man ignored it for some time and thought he would get better. After noting that he wasn't getting well, he went to a hospital where he was treated for a cold and in two months, he got worse to the point that he would miss school. The 'cold' started during the first term and he had it for two months.

He was advised to test for TB and he tested positive. Even though he started treatment immediately, he did not get better until he couldn't attend classes. He was then tested for the multiple drug resistant strain of tuberculosis (MDR-TB) and it was found to be positive. Soon after the positive test, he started getting treatment as he was injected with kanamycin which he was prescribed to take for six months.

Three months into the treatment, he started experiencing hearing loss which manifested itself with a loud noise in his ears. Asking medical personnel

about the sound in his ear, he was told that this was the side effects of the medication and he could not stop the injections as they were purposed to make him better.

"After five months of treatment I was totally deaf," he said.

He continued the treatment which totalled nine months and was further given tablets for 18 more months.

Having stopped attending classed in 2008 during the beginning of the second term, he had thought he would return to class immediately after getting well but failed as the hearing loss presented itself as a hurdle in him being admitted to mainstream schooling.

At the School For the Deaf he was told to learn sign-language something he did for two years and when he returned he found that he could still not continue with his education. Returning to his former school, he went there several times to try and convince them that he was willing to work hard in order to pass and intervention

by the ministry of education inspector of special education who ensured that he was admitted. The Swaziland National Association of the Deaf assisted in teaching some of the teachers sign-language which he said was used to some extent but not always. He said he ended up teaching two of his classmates' sign language and they ended up helping him every day after class.

Another teacher paid extra classes for him which he attended at KaBoyce High School resulting in him getting seven credits when he completed his Form V.

Having applied at the Swaziland College of Technology, Dlamini did not get admitted until he sought intervention from the ministry. For several years his course was a non starter due to the confusion that came from the college partnering with Vaal University and he ended up changing courses to the current one.

Studying at tertiary level proves to be different for him as he was not accorded the same treatment of patience as in high school. "At tertiary, its every man for himself so I get by by simply applying myself and determination to succeed," he said.

#ILOVEDEAFPEOPLE Campaign gaining momentum

This Deaf Awareness Month has a group of Swazi people in the country and abroad raising funds for the rehabilitation of the Siteki School for the Deaf.

The campaign is looking at raising over E660 000 for the school which holds the future of a large part of the country's populations seeing as over 30 000 people who are an economic potential remain inadequately educated.

Project Coordinator Philile Masango posted the following message on Facebook:

"Pick n Pay Store is a pioneer in the economic sector when it comes to deliberately involving one marginalized group of people in our country - the disabled.

So far, Pick n Pay employs Deaf people in their Manzini Hub, Matsapha Mahhala, Mbabane and Sigodweni

stores. This Deaf Awareness Month, the store is also participating in the fundraising drive to repair Siteki School for the Deaf.

Singaphonsa sonkhe esivivani. Get your E10.00 #IloveDeafPeople sticker to wear on International Day of the Deaf on September 27 from the above-mentioned Pick n Pay stores. Our Deaf family is ready to welcome you at these tables...so remember to use sign language to get stickers because repairing Siteki School for the Deaf is not just about reconstructing the walls of the academic institution; it is also largely about breaking the barriers of prejudice directed at people with Disabilities by having our disabled community participate in the national economy -- creating dignified and sustainable livelihoods. *Siyabonga.*

Montigny loses E2.6 million to illegal bee hunting

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

Illegal honey gathering has hit Montigny hard in the pocket.

While the company has made efforts to minimise the gathering of honey in the forests, people continue to extract honey illegally at the forests. The damage this has caused to Montigny, the company revealed this past week, is estimated to be over E2.6 million. In most cases the illegal bee hunters start fires in the process of their hunting which has cost the company. Montigny Investment PR and Communications Consultant Tharlene Ntombini said investigations were now ongoing regarding an incident of August 31, 2016 of illegal honey gathering that destroyed the forest and endangered many lives. "Though the company allows bee hunters to report a hive and collect E30 as well as all the honey extracted from the beehive, some members of the community

continue to go in and light fires destroying the forest and endangering many lives," she said.

This is not the first time arsonists have started forest fires with the aim of extracting honey as in May this year another fire was started by a honey gatherer at Armach. The Montigny Usutu team managed to nab the arsonist within an hour of the investigations who was said to be caught red handed with honey combs in a plastic bag and confessed to be the one responsible for the fire. He was then handed over to the Royal Swaziland Police and received a two year sentence with the option of a fine of E2 000.

Another fire was reported a week before the recent incident at Echo Block in the Usutu community.

According to Ntombini, after the fire teams discovered that the fire was as a result of illegal bee hunters, the K9 Montigny Usutu Security team was brought in. "They tracked the spoor to a homestead five kilometres away and in no time

the investigation team arrested five suspects who were also charged and appeared before a court of law. They were convicted and received a two-year suspended sentence," said Ntombini.

The five were named as Zakhele Khoza, Njabuliso Motsa, Mfundo Matsenjwa, Mancoba Dlamini and Sandile Motsa. Another fire was reported on the same day of the last incident to have occurred, where the company's sniffer dog unit was sought and the culprits were caught within two hours of the fire being reported. The dogs led the K9 team to a homestead in the Ekupheleni community, around four kilometres from the exact point where the fire started.

A 17 year old boy who was said to have been found with a swollen face and hands, with clothes stained with honey was found. According to Ntombini, the security team requested to speak with elders in the homestead and the boy confessed shortly after the team explained the purpose of their visit. He went on

to name two other teenagers both aged 16 as his accomplices who have since been handed over to the Mbabane police where a formal case has been laid against them. "Usutu Forest has a clear policy regarding issues of bee hunting and access to the forest. Upon finding a beehive, the Montigny Usutu Rangers or the Bhunya or Mhlambanyatsi offices are to be contacted and the hives reported. Montigny Usutu encourages members of the community to dial the toll free line 3344 for assistance when a beehive is located, as well as any suspicious activity seen in the community.

A professional beehive harvester will come and assist to extract any hives safely and further pay E30 to the individual that locates the hive," added Ntombini.

She further lamented that the economy of Swaziland unfortunately gets affected negatively with huge losses due to the unlawful action of a few individuals illegally entering and burning down the forests. She said that Montigny Usutu will not tolerate such acts and guarantees such criminals will be brought to justice.

MTN 4G ROLLED OUT SUCCESSFULLY

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

MTN Swaziland has managed to roll out 4G LTE to the public successfully. As promised by the company, 4G internet that was rolled out a few weeks ago is significantly faster than 3G which Smartphone users have been enjoying before the rolling out of 4G.

The high speed internet is accessible to MTN customers who have compatible mobile phones a 4G LTE enabled sim-card, and who are in the areas that have been upgraded. The first areas to have upgraded infrastructure include the Ngwenya (Oshoek) and Mbabane corridor, Mbabane business areas, Ezulwini, and Lozitha.

Since the call to swap their sim-cards, customers have flocked to MTN Swaziland service centres to do this although some of them have been charged E5 even during the week where the company's Corporate Affairs Manager Mandla Lumphondvo said it would be free. A stall by MTN Swaziland also offered the service of sim-swapping at the Swaziland International Trade Fair (STIF) where some customers made

...internet significantly faster than 3G

‘What is 4G?’

Meanwhile, the average people on the street seem to be oblivious of the improved internet that has been introduced by MTN Swaziland. People in Mbabane, one of the first areas where the 4G was accessible are not aware why they cannot access the high speed internet. When some of these people were interviewed, they were quick to say they had

use of the service.

While interviews that were done with MTN Swaziland customers showed there are mixed reactions of the rolling out of 4G, customers who have enjoyed the high speed internet are pleased with the fast internet. The customers revealed that they could feel the improvement in the speed of the internet, with pictures on social media downloading and uploading

not enjoyed the fast internet as they were not aware what they had to do on their phones to start accessing it.

Another common response was that people feared extra costs hence they had not swapped their sim-cards to the new 4G compliant simcards. It is worth noting that browsing the internet on 4G LTE does not incur extra costs on top of the current pricing, although users are advised to browse cautiously. Lumphondvo said customers could easily get carried away with the fast inter-

net to browse more pages and upload a lot of videos which would make it seem like it was more expensive than browsing on 3G yet more was being done online.

“Charges will still largely depend on what customers are using the internet for. 4G is extremely fast and can upload videos and other large files in seconds but this will obviously incur more data charges than someone who may be using their internet for Whatsapp for example,” he said previously.

much faster when compared to 3G and 2G.

“I was also a bit sceptical on swapping, mainly I feared that there would be very high charges but since I started using it I have enjoyed it. It is much faster than my internet used to be while I was on 3G,” said Zakhele Dlamini.

Other users who shared the same sentiments said one easily got used to

the 4G ‘mashesha’ speed that it was difficult to adjust when they were not in the areas which have been upgraded yet. Lumphondvo said in a previous interview that the company was looking at rolling out 4GLTE in areas going all the way to Siteki, and following the completion of Ngwenya to Lozitha areas, areas that were next in line were Matsapha and Manzini.



MTN Corporate Affairs Manager Mandla Lumphondvo.

4G LTE technology builds upon what 3G currently offers, but does everything at a much faster speed. MTN Swaziland has joined 32 other Africa countries that have already rolled out 4GLTE. LTE stands for Long Term Evolution. It is a term used for 4GLTE that delivers the fastest mobile Internet experience. In theory, LTE can be up to ten times faster than 3G. Activities that require large amounts of data, such as streaming movies, work very well on an LTE network.

Public: Bring on new mobile service provider

BY MLONDI MPANZA

The recent news of the passing of the communications regulations has come as music to the ears of the public who can hardly wait in anticipation of a new mobile services provider in the country.

Now that another service provider will be allowed to compete with Swazi MTN, members of the public have expressed their excitement over this as evident in the comments of Zethu Mtsetfwa who stated that she was personally ecstatic over this development.

Mtsetfwa said, “I am happy that MTN is going to have competition because that means we will now have the freedom to choose which mobile service provider we use compared to

being compelled to use the lone provider which had turned out to do things willy-nilly.”

She stated that data packages had turned to be useless for her because the consumption rate was the same as that of using airtime, also pointing out that she had tried numerous times to communicate this to Swazi MTN but her efforts had been in vain.

But, it is also worth noting that the Swaziland Communications Commission (SCCOM) has made it known that they believed there was a need to restrict the number of players in the industry, particularly stating that they intend on granting only one company the licence to compete with MTN and the Swaziland Post and Telecommunications Corporation's mobile wing.

Socialite, Melusi “Zox” Dlamini holds that data has become an essential basic and that was a fact that cannot be avoided as the world was moving towards the digital era, whilst the country was being left behind due to cost implications.

“Just like education and health, data impacts on development and we are paying too much for it in Swaziland. We do hold the hope that just like petrol the price for data will drop and eventually be free for all - that is what first world means!” he explained.

Adding, Mandisa Masilela stated that she thinks there was a strong need for the competition and that it had been long overdue, although this may also come with its own repercussions. On the other hand, she said the arrival of a new service provider could turn out in two ways, one being that it can be cheap in the first few months before later taking into the

high charges to stay competitive.

“I no longer use the data packages because they are unnecessarily costly and they do not last. I am not much of an internet person as I normally used E10 airtime daily just to check on my emails, but lately that has proven to be nothing as I have to use more,” said Ntsiki Dlamini.

Therefore, she said she was happy that Swazi MTN will soon have a competitor, whilst Nompumelelo Mkhabela revealed that she had also stopped using the data packages because she no longer saw the difference between them and using airtime.

“Maybe now MTN will learn to treat us good,” she said. Phindile Shabangu said for her, 30Megabytes was consumed in only two days yet she hardly accessed Facebook and only used the data for WhatsApp application.

‘Environmentally friendly fridges for SD a milestone’

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

The manufacturing of the, first of its kind, fridges in the country by local company Palfridge Limited has been seen as a milestone in the efforts of protecting the ozone layer from depletion.

The company which was formed after the liquidation of Fridge Master recently celebrated their achievement of being one of the first companies in Southern Africa to manufacture environment friendly fridges.

Their achievement comes after UNDP and UNEP recently concluded the PPP collaboration between Swaziland Environmental Authority and Palfridge Company under the cyclo-pentane project, leading to a status of confidence for the country to declare a ban on bulk imports of Ozone Depleting HCFC-141b gas. UNDP Officer in Charge Sithembiso Gina has

described this as a milestone in the implementation of the Vienna Convention and its Montreal Protocol.

“This project has prevented large amounts of carbon equivalent from being emitted into the atmosphere and through this project the country on the right path towards achieving the commitments made in December 2015 in the climate deal, and that refrigerators manufactured in Swaziland are ozone friendly, a milestone worth celebrating today,” he said.

Gina further re-affirmed the UN's commitment to invest in interventions that will save the ozone. Palfridge Maintenance Manager Humphrey Nyapokoto also said the company prided itself in being a pacesetter in the local industry. He said many years back, when Palfridge was still Fridge Master Swaziland, the target was to make more fridges but when Palfridge started operations in

2001, after the closure of popular Fridge Master, the object was to continuously strive to exceed customer requirements and re-engineer their products to keep up with industry norms.

Nyapokoto who was speaking on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer at the International Day for the preservation of the Ozone layer at the Royal Villas on Friday.


He introduced Palfridge as local manufacturer of domestic and commercial refrigerators, a company that has employed around 638 employees. He said however that this number fluctuated since it was a seasonal industry. The company was originally founded as Fridge Master Swaziland in 1985 and it was renamed Palfridge after structural changes. In June 2011, after all studies were done, Palfridge limited agreed to a second project which was to phase out the use of HCFC-141b (low ODP) in its Poly Urethane insulation

foam production for domestic and commercial unit. He said the replacement chosen as a blowing agent was Cyclo-pentane; this is also a Hydrocarbo and has zero ODP and very low Global warming potential.

Foam is formed by trapping pockets of air/gas, and the air is the Cyclo-pentane in the gas phase. This is designed to keep the fridge cold by stopping outside air and heat coming through the body of the unit. Unlike the bath foam or bed foam, water cannot go through our rigid PU insulation foam.

The fridge factory now has energy efficient, ozone friendly and low carbon emitting product, and was the first company to dump CFCs and HCFCs and moved to Hydrocarbons as their refrigerant gases.

He also said they were the first company in our region to have eliminated HCFCs in our foaming process.



IMS
PROPERTY CONSULTANTS

WORDS OF WISDOM

To win convincingly, you ought to do it without fighting. More often than not, the enemy is in your head!

FOR SALE

Plots

- Thubungu 2750m2 Plot **E695,000**
- Pine Valley 5000m2 Plot **E500,000**

Flats

- Manzini 16 High End Flats fully occupied **E10M**

Houses

- Ezulwini **E 3.5M**
4 bedroom house, double garage, 2 1/2 bathrooms, self contained cottage with kitchen and two bedrooms, bathroom.

WANTED

Residential property in Mbabane and Manzini.

+268 7 868 7550

!WARNING!

Everything we Touch turns to SOLD!



SWAZILAND ELECTRICITY COMPANY (SEC)

Head Office, Ekhvatsini House, Mhlambanyatsi Road
P. O. Box 258 Mbabane H100,
Tel: 2409 4000, Fax: 2404 2335
www.sec.co.sz Toll Free: 800 9000
Energy for the Future

PLANNED POWER OUTAGE

DAY:	DATE:	MAINTAINANCE BY (DEPOT)	AFFECTED AREAS:	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	PERIOD:
Sunday	18 Sep	Stonehenge	Tholeni Restaurant, CTA, Msakato Str, Dzeliwe Str, Polinjani Road	Replacement Of Rotten Poles	6:00a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
	18 Sep	Big Bend	Phumulamcashi, Maphobeni and Matimave farmers	Replacing poles	9:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday	20 Sep	Matsapha	Masundwini dairy, Masundwini Primary and High Schools, Kashali, MTN, Lusekwaneni State House, Enaleni State House, Emekemeke State House	Closing Span	9:00a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
	20 Sep	Stonehenge	Sec Staff Houses, Mbabane Police, Cooper Centre, Spar, Total Gardens	Replacement Of Rotten Poles	5:00a.m. – 8:00 a.m.
	20 Sep	Pigg's Peak	eMatjeni	Routine Maintenance	11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	20 Sep	Hluthi	Makhava and A One	Project Construction	9:00a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
	20 Sep	Hluthi	Phumelela and Dinabanye	Service Connection	9:00a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
	20 Sep	Big Bend	Lanjani and Lugegedze	Routine Maintenance	9:00a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
	20 Sep	Nhlangano	Magele, New Warm, Mdabula, Fumbizihlwa	Routine Maintenance	8:30a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
	20 Sep	Hluthi	Mbelebeleni, Jerusalem, Hhohho, Dzakasini	Routine Maintenance	9:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	20 Sep	Big Bend	Manzana, Lukhetseni, SWADE Offices and Madlenya	Closing Span	9:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	20 Sep	Mhlume	RSSC – Sihhoye Business area and V.E. Transport Offices	Routine Maintenance And Project Construction	8:30a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
	20 Sep	Siteki	Kashoba Bhelebane, Holy Ghost PPPprimary and surroundings, Fobobo, Nhlabeni Primary, Shoba.	Routine Maintenance	9:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	20 Sep	Manzini	Wilmar Park, Coates valley, Mjingo Teachers' Quarters, Mjingo High School and Surroundings	Closing span	10:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	20 Sep	Manzini	Luve Town, Kutsimuleni, Mbelebeleni, Ndodeni, Nsingweni, Lubhaceni, Mcengeni, Nyonyana, Madlolo, Maphalaleni MTN and surroundings	Routine Maintenance	10:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday	21 Sep	Matsapha	Kudzeni Area	Closing Span	9:30a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	21 Sep	Big Bend	Matata Prison, Riverbank farm and Mahlabaneni	Closing Span	9:00a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
	21 Sep	Pigg's Peak	Nsangwini	Closing Span	10:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	21 Sep	Hluthi	Mhletjeni	Routine Maintenance	9:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	21 Sep	Mhlume	RSSC – Sihhoye Compound, Makhabeni and Ntisheni Farm, Mangweni – Tingtoni Farm and Zwayimabane.	Routine Maintenance	8:30a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
	21 Sep	Manzini	Madonsa, Fairview, William Pitcher, Ticanfwini, Kukhanyeni, Nyakeni, Malunge, Maliyaduma, Sterksroom, Brikon and surroundings.	On and off Switching	8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. And 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	21 Sep	Siteki	Mfelafutsi, Mpaka	Closing Span	9:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Thursday	22 Sep	Stonehenge	Mbabane CBD, Shell, Teba, Engen, Goodwill, Supply Centre, Hoageys, Umfula Centre	Replacement Of Rotten Poles	5:00a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
	22 Sep	Nhlangano	Madulini, Madulini Mtn, Etjeni Lebatsakatsi, Mbowane, Ezama	Routine Maintenance	8:30a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
	22 Sep	Malkerns	Mavovokati, mahlangatja, Ekuphakameni, Enkanjini and surroundings	Routine Maintenance	10:00a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
	22 Sep	Stonehenge	Mpolonjeni Dipping tank, Nkoyoyo near Johovah Witness and surroundings, Etjeni, Buzzing Power and surroundings, Lomathithiza Mpolonjeni	Project Construction	9:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	22 Sep	Big bend	Luvatsi, Nconconco, Mthomazi	Closing span	9:30a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	22 Sep	Matsapha	Logoba White City Area	Closing Span	9:30a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	22 Sep	Siteki	Budvodza, Khalakahle, Emagugu phasentsaba, Lukhula, Lukhula MTN, Buckswood, Mzilikazi, Nkweleyoni Royal residence, Siteki SNFES, SWSC, Mzilikazi MTN, Mahhuku, Footen.	Routine Maintenance And Project Construction	9:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	22 Sep	Pigg's Peak	Ndlalambi and Ludlawini	Routine Maintenance	10:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	22 Sep	Hluthi	Ngozo and Ngololweni	Closing Span	9:00a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
	22 Sep	Pigg's Peak	Madelezeni (Ndlalambi)	Project Construction	10:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	22 Sep	Hluthi	Nkungwini, Mageza	Routine Maintenance	4:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	22 Sep	Madlangempisi	Mbuluzi Barracks	Project Construction	9:00a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
	22 Sep	Manzini	Sicelwini, New Village, Mhobodleni, KaKhoza, Makholwini, Mpholi, Mbekelweni, Fairview and surroundings	On and Off switching	8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. And 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	22 Sep	Manzini	Tibisweni Farm, AG Thomas, Lesibovu MTN, Lomveshe, Dvumbe, Lesibovu and surroundings.	Routine Maintenance	10:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	22 Sep	Manzini	Macetjeni, Gilgal, Mphosi, Sibisweni, Mkhuzweni and surroundings	Planting mid-span poles	10:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Friday	23 Sep	Malkerns	Mgomfelweni, Mahlabatsini, Mlindazwe, Mbita	Closing Span	11:00a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
	23 Sep	Hluthi	Siphambanweni	Routine Maintenance	10:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
	23 Sep	Manzini	Sylvia Mtetwa, Gumtree, Chalse Zuzman, Mark Trevor	Routine Maintenance	11:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

'OUR

STORIES BY SIMON SHABANGU

Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee for the Minister of Education Senator Ndumiso Shongwe has urged head teachers to be selfless and put the interest of the children before theirs.

He has also warned teachers against making bad headlines in newspapers. Senator Mduli was speaking at the farewell function of Benjamin Masuku, the retired head teacher of Prince Simon Primary School at Siphocosini. He was the guest speaker at the event where the principal retired on medical grounds. He took early retirement in 2014 after suffering visual impairment as a result of sugar diabetes and high blood pressure. He was due for retirement in 2018.

The Senator who is also a former teacher and lecturer said the country needs leaders who possess sound leadership skills.

"The Swaziland of the 21st century is in dire need of people with sound leadership qualities especially in our schools where the country craves leaders who will use their influence for shaping the future destiny of its children as well as shape the direction of its education system," he said.

He continued on saying, "Our schools need head teachers of good moral stand-



MP Phesheya Hlatshwayo presenting a gift to Masuku and his wife.

Masuku decries delay in sending him to hospital

Speaking during the event, Benjamin Masuku related how his condition worsened; eventually resulting in him losing his sight.

He said doctors ordered that he be taken to South Africa in August 2014 but he eventually only went to hospital in March. "At the time the doctors ordered that I go to South Africa my sight was still in good condition but by the time I was taken there I had already lost my sight," he told the gathering.

Difficult

However, he said he believed that all this was the act of God.

"At first it was difficult to accept the situation but later I got used to this condition. In my heart I still believe that one day God will do His miracle and heal me," he said. Relating the events that led to his condition he said, "I fell ill on my way home after school hoping that I would come back but things got worse.

"I thank my family for standing by me and ensuring that I recover well. I presently undergo dialysis every week because the illness also complicated the functioning of my kidneys," he said.

EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM NEEDS SELFLESS LEADERS'



The guest speaker Senator Ndimiso Mdluli addressing the gathering.



Senator Ndimiso Mdluli presenting a gift to retired Prince Simon High School Principal Benjamin Masuku accompanied by his wife Thulie. Masuku retired on medical grounds after losing his sight. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

ing who will not be in the media for all the wrong reasons. Let us not deceive ourselves that our national development dreams and aspirations will be attained by chance or through unearned windfalls. Swaziland must inculcate a culture of hard work. She must also make her policy to deploy people endowed with sharp minds and sound leadership qualities in strategic leadership positions at all levels of our socio economic development landscape."

Mdluli then thanked the retired principal for being a hardworking

mentor and dedicated servant of the education system for 29 years. He also encouraged Masuku not to lose hope and to keep believing in God that one day He will regain his sight.

Illness

He also commended Masuku's wife Zanele who is also a school principal for sticking by her husband and taking care of him as he recovers from the illness. He thanked him for developing the school which he joined in 1985; having found it at lower primary level with only three classrooms. He upgraded the school until it

became and fully fledged primary school with its first crop of grade seven pupils in 1997.

Proud

"We are proud of his leadership which saw the school develop to its exceptional level," he stated, pointing out that this was proof that he managed the school funds well and served the community diligently.

Mdluli also presented Masuku, who he has known him for many years, with gifts and E500 cash. He also presented the school with a E1 000 cheque for use on any of the school

REO, SNAT congratulate Masuku

Regional Education Officer Thulile Tamary Langwenya and the representatives of SNAT Zodwa Mkhonto lauded Masuku for the good work he did while he led the school.

They said they were all proud and happy that he diligently served the educational system and the association of teachers. They urged him to continue to avail his services especially in motivating young teachers, to work hard

and reach the stage he has reached. They said his contribution was immense especially since he was never called to answer before a disciplinary committee for any wrong doing while serving as a teacher.

Parents and teacher showered Masuku, accompanied by his wife and children, with gifts including a bed, cash, chickens and a number of different gifts which came from the jubilant pupil's parents.

projects.

Meanwhile the area's MP Phesheya Hlatshwayo also commended Masuku for the contribution he made towards developing the area of Motshane Inkhundla. He said Masuku was a dedicated leader who worked hard to improve the school and also change the lives of the people in the area. He said the Inkhundla was

proud to have people of Masuku's calibre and urged him to continue on and to become a motivator to the young crop of teachers and other people in leadership positions in the area.

He later presented the school with E800 and also presented Masuku with E200 and also presented the school children with fruits.

Komati Basin Water Authority



INVITATION TO TENDER

The Komati Basin Water Authority (KOBWA) is a bi-national entity established in terms of a Treaty between the Republic of South Africa and the Kingdom of Swaziland and is responsible for the design, construction, operation and maintenance of Maguga Dam in Swaziland and Driekoppies Dam in South Africa together with their supporting infrastructure. KOBWA operates from its Head Office at Maguga Dam near Pigg's Peak in Swaziland and has a Water Management office at Driekoppies Dam near Schoemansdal in South Africa.

Tender No. KOB/MD/07/2016 INVITATION TO TENDER FOR EXTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES

PURPOSE:
KOBWA invites tenders from reputable suppliers for a contract to render EXTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES to KOBWA over a period of three years, effective from 1 April 2017.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:
Terms of reference documents will be available from the 19th September 2016 between 07h30 and 16h00 at Driekoppies Dam (Tel: +27(13) 7810317/9) and Maguga Dam (Tel: +268 24371463) reception desks upon payment of a non-refundable fee of R/E 250.00.

Proposals must be clearly marked:

"CONFIDENTIAL: KOBWA EXTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES (KOB/MD/07/2016) and be hand delivered on or before 12h00, 10 October 2016 at either Driekoppies Dam or Maguga Dam tender boxes at reception.

Tender No. KOB/MD/09/2016 INVITATION TO TENDER FOR INSURANCE SERVICES TO KOBWA

PURPOSE:
KOBWA invites tenders from reputable suppliers for a contract to render INSURANCE SERVICES to KOBWA over a period of three years, effective from 1 April 2017.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:
Terms of reference documents will be available from the 19th September 2016 between 07h30 and 16h00 at Driekoppies Dam (Tel: +27(13) 7810317/9) and Maguga Dam (Tel: +268 24371463) reception desks upon payment of a non-refundable fee of R/E 250.00.

Proposals must be clearly marked:

"CONFIDENTIAL: KOBWA INSURANCE SERVICES (KOB/MD/09/2016) and be hand delivered on or before 12h00, 10 October 2016 at either Driekoppies Dam or Maguga Dam tender boxes at reception.

Enquiries can be directed to the contact below;

Mr Kenneth Stevens (Finance Manager, Acting)
Contact : (00268) 2437 1463/4 or (00268) 7802 6682
Email: Kenneth.stevens@kobwa.co.za
www.kobwa.co.za

Applicants will be required to sign a tender register at reception. Telephonic, telegraphic, facsimile, electronic and late tenders will not be accepted and they will be automatically disqualified.

KOBWA does not bind herself to accepting the lowest or any particular tender, and, may withdraw all the proposals without furnishing any reasons.

Doc.11273



Public Service Pensions Fund

PUBLIC SERVICE PENSIONS FUND
P.O. BOX 4469, MBABANE
Tel: 2411 9000 / 2404 8740/3 www.pspf.co.sz
TOLL FREE: 800 2401

TENDER INVITATION

HILTON GARDEN INN, MBABANE INTEGRATED SECURITY SERVICES SYSTEM (ISSS) SUB-CONTRACT TENDER INVITATION

The Public Service Pensions Fund (PSPF) hereby invites suitably qualified local and international Integrated Security Services System (ISSS) specialists for the supply, installation, commissioning and guarantee of the ISSS to the above project. The ISSS tender has been unbundled into the following packages and tender numbers:

1. Access Control	: H9-1/09/2016
2. Audio Visual	: H9-2/09/2016
3. Fire Evacuation and BGM Environment	: H9-3/09/2016
4. Structured cabling	: H9-4/09/2016

The scope of works is detailed in the tender documents which may be obtained as from 10:00 am on Monday, 19th September 2016, at the offices of the Client - PSPF, (physical address below) on payment of a non-refundable deposit of E500.00 (cash payment only) for each package.

Public Service Pensions Fund (PSPF)
Ground Floor, Ingcamu Building
Mhlambanyatsi Road
MBABANE

Please, note that there shall be no compulsory site inspection, however, should Tenderers wish to familiarize themselves with the site, arrangements can be made upon request.

Tenders must be accompanied by the following documents:

Original receipt confirming payment for the tender documents, Proof of registration with CIC, Certified Valid Tax Compliance Certificate, Certified Valid Trading Licence, Audited Financial Statements for the last 3 years, Company Profile with CV's of key personnel, Workmen's Compensation, Labour Compliance Certificate, Statement of joint ventures / partnerships (if tendering as a JV or partnership), Letter of Intent for Surety, Names and contact details of at least three (3) recent reference customers.

Tenders are to be returned NOT LATER than Friday, 14th October 2016 @ 2:00 pm and deposited in the tender box at the physical address mentioned above. Tenders must be enclosed in a sealed envelope, dated and marked "PSPF-INTEGRATED SECURITY SERVICES SYSTEM SUB-CONTRACT TENDER - HOTEL". No late submission will be accepted. No facsimile, email or other forms of submission other than the prescribed will be accepted.

The Public Service Pensions Fund (PSPF) does not bind itself to accept the lowest tender or any tender nor give any reason for the acceptance or rejection of a tender. For enquiries, please contact Jethro Ndlangamandla, E-mail: jethro@pspf.co.sz

WOMAN'S MERCEDES ALMOST WRONGLY AUCTIONED

● runs to court to seek for order staying execution before discovering she had also been blacklisted

BY MLONDI MPANZA

A glaring mistake by a Messenger of the Court from the Hhohho district has almost cost Sibongile Fruthwirth her property, a Mercedes Benz worth E120 000.

The messenger erroneously listed the vehicle for auction while a matter between the owner and Amandla Financial Services was still pending in court which had resulted in the property being attached.

This is according to Fruthwirth's Lawyer, Bongani Phakathi from Masina-Mzizi Attorneys who told this newspaper that he was roped into the case by the client after she saw her vehicle amongst a list of properties which had been listed for auctioning.

"This was subsequent to a pending matter between the client and Amandla over a E32 000 loan. After seeing the advert, we quickly made an application at the High Court to stay the execution," said Phakathi.

He said after successfully getting the order to stay the execution, he was informed that the listing of his client's vehicle was actually a mistake by the court messenger. He revealed of a default judgment that was entered against his client when she wasn't aware her attorney had withdrawn his services without formally informing her. Phakathi elaborated that when he was first instructed to attend to the issue he sought to rescind the order, but his application was erroneously dismissed by Mbabane Magistrate Phathaphatha Mdluli.

Thereafter, he instituted review proceedings at the High Court and whilst that was still pending in court, they saw the advert of the auction of the client's car attached on the strength of the con-

tested order which was scheduled for September 2.

He added, "That is when I instituted proceedings for an order staying the execution which the court granted and we are still awaiting a date for the review." According to the advert in the local media which had a list of properties, Fruthwirth's vehicle was scheduled to be auctioned on September 2 at the Mbabane Magistrate Courts parking lot. Court papers submitted to the High Court under the certificate of urgency by Phakathi state that the matter deserved to be treated as one of urgency because, "a motor vehicle belonging to the applicant pursuant to an order of the Mbabane Magistrate Court will be sold by public auction on the September 2, yet there were pending review proceedings before this honourable court."

As a result of this, it was said the applicant will suffer irreparable harm and would not be afforded substantial redress at a hearing in due course.

Blacklisted

Investigations by this newspaper have also revealed that but she has also been blacklisted by the company for allegedly not being able to service the loan. Being blacklisted means to be listed or registered to be being denied a particular privilege, service, mobility, access or recognition. When interviewed, Fruthwirth said all these troubles emanate from the loan application which was allegedly processed at Amandla with her name for someone else – something which is well known by the company. But, she alleges now she is being punished for this following the advert that was ran in the local media where she learnt that her vehicle was in line for auctioning.

"After I was successfully granted the

order to stay the execution, there was no auction at all for all of us," she pointed out referring to five more defendants against Amandla and Indlelo Investments, all whose properties were to be auctioned on the day. These sought to lose items such as a BMW 330i, Toyota Hilux, motor bike, quad bike, tv sets and fridge amongst the list of things. Further, Fruthwirth revealed that subsequent to being granted the order to stay the execution, she received a call from SwaziBank where she was informed her applications for a car loan could not be processed because she had been blacklisted.

Loan

"I got a call from Swazibank who told me that he cannot process my car loan application because I have been blacklisted by Amandla Financial Services," she narrated.

When she asked when this had happened, Fruthwirth was told she had been listed on August 30 by Amandla and now she was troubled because she has applied to be removed from Indaba Trade and Credit (ITC) and her application is still in court.

Fruthwirth further adds that Amandla did all this without her involvement as evident in most of the court papers holding that she did not have legal representation and that was wrong.

"Although I had no representation when they got the court order, but there is no way I can just roll over and accept defeat without being heard because the loan was not mine and everyone at Amandla is fully aware of that," she stated. Efforts to seek a comment from Amandla proved futile as this reporter was sent from pillar to post by the company's director and lawyer from P.M. Dlamini Attorneys as one pointed to the other to comment.



A side view of one of the block of hostels at the Swaziland College of Technology (SCOT) which are in a deplorable state. (Pics: Mloni Mpanza)

SCOT Students complain of

BY MLONDI MPANZA

The Swaziland College of Technology (SCOT) hostels are in such a bad state they are not fit for human occupation.

The college has an acute shortage of beds in the rooms, many of which are in a bad state of dilapidation. Students have expressed concerns over their health.

This is to the extent that three students are expected to share one room which comes with a provision of only two beds and that means the third student in every such room has to sleep on a makeshift bed made of lockers.

Apart from that, the lockers on their own are said to be old as some do not lock anymore and thus not serving the purpose they were intended for.

One student who preferred to comment on condition of anonymity stated that not only were the rooms a cause for concern, but the bathrooms too were also a health hazard.

"This is because some of the bathrooms get blocked every now and again and in the process lead to flooding which now touches on our health," said the students.

Due to this, he revealed that for some of them they were left with no choice but to bath in their

rooms to save themselves from the health hazards in the bathrooms.

When asked if they had reported the matter to the administration, another student said they could not do so because there were relevant structures within themselves as students that had to be followed to report on this – which they claim are well aware of the concerns.

Therefore, as the concerns remained unattended, the students state they had now chosen to turn a blind eye because whether they spoke about the issues or not, that made no difference for them and the least they could do was to get used to the idea of living under the conditions.

However, they pointed out that in light of these conditions they, "feared getting diseases which can be acquired from the flooded unhygienic bathrooms and sometimes the toilets would be left not flushed due to the unavailability of water these days."

Having learnt of such, a visit by this reporter was made to the institution's hostels where a number of irregularities such as broken windows and dirty, stagnant waters were observed.

Some sections of the hostel blocks had no roofing due to claims of being blown off by heavy wind without being replaced, unattended electricity cables meant to provide

Protecting one Rhino in SD costs E50 000 a year

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

Swaziland's plight to permit a limited and regulated trade in white rhino horn continues following the presentation of the country's proposal to CITES to legalise the trade as the summit nears.

It is believed the trade will greatly improve the chances of turning around the current trend towards rhino extinction. One of the reasons that were cited for the proposed open trade are the costs that are involved in the conservation of Rhinos which is estimated to be more than \$3 500 (approximately E50 000) per annum for each rhino.

"Effective rhino conservation today costs a lot of money. The current regional estimate of cost of protection is more than is more than \$3 500 per rhino per annum. Rhino range states are facing unscrupulous criminals carrying weapons of war, used without hesitation on rhinos and rangers alike. Protecting rhinos has now become so costly and risky that 70 of South Africa's 400 private rhino owners have discarded their rhinos," reads the proposal. CITES, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species and Conference of Parties 17th summit will be hosted at the Sandton Convention Centre starting this coming

Saturday to October 5, 2016. The summit will be attended by 182 member states from all over the world. To be successful, such a proposal to CITES requires a 66% - 2/3 majority vote in favour of it.

Swaziland's proposal to open trade in its rhino horn is aimed solely at finding a solution to the plight of rhinos. Its motive is purely rhino survival, according to Big Game Parks Swaziland. It is believed that the sale of the rhino horn will enable the financing necessary to meet the rapidly escalating costs of protecting rhinos, which are fast becoming too costly and too risky to keep.

Proceeds from horn sales will also provide for a host of other important conservation and community needs, while benefitting a wide diversity of other wildlife species as well.

Swaziland was expecting South Africa to lodge a proposal to CITES to legalize horn trade and stood ready to strongly support such a proposal. When South Africa did not do so, Swaziland went on to lodge its own proposal for its own sovereign reasons.

Rhinos are in crisis and, at their current rate of demise, there may not be time left for the continued survival of rhinos if we have to wait another three years for CITES CoP18 before addressing their plight at international level. Swaziland lodged its proposal to CITES

one hour before office closing time on the last day for proposal acceptance. This was done in order to keep options open for a debate at CoP17 and to enable the conservation message to reach the world in competition to the preservation message, the latter having been so successfully and misleadingly marketed by certain animal rights activists whose businesses depend on crises donor funding.

Rhino losses from poaching now exceed their birth rate, meaning they are on the road to extinction, with no effective strategy in place for their survival.

"To do nothing different while rhinos continue to diminish is not an option. Rhinos may well be much closer to the threshold of extinction than we think. The official statistics on surviving rhinos may be overstated, particularly considering the predicted losses of white rhino from the current ongoing drought in south eastern Africa, where the bulk of the world's rhino populations occur," further reads the proposal.

Only three rhinos have been lost from poaching in the last 24 years due to effective security measures, which are strongly backed by political will at the highest levels. Another reason which has been cited for the proposal is that the illegal trade has been happening regardless of the ban on legal trade.



The laundry sinks where the students are supposed to do their washing, but due to these conditions they have since resorted to using basins for doing their laundry.



In some of the blocks, the roof has been blown away and remains unattended despite students' occupation in the blocks. The walls are also in a bad state and need a fresh coat of paint.

STAKEHOLDERS GET SWAZIMED EXPLANATION

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

Despite showing fervent interest by committing time to debate the SwaziMed and Medscheme debacle in parliament about two weeks ago, there were no parliamentarians present during the stakeholder meeting held at the Royal Swazi Convention Centre on Wednesday evening.

Over 40 medical practitioners comprising of doctors of different specialities, pharmacists and several hospital owners, the stakeholders were introduced to the company which will provide SwaziMed with administration system which will be used from this coming January.

Convened by the medical fund's board, the meeting had incoming partner 2CANA Systems introduce its operations to the stakeholder as well as how their systems operated.

SwaziMed Board Chairperson Dr Mike Dlamini revealed that the agenda of the meeting was to update all collaborating partners about the changes SwaziMed was doing.

In his welcome remarks he revealed that in the process of localising functions which were performed by Medscheme in South Africa, they wanted to assure that their core function would remain the same whereas some of the changes would not affect everybody.

2CANA Development Business Unit Manager Kenneth Jones, during his presentation revealed that their system was used by several businesses in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia and several

“We want improvement. Things could have been done better. You could have given yourself enough time. The politics are bringing the reputation of the fund down,”

other countries. He assured that their system would support the function of the medical aid fund as it would be configured for all processes. He assured that their system came with some of the latest features such as mobile applications which were small enough

to be used on 2G networks without compromising the availability of information which the patients will need. He further assured that they would look at the rules of the existing system and configure it to match the benefits of the programme.

According to Jones, their timelines called for their system to be up and running by January 1. Hence next month would be dedicated to training of SwaziMed staff. He called hospitals to provide their file formats in order for them to be integrated into the system.

Some doctors wanted to know whether there would be changes to access to services to which SwaziMed Principal Officer Peter Simelane responded to the negative. He assured that authorisation had in the past been made in Swaziland hence this would con-

tinue to be the case as well as electronic funds transfer (EFT).

On the other hand Dr Mark Mills hailed the presentation as impressive sounding and that his father judged people by their past

performance. He said Medscheme had a reputation and wondered how SwaziMed would cope going forward in light of the

public relations (PR) mess it had found itself in. He however declined to delve into the political side of the move to self-administer.

Mess

Board member Sikhumbuzo Tsabedze who represents employers said he concurred that there was a PR mess. He, however, justified it stating that things had to be done as quickly as possible within the confines of what was permissible in their previous agreements with Medscheme.

When asked about the employees who were roped in by Medscheme within the country, the board revealed that such concerns would be dealt with by Medscheme he hoped that history would not repeat itself.

While some practitioners left the meeting satisfied with information they received, others were left with more questions as they

said there were too many grey areas as they felt they had not been given enough time to digest the meeting.

“There was no agenda, so we didn't know the format of the meeting.”

“This was not availed prior to the meeting or at the venue,” a female doctor said.

Others said they were not happy with the evasive responses to some of the questions such as when Dr Themba Ntiwane said the whole situation had been made messy by the politics which they had only heard about in the media.

“We want improvement. Things could have been done better. You could have given yourself enough time. The politics are bringing the reputation of the fund down,” he said without directly referring to the parliamentary debate which ensued after Lobamba Lomdzala

Member of Parliament Marwick Khumalo said there was a need to ascertain if reports of wholly localising the fund were true and if proper consultation of all the shareholders including politicians had been conducted.

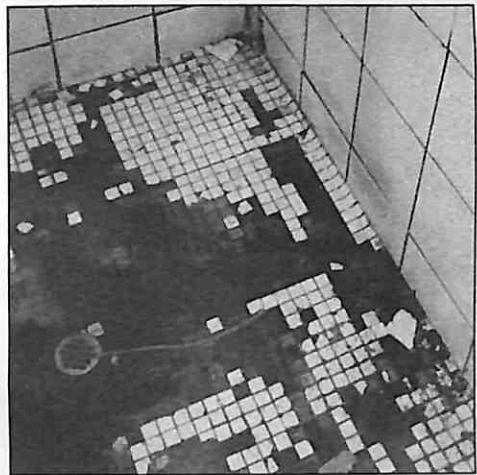
He wanted to know if SwaziMed had been delinked from Med-Scheme in parliament over a week ago which resulted in a heated debate with some stating that they could not be called to meddle in private company issues.

Others called for the board to convene another meeting so as to allow them to digest all that they had heard as they had previously not been briefed and only read about the changes in the media.



A number of the bathrooms have broken toilets which have not been fixed for some time based on the visible dust and scum.

dilapidated hostel



This is where the students at SCOT take their showers.

power for lights, broken glass doors, toilet seats and blocked urinals in the boys hostels, to name but a few. The showers are also in a bad state as a number of them do not have floor tiles and are leaking thus also causing floods in the bathrooms. When Grace Mdluli the Principal was contacted, she confirmed knowledge of the matter and revealed that they were actually in the process of attending to all these issues.

She said, “The plans to repair the hostels are at an advanced stage as we have identified the company which should carry out the work and it should be beginning with the works in the coming week.”

However, Mdluli mentioned that the students equally had the responsibility to take good care of the facilities as some of them broke the windows and taps thus posing a setback to the institution.



The state of the urinals in one of the boys' hostels.

St Michael's Class of '79 reunion

BY LUNGELO NKAMBULE

St Michael's Class of 1979 will on Saturday reunite for the first time since writing their form five exams—37 years later!

The girls who haven't all seen each other at the same time for over three decades will roll back the years on Saturday by painting six classrooms.

Speaking on behalf of the class of '79, Gcebile Ndlovu former Regional Coordinator for International Community of Women Living with HIV and AIDS, Southern Africa said their reunion wouldn't be a normal reunion where people meet up and eat instead they wanted to give back to the school.

“As much as we want to reunite and catch up, what is more important to us is to give back to the school that played a meaningful role in what we became,” she said.

She said some members of the class of '79 had visited the school and they were not happy with the state of the classrooms.

“The school has been there for decades and that justifies its state so we felt we could give back by painting at least six classrooms,” she elaborated.

Ndlovu further said they were proud alumni



of the school so for them helping the school was a great pleasure.

“We want to make this day a memorable day hence we will start off with a march from Galp Filling Station and we will be accompanied by the Correctional Services band,” she said. Ndlovu continued to say that they would have loved to start off at the Manzini Bus Rank but their knees were a problem.

“Our knees won't allow us otherwise we

would start at the bus rank and go all the way up to school,” she said. Furthermore Ndlovu said the painting of the classrooms was open to everyone especially former students. “All former students who want to join in can come help us out, regardless of when you completed school. We have already bought the paint they can come help with the painting,” she said. She pointed out that at the end of the day it was about giving back to the school that made them.

The class list of 1979 includes Minister of Home Affairs Princess Tsandzile, Tibiyo Manager in the Managing Directors and Former Swazi Observer MD Myzo Magagula, UNISWA lecturer Dr Victoria Kelly, African Development Bank Secretary General of the staff Council Khabo Mamba and Health Information Manager, Tshwane District Smangele Lukhele amongst others.

Aspire

A Youth Section On Youth Issues By The Youth



WRITER'S NOTE...

Greetings dear readers to yet another issue of Aspire.

Today, we focus on a sporting career. A lot of young people want to be soccer players for a living but always fear the worst – not being able to earn a living. So, we met up with a soccer player that I consider the perfect example of a modern day soccer player – educated.

Mfanafuthi Bhembé affectionately known as 'Taribo' tells us about his childhood and the importance of balancing your soccer passion with education. The father of two also mentions his job at Swazi TV and how working there has been so far. He further advises young people to surround themselves with people that add positivity to their lives; talking of positivity, we met with a young lady, currently based in South Africa, to talk to her about her musical journey. She also mentions that balancing both school-work and singing is not an easy thing to do.

On page 18, we have Istayela syalahlela, we take a closer look at the entertainment scene, and then round-off this week with an opinion piece from yours truly. Catch the Sunday podium and get to find my thoughts on events promoters in the country.

It's always a pleasure giving you a good read, and I hope this issue will once again INSPIRE you to be the best you can be. Talk to us at sbusisodlaminitheg@gmail.com.

Sleep is only for billionaires and until that time comes big ups to all the stay uppers who stay up 'til late whilst trying to fulfill their dreams.

Till next time, have a blessed week

SBUSISO DLAMINI.

WANDILE HLATSHWAYO

Mfanafuthi 'Taribo' Bhembé was born in a small family of four, with only one sibling, an elder brother – Mabandla Bhembé who is also in the media fraternity as a presenter at SBIS.

He attended primary school first at St Marks and then at SOS, formerly Herman Gmeiner primary. At the time, he was already into soccer as he was under the Midas Mbabane City development programme, playing for the Under 13's. "I think the schools I went to were big on sports, especially soccer and that helped me because I was already with the Midas Mbabane City development squad at 11, when I won my first gold medal. "When I was 11, I won my first trophy, and at that age, I had already played at the country's only soccer Mecca – Somhlolo.

He then went to high school at Evelyn Baring. "Evelyn Baring was one school that was known for its exceptional results and luckily for me, I came at a time when they were fast becoming a power house in the high school competitions."

After that, he came back to Mbabane for his last two years of high school St Francis, where he was recruited in Form Four by premier league team Nkomanzi Sundowns. "When I joined Nkomanzi, I got to play against the giants in the league such as your Mbabane Swallows, Mbabane Highlanders, and Manzini Wanderers. It was at this team that I also got to meet players such as Njabulo Simelane and Wire Mazibuko, where we were all under the watchful eye of 'Mashesha', who was passionate about young talent."

The next season, albeit being born in a staunch Manzini Wanderers family – he joined their rivals Mbabane Swallows. "Joining Mbabane Swallows was not an easy decision when you consider the fact that I was born into a Manzini Wanderers family, and even my father used to play for the team during his days. But, Mbabane Swallows were the first team that came for me, and as you

know, when a big team comes calling, you don't think twice."

It can be seen from his achievements that 'Taribo' was an exceptionally talented young man, and we want to know if his academics were hindered in the process. "I think, my family background and passion kept me going towards my dream. The thing is, I was passionate about both academics and soccer. I knew that I wanted to play soccer, but at the same time, I knew that it wasn't a career that will last a lifetime, hence the importance of education. My parents were always supportive of my soccer career. But they were more concerned about the education."

It was his love of academics and sport which led to his decision to go and study Sports management at TUT. Whilst he was studying, he was scouted and was offered a sports bursary – he would play soccer for the University and they would pay his fees in return. He was playing under the guidance of Floyd Mbele – current Orlando Pirates Administrative Manager. "I learnt a lot, during my time there, especially under Floyd, and the most notable has to be how to conduct yourself as a professional soccer player." On his last year, when he was playing in the finals – scouts from American Colleges came to scout and they picked him and also offered him another bursary just after he had finished his first one at TUT.

Consequently, he joined Alabama A&M, and studied another degree, majoring in Marketing and the minor was Sports Marketing. "When I got to the United States, I chose to study Marketing because it is one career that is needed by every company in the world. That's also an important thing young people have to consider before they choose their careers. Is your career viable in the job

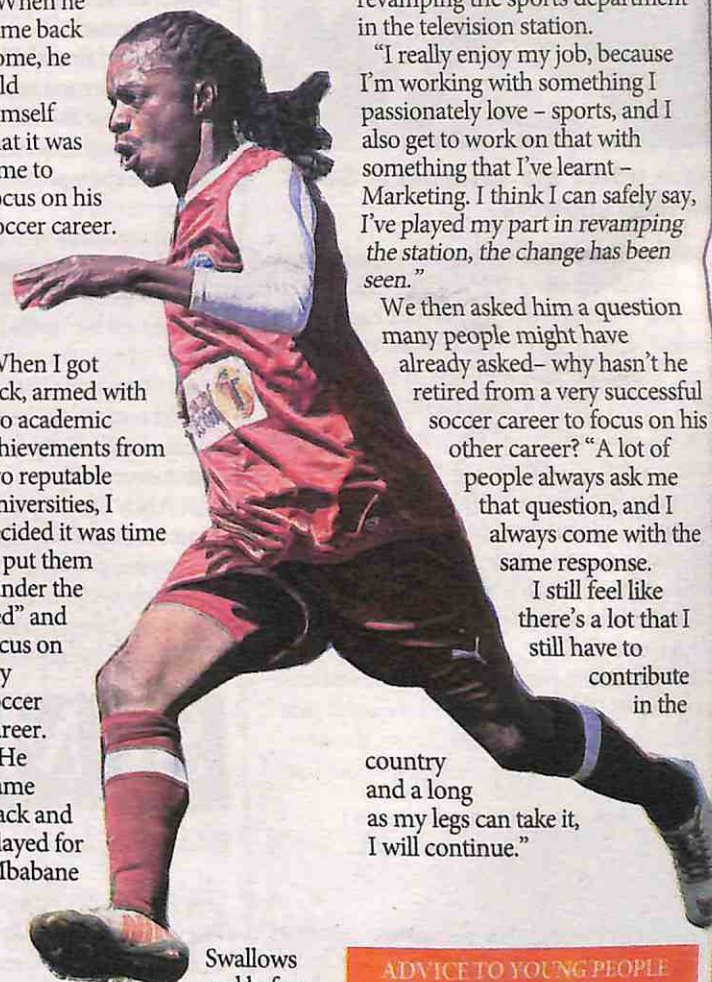
market?"

He also excelled during his time there, and was drafted as one of the 60 players – from a pool of 6 000 footballers – to join MLS teams. "I was very proud of myself when I was drafted as one of the players to join an MLS team, but unfortunately due to legislations at the time, I couldn't stay."

When he came back home, he told himself that it was time to focus on his soccer career.

"When I got back, armed with two academic achievements from two reputable Universities, I decided it was time to put them "under the bed" and focus on my soccer career."

He came back and played for Mbabane



Swallows and before

the end of the first season; he joined the money spinning ABISA Premiership side – Jomo Cosmos on a 3 year contract.

"When my time there year elapsed, I decided to come back home and take out my certificates

and start working on my career in Marketing, because you also need to look at your age as a soccer player."

Corresponding with his passion, he got a job at Swazi TV as a marketing officer and was later moved to marketing officer specifically for the sports department; tasked with revamping the sports department in the television station.

"I really enjoy my job, because I'm working with something I passionately love – sports, and I also get to work on that with something that I've learnt – Marketing. I think I can safely say, I've played my part in revamping the station, the change has been seen."

We then asked him a question many people might have already asked – why hasn't he retired from a very successful soccer career to focus on his other career? "A lot of people always ask me that question, and I always come with the same response."

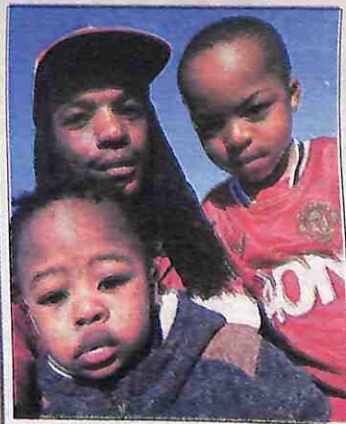
I still feel like there's a lot that I still have to contribute in the

country and a long as my legs can take it, I will continue."

ADVICE TO YOUNG PEOPLE ADVICE TO YOUNG PEOPLE

In life, there's one thing that you have to get very clear. Priorities. You should know what's important and that's when you will make sound decisions. For example, I can't say one shouldn't have a boyfriend/girlfriend. What if that person adds value to your life?

You won't get hooked into drugs if you know what you want and are determined to get it. You will choose the right friends who add positivity to your life, and not people who will always drag you down. And lastly, passion does pay. It's all about how you will tackle the task. You will have obstacles along the way, but know that the road to success is never easy.



Zoe Abande Nonde is a young lady with an easy on the ear voice that has seen her blossom quickly in the musical scene. The first time ASPIRE met Zoe, was for her debate and public speaking abilities, for which she went on to be captain of her school. So, it didn't come as a surprise when we heard that she was making some big moves with another talent that she hadn't mentioned to us before – music.

The young lady is currently based in neighbouring South Africa due to school commitments, but she was recently in the country and we caught up with her just before she went back.

She takes us back to her childhood and how music got into the picture, and also narrates how balancing education with her passion has been so far.

She blames her family for introducing her to music from a tender age, as they would always have devotion every night and they would all sing.

"My maternal family has always been into music. Each night during devotion we would have a full choir, ranging from first soprano right to alto. So music has been a part of me from a very young age. I started playing with my vocals way back when I was in the first grade. That's when I really fell in love with music. I switched from trying to understand a song to

I'M ABOUT TO TAKE OVER THE WORLD -ZOE NONDE

...She blames her family for introducing her to music from a tender age, as they would always have devotion every night and they would all sing.

fully grasping everything that goes into it." Although surrounding herself with people that know music has helped her to deeply understand the concept, her mother has always been her motivator.

"Albeit the fact that I've also had people in my life that have been motivators, such as Wakhile Dlamini, who doesn't just know music, but adds a philosophic sense hence having an obvious influence on my understanding of music, my mother, (former Swazi TV news reader, and Kusile breakfast show Co-host Pholile Maseko) has always been my biggest and earliest motivator from day one. She has always been supportive back in primary, as she'd let me sing at church (old IT Mbabane) during the offering session."

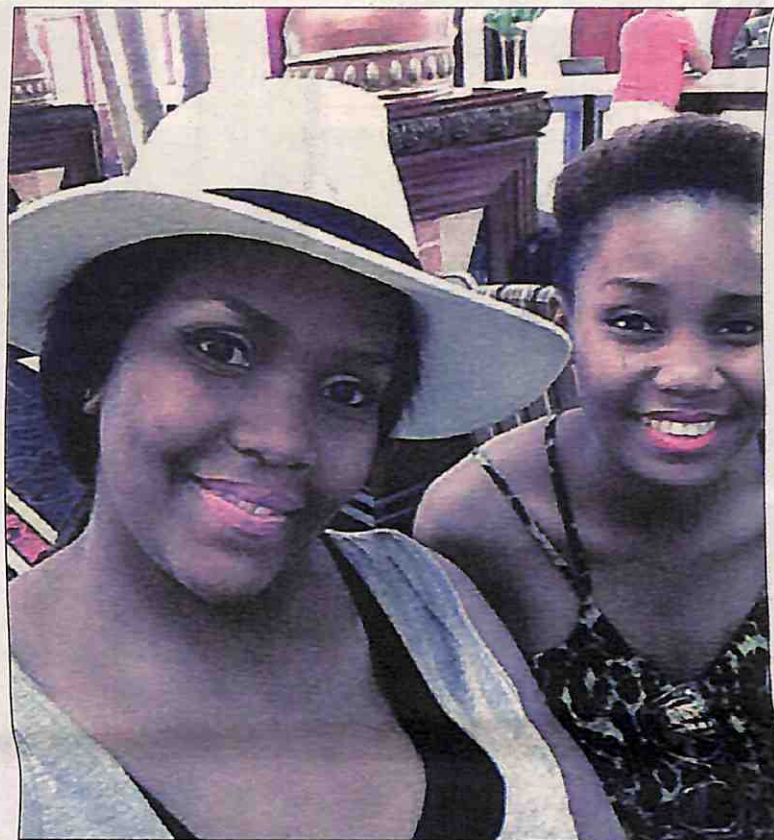
When she got to high school (St Michael's), she did almost every extra curriculum activity but, music seemed to always be THE calling for her. "I did almost every extra curriculum activity in high school. I'm the type that likes being busy, but I have to say music stood out for me all the time. In 2012, a group of girls and I got together, and we would do covers for gospel songs. Eventually we started performing in the school chapel during services.

We were around eight girls. We got so good at it that one of our group members, Asanda Motsa, would compose songs for us. However, half of the group left St Michaels and just four of us remained. We were skeptical about performing because the bar was set too high already. So we switched up our style to Acappella and even gave ourselves a name; Heavenly Sent. Before we knew it, we were getting invites to events on weekends.

So basically I was way into music in high school. There is a hobby however; that I fell in love with in high school and it is debate and public speaking. I even became school captain so yes; I am good at it (giggles)"

He mother's support helped her, as she never complained about the fact that she was into music, instead she encouraged her. "I think maybe she kind of knew that music wasn't something I'd grow out of, thus she helped nurture my passion. Even now that I've transitioned to a recording artist, she reminds me to send links and she knows all the songs. When the first song I did came out I was a little skeptical about telling her. So my brother set me up.

He played the song over and over again until she eventually asked why he kept playing. I was forced to tell her and she was so proud of me. She knows how much music means to me."



Teachers always play a huge role in the nurturing of one's talent, so we asked Zoe, how her teachers reacted to her passion.

"My teachers didn't really know how deep my passion was for music because I was in groups. Most of them didn't even know I sing (laughs). For them, I could just backup well. They knew I had the voice to add to melodies, but they didn't know that there's more to it than that."

Tertiary needs a person's mind to be focused, and sometimes trying to juggle things can lead to either one of the two – passion or the education failing, if not both, hence we quizzed the beauty with a beautiful voice on how hard/easy it's been for her to balance both.

"My main course is Communication Science at UNISA, but I'm also doing a course in marketing management at MANCOSA, and I have to confess that it hasn't been a stroll in the park. At first, because I'm a part-time student, it seemed as if all was figured out. It was not until the schoolwork start-

ed rolling in that I realised that it isn't that simple.

So I had to work out a strategic plan.

What I do is I push all my schoolwork through first and make sure that all assignments are done way before the due date. That gives me enough time to still do my music as well. It's the only way I can cope."

ASPIRE then asked Zoe, to give us her highlights so far, and being the modest person she is, getting an answer was not easy, but luckily she finally did.

Teachers always play a huge role in the nurturing of one's talent, so we asked Zoe, how her teachers reacted to her passion.

"Honestly it's only the beginning for me. I'll probably read these highlights again in a couple of months and feel like they were child's play (laughs). Being told my song with M-Seth was being aired was awesome and the fact that it made it to the top 20 was a cherry

on top.

It also got streamed on three international music stores (Tidal, Google play and Spotify). That was a surreal moment for me honestly. But like I said, I'm on a come up, so more is yet to happen."

She is currently working on her solo project, although she was mum on when it will be released.

"Right now, I'm working on a solo project, just so people get to hear Zoe on her own. It will help with the depth of my creativity and craft for me to be a full blown artist, not just a recording artist.

A bigger project is currently on the pipeline as well.

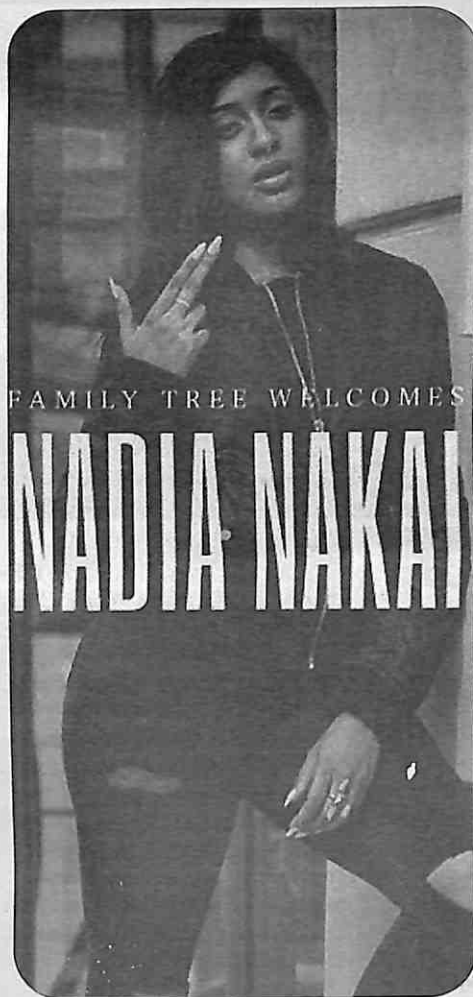
Also expect a couple of features as well."

Well, the only thing ASPIRE has to say about this young lady is that she definitely isn't just a pretty face but has brains and a melodious voice too.

Watch this space! You can get in touch with her at Zoë Abande Nonde on Facebook and @zoe_nonde on Instagram.



I'STAYELA S'YALAHLELA



FAMILY TREE WELCOMES
NADIA NAKAI

Greetings dear readers and welcome to your favourite entertainment column, Istayela Syalahlela. Today we shall be taking "a closer look" at the memorable Coke Studio collaboration.

Coke Studio invites megastars and unsigned South African artists from different music genres to create an original hit in just 48 hours.

1. Nasty C and Buffalo Souljah - 19-year-old artist and producer

Nsikayesizwe Ngcobo better known by his stage name Nasty C from Durban meets Award-winning Zimbabwean-born musician Buffalo Souljah. Bigg Buff needs no introduction and is well-known for his Dancehall/Reggae music. He's the son of the late great Zimbabwean saxophonist Unity Ndlovu - from whom he drew inspiration.

Together they made a hip hop/Raggae jam titled *Belong*. The story behind is a girl who has left a small community for the big city, but has forgotten home, and when she takes a coke can with the inscription 'home', the song plays in her head. Nasty C shows his rapping prowess once again, and the fact that he had to work with Cassper Nyovest' Family Tree, in-house producer, the rude boy himself - Gemini Major, was a bonus on its own as they've worked together (Nasty C and Gemini Major) in a lot of projects before. So Buffalo, just came through and finished on the concrete base that the two gifted youngsters had worked on. *Belong* is a wonderful African track - fused with urban hip hop and Raggae.

2. AKA and Patora King

So, the Supermega himself met another Nigerian star in Patora King and I was very eager to see two



ego driven artists like these two coming together to create a track. They worked very well throughout the show and both seemed to enjoy. They made a Nigerian inspired track about a special woman. I don't know if AKA was referring to Bonang, but I will hope he wasn't, and was just making music. I felt like it missed the AKA, we all love - the Prince of rap, and not the musician. Yeh, some will get me.

3. Ricky Rick and Scales

This particular collaboration was always going to be interesting. Ricky, a well established South African rapper meeting with Scales, a musically gifted raw artist from Middelburg. The youngster's nerves seemed to get the better of him after King Kotini had also missed his flight from Mauritius. But, Ricky, despite working under intense pressure, managed to mentor the youngster and they created a killer jam - Sunday that was produced by Sketchy Bongo.

4. Cassper Nyovest and Mi Casa

Two big names from different genres. At first when Mi Casa were in the studio, Cassper was nowhere to be seen whilst the guys in the instrumentals were also hitting a brick wall. They had a problem trying to fuse

their genres which was quite a shocker to me, because Cassper is a hood boy, and Mi Casa makes dancing music. Anyways they finally got to gel and they got their groove on.

Still on Cassper Nyovest, his show - Fill Up Orlando Stadium is just around the corner and the organisers have already started making T-shirts for the show. And the first two were showed to us by Cass on Instagram this week which had a spelling boo-boo. It read "Fill Up Orlando Stadium". He says, it was initially a mistake, but then when he saw that it could get people talking, he decided to use it as a marketing strategy. I'm not really sure I buy it though.

5. Nadai Nakai - seems to have really taken a good career decision by joining Family Tree as her work has been great ever since. I first met the pretty face and mean lyrics of this emcee on Ricky Rick track Amantombazane.

The self dubbed African rap queen has been releasing tracks, ever since her video in money back. She is also enhanced by the talent of Gemini Major. We need to take notice of this young lady. It seems like joining Family Tree has been more of rejuvenation for her. And her looks help in her videos too!

TIRED NECK...

BY SELULIWE VILAKATI

Feminist theorists define patriarchy as an unjust social system that enforces gender roles and is oppressive to both men and women. It often includes any social mechanism that evokes male dominance over women. The reality of our beautiful kingdom with its cultures and traditions is that it is a patriarchal society. Yet the reason we educate ourselves to work towards learning and unlearning our previous prejudices. How are we supposed to work towards Vision 2022 when half the population is meant to accept a petty portion of the pie, simply because they had the audacity to be born female in a world that places them in the position of being the negro of the earth?

We have probably all heard the tired adage "a man is the head, the woman is the neck" being said before some antiquated gender roles are said. The idea is the head does all the thinking, decision making and holds all the power, while the neck is meant to remain erect and in support. The neck is supposed to be strong enough to balance the male ego, without being too strong that the ego gets bruised. It would be funny if it were not so tragic. The mediocrity that comes with masculinity is a malignant mark on us all. You want the patriarchal privilege but can't even patriarch properly.

The women whom your interpretation of culture claims to be inferior have to be both weak and strong to deal with your nonsense.

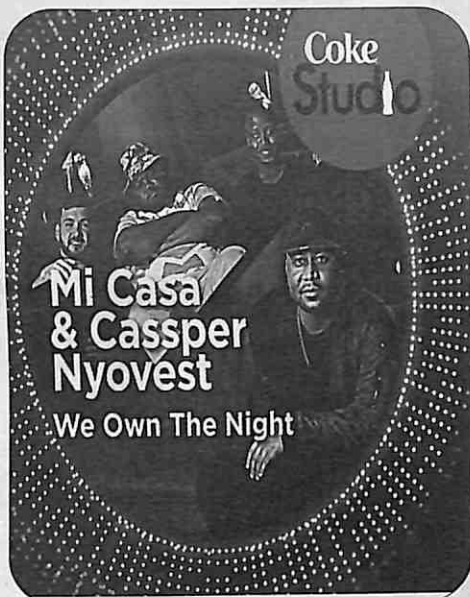
One minute "black women are strong" when we deal with a compendium of crap thrown at us, the next we must be weak because our strength emasculates your fragile masculinity.

The treatment of black women by the same black men we champion for speaks volume of the residual colonialist mentality a lot of our brothers are still dealing with. Equality to you doesn't mean a society where everyone has equal opportunity, but one where your privilege rivals that of a white man. It only makes sense that when someone succeeds, they are called "umlungu" as a term of lauding.

The most mediocre of men must be mounted up like a mast, whereas women will wither under the watchful microscope that requires us to exist in a dichotomy yet be a spectrum when the male gaze wants. Women must appreciate men for the most basic thing - taking care of their own children, when we are forced into motherhood by laws that act as punishment for sex. The same men who pride themselves on being providers complain when they are expected to do that, yet the minute a woman tries to juggle career and child she must brace herself for the scorn of being labelled a scarlet woman.

Twice as good to get half as far. When you're a young woman, it makes the summit seem unsurmountable; nonetheless there's always hope. When one woman makes a crack on the glass ceiling, another will chip at it and eventually it shatters. We are grateful to have strong positive role models, but the tragedy is that we have to actively try and remember them, because there seems to be an unwritten rule that only so many women can exist in positions of power at a time.

Women don't get the luxury of missteps or mistakes in positions of importance, because according to patriarchy we are one homogeneous monolithic group, so a fault by one is a fault of all. It is exhausting. This neck is tired.



Mi Casa & Cassper Nyovest
We Own The Night



SWAZI PROMOTERS RUINING THE BOOMING SWAZI ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

If there is one thing that seems to be an abnormality these days in our country is an event that goes flawlessly.

I've held back the thought of writing about this a couple of times; well, because I thought things would soon get better, because they usually say – once bitten twice shy. But a fortnight ago, after attending the Trade Fair all night Gig, I knew before the end of the show that I have heard enough, and therefore I would make it a point that I voice my opinion on this, especially after what happened to one of my favourite disk jockeys in the country – Tendaness.

See, as one person who loves entertainment, it is always fulfilling to see a talented and dedicated artist living their dream. This is what occurred to my mind when my boss wrote about poet Sandile Nxumalo's performance at the Mandvulo Hall during the recent SADC Summit.

"I reported a lot on his prowess back then in my previous life as an entertainment journalist, helping him claim his territory as one of the country's emerging talents. I remember how hard he worked on his art, and also that determination to succeed when he hustled his way into big shows and big things.

Msandi was destined for bigger things, as big as his boisterous voice when he was on stage in perpetual motion with his poems." Read part of the column.

Journalists, entertainment ones to be precise, albeit always being accused of being uncooperative always thrive to make local stars more than VVIP occupants or feckless beings to business people who are paid and appreciated for their talent.

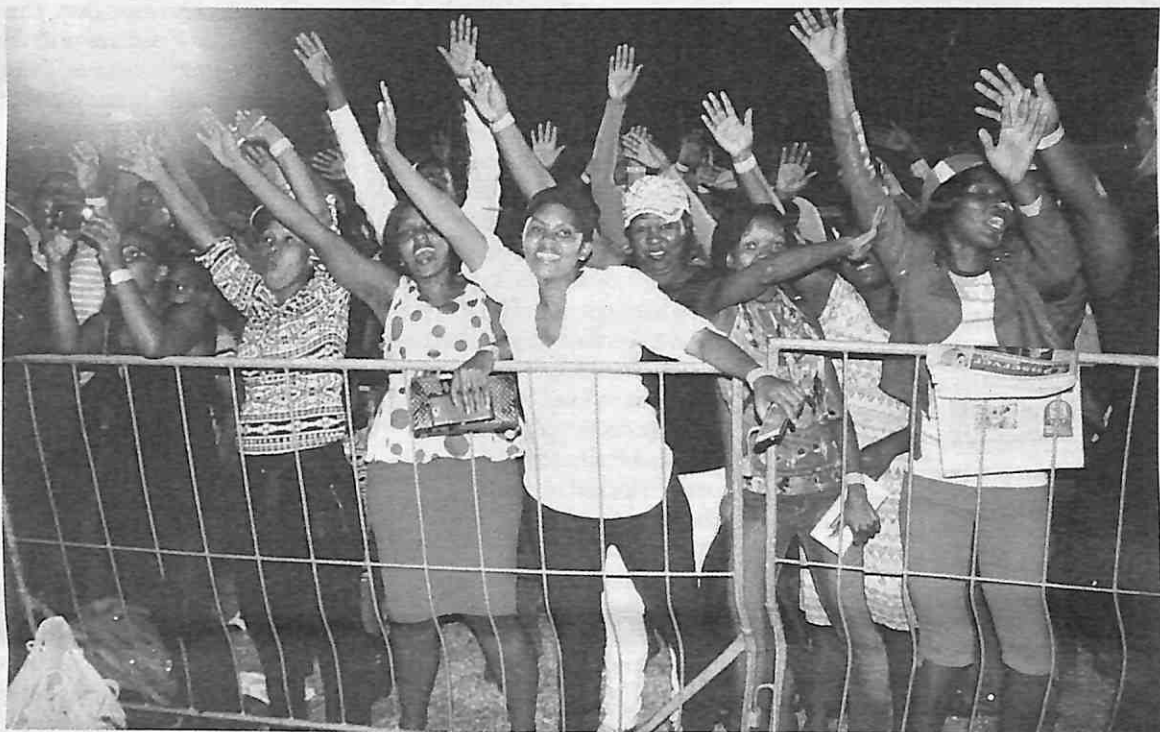
Now, it seems like if we don't have a problem of artists not showing up, we face poor planning which then transcends to a poor show – but still we pay. Swazis fork out their hard earned cash, for these shows and hope that they will have a great time, not to witness a comedy of errors unfold right before their eyes.

In this particular show (Trade Fair Friday all night Gig), I was so close to going back home just before the said 'highlight' performances. Let me tell you my ordeal.

After getting in the venue and meeting my colleagues who had arrived earlier, I decided to go grab something to eat outside and to also meet a couple of friends before getting on with my work for the night. When I got back to the entrance I used before, I was told that the gate which was initially used for VIPs and artists "has been closed and everyone is now forced to use the other entrance.

Maybe I shouldn't worry, I thought to myself, - there might be a valid reason for this particular action. And the show is at a notorious venue so maybe it's another method of trying to beef up security. I'm probably just

Now, it seems like if we don't have a problem of artists not showing up, we face poor planning which then transcends to a poor show – but still we pay. Swazis fork out their hard earned cash, for these shows and hope that they will have a great time, not to witness a comedy of errors unfold right before their eyes.



going to show them my stamp by the other gate, and I won't have any problem.

Kuphi khona?

Contrary to my earlier thought, but a fulfilment of my gut feeling, I get to the other gate and the security guards tell me that they don't know anything about stamps, because they only deal with tags, and further advised me not to try and play games with them because they and I quote "Usually beat the hell out of my kind."

Moreover, I returned to the first

gate and pleaded with one of the guards to call one of the organisers. When I got back, I found that I had a lot of people who were in my situation at the time, and someone had been brought in to deal with the "stamps issue".

But, things were still to get harder for me because when he was

analysing the stamps, mine was on my right hand instead of the left. Explaining was of any help, it just made sure that more threats and insults were thrown at me.

That was just it. "Enough is enough", I told myself and as I was ready to go and get a well deserved night's sleep, one of the organisers showed up at the gate and noticed

me.

No apologies, nothing, just a simple word of advice – "Make sure that you don't come out of the venue now, because anyone who comes out can't get back in."

You would think that would be the end of the drama, but that wouldn't be Swazi promoters. They tend to surpass what you had thought. They just excel when it comes to poor planning not to mention the terrible execution. They couldn't even handle the line-up, which is why patrons

started throwing bottles at the stage.

Not to sound like I'm defensive of hooliganism, or vandalism but the reason we got to that point in the first place was because of the promoters, not the people. The emcee on the night – SBIS 2 morning drive show host, Lindelwa Mafa announced to the crowd that DJ

that the crowd was already chanting the South African's name or what, but she still introduced Tenda, claiming to only be following the programme.

The inevitable followed.

All hell seemed to break loose as Sandy, Emtee's manager would hear none of that and commanded the youngster (EMTEE) that they leave the venue, which they did. Bottles were thrown and Tendaness left the stage to save his life.

The only thing he also wanted to do was leave the venue.

For that reason, Kwesta, - another 'highlight act' on the night - was brought in to save the day.



South African rapper Emtee.

And as he was introducing himself to the crowd, he was interrupted by the other emcee of the night – Anakhonza who was introducing Emtee to the crowd who had cunningly made a U-turn back to the venue. Emtee then ran to the stage and started performing, leaving everyone backstage at sixes and sevens.

But the worst was to come though, as when Kwesta's performance was done, we had an arrangement with his manager that we would follow their car to their hotel so that we could do an interview with the artist.

When we got to the first gate we had used to enter the venue – the one initially used for VIPs and artists - we were told that we couldn't use that one. Okay, we try the second one, and we find out that we STILL can't get out. One of my colleagues totally lost it, although I had warned her about that prior to her conversation with the police officers. She tried to reason with them and it got to the point where we were told that the station commander of the Manzini region was the one who had ordered that the gates be closed.

Consequently, we had to find some other gate that we hadn't seen before, to get out.

Oh, and what about the best hip-hop festival in the country- Hipnotik. What with the stampede at the gate? How in God's earth do you have one entrance to an event that attracts thousands of revellers? And why hasn't Swazi Jive given us an explanation of why two artists who were in the line-up didn't show up? Is it because they made money and they know that we will be there next year so, they just don't care?

Get me clear here, there's a lot of things that Swazi Jive is doing well, and the glaring one has to be the fact that they are organised with the nitty-gritties of an event. But they do owe the people an explanation!

I don't even want to waste precious space on those said organisers of the Trade Fair gig. I just admitted to myself that they are clueless about event organising.

My main point today is that Swazis come out in numbers to support event organisers and they disappoint with their disorganisation. They also go on to ruin the sets of artist just like they did to Tendaness.

Before they get on to complaining about hooliganism and vandalism, they should consider the quality of their product, which in this particular part is the event.

People need an event that is their money's worth.

Fans, were looking forward to Tendaness' set, after his mesmerizing one at Hipnotik, and his interviews on South African radio stations such as the one with Gareth Cliff.

It's time they upped their game because they are the ones that perpetrate the violence in these shows. I honestly don't know what can be done with - let me borrow a term from one of our editors - 'clowns' like Thabiso 'Tapes' Dlamini who are false advertisers. Pathetic!

SUNDAYCOMMENT:

An affront
to mothers

You have to ask yourself what kind of a parent Nkwene MP Sikhumbuzo Dlamini is; does he even have children, and what kind of nappies do they use.

You also have to wonder if he uses the kind of napkin that he wants the rest of mankind to use, simply because he believes there are too many disposable nappies 'all over our rivers, and polluting our environment'.

The MP, as a result, is now instructing the minister of tourism and environmental affairs to come up with a legislation banning the use of the disposable nappies, so that everyone is forced to go back to a bygone era, and use washable napkins for their children.

Of course there is nothing wrong with his concern for the environment, or that the disposable nappies are causing damage to it. However, there is everything wrong with his logic that in tackling this issue, we need to ban the importation of such nappies, and thereby force everyone to use the alternate nappy.

Displaying

Not only is this just absolutely ridiculous, it exposes the kind of man that the MP is, one who is displaying tendencies of a chauvinistic man and who will most likely tell us that the job of a woman is to wash the napkin that he wants to force us to use.

While the concern is noble, we also cannot escape the realities that the use of such disposable nappies is convenient for most mothers, while it also has very good health benefits for the babies. Rather than calling these to be banned, the MP should be encouraging education around the issue of disposing these, as well as finding ways in which the environment could be saved from these.

These may include finding ways to encourage mothers to dispose these safely, or that we provide bins for litter, so that they do not then find their ways to the rivers. Perhaps it would have been noble to look at incentivising the collection of these to save our environment, as opposed to the manner in which he wants to deal with this.

This is largely why we are left scratching our heads as to what kind of politician can be so insensitive to the plight of mothers, and want to force them to go back to using washable napkins that require so much work for them to remain hygienic. In any case, aren't disposable nappies a luxury for most Swazi women; these are no doubt costly, and therefore it hardly makes sense that a politician from Nkwene is going to raise such a motion when many of his constituency can't afford these. To them they must be asking themselves where the MP finds these, especially in this day and age when even our rivers (let alone those around Nkwene) are dry. Perhaps MPs have to do their own research before they speak, or reflect on the extent to which their motions can be sensible, or insensitive.

BY MBONGENI
MBINGO

It is difficult to put your finger as to where the problem is with Gideon Dlamini, or indeed what the problem is.

What remains undisputable is that he is treading on very thin ice, and the signs are not promising. To put it in its context, one needs to borrow from that 1995 movie starring Sean Penn—the minister seems to be a 'dead man walking'.

Well, at least in the political context, that looks apt. Gideon has not been making public appearances for a good two months if not more. In his place, the Ministry of Commerce Principal Secretary Jinnoh Nkambule does the honours, if not just about anyone else available. On some occasion, it has been one of his colleagues in Cabinet, such as the case during the official opening of the Swaziland International Trade Fair, where Moses Vilakati stood in. This on its own tells a story, that on most occasions, the PS has stood in for the minister when it has been the norm that a minister fills in when there is a situation.

Perhaps this is to put it clearly that this is not a normal situation, which has led to so many unanswered questions from all sectors—from his ministry to his colleagues in parliament, and just about everyone in his constituency.

Proverbial

For a good month, it was the proverbial hushed tones, before it became an open secret that the minister was being probed, by the Anti Corruption Commission of all entities—not even a committee within Cabinet. The minister told this newspaper in an exclusive interview that the investigation is linked to his involvement in the Swaziland Traders Link.

It is said that the ACC sent its investigators to the minister's office, and well, helped themselves to every paperwork in the office. You could also read quite a lot in this one too, especially if you consider that this happened long before the minister found the courage, or is it temptation, to speak about this honestly to the public.

With his back against the wall, the minister has tried to defend himself, and has confirmed what has been known all along; that his relationship with a consultant who had proposed a too-good-to-be true project had landed him in this stinker. Of course there is money involved, and the minister has made it clear his hands are clean, and that he has nothing to fear, even with the outcome of the investigation.

Yet, with such confidence and honesty, the minister remains in the sidelines, telling the Sunday Observer last week that he had been put on ice until his situation was resolved.

Analysis & opinion

HOW WILL
THIS ONE END?

He repeated this in parliament on Thursday during the tabling of his ministry's performance report when the portfolio committee questioned him on what exactly was happening regarding his apparent suspension from public events.

For me, it is telling that we remain in the dark pertaining to this issue. No one knows whether the minister is going to be in office for longer, or indeed, worst case scenario if his days are numbered. The odds appear to be staked against him if what is playing itself out is anything to go about, because clearly, this uncertainty would not be allowed to drag for so long. You can imagine the confusion in the ministry when the minister is around—even if locked in his office—because no one now knows how to deal with him. You can imagine the look that people give him in the closed meetings he attends because he has only been barred from attending public functions, or not to officiate in public. It speaks volumes on what is happening to the minister, and it is frightening.

Mildly

In fact, you should read comments attributed to the Government Spokesperson, Percy Simelane when asked by the Observer on Saturday to explain the minister's situation. It says a lot, to put it mildly, and it is no wonder that subsequent to that story published by our sister paper, the minister found himself having to clarify his position, as far as he knew it—and as well as he could.

I am certain he must have felt that rather than to allow the uncertainty to carry on,

he had to inform his constituency and those he deals with on official basis that he is still in office, albeit not taking part in public events.

I doubt though that this has helped. If anything, it has worsened an already worse case. The minister is now even more in the glare of the public, because there is no sign in sight that this case will be resolved any time soon. For instance, the probe has no time limit. The prime minister is also out of the country for the coming weeks, and I am starting to imagine this case dragging till maybe parliament goes on recess. Soon, the minister will be in limbo before he is relieved of his stress if not his job.

Argument

There is of course the argument that the minister should have continued to play his cards closest to his chest, stayed out of the public and allowed the speculation to carry on, until there was a pronouncement somewhere. There is the other side that sees his decision to speak out as born out of frustration, and perhaps seeking out his superiors to resolve this, because he is only responding to the questions from the public.

Ministers before Gideon Dlamini who have had the misfortune of this kind of experience have not lasted their full terms, hence my suspicion that this is looking dim for the minister. I am not, of course trying to make

his case any worse than it is. If anything, I am very sympathetic to his case. I would have wanted to argue on his behalf too, and assert that this treatment exposes the minister to ridicule if not criticism. While one would not want to appear defending an individual who is alleged to

have committed fraud, it still remains that the minister is innocent until proven otherwise. But the treatment already seems like a punishment, if not an indictment.

Perhaps it would have been proper had his case been speedily resolved. Perhaps a subcommittee in Cabinet would have been quickly set up to probe the matter while he continues with his duties, until there is reasonable enough evidence to suggest that he is not fit to carry on, and therefore then suspended.

At the moment, it seems as though with each passing day the minister edges into a night of oblivion.

Intentions

What is ultimately sad is that the minister had all the good intentions before he got himself into this situation. The project he got excited about, which then landed him in the hot soup, is truly revolutionary, and I am certain had it been allowed to proceed it would have been hailed as a brilliant innovation and a success story for this country.

Sadly for Gideon, he is a nice guy. He is too interested in the good of man. If he is ambitious, he is doing it well to disguise it, otherwise I would have said he is not politically ambitious.

This is of course a problem when he is going to let his good side get the better of his judgment, for everyone at the ministry had stayed away from the consultant he took under his wing. Had he been politically ambitious, he would have behaved like everyone else and pushed this project aside, and continued with plans to ensure he remained in office. His other mistake is not consulting widely enough and not bringing in his superiors into this project.

"There is not much to be worried about," he said in an interview. For his sake, one would hope that that is how it ends. History tells us that Macford Nsibandwe and Nelisiwe Shongwe were both in the same situation before the inevitable happened.

They too, were adamant they had done nothing wrong. Both were also determined to prove their innocent involvement in their cases. It doesn't end well.



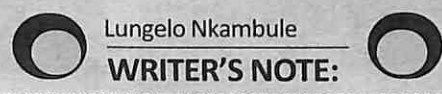
Minister Gideon Dlamini

SundayObserver Scene

THE ENTERTAINMENT ISSUE



HEED YOUR CALLING



Lungelo Nkambule

WRITER'S NOTE:

So, last week I enjoyed taking the back seat while Ka-Boyce Form four pupil Sibahle Mdluli took the lead. I was mostly impressed by her eagerness to learn and the fact that she thought I am awesome. The other thing is Nomfundo and I barely did anything because she knew exactly what she wanted and how she wanted. From the short stint with her I could tell she was destined for greatness. We wish Sibahle all the best with her studies.

This week we bring you the very first interview with THASA Founder, Christian also known as Thabo.

THASA, a booking agency in Mbabane looks at filling in the gaps in the entertainment industry. In our interview he revealed that he had opted to stay away from the media until the company was well established. Meeting Christian refreshing; he knows what he want and we hope his story will inspire you to heed your calling.

On this very page we have two music geniuses DJ Mbo and producer Subjamz.

The Sithungo brothers who have taken the music industry by storm are finally collaborating. They speak to us about their collaboration and their music journey.

Speaking of music journeys we have again brought you one of the fast growing hip-hop artists 80Script.

Script speaks of his music journey and aspirations. He also tells us about upcoming projects, read more on page 3. On that very page we have the social network watch. The past week saw the gorgeous Babes Wodumo trending. Wodumo as my friend calls her is said to be marrying the larger than life BigNuz member Mampintsha. We also have a beautiful spread compiled my favourite photographer Simon Shabangu.

We also have a write up on the corporate ladies tournament that took place last Saturday at Manzini club, the tournament was themed 'bringing beauty into the beautiful game'

Till Next week!!

THE SITHUNGO SOUND MAESTROS

...Good music projects are a result of hardworking music producers and sound engineers

Music is by far the best selling art genre the world over. Good music projects are a result of hardworking music producers and sound engineers.

The local music industry boasts of one down to earth yet super talented music producer, Sabelo 'Subjams' Sithungo. He has produced a number of albums for prominent people in the country including Her Royal Highness Princess Sikhanyiso.

The music produced last year by his wonder working hands is distinguished from the rest with the whispered 'Subjams' repeated twice.

Furthermore, he is not the only Sithungo in the music industry; there is an amazing DJ who goes by the name 'DJ Mbo' real name Mbongeni Sithungo but that is not the only point of interest as these two are actually siblings.

They spent their childhood imitating producers and engineers and now they are the ones manning the sound desks.

The two maestros have decided to collaborate for an offering for the local music industry. The song they will both work on would have afro soul singer, Sands on vocals and will feature by a music video recorded and produced by Mzwandile Kunene of Motion Skies Pictures.

We got to sit down and get to know the two brothers better;

SABELO'SUBZ'SITHUNGO

Why did you choose music in all art genres?

Music is my one true love. The one sole purpose for my existence. It is how God has enabled me to accomplish most of what I have accomplished at a young age.

Who in the industry have you worked with?

I have basically worked with everyone in the local music scene. The cream of the industry in essence. If you have heard them and loved their work, then I have probably worked with them (laughs).

When you compare the music industry from when you started in 2001 how has it evolved?

The industry as a whole is evolving. The gospel music scene in the country has become more accepting. Contemporary acts are also gaining recognition both locally and internationally whereas, in the past traditional sound was thriving by itself. We are also seeing our hip hop and RnB acts getting more recognition. They are collaborating with internationally and doing huge shows. I am proud of what is happening specifically because I have been lucky enough to play a major role in having our sound be able to stand a fighting chance internationally.

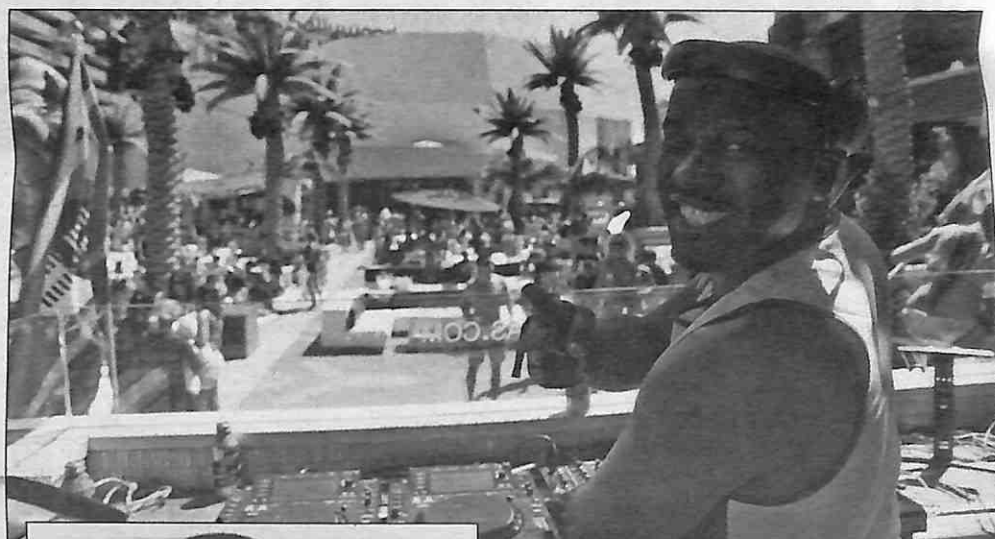
Who amongst the local artists do you think has the capability to make it, internationally?

I have seen so much potential here and I believe with the right push from the right authorities most of our local acts can make it internationally.

If Swaziland can look at art as a profitable export and invest in the industry just like other countries. South Africa and Nigeria are pretty good examples.

Who else do you want to work with in the entire industry?

Right now I am more interested in working



with international producers and engineers more than singers. So I grow more in what I do and learn new tricks of the trade.

Lastly, a man like you is a keeper, so are we going to be hearing any wedding bells soon?

I am very single. Wedding bells have to wait; I have taken timeout from dating. I feel I need to get to know myself more and push my limits. I want to develop myself professionally and personally so I do not repeat the mistakes I have made in the past. In all the different types of relationships you can think of. Not just my dating life.

The two have had their ups and downs as siblings but Sabelo gushes over and says "he is my elder brother; we are as close as brothers can be. I am the one he has to look out for and give sound advice to".

MBONGENI 'DJ MBO' SITHUNGO

Why did you choose music of all art genres?

It all started back in high school, 1994/5 when I found myself manning the turntables at school concerts and gatherings, the feeling I got from it made me realise the love and passion I have for music. Basically music provides passion, freedom, relaxation, love and appreciation.

Who in the industry have you worked with?

I did collaboration with Sands at this year's MTN Bushfire; it was out of this world, I am currently working with KrTC on an upcoming show where House music represented by me, will go head to head with hip-hop represented by him (KrTC).

When you compare the music industry with when you started how has it evolved?

It has evolved big time, technologically and otherwise. When I started out we used cassettes then from there we used CDs, now its mp3s, USBs etc, and the equipment improves daily making the craft much more interesting, so quitting is still a rumour (he laughs)

Who amongst local artists do you think has the capability to make it, internationally?

The quality produced by our artists and the skills of our DJs matches international standards. Foreign artists have said so themselves, so I believe our artists and DJs are capable of making it internationally some are already doing it!

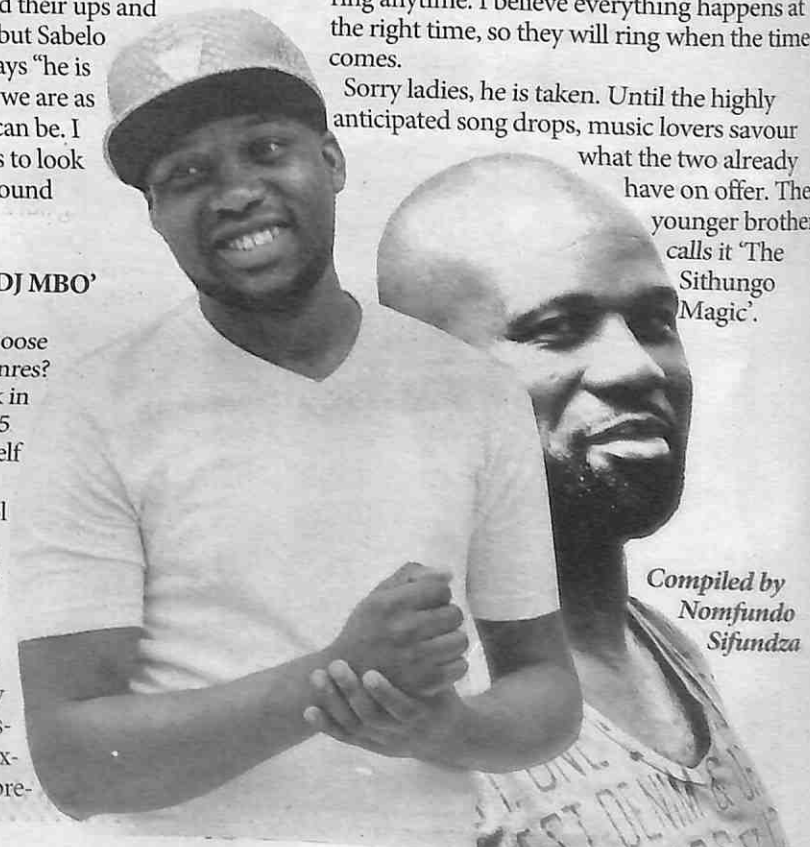
Who else do you want to work with?

I try or would love to work with everyone who is willing regardless of the genre.

Are you in a relationship with someone and when should we expect wedding bells to ring?

Yes I am in a relationship, wedding bells can ring anytime. I believe everything happens at the right time, so they will ring when the time comes.

Sorry ladies, he is taken. Until the highly anticipated song drops, music lovers savour what the two already have on offer. The younger brother calls it 'The Sithungo Magic'.



Compiled by
Nomfundo
Sifundza

SOCIAL
SCENE

First and foremost I must say I am super grateful for the little rains we experienced this past week. Little as they were, my hope is Mbabane residents were able to cultivate something from it because clearly our service provider has failed us. My concern though is if Hawane is ready for the rains; last I heard the dam itself needed some maintenance, however I will give the service providers

the benefit of the doubt and say they did their job this time around.

When I first heard Babes Wodumo's club banger I didn't feel anything, no goosebumps, no nothing. I thought it was sheer madness and boy was I right. This song drives people crazy, yes me included. It is an ear worm, you find yourself singing it all day long. Babes has been the centre of attention for weeks



now and every week something new about Babes is trending. This week it was revealed that Babes is engaged to Mampintja and black twitter took over. The memes started flowin. The one that brought me to tears though was the one teasing light skinned guys.

It's a picmix of three couples, all the guys; Black Coffee, Zakes and Mampintja have their arms super hot women; Enhle, Nandi and Babes respectively.

The caption is: What is the score light skinned guys? Comments also take a swipe on six pack guys.

Hilarious, right? Then came the petition, Babes fans were petitioning the state. They want the marriage between Babes and Mampintja to be stopped because Babes is a national treasure she cannot be privatised. Our message today is to all the guys out there is the sky is the limit!

BREAKING THE BARRIERS



80Script is currently working on his first album, SCENE caught up with the artist the past week to share what he is working on. This is what he said:

80Script is a wordsmith from the Kingdom of Swaziland who is dedicated to breaking barriers in hip hop by displaying artistic brilliance. A young artist with a vision to be a good example to the youth through his craft and elevate the genre.

"I am currently working on the first Grammy Hip Hop event in the Kingdom to be hosted at The Convention Centre called The Soiree as well as finishing my 3rd music project, which is my first album, titled That Of Greatness. This is only to name a few, but more about what we have in store when the time comes. But there always more ideas and projects we are working on way before we share them with our following and audience, but for now, an event around the corner (September 30), and an album shortly after, he said.

He said the idea was to grow and grow to a point where the country was recognised beyond our borders, but also celebrated here at home.

"So everything that we are doing is so we are able to take out flag out there into the world, but also give our homeland something they can be fully proud of and satisfied with. That's the ultimate goal. There are so many things to be done to achieve that, which some of them you are seeing now I'm shaping of an event uncommon within the hip hop sphere. That is only but one example,"

he continued.

He said he was still in discussions with his manager RJ and Label and Agency Thasa and he would definitely be sharing with his fans soon.

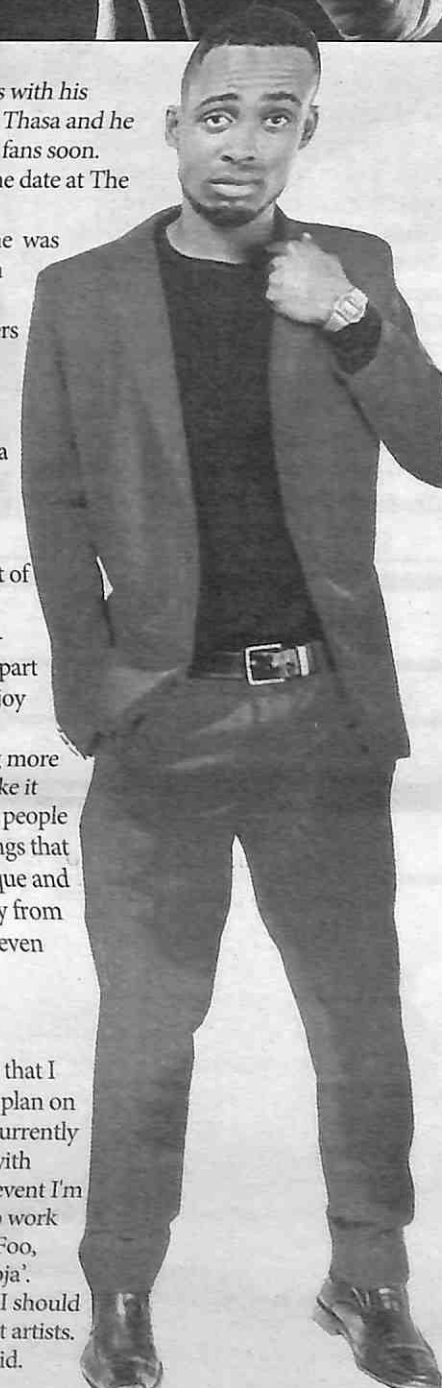
"Who knows I might announce the date at The Soiree," he added jokingly.

80Script further pointed out that he was one of the few All English rappers in the Kingdom and this is simply because the market for vernac rappers is well catered for as there are a number of good artists in the Kingdom who do bi-lingual rap. "Take for instance AKA. South Africa is rich with talent, i.e Cassper Nyovest, Kwesta, Kid X and more, who rap in English and vernac, that cater to the market of people that enjoy that style of rap. AKA now being one of the only all-English rappers makes him stand apart and also cater to the people that enjoy All-English rap.

However, I plan on incorporating more of my own language in order to make it more appealing and relevant to my people here at home. That is one of the things that make me different. My story is unique and the ability to tell it in a different way from everyone else makes me stand out even further," he explained.

He also said he was looking at collaborating with local artists.

"There are definitely local artists that I haven't worked with as of yet, but plan on doing so in the near future. I am currently in studio cooking up some work with Eimsofly that will be out after the event I'm working on but I would also like to work with Drewmatic, Verse, Adrienne Foo, and more. Velemseni as well 'Bholoja'. There are even more. So with time, I should be in studio with some of these great artists. Hopefully, they will read this," he said.



The entertainment industry in the country has been growing rapidly. Young people are rigorously exploring this industry and not only are they entertainers but they are launching businesses of their own to help and empower entertainers of the land.

THASA booking agency is the 'new' kid in the block that has been making silent moves and they are letting their work speak for them. This is the first interview THASA founder, Christian Sishwashwa has done with a local newspaper. Explaining why he hadn't done interviews before Christian said he wanted to build and make a name before announcing the arrival of this baby. "You don't want to make premature announcements. You must build the brand and the company then when people start noticing you can say something," he said. He also pointed out that he had no desire to be in the frontline and be known all he wanted was for people to know the agency. "What is important is for people to know about us and hire us, the company is the brand," he said.

THASA is a mother company to various companies and bodies. It's actually "group", Thasa Holding Group, with a base in Swaziland (were the Headquarters are based), Mozambique and South Africa and is slowly growing and expanding into other territories. One of the bodies under the company is DJs Production; one of South Africa's most prominent agencies, a sister company and is represented locally another body is the 808 KNGDM PREMIUM MUSIC STUDIOS, a baby of THASA Group and Swazi Jive Entertainment.

We met up with Christian to have him talk to us about his company and what it does. He said it started off as a dream and with hard work,

commitment and determination it became a reality.

■ GOD

Christian is a God-fearing young man who is driven by God, Mother and Samkelisiwe Gama. "God is the driving force. He is behind all of it," he said. He said he was also driven by the various things he had gone through in his life.

"The year 2016 drove me to realise that you can reach for any dream you have, I had a dream in 2012 to begin building an empire, which has, began to grow. Also I went through a phase in the year 2016 which got me wanting to give up on all I do, because of errors made. However it was also during that phase that I got to realise it's only a stage preparing me for the future. Christian further said his dream was also what drove him on a daily basis. He said it was important for an individual to have a

burning desire to achieve their dreams.

"At the end you must have

that fire within you, you must drive you. It is the DRIVE in you that will get you through life and achieving your dreams. SO YOU SHOULD DRIVE YOU," he said.

He said he was also inspired by his mentors Aneil Manmohan, Leroy Khoza, Farai Gundan amongst others. He said he was inspired by their hard work and commitment to their dreams. He said he had learnt so much from these people hence he was working towards achieving his calling.



John Sisk - In house producer.

IT WAS ONLY

...Team work is key - Chrisitan



CRworldwide and Case Thasa artists in Mozambique and other team players.

■ CALLING

During the interview he pointed out that everyone had a calling and it was the duty of an individual to listen carefully to themselves and heed their calling.

"We must not be afraid of heeding to our callings and explore them," he said. He said he was inspired by people who followed their dream. He then said there was no definite time frame to heeding your calling, because different people take note of them at different times. "People heed to their callings at different stages and times of their lives. Typical examples are rappers Bow Wow and Nasty C. Bow Wow started rapping way before the age of 8 while Nasty C started at the age of 12. Colonel Sanders established KFC at the age of 65 while Mark Zuckerberg started Facebook at the age of 21," he said. He said it was also important for people to understand and accept that we all had different paths. "Things happen exactly the way they are supposed to happen at the time they should happen," she said. "What I would say is that as soon as an individual has that burning desire coupled with a solid plan for

how they could go about attaining their dream that should serve as a great base" he continued.

Christian further said it was important for people to accept that in all they do, they need to know that they will face challenges. "Some challenges will be beyond you and will push you to want to give up. You will make mistakes, we all made mistakes, and some will get you to the worst positions in life, and places no one even wishes to be in. But what you need to do is clean up and get up and get ready to keep going. Learn from your errors and do your best to keep in the right lane. Communication is a very vital aspect in life, learn it and have it as a key strength, it will get you out of a lot of trouble," He said.

■ THASA

"THASA group is what was once a dream shared by Samkelisiwe Gama and Christian Thabo," Christian explained. He said from working on The



Thasa talent - 80script and Antoinette who will MC The Soiree.



M

ovie Review

...with Zanemvula Tsabedze
Film Reviewer
www.zanfiction.com

WAR DOGS (2016)

Coming Soon to Movie Zone

I'm excited to be reviewing this absolute must see that is coming to your big screens very soon. When you hear that Todd Phillips (the director of the Hangover movies) is directing Jonah Hill (The Wolf of Wall Street) and Miles Teller (21 and Over) in a comedy drama that is based on a true story, it pretty much gives you an idea of what a ball the movie is going to be.

I went into it expecting to have a few laughs but this experience was definitely far more than that.

Often-times Hollywood studios release films that are just sequels or that have a somewhat

recycled plot. We rarely get to see original films lately because they are too risky to make and the studios can lose money on them. The original movies that do come out on cinema are precious gems, to be cherished. And this, ladies and gentlemen, is one of those gems.

War Dogs follows two friends in their early 20s (Hill and Teller) living in Miami Beach during the Iraq War who exploit a little-known government initiative that allows small businesses to bid on U.S. Military contracts. Starting small, they begin raking in big money and are living the high life. But the pair gets in over their heads when they land a 300 million

dollar deal to arm the Afghan Military--a deal that puts them in business with some very shady people, not the least of which turns out to be the U.S. Government.

This whole premise is based on an article that was released in the Rolling Stone in 2011. Todd Phillips came across this article about these two young Miami Beach stoners who somehow got themselves involved in these major arms dealings and he began to investigate and develop the story further. "I immedi-

ately knew that there was a good movie in there somewhere", he tells James Corden on the Late Late Show.

The only issue I was able to note in this film is simultaneously its strength and its flaw. It manages to tell this very serious, true story with a high degree of humour. References to serious matters such as terrorism are delivered



A DREAM



Sinethemba
(talent coach
and trainer)
and **Christian**
copy.

Life We Chose Concert and Kingdom Business Projectz, two well established brands; THASA was a birth and extension of the two bodies. "THASA embodies not just one entertainment field but a wider stretch into the industry. It stems from a dream of having a company that provides various entertainment services and raises the Swaziland Flag and African pride to the world," he said.

THASA is not a one man show many personalities are behind the brand hence it is referred to as a group. "A various people are the brains behind THASA from Psychology student Samkelisiwe

Gama, Forex Trader and entrepreneurship graduate Cebisa G-Six, Communications personnel Futhi M, Founder Christian Thabo, Sisco, the list goes on and on, but above all the talent is what is truly behind this brand because without the talent involved there would be no THASA," he said. Christian explained that at the end of the day talent was the reason THASA existed because they were in business of empowering talent.

The company seeks to avail all entertainment services to the fore for all entertainment consumers. "We mainly focus on artists and event bookings, public relations for

brands and entertainers, talent management and event consultancy," he added. He further explained that they also did events and they would soon host the yacht party taking place in November 25 and 26. He said for them the sky was the limit in the sense that they hoped to render all entertainment services for potential clients. He said as a company they believed in co-existence hence they partnered with a whole lot of other companies.

"We co-own 808 KNGDM PREMIUM MUSIC STUDIO with Swazi Jive of which is also one of the companies that also do events consultation, marketing and production," he said supporting his point. "The entertainment in Swaziland is on the right track. 2016 has been a year where local entertainment has been more supported more than international entertainment. I feel the industry here at home is in the right direction and is heading towards the right direction. As everyone continues to take up their roles, positions and responsibilities it is only going to be upward and forward from here on. Yes, there are a few things to be worked on but everything has its time and will be done," he continued.

He said the growth of the entertainment industry in the country meant growth for THASA as a company in that industry. "This means nothing but growth and expansion for all players in the industry, he said. He said they were keeping their eye on the goal as a company. "Besides the challenges we have already faced and will face,

success is the goal. There are huge collaborations to be announced by some of our in-house talent and great projects underway which we will continue to share with our consumers and fans," he said.

"We are simply working on filling the gaps and developing what is already there," he said. He also emphasised the importance of working together for all industry players for the success of the industry as a whole. "It is important that we work with parties and organisations that already exist. The mistake many make is trying to compete with the existing; collaborating and relationships are key for a kingdom like the one we have," he said.

Christian explained that the agency helped with international and national bookings and some of the talent you can book VIA THE AGENCY include but are not limited to; Tall A\$ Mo, Nasty C, Tenderness, Cr Boy World Wide, TemiMotha, Emtee, Kwesta, Areece and Mdura. "It is also home to many talent including 80 script

and Antoinette talent of the house, who will both showcase talent at 80 scripts "The Soiree", Cebisa Gama who is a forex trader and will be hosting a forex seminar on the 8th of October, Sinethemba who coaches and trains talent and John Sisk is a THASA In-house producer who has produced hits and worked with Artists like Adrienne Foo, Play words, Ice Prince, 80 script and more," he elaborated. He ended off by pointing out that THASA is a body of young people who will grow and expand ensuring that each and every one of them get somewhere one day.

SEPARATION

He also spoke of the importance of separating the company and the individuals behind the company.

"This is vital because I believe the brand has its own personality and so are the individuals," he said. He did point out that however in time the two merged giving birth to what is known as ambassadors.



Team work, Christian, Business Partner Sisco, Tenderness and Mdumisi on the road.

in a very humorous way. Which can be a great thing, comedy is meant to be daring in that way. We should be able to relax and laugh at things that would ordinarily frighten us – that is the magic of film.

But on the other hand, this grey area between the comedy and the very dark theme of the film makes it seem to be sitting on the fence about what kind of movie it is trying to be. It holds the film back from being completely edgy and brings it into safer territory. For a film that is already rated R, the darkness of the subject matter could have been taken further.

All the acting is top notch, Jonah Hill is absolutely fantastic in this movie. He is always fun to watch because he exudes humour and always appears to be enjoying the role that he is in.

The soundtrack is another noteworthy element in this film, you may notice when watching it that the "madness" of Vietnam is accentuated with good use of a variety of old and new pop music. It heightens the mood and sets it apart from other movies with this theme.

Even those who tend to have a hard time



staying awake through movies will have no trouble with one. It does not contain any dull moments. I was consistently entertained and engaged. It is very sharply edited and impactful in all the places it needs to be.

SCORE: 9/10

RATING: R

GENRE: Comedy, Drama

DIRECTED BY: Todd Phillips

WRITTEN BY: Todd Phillips, Stephen



JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE 'ABSOLUTELY' WANTS COLLABO WITH EX-BRITNEY

Justin Timberlake wants to collaborate with his ex-girlfriend Britney Spears. In a recent interview Spears was

asked about her favourite musicians and mentioned Timberlake as someone she'd like to work with.

She said: "Justin Timberlake is very

good." Timberlake later heard about it and expressed his excitement at the possibility of a collaboration.

He said: "She did? Sure! Absolutely, absolutely."

He continued: "I have a 17 month old so I don't get the headline news."

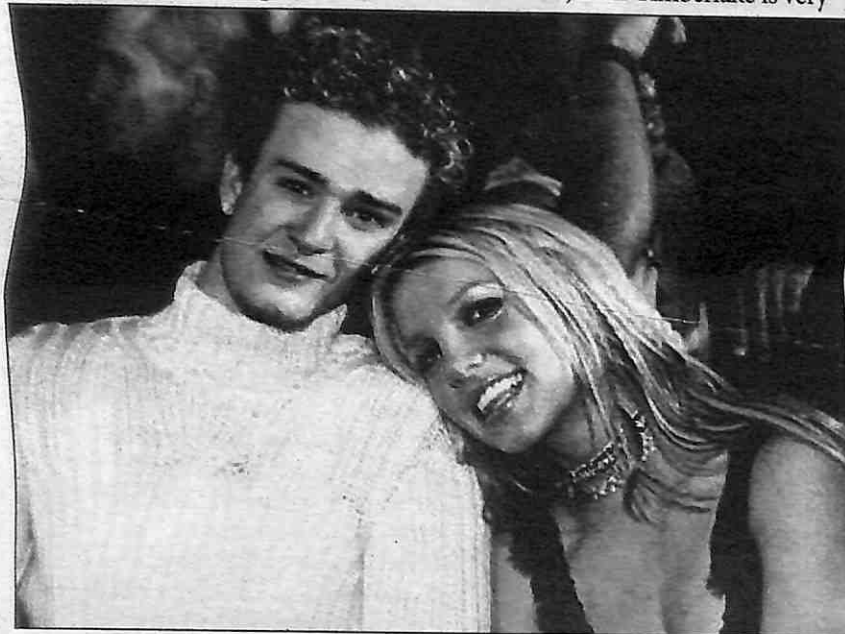
"I apologise for not being in the know... [but] I'm accessible, give us a call!"

The two singers met when they worked on US TV show *The New Mickey Mouse Club*.

They dated from 1999 to 2002 with Timberlake's *Cry Me A River* song written about their break-up.

In 2001 Timberlake co-wrote, co-produced and sang backing vocals for *What It's Like to Be Me*, on Spears' 2001 album called *Britney*.

Both stars have had new music released this year with Timberlake's *Can't Stop The Feeling* and Spears' *Glory* album.



Ashley Graham smoulders on the catwalk in lacy lingerie

Ashley Graham is famed for her incredible curves and she certainly wasn't afraid to show them off as she hit the catwalk in New York Wednesday evening.

She flaunted her figure as she modelled lingerie from her own collection for Canadian retailer Addition Elle.

The model smouldered as she showcased a number of pieces from the range including a black body suit, which featured sheer panels and a pretty lace design.

Ashley put on a very busty display when she changed into a black and cream bra, which looked as though it could barely contain her ample assets.

She also sported a pair of matching sheer briefs and a black panel, which protected her modesty.

To complete her racy looks, she opted for a pair of strappy black sandals and wore her brunette locks in long, loose waves.

The *Sports Illustrated* star opened and closed the show and seemed thrilled by the response she received from the crowd as she waved her arms in the air.

Following the show, she took to Instagram to share a snap of herself posing at the end of the runway and reveal how much fun she had modelling at the fashion event.

She wrote: "I'm so proud of how far my lingerie line with @AdditionElle has gone!"

"Second year showing at #NYFW is a dream come true! For any girl or woman who has ever felt that they represented in fashion/TV/media because of your size - you are now and forever will be! #beautybeyondsize." Before taking to the catwalk Ashley opted for a more demure look as she sported a sparkly minidress and cropped denim jacket backstage.

The thigh-grazing number allowed her to showcase her pins, which she further accentuated with a pair of heeled sandals.



SOMIZI SENDS CUTE MESSAGE TO HIS MUM

Idols judge Somizi Mhlongo sent his mum a cute birthday shout-out.

Somizi's mum is the legendary actress, Mary Twala.

Somgaga posted a series of pics of him and his mum with the caption: "The word unconditional has a

meaning when it comes to the love my mama has for me. I celebrate her everyday."

He even posted a pic of himself wearing a doek, showing the striking resemblance between him and his mum.

There's never a dull moment with Somizi.



Kim K teases curves in sexy skintight dress

She's without a doubt got one of the sexiest wardrobes in showbiz and Kim Kardashian stepped out in another eye-popping look on Wednesday.

The reality star, 35, put on a very busty display as she took to the streets of New York City in a seriously low-cut dress.

The *Keeping Up with the Kardashians* beauty, who was joined by her husband Kanye West, highlighted her sensational curves in the form-fitting number, which was rendered in a sultry crushed velvet fabric.

And her hips weren't the only one of her famous assets to be put on display as the garment's plunging neckline allowed the

stunner to tease a glimpse of her ample chest.

Ever the fashionista, Kim put an outlandish spin on the otherwise formal frock with a pair of reptile print boots that graced the tops of her knees.

The mother-of-two was without her two children, North, three, and Saint, nine months, and seemed to make the most of the opportunity to travel light as she toted her essentials in a dainty fur purse. Kim amplified the glamour by wearing her trademark raven tresses in a sleek, though slightly dishevelled, style.

In true superstar form, she partly concealed her famous profile beneath a pair of over-sized black shades.

'Brooklyn Beckham gushes over 'amazing' mum Victoria

Victoria Beckham unveiled her new collection at New York Fashion Week on Thursday and, as per usual, her family were there to support her every step of the way.

Brooklyn, 17, was sitting on the front row and made sure to share a short clip of the show with his 8.4 million followers.

He shared footage of the catwalk, alongside the caption: "What an amazing show. Well done mum @victoriabeckham."

Victoria - who is also mother to Romeo, 14, Cruz, 11, and Harper, 5 - took to Instagram earlier today to share an adorable message that she'd received from her children.

She shared the snap, alongside the caption: "Feeling loved this morning I love you @david-beckham @brooklynbeckham X Kisses from NY VB #VBSS17

#NYFW."

Victoria was pictured leaving her hotel ahead of the show earlier today, with her donning a crisp white shirt and a pair of baggy black trousers.

David looked as dapper as ever in a brown suede suit and grey flat cap, while Brooklyn opted for a black blazer, skinny trousers and a black and white shirt.

Victoria admitted last year that she always reads reviews of her shows.

She said: "I think people who say they don't read everything are probably lying, people who say they don't care are probably lying."

"There's nothing wrong with constructive criticism, and I learn from that and better myself. I'm not expecting anyone to be sycophantic in any way, I never expected that."



"What an amazing show. Well done mum @victoriabeckham."

Hosts, All Star Ladies, were crowned champions of the tournament

It was a beautiful day of soccer at the Manzini club. All Star Ladies a team formed by Swazi Boy's Mthunzi Zwane. The team made of local personalities and socialites came is always a feature at the SwaziBank tournament. The team has grown in leaps and bounds and last week they successfully hosted the second edition of the corporate ladies tournament. The tournament whose first installment was played at Malandela's this year saw more sponsors coming in and more teams taking part. It was a day of fun and the teams on the day really brought their all. Hosts, All Star Ladies, were crowned champions of the tournament. We bring you the low down of what went down...

SHAZ CONFLICTED

Swaziland Posts and Telecommunications Corporation team were the runners-up in the tournament. Sharon Maziya General Manager Transformation, SPTC became the focal point during the final match because she was conflict-

ed. Her relationship with both teams came to the fore and the other ladies jokingly told her to choose. Before the final match she was seen moving from one team to another.

Both team members made fun of her confusion and the SPTC

players said they were unhappy because their mother was abandoning them.

As the game went on Shaz as she is referred to in these circles was visibly conflicted. When ALL Star ladies finally won the match she just stood there showing no emotion. She went to hug her SPTC colleagues and then came back to congratulate her teammates. In the end Shaz's conflict became the joke of the day and the beautiful game once again won.

FISIWE DUMPS MTN, TEAM FAILS TO PERFORM

MTN ladies team came into the tournament as hot favourites to win because they were the defending team. The team, which beat All Star ladies last year, were minus key player Marketing and Branding Manager Fisiwe Vilane.

She was playing for the hosts this time around. Fisovee, as she is affectionately known, inspired the hosts to the championship.

After the games FisoVee said jokingly said she is the winning lucky charm. It was a beautiful day of soccer and as per their slogan beauty was in the game. We would like to commend All Star Ladies for a job well done and we hope next year will be bigger and better.

BRINGING BEAUTY TO THE BEAUTIFUL GAME



Behind the Scene

SIFISO NCWANE'S CHILDHOOD DREAM COMES TRUE



Pictured with fans outside Swazi Centre.

South African gospel sensation Sifiso Ncwane, has achieved his childhood dream of being a famous gospel artist and blessing people with his God given talent by appearing on TV.

This he shared with his millions of followers on his Facebook page.

"As a child I never had toys. A relative who raised me did her best to feed me but I couldn't get a chance to go to school. Whenever she looks at me now, she always says 'Khehla, we did not know what were you talking about when you said 'one day I will sing on TV and cassettes thus bless people with my voice'. My aim was to change people's lives through my ministry; I never thought an uneducated boy like me, who can't even speak English well would also get such recognitions. It's only the grace

and the mercy of God. If God remembered me, your time is also coming, *bekezela.kuzolunga. Ngiyabonga*," reads his post.

Ncwane also received 10 awards recently for the album titled 'Bayede six' from the SAMA 22. He also shared his awards on his page where he thanked his supporters.

"To God be the Glory for All He has done. To my surprise, when I picked up my three awards for #SAMA22, the Lord surprised me with three more for my company (Ncwane Communications) for best selling category. I don't know what to say, but thank you to all my faithful & loyal supporters, media houses at large, my friends & colleagues in the industry ... *Ngyabonga ngokukhulu ukuthobeka*" the post reads.

Ncwane also shared a number of



images he took during his recent trip to Swaziland where he performed at the 2016 ITF. He also visited different media houses including the Swazi Observer.



Ncwane with his crew at the Handicraft market at Ezulwini.



A picture captured during his visit at the Mantenga Cultural Village with Sibahle Ngemasiko Culture Group.



While in Swaziland Ncwane also donated school fees to Mpumelo Makhukhula, which he had pledged during an earlier visit to the country.



Also on his FB page is a picture captured at the Swazi Observer with company receptionist Hlobile Dlamini.



Pictured with John Pires at Swazi TV after an interview on the Kusile Breakfast Show.



He also visited VOC Studios where he did interviews and posted some of the images from there.



**NOKUKHANYA
GAMEDZE**

JA BOARD CHAIR

A JOURNEY TOWARDS 2016 NATIONAL EXPO

Junior Achievement Swaziland is nearing the annual National Expo activity which showcases the entrepreneurial talent that young people have in the country. Top ten schools who have outlined the best thought out business ideas and implemented them in a 15 week long hands on entrepreneurship course get to be unveiled. What I usually regret about this activity is that there are so many ideas that come out through this programme which never reach the competition stage yet in my view are very innovative as well. This is why I decided to take a journey through Swaziland and visit some of the schools that have enrolled in the programme this year. My first stop was with three schools in the Shiselweni region namely Edoropeni High School, Matsanjeni High School as well as Our Lady of Sorrows High School. Join me and get to learn more about the impact of our program from the teachers as well as students I met on this journey.

1. EDOROPENI HIGH SCHOOL

For the first time ever in the history of our programmes, Edoropeni has made an entry into the implementation of the JACO programme. There are 28 members enrolled in this programme and their business trading name is known as Empire Investment. What these young people decided on as their business idea is to recycle papers through turning them into coloured paper bowls. Their business idea was inspired by the need to limit the number of papers that are disposed which end up creating waste material and harming the environment. Samuel Xaba who is the Head Teacher AT Edoropeni High School explained that they have experienced firsthand the impact that this programme has in the lives of these young people. "Our interest into participating in this pro-

gramme was sparked by the fact that this programme challenges young people to think of creative and innovative ways in which they can make money. We also wanted the learners to be exposed to other means of making money which does not entail thinking about employment but rather creating their own employment. We have also found that the learners whose curriculum entails the commercial subjects utilise this programme to implement the practical of their educational curriculum." Xaba also explained that students have gained a lot of independence from this programme as they gain money management skills as well as the ideology of selling to gain income. Khanyakwezwe Masangane, a commercial teacher at Edoropeni who facilitates this programme explains that it sparks a high level of intellect in the learners lives as they engage in this programme. "The learners who are in the commercial subjects' stream end up being influential to the other learners to take up this programme. It becomes very inspiring to note," he said.

Empire investment which is the enterprise by this young people mentioned that they were grateful to the programme for the skills they have been capacitated with through the JA programme. They explained that they were now better positioned to work well as a team as they had to be in a team set up for the duration of the programme.

2. MATSANJENI HIGH SCHOOL

Matsanjeni is also a first time participant in the JACO programme. The students decided to utilise their school tuck shop and sell everyday goodies for their colleagues such as sweets, chips and biscuits. A total of 34 learners are actively involved in the business as shareholders who were involved in the conception of the business. Victoria Nyawo the Deputy Head Teacher at Matsanjeni High School explained that their view of this programme is that it is

rightfully positioned in the rural schools whose pupils encounter a lot of challenges all centred around poverty hence the need for life skills that will educate them on how to develop their own businesses. "We are very grateful for this programme as we know that even those learners that might not do well enough in their academia will have an idea of how to run their own business hence have a way to make a living," she said. Zinhle Mavuso who facilitates the programme in the school explains that the response from learners in partaking in this programme has been truly amazing. "I allowed the students to have a lot of independence in running their own enterprise to the extent that ideas on how to make their business better were initiated by them. I have observed them make executive decisions that will yield profit such as deciding on which cheaper supplier to use after making a thorough comparison of the local supermarkets on price ranges. I can recall one instance where the learners bought stock that was to expire in a few days' time. They came to me with their challenge but instead of me giving them a solution on what to do; I let them brainstorm on different possible solutions. They ended up selling the entire stock on credit before the expiry date and let learners repay later on. I am so proud to note that this programme challenges young people to dig deep into their brains to find solutions for their businesses," she said. The learners at Matsanjeni are determined to continue with the running of their business post the competition as they see the value of making money through business. They have learnt vital lessons such as the basic skills of running a business, customer service skills and determination.

3. OUR LADY OF SORROWS HIGH SCHOOLS

Last but definitely not least, I visited Our Lady of Sorrows and found a group of dynamic learners who go by the trade name known as

Culture Quest PTY LTD. Their innovative business idea is making floor mats out of animal hide.

They tender the animal skin until it's soft and make it into beautiful floor mats. This school is implementing the programme for the second year and worth noting is that last year as first comers; they made it to the top 10 schools competing in the national expo and managed to scoop the best new comer award.

Anthony Sithole the Deputy Head Teacher explained that this programme has impacted the lives of the learners in a massive way. "This program puts emphasis on learners having an idea and implement it and sustain a living as a result.

It also creates a mentality shift as learners recognise the prospect of being an employer as opposed to an employee.

They have been transformed to entrepreneurs. We are very proud to note that the students who participated in the programme last year still continue with their business idea even this year.

Thandiwe Nsibande and Doris Magagula who facilitate this programme explain that their involvement in this programme has also been instrumental in gaining knowledge on entrepreneurship as well thus changing their outlook in life.

"As a teacher myself engaged in the implementation of this programme, I have found that I have also gained knowledge on entrepreneurship which I can use to transform my life as well," said Thandiwe.

"Through this process, I have identified that everyone can be an entrepreneur as long as they get relevant exposure to entrepreneurship early enough in life. This programme has transformed me through the learners," concluded Doris.

Join us again next week to meet more entrepreneurs unveiled through the 2016 JA Company programme.

Sign-up towards a food secure country with NMC

Let us go back to the basics a little. We have read, and been informed through this very column, that in the agricultural economy, maize is one of the most important crops in the world, and the same is true for Swaziland. In fact, in Swaziland, it is not only the staple food of the Swazi people, but maize is also the most widely produced agricultural product in the country, be it at subsistence or commercial level. This is so much so that even agricultural marketing is dominated by maize marketing amongst small scale farm holders.

In Swaziland, in a good season, under well-managed conditions, a hectare of land has the potential to yield an average of between three-six tonnes of maize. An ideal situation is one where a hectare of land produces six or more tonnes of maize. However, currently, maize farmers produce less than the average for the same farm size. NMC's farmer development officers who were introduced in previous articles, have been tasked with ensuring that they help as many willing farmers as possible, to use their farm holdings to their optimum; and they will ideally, be contracted to the organisation so as to produce maize for resale to the NMC. This is where the 'signing up towards a food secure country' comes in.

According to National Maize Corporation's calculations and/or forecasts, the country needs to produce 130 000 MT of maize on a mini-

mum of 6000 hectares of land under irrigation, which will produce two crops a year and this would be enough for the country. Considering the large amounts of unused land in the country, one would assume that this should be a relatively straight forward task.

This however, is not the case. Agriculture in Swaziland, as with most other countries, is dominated by small scale farmers. This means that to a large extent, the growth, development and thriving capacity of maize is highly dependent on rain, as most farmers either do not or cannot afford to invest in any kind of irrigation system.

In a perfect world, with favourable climatic conditions, this is all very well. After all, the country and some parts of the SADC Region itself, have survived on this for as far back as we can imagine. However, in times like the current climatic conditions, and in a region that has been struck by the worst drought situation in over three decades now, it is simply not enough to depend on rainfall to sustain the agricultural industry any more. Swaziland is heavily reliant on the agricultural industry, and in particular, maize production, one can safely assume that the situation is no less than disastrous. Therefore, with the initiation of the Farmer Development Department within the National Maize Corporation, and with the introduction of FARMER CON-

TRACTS, the National Maize Corporation seeks to engage and contract farmers and/or farmer groups who have a specific land size to the NMC.

This means that the farmers or farmer groups that sign contracts with NMC will have land size of no less than five hectares. The main objective of having NMC's Farmer Development Officers is to ensure increased grain production by providing technical and business development to grain producers; linking producers to service providers as well as linking producers to the market.

This is a service that the NMC extends to all local farmers, however, farmers contracted to the National Maize Corporation will not only have the benefit of the above stated but will have personalised assistance from the NMC Farmer Development Officers who will walk through the journey side-by-side with the farmer, from the beginning of the process through to the day the grain, in this case, maize, is delivered to any of the NMC depots around the country, Matsapha main plant included.

It is our goal to ensure that the farmer, who is being technically assisted by our Farmer Development Officers, obtains optimum yields, competitive market and better returns for his efforts. Other benefits of being contracted to the NMC include: assistance with transport, maize collection, discounted input supplies, technical

assistance and where possible, support from donor agencies should such an opportunity arise.

The countries in Sub-Saharan Africa remain the least food secure countries globally, and as a result, the onus lies with organisations like NMC, stakeholders such as Government; regulatory bodies; grain producers and the general public to work together towards identifying and implementing mitigation strategies.

The NMC Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Sabelo Msibi, strongly believes that if we can envision it and then believe it, we can surely achieve it. "The power is in our hands," he often says.

The empowerment of farmers; the matter of farm size and farm income; output of maize and contact with farmer development officers is imperative to the success of that farmer, no matter how small or large the farmland is.

Increasing the yield of a specified farm-size, income, and job-creation and/or entrepreneurial opportunities through farming remain key challenges facing local farmers and without appropriate assistance at a technical level, this challenge is certain to remain for decades.

Therefore, signing a contract with the National Maize Corporation, as a local farmer, is the first step towards ensuring that your area under production yields at its optimum and it is the first step towards being a food secure nation. Walk with us to greatness!

**NOKWANDA
DLAMINI@
MASUKU**

ON THE
GRAIN

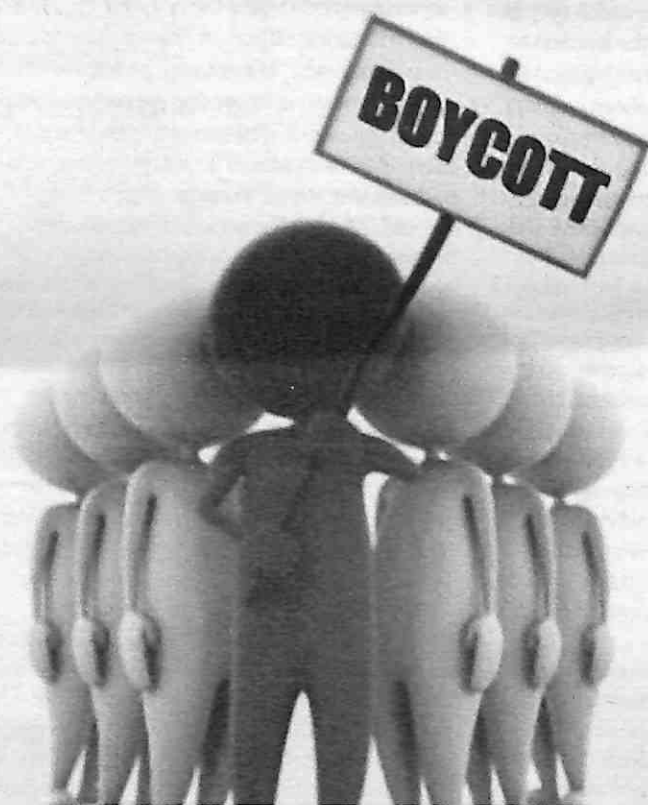
EMAIL: MAR@
KETING
@NMC.CO.
SZ
WWW.NMC.CO.
SZ

What? Sign up for what? I'll bet that's what is going through your mind right now. How does one sign up for a food secure country with the National Maize Corporation? Well, the title may have been oversimplified to a certain degree, but the concept behind it is that simple.

As has been previously discussed, and this is a gospel that the National Maize Corporation will be preaching for a while, the country is not producing enough maize. Actually, that is also another statement that has been oversimplified. The situation is worse than we think. Not only are we not producing enough maize as a country, but in fact, the little maize that we have been producing has been steadily diminishing over the years, so much so that a significant fraction of our maize (over 90%) is imported mainly from South Africa.

MIND THAT
ERROR

ADIDI UYO

A boycott, a memo and
a menu: mistakes ahoy!

Our newspapers are fond of telling their readers that the name of somebody they are reporting about is known to them, but that they would not disclose it to readers for one reason or the other.

In American parlance, that, I think, would translate to taking the Fifth Amendment – or is it the Fourth?

Anyway, allow me to refer you to one of our newspapers whose name is known to this writer, but is being withheld for only one reason: You can find it, if you really want to know. The date of publication is September 8, 2016, and the page of interest is 2.

On this page that day, three of the five stories were related, and they were about a boycott, a memo and menu. The main story was headlined, “UNISWA students in brief class boycott.” One of its sidebars bears the headline, “Senate memo gives students two options.” And the other sidebar has a headline which reads: “Bring back potato chips – students.” None of the three items was error-free, but the main story had the lion share. The second paragraph of the main story reads, thus: “Among other issues, the students are not happy with steep prices at the bookshop and alleged victimisation of some learners at the institution of higher learning.”

Can you finger anything in that paragraph that you are not happy with, grammatically? If you ask me, I’d say: “Yes, at least, one!”

I say at least one because we can place our fingers on two teeny weenie faults which many would not consider to be errors, per se. You see, one common mistake in writing which many take rather lightly is that of **omission of obligatory elements**, specifically, words and punctuation marks.

Some fastidious grammarians would insist that the two things which the students are reported to be unhappy about, that is, “steep prices” and “alleged victimisation,” should be qualified by the definite article, “the.” Their argument would be that their inclusion makes the sentence more concrete.

Anyway, if you do not consider those two omissions as errors, you cannot stamp, correct, the following construction: “some learners at the institution of higher learning.”

What stops one from just saying: “some students at the university”? **Redundancy** is never a virtue in writing. As it is in that sentence, that construction is the variant of the error of redundancy known as **verbosity**. Just as too many cooks spoil the broth, too many words spoil the sentence.

The third paragraph of the same news story is one sentence which reads, thus: “The resolution to boycott classes was taken in a highly charged meeting held at the Kwaluseni Campus on Tuesday evening.”

Just one question: “Should the preposition before the meeting be ‘in’ or ‘at’?” The correct preposition should be “at.” This answer is corroborated by the first entry in a popular dictionary for the meaning of this preposition: “used to say where something/somebody is or where something happens.” This, of course, is an error of **faulty preposition**.

You can immediately spot an error of **prepositional omission** and a repeat of the same mistake of **faulty preposition** in the fourth paragraph of the story, besides the error of **redundancy**. The paragraph reads, thus: “According Kwaluseni campus Student Representative Council Chairperson Sandile Dlamini, the resolution was taken in a stu-

dent body meeting, whereby it was resolved that students at Kwaluseni were to boycott classes from yesterday until the concerns of the students are attended to without fail.”

It may be light, but it is an error all the same: the omission of the preposition, “at,” before the noun, “Kwaluseni campus.” It leaps at you, the redundancy in this construction: “the resolution was taken in a student body meeting, whereby it was resolved.”

Without dwelling further on the errors in paragraph four, let us just try to revise it, thus: “According to the Kwaluseni Campus Student Representative Council Chairperson, Sandile Dlamini, the meeting resolved that students at Kwaluseni were to boycott classes until their concerns were **adequately addressed**.”

Sentence

The revised sentence consists of 28 words, whereas the original has 43 words. That is fifteen words in the bank! After clarity, many propound, economy is the second rule of style. Say what you mean to say clearly with the fewest words possible.

You can easily detect an error of **comma omission** in the fifth paragraph of the news story. The sentence reads, thus: “The students also complained that their colleagues, who are doing humanities and law are allegedly being victimized by some of their lecturers.”

Because the clause, “who are doing humanities and law,” is a parenthetical construction, it needs to be bounded by two commas. But the second comma has been omitted. Besides, the two areas of study, Humanities and Law, should begin with capital letters. This is an error of **faulty lower case**.

Paragraph six of the news spots what we may consider the littlest of errors: the omission of a letter or **literal omission**. Here is the sentence: “The students said **lectures** are not afraid to tell them that they will make the students fail their examinations.”

Are you kidding me! How can “lectures” make students fail their examinations? Surely, the word should be “lecturers,” not “lectures.”

Oh, what the difference a word makes! Reminds me of my fondest literal omission by a newspaper that ran an editorial in which the letter “I” was missing from a word in the title, “Government must do it in the public interest.”

Seemingly, the only paragraph in this eleven-paragraph news story that is not in error is the first one. See whether you can give Paragraph 7 a clean bill of health or not. It reads: “Dlamini said as students they want the university to review the process of remarking students.”

How could you? I mean, you cannot give the sentence a clean bill of health. Let me revise the sentence, and then explain what I have done: “Dlamini said as students they want the university to review the process of remarking the **examination scripts** of students.”

The two things that I have done to the original sentence pertain to the error of **omission of obligatory words**. The first word which I added was the conjunction, “that.” And the second is the set of words that constitute the noun phrase, “**examination scripts** of.”

There is no such process at any university, and certainly none at UNISWA that I know of, which involves “**remarking students**.” Students’ may petition for their scripts to be remarked, but certainly not the students, themselves.

Don’t let me catch you laughing because this is a serious matter!

Paragraph 8 of the story reads, thus: “Dlamini made an example of a textbook which costs about E4 370 while students’ book allowance is around E3 080, which makes it impossible for a student to afford that particular book.”

One word that can significantly make that sentence better is the coordinating conjunction, “**whereas**,” instead of “**while**.” But allow me to reconstruct the sentence, as a whole, for you to judge which of the two makes more sense – the original or this revision: “Giving an example of one textbook that costs about E4 370, Dlamini argued that it was not possible for some students to buy even one book, since the students’ total book allowance is around E3 080.”

Space beckons and its time to stop. But let me leave you with the ninth paragraph of the news story. It reads: “The students also complained about the way the warden gives out rooms to them saying that final year students sometimes end up not having rooms or sharing while at the same time some second year students are living in single rooms.” Peruse that sentence and let us compare notes when next we meet, right here, DV!

JOY
NDWANDWE'S
ZONE
LEADERSHIP

It's time to articulate my understanding of how God is universal. Last week on my column I shared my spiritual connection with HMKIII as it is important in the Kingdom of God to honour and respect earthly leaders.

Today I state ‘God is Universal’ as God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit who occasionally takes me on an astral travel, took me to heavenly space of wisdom and peace. There was silence and perfect peace within mountain ranges, and most significantly there were symbols of the Abrahamic religions, Islam, Judaism and Christianity.

Hence it was revealed to me that I am an indigenous prophet, on a guided tour at the space of wisdom and perfect peace. A place where God is universal, hence my message is one of wisdom and peace within all religions, this God wishes humanity to know and accept. To affirm this, during research was guided towards a book that revealed indigenous cosmologies that bind humanity: ‘Islam, Christianity and the African Identity by Sulayman S. Nyang (1984). I spent research time transmuting these indigenous cosmologies into cosmological principles applied within African leadership in Egypt, Ghana, Ethiopia and Southern Africa.

COSMIC AND SOCIAL ORDER

The first two cosmological principles are intertwined, cosmic and social order. Cosmic order within religion is God’s quest for honouring and respecting the birth right of others, such that we do not discriminate when they honour and respect their religious background and foundation. As God is universal, and He endowed these religion for us to understand that there is only one God. Who binds humanity together, before birth we choose religion when with Him, and we come to earth through parental lineage of our religious choice. Therefore to achieve cosmic order we must honour and respect each other’s religions, as this is wisdom that blesses God with peace.

This revelation made me realise how religion must translate into social order, through honouring and respecting other religions as this affirms that God is universal. This is a social order required to maintain peace, if we claim to have any knowledge of God, as God wishes his children to unite under His universality. Social order is the second cosmological principle, as there is no society that can be founded in a religion that preaches social chaos and disorder. This certainly speaks of societies that are emotive and irrational when it comes to religion, who argue like little children, this is my Father.

HARMONIOUS HUMAN EXISTENCE

The third cosmological principle edifies us on how when we respect and honour cosmic and social order this must translate into harmonious human existence. In retrospect, my astral travel to the heavenly space of wisdom and peace, where religious symbols stand in harmony. This harmonious existence that was revealed to me affirmed that God is Universal. And therefore we are all called by Him to appreciate this universality such that it translates into harmonious human existence. As an indigenous prophet, I personally do not participate in the competitive plays of whose God is ‘the’ God or whose Father is ‘the’ Father.

My astral travel was God’s immersion into His Universality, I therefore cannot be part of the competitive plays that are creating disharmony within human existence. I cannot behave as if I have not encountered God’s

GOD IS UNIVERSAL



wisdom and peace revealed to indigenous prophets, who have to step out of religious comfort zones. My religious choice prior to my birth is high Anglicanism, and therefore I respect all religions as I was immersed on how God is universal. I cannot therefore stand against God's immersion as I am a channel of honouring and respecting God's universality embedded in all religions.

COEXISTENCE

The fourth cosmological principle that binds humanity to God's universality, is coexistence. As a high Anglican I had to learn to coexist with other religions as this was my immersion during the astral travel. *Kuhamba kubona*, to travel is to see, as we say causally, this manifested during my astral travel, as all religious symbols were coexisting in the heavenly space. There was no war, conflict nor bigotry statements that were revealed, but wisdom and peace that surpasses all understanding. This coexistence emanates from cosmic and social order and harmonious human existence reflecting that God is universal.

This immersion into the universality of God removed all shackles of fear and indoctrination, today I coexist with all God's children. Coexistence is the ultimate honour and respect that comes from understanding that God is peace, as God is universal. This peace is what God had given to our forefathers as captured by Gunter (284:1955): 'On the other hand, even in those primitive days, Bantu tribes had highly developed social structures. They were savages, yes, but their societies were not chaotic. They fought wars, but mostly these were no more than overgrown feuds, not mass exercises in mass slaughter like European wars.'

SUPREME BEING/GOD

The last cosmological principle is Supreme Being or God or Ntu, reflecting that God is universal. This was a revelation during my astral travel, that there is only one God, no matter how you refer to Him linguistically, religiously or socially. He is the Source of All that is including the religious that have personalised Him to the point of behaving like little children, 'He is my Father.' And yet my revelation was such that I was raptured out of this narcissism, to stand as an indigenous

prophet, immersed in God is universal.

Hence this picture taken in June when I was extremely excited to attend the Sibayeni Lodge meeting organised by the Swaziland Government, through the ministry of home affairs and immigration. This is one meeting where all religions, Islam, Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism, and African religion were represented. I took this picture with Doctor Nhlavana, as I was proudly Swazi on that day, to see my country moving towards honouring and accepting that God is universal.

This meeting was a first of its kind indeed and I hope the mileage that was achieved on that day does not go to waste. As in Swaziland we have allowed ourselves to be physically and religiously landlocked into believing that we are a Christian country. This is beginning to manifest as server religious bigotry and it will cost us now and in the future.

Hence I was happy to participate in this meeting, and ministry concerned has a lot of work to do. In terms of removing the shackles of religious bigotry whilst creating an enabling environment for all religions to learn from each other. To learn on how God is universal, difficult indeed when one has enjoyed the lime light and financial benefits of being the dominant school of thought.

This task may require the Swaziland Truth and Reconciliation Commission on Religion, as all religions including traditional healers and leaders must participate. This STRC on Religion will require serious divine intervention as all sides have been pointing fingers in their corners for far too long. Now they have to deal with the fact that God is universal, and this has to happen in order to manifest into His Majesty King Mswati III's quest for the gift of peace.

This must be sustainable peace hence the STRC, as those who have been dominating are like the Apartheid regime must accept that God is universal.

Synonymous to the ANC and other parties returning from exile, saying God is universal, symbolically its traditional healers and African religions, Islam, Judaism, Baha'i, and Buddhism, evidently the second level decolonisation process.

European External Investment Plan – A decisive moment for Europe and Africa

...Joint op-ed on the launch of the European External Investment Plan by European Union High Representative and Vice President, Federica Mogherini and Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Neven Mimica

This is a decisive moment for Europe and for our region, which calls for innovation, new thinking, and vision. We need to foster internal growth and the wellbeing of our citizens. And we have to cooperate with our neighbouring countries to support their own growth, stability and wellbeing.

Two years ago the European Commission put forward an ambitious Investment Plan for Europe to get our continent back on track mobilising new private investments. Its combination of improved access to finance, guarantees, technical assistance, and measures to create a positive business environment has delivered impressive results. For each euro spent, it is mobilising about 10 euros in investments.

The same innovative approach could benefit immensely our entire neighbourhood. For this reason we are now proposing a European External Investment Plan. With this new Plan, we are implementing commitments taken by the international community on Financing for Development and with the global Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

In Addis Ababa and in New York we collectively agreed to boost productivity, inclusive growth and job creation in full respect of human and social rights, the environment, and the preferences of partner countries and local communities.

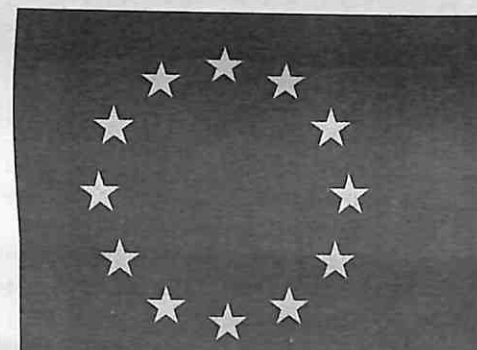
If we look at regions like the Horn of Africa, the Sahel or the Great Lakes, we see the huge socio-economic potential being hampered by war, poverty, the lack of infrastructure, and weak governance.

The Sahel is an area of strong and ancient traditions, where skilled and educated young people can make the difference: they just need the opportunity to show what they are worth. The Great Lakes are incredibly rich in natural resources, but the risk of investing is often perceived as too high. The Horn of Africa is becoming one of the continent's most integrated regions, with hundreds of thousands of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) as engines of growth: it is an expanding market, but money still does not flow there.

Millions of Africans are looking for opportunities to improve their lives, or are forced to escape from conflicts, insecurity, or natural disasters. In their quest, many of them risk their lives in dangerous journeys towards Europe. Others become the targets of propaganda from terrorist groups and criminal networks.

The European Union is already the first donor and investor in Africa. During all our visits to the continent, governments, entrepreneurs and NGOs testify the great impact of our investments, and the need to step up our partnership. Through the External Investment Plan, Europe is offering its experience and support to Africa to fulfil its potential, ensuring continued political and policy dialogue, ownership of the strategies and the promotion of universal values, whilst stimulating the local economy. It can be a cornerstone towards a successful EU-Africa Summit in 2017.

When we say "Europe", we do not just mean European and national institutions. Alongside local firms, European firms are already employing hundreds of thousands of people in Africa, providing many young people with an opportunity to flourish in their home country, and contributing to addressing one



of the root causes of migration.

These investments can contribute to our foreign and development policy objectives, such as stability and poverty eradication. But private initiatives can only thrive in a safe environment, where the opportunities outweigh the risks. This applies to companies of all sizes, but particularly to small and micro enterprises, as well as young and female entrepreneurs.

This is why Europe is stepping in. The External Investment Plan aims at leveraging at least EUR 44 billion in investments in Africa and the EU's Neighbourhood, in those areas where private investment otherwise would not go.

This amount could be doubled to EUR 88 billion if Member States and other institutions contribute.

The new European Fund for Sustainable Development will facilitate private investments through access to finance and through risk-sharing. Private investors will benefit of a guarantee against the risk of starting a business outside Europe. This guarantee will not only promote single projects, but also larger portfolios of investments under "investment windows" in strategic regions or sectors.

A "one stop shop" will encourage private and institutional investors such as development banks, from both Europe and our partner countries, to channel their proposals to specific investment windows. It will put companies with a project in touch with potential partners, and will give information on the existing incentives. The External Investment Plan will provide technical assistance to enhance the quality, the number, and the sustainability of projects. The European Commission, the European Investment Bank and other international financial institutions – with the specialised advice of independent experts – will work hand in hand to deliver a swift and business-oriented screening of projects.

Investments will be accompanied by policy dialogues and capacity building activities: our action will be coordinated and joined-up, in the spirit of our Global Strategy for Foreign and Security Policy. We are not only a donor – the largest together with our Member States – but more importantly we are a political partner.

With the External Investment Plan, we are taking our development policy to the next level. Grants are central, but not enough to deliver the transformation we have agreed to under the Sustainable Development Goals. Development policy is not exclusively about Official Development Assistance.

As we step up our financial commitment to sustainable development, we also need the private sector to get on board. Together with our partners in Africa and our Neighbourhood, we can help their young generations achieve their full potential. A new chapter in European development policy has just begun.

Taiwan's meaningful participation in the ICAO Assembly

Aviation safety crosses national borders. Taiwan is an indispensable part of global aviation responsible for managing large numbers of aircraft in the Taipei Flight Information Region (Taipei FIR).

It wants to participate in the meetings, mechanisms, and activities of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) in a professional and constructive manner. As a member of the international community, Taiwan shares in the responsibility of safeguarding regional and global aviation safety and is committed to contributing to the development of global aviation and safety standards.

In September 2013, the director general of Taiwan's Civil Aeronautics Administration (CAA) was invited for the first time by the president of the ICAO Council to participate in the ICAO Assembly. Taiwan's participation was widely welcomed and seen as consistent with the ICAO's goal of a seamless network for aviation safety. If Taiwan participates in ICAO meetings, activities, and mechanisms such as the Assembly, it can obtain information on and respond to any major changes in international civil aviation policies and systems in a timely manner. The Taipei FIR covers 180 000 square nautical miles and borders four other FIRs: Fukuoka, Manila, Hong Kong, and Shanghai. It is located off mainland China's eastern seaboard and between Japan and the Philippines.

In 2015, the Taipei FIR provided services to nearly 1.53 million controlled flights carrying 58 million travelers entering, leaving, or transiting through Taiwan. The CAA is the sole managing authority for the Taipei FIR. But it had no direct access to the ICAO for the past 40 years, and has only indirectly obtained incomplete information on ICAO regulations and standards related to safety, management, security, and environmental protection.

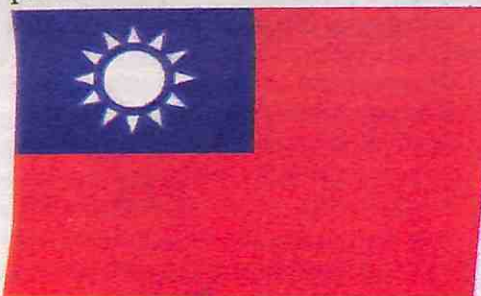
Taiwan has been forced to use various channels to keep up with the development of these regulations and standards and overcome the difficulties of a lack of transparency, so as to maintain adequate safety level

s and service standards in the Taipei FIR. The important and closely related issues to be discussed at the 39th Assembly including safety, navigation services, security, environmental protection, and economic matters require close cooperation among countries.

This demonstrates the need for Taiwan to attend the Assembly on a regular basis, enabling it to keep up to date with important matters and assist the Assembly in ensuring the safe, secure, and sustainable development of international civil aviation.

Taiwan occupies a critical geographical location and handles large cargo and passenger volumes.

Taiwan's participation in the ICAO Assembly would help realise the regional one sky concept, as well as the ICAO goal of a seamless sky. This would benefit the aviation industry in the Asia-Pacific region and the world, and serve the interests of all parties.



**LETHUMUSA
SIMELANE**

CELL: 7606 7049/ TEL: 2416 1278/9

It is by inclination and the virtue of being human to have two sexes, a male or a female. EmaSwati have stages that are always observed with regards to these two genders.

Giving birth to a male child is always appreciated by elders in a family because it is regarded as a sign that ancestors and *Mvelinchanti* are blessing the family with continuity.

Hence, it is for that reason that a male child when his umbilical cord drops, it is always buried on the right hand side of the grandmother's hut. This is done because Swazi people are of the view that, an ancestor is only made of a male person who has considerable qualities. To be precise, an ancestor is someone who died with dignity and was an icon in the family, community and at national level.

It can never be a person who died from a car accident or any natural disasters like lightning to name a few.

It is also believed that an ancestor only uses the right hand thus even in the grandmother's hut, it is believed that the presence of the ancestors can only be felt on the right hand side. Like any other living organism, a male child undergoes several stages that male include growth and development from all avenues. A male child goes through stages until he reaches a stage where he marries and become a man.

There are many stages that are observed by a male child as he grows to adulthood. His seniors carefully observe and guide him.

There are stages where he has to cope on his own without any guidance, like looking after goats, calves and later cattle.

These three levels were believed to have crucial lessons for a male child. Between the age of six and ten, he looks after either goats or calves. These animals require lots of patience and intelligence from its shepherd. A goat moves a lot and much faster than any domesticated animal. If you do not give an eye to it, in no time you will find it in the fields thus causing trouble. Goats cope well in rocky environment especially in the lowveld where there are different trees. The shepherd needs to understand the different trees liked by goats, the nearest river and he must develop a skill to walk through tall and dangerous rocks. Interestingly, no matter how far away goats are, they know their way back home.

INDVODZA

It is impossible for goats to get lost. Also the sound of goats make it possible to locate it even from afar. Sometimes boys get carried away by games in the veld and forget their intended mission. Before sunset there must be a solution to the running goats.

Leaving home after lunch to go look for goats and returning after six without them is a recipe for trouble to elder brothers. They somehow know that he was held up by something thus discipline becomes a necessity. To avoid all this trouble, boys develop techniques to locate goats. Sometimes they mimic its sound knowing very well that if one goat has a lamb, it will respond to the sound, thus, making it easier for them to easily locate where the goats are.

Intelligence

Calves are another kind of animals that needs lots of intelligence when looking after them. Usually goats and calves are mixed when grazing, trouble begins when calves hear sounds of their mothers. Once they start galloping, it's always difficult to stop them, they need to be kept as far away from their mothers as possible until time for milking comes.

This is where a boy develops the mentality of being a sensible man. This becomes the institution which prepares him for unmanageable situations which will distinctively separate the chuff from the corn, separate boys from men. Not every man is a man just as not every boy is a boy. There are boys who are men (*budvodza abukhulelwa*) and there are men who are boys.

Being a man means a boy has outgrown, habits, he has mastered the art of surviving. *Kuvulelwa bekukubi kepha bekumhlakaniphisa umfana akhule abe yindvodza*. His opponent would beat him and he would cry. His elder brother would tell him harshly to stop crying lest they give him another opponent. He would dare not report this incident to his mother or grandmother. Here a boy start developing a survival skill of manhood.

A real man is not a cry baby. In the midst of calamities he perseveres until he become victorious. A real man does not give up. He fights until the end. No matter how well off his parents, a real man does not boast of his parent's wealth because he knows that it is not his wealth, instead he fights to have his own things. Being a man means readiness to fight a storm and be able to sail against a wave. A real man does not start life on a

tarred road, but a rough gravel. This prepares him for any eventualities ahead. It takes time to reach a stage of being a man. Some reaches the stage of death without achieving the crown of being a man. It is not the number of years in a man that determines his maturity as a man but the storms he has passed through. It is possible to find a real man who is 17 years old and a boy who is 45 years.

Itolo kusenabomkhulu, bekuba ngibo labebabona kutsi lijaha selilungele yini kuba yindvodza. These elderly people knew that being a man was not an easy task. *Kuhlala esangweni ngiko labekwenta lijaha lifundze budvodza*.

Belifundza nagekubuka kutsi mkhulu walo nababe walo, benta njani kuphatsa imiti yabo. Labantfu labadzala bekuba ngibo labebatjela lijaha kutsi selivutsiwe yini engcondvweni kutsi selingaba yindvodza nobe cha. Interestingly itolo, before a man leaves the family compound to start his own family, he marries his wife *asahlala ekhaya lelikhulu, bahlale khona sikhatsi lesidze ngaphambi kwekuba acele kuyise kuphuma wakakhe umuti*.

This was a very good practice as it prepares a man to learn from his father and grandfather how to manage his family. From time to time his grandfather would ask how he was coping in his new status.

After some years the grandfather would communicate with his son that *umtukulu wakhe sewulungele kutsi angaphuma umuti wakhe*. He would say this knowing very well that his grandson had proved to him, the family, and community that indeed he was matured. This was a status that was a source of envy to many. Being *indvodza* meant that you now have a right *kudlela emgcwembeni kantsi bafana nemajaha inyama nakuhlatjiwe babekelwa etikwemcuba*. The grandfather now can send you to go and represent him *emphakatsi*. *Tidvashi takho sewuyaphotselwa, sewucobalibhele kantsi nekudla kwakho sekuyembhonywa. Sewungakhona kuyawufakemandla nakugujwa lithuna, kantsi futsi nesidvumbu sewungasibona. Sigaba lesewukiso tinyembeti takho setihlala ecolo, atiphumaphumi kalula. Kubona tinyembeti tendvodza kusho simo lesingetulu kakhulu. Indvodza ifele ngekhatshi, tinyembeti tayo tilukhuni*.

In conclusion, the stage of being *indvodza* does not come easy in as far as Swazi culture is observed. A person may have stacks of



Dups at your door step

by providing services at their locations. This mobile office provides all the services offered from the Dups Direct Insurance offices. These include new policy sign-ups, queries, policy updates, upgrades, disbursement of loyalty cards, all at your very own doorstep anywhere you happen to be!

Our mobile office also serves as an information centre. We distribute information on all Dups products from all our business units, which include Dups Herbal, Dups Properties, Dups Funeral Home and the insurance side. We will have brochures from Dups Funeral Home, whose other duties include providing exclusive tombstones and professionally mounting them anywhere in the country. Seeing how cremations are fast becoming a popular option of interment, our customers will also be able to get a glimpse of a wide array of ash urns to choose from should they consider cremation. Our carpentry workshop at Dups Properties produces exquisite furniture which can be made to your

specifications. We will gladly give you brochures showing you some of the furniture that we have produced.

Our herbal stand at the recently ended Trade Fair was quite popular with visitors. This strengthened our resolve to, from time to time, bring along products from our herbal shop for sale in our mobile office. Dups Herbal Shop is a specialist provider of traditional herbs and other natural remedies. Our products have assisted thousands of people with solutions to wide ranging ailments, which include arthritis, piles, ulcers, pimples, eczema and more. So in the event that you see us parked in your area, do drop by and say hello, get a view of our office, and you never know, you might just get a solution to an ailment that has been bugging you for ages. We will also be happy just to chat and find out what expectations you might have of us.

The weekly schedule for our community visits is announced on Voice of the Church Radio Station on Fridays where we have a programme

money and build numerous houses but that does not mean the person is a man. *Budvodza bungekhatsi kwemuntfu lomdvuna*. Swazi culture dictates that the first born and the last born were the ones who were allowed to remain within the family compound whilst the rest must go and build their own homes.

However there are instances where the grandfather would not allow a boy to leave the family compound, for the fear that he was not matured enough to face life away from them without their guidance.

Times have changed, most of the elderly people who used this formula are now gone and we are left alone to decide our fate.

Some boys are brought up by single parents and upon graduating from university, we call them men because they are ready to start their own families. Little do we know that the lack of skills needed from his grandfather and father to fashion him to be a man soon becomes his downfall. *Lisango sesabate. Sesite nesikhatsi sekuhlala nalabangembhili kwetfu kufundza imphilo.*

We marry today, divorce tomorrow and there is no one who worries about the increasing number of divorce cases. The few that comment always blame it on people rushing into marriage before they get to know each other. How will I know my partner if my church forbids me from being with her before marriage. They say you must pray to God will lead you to the right person then the question is, does it mean all the people who are divorcing today were not lead by God?

Lisho kutsini kantsi libhayibheli nalitsi he who finds a wife finds a good thing? Doesn't this mean I have a duty as a man to look?

The truth is we have neglected the structures that were followed by our grandparents. *Kujuma bekwentelwa loko*. Education and technology has made a fool out of us. Whilst we obtain education, stupidity also prevails. *Emadvodza alamuhla, umfati wekucala wamteka base bayehlukana, wesibili baba netinkhinga libovu aligezwanga kubo bobabili, yase indvodza itfolo Jesu, yashada umfati wesitsatfu. Lowekucala newesibili bayibopha bafuna sondlo sebantfwana. Nayifa, labafati lababili labadzala bayabuya bangena phansengubo. Bo anti abamtsandzi umshadikazi. Ufukeme yedvwa nebakubo endlini yakhe bona bakagogo nemabuya abhuti wabo. Lisontfo litsi asitingeni tsine tindzaba temndeni.* Who on earth will ease the pain of the third wife?

that runs from 2:00 to 2:30 in the afternoon.

Still in the spirit of providing services and uplifting communities, Dups Foundation has assisted in building a market stall for a group of women who earn a living by selling fruits and vegetables at Mpolonjeni in Siteki. Through this initiative we hope to assist disadvantaged women develop and improve their economic position.

We will be launching the Mpolonjeni Market stalls this coming Tuesday, on September 20. It is our hope that the beneficiaries of this initiative will enjoy their new workplace and that their customers will derive joy in frequenting the new market stalls.

Contact us to book the mobile office to come to your area for easy access to Dups Direct Insurance services.

Call 25052028 or send whatsapp message to 76026424. You can also email info@dups-group.com or send queries to www.facebook.com/dups or on Twitter @dupsinsurance. Alternatively, you can pay us a visit at our offices in Manzini, Matata, Matsapha, Simunye, Nhlanguano, Mbabane, Piggs Peak and Siteki for our community visits schedule.



TOURISM & TRAVEL

BY BONGANI DLAMINI

STA Marketing Manager

Email: mm@tourismauthority.org.sz



FEASTING ON CUISINE, MUSIC IN SWAZILAND

As we celebrate tourism month, this week we were extremely enthralled to come across an article shared by a renowned American blogger Kevin Wierzbicki, who, as some of you may recall, we hosted this past winter.

From time to time, Swaziland Tourism Authority (STA) does host international travel media, as well as trade, in what we call 'familiarisation' or FAM tours.

The rationale behind this is maximising our marketing reach to global audiences, while being cost-effective. Perhaps let us explain. Buying advertising space in some of the world renowned media outlets costs an arm and leg, yet hosting media persons from the same media houses comes not only cheaper, but also with the advantage of holistic appreciation of the Kingdom of Swaziland as a destination.

In fact, stories and experiences shared by our media visitors tend to be more believable than conventional advertising. In the same breath, allow us to thank our local industry players for often coming to party when we host such trips, through complementary prices and warm reception.

Wierzbicki shared his experiences with 'The Washington Post', touted as one of the biggest publications in the United States of America. In fact, the paper has a daily circulation of 500 000 copies, and over 4 million internet hits monthly.

Below is an extract from the publication:

Who: Kevin Wierzbicki of Phoenix.

Where, when, why: I went to Swaziland for eight days. I am a big fan of African and world music, and went to Swaziland to attend the MTN Bushfire Festival, which has a reputation for being one of the best music festivals in Africa. After the festival, I went sightseeing for five days.

Highlights and high points: I saw some jaw-dropping performances at Bushfire. The show that especially sticks in my mind was by a Swaziland-based group called the Correctional Services Choir — a large, predominantly female group that harmonised beautifully.

They ended their show with a take on 'Wimoweh', the song that Western music fans know as 'The Lion Sleeps Tonight.' I also went on several game drives and saw two elephants fighting and a submerged hippo wearing a turtle like a hat!

Cultural connection or disconnect: I stayed overnight in a rondavel [round, thatched-roofed cottage] at Shewula Mountain Camp near the Mozambique border where, as at the surrounding homesteads, there is no electricity. One of the ladies who works at the camp took me for a walk to a nearby homestead, where I met the family patriarch. The old man disappeared into his beehive hut and re-emerged wearing the traditional garb of a Swazi warrior, complete with an animal-skin shield. We didn't speak a single word of each other's native language, but meeting him and many of his family members made me feel like I had a real connection to the Swazi people. **Biggest laugh or cry:** I couldn't help but bust out in laughter when I sat down to order lunch at a spot in the Hlane Royal



Kevin poses with a villager at Shewula Mountain Camp.



STA Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini poses with hosted media.

National Park. The waitress walked up to me and, with a completely straight face, said: "I'm sorry sir, but we're out of the impala." I am not much of an adventurous eater, but they did have plenty of wildebeest on hand, which is served as delicious sausages. **How unexpected:** I stayed overnight at a place called the Foresters Arms Hotel. It offered nice accommodations, but it totally surprised me when I went to have dinner, which ended up being a gourmet feast that included baked salmon mousse, curried chicken and banana soup, Indonesian fish cakes and lamb with pumpkin fritters. Also, Swaziland is a monarchy, and I was surprised by how deeply Swazis universally love and revere their leader, King Mswati III.

Fondest memento or memory: Swaziland is a relatively small country, and I was able to see much of the nation during my visit. I will never forget how the people I met along the way welcomed me into their world without hesitation.

I got a lasting gift when, the day before I left the country, I was recapping my adventure for someone who told me: "You must come back, because Swaziland is now your home."

Once more, we are very humbled by such feedback from our hosted media. Indeed, as once promised, we shall, time to time, bring you more of such feedback from other media and trade people that we continue to host. Enjoy your tourism month.



Human Rights
BY Comfort Mabuza

THE NEED FOR RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE IN SD ENCOURAGED

The past two weeks we have been flooded by comments from some religious leaders and the Muslims Festival of Eid Ul-Adha, when there were commitments to give meat parcels to the public.

The criticism and exchange of words alluded to some leadership of the Church and the Muslim community were indeed bit unrestrained and harsh and I knew then that this could degenerate to Holy wars. Did we really have to witness such exchange of harsh words from the religious leaders caused by merely meat gift parcels distributed by the Muslim community? I certainly do not think so, but the failure to uphold religious tolerance by the clerics was regrettable. Such sensitive religious rites considered sacred over the media should have been avoided as it is bound to create more confusion and undue tensions.

As a student of theology, I shudder to think of the now brewing tensions that have since risen when no answers were provided but instead more added confusion and controversies. Members of the public must be protected from unfounded allegations and counter finger pointing with no scriptural references as well as the dogma of the said faith. The country's constitution provides for religious pluralism. This then means whenever people engage on debatable religious rites, we implore spiritual leaders to be calm and approach such sensitive religious topics with a high level of maturity. I stand firm in

calling all concerned, especially leaders to show us the way and respect people's religious views and not be quick to judge and condemn harshly before engaging each other.

Swaziland has embraced religious pluralism in the Constitution and we better live with that arrangement and navigate beliefs and religious convictions wisely. As matters stand, we certainly do not deserve such harsh counter claims in the public domain.

WAS THE MEAT OFFERED TO IDOLS?

The Festival Eid Ul-Adha allows for meat to be given to people and Muslims see nothing wrong with sharing such gifts as part of their pillars of their faith. It is considered part of their faith to share food to the needy and nothing else.

Obviously their meat is Halaal and of course but to then harshly accuse them to be feeding meat offered to Idols to unsuspecting members of the public, might be misguided and lacking more information. Perhaps there is need to engage Muslims more on what is Halaal because almost all supermarkets sell halaal foods and we buy these without questioning. When we saw people turning up for the gifts at the Islamic centre to receive meat portions and some being turned back, I realised then people really did not see anything wrong and the warnings might have fallen on deaf ears.

It is the naming and shaming that we condemn with strongest terms as it can degenerate to undue tensions

and get out of hand. We call for the Clerics to be restrained and use other forums to engage each other.

Religious fights and tensions are not welcomed in our country.

RELIGION IS THE SWAZI WAY OF LIFE

It is beyond any reasonable doubt that Swazis are a religious lot and this is founded on the Swazi Traditional religion ritual of Kuphahla. Before the advent of the Christian Mission and Gospel explosion in the 1800s, Swazis practised their traditional religion without any undue problem. It is founded on the values and religious life of this great nation. Swazis believe in the existence of the Supreme Being – *Mkhulumchanti-Nkulunkulu* - the Great God the Creator. Our forefathers called him *Mlentengamunye* - the Supreme God. He is consulted by Swazis through mediums of Ancestors - *Emadloti* as part of the traditional religion even today. During national droughts and other calamities the nation faces, Swazis will go to the mountains to pray and seek guidance from the Divine, and if need be a nation can be called to fasting. Swazis worship God through ancestral veneration. Let us be very brunt and honest here, Swazis do not worship ancestors, but venerate them as a passage to reach God who is believed to living in the other world considered as 'Spiritual-celestial world.' All Swazis regardless of their social class and status still participate in the traditional religion and it involves ritualistic festivals like

Incwala, and family ritualistic rites conducted at *kagogo-endlunkhulu*.

SWAZIS AND THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

We certainly come a long way where in the Mid 1800s, King Somhlolo or Sobhuza I is believed to have been visited by His paternal Aunt in a vision about the coming of the White Missionaries and was sternly warned to accept the Book-*Umculu* and not the Coin-*Indilinga*. This was a mortal King who had a dream and the interpretation has always been the coming of the Gospel which was brought to Swaziland by Missionaries under the Methodist Church. They established their Mission base in Mahamba, and the Historical Church still stand there as testimony.

Then came in the Catholics; the Evangelical Alliance Mission (Team) and The Nazarenes being first missionary outfits to be established in the country. The message of the Gospel and what it did in terms of Missionary schools and Hospitals is there for all to see. Swazis were converted and assisted greatly without any problem. The legacy and background of Christian Mission to this nation cannot be denied.

The African Churches were supported by the King Sobhuza II as they embraced some traditional practises and rites and see no problem with religious rituals conducted. But it suffices to say Christianity was embraced and Swazis have continued to enjoy their freedom without

any undue hindrance whatsoever.

RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE DESIRABLE

Without apportioning any blame, Christians are known for their love and compassion and as such we should not apportion blame without engagement and be too judgemental to the Muslim's good deeds without due engagement. It is regrettable and unfortunate to publicly condemn the Islamic Community on their Festival of Eid that is meant to share without engaging them.

Calling each other names without engagement have a potential of creating undue tensions. If for any reason there is any wrong committed then engaging them maturely is more desirable than using mass media instead. Christians must teach sound doctrine to their members, so that they become more aware what is acceptable to their Christian faith. Let the leadership of the Christian Community engage the Islamic people, and if there are any concerns then only this can diffuse the undue tensions that seem to be boiling at the moment. We call for religious tolerance and maturity in handling this as Swaziland has embraced a multi faith religion.

As for the police services monitoring religious gathering, well, let us appreciate that they are doing their job, and get to hear more about God. Religious tolerance is a fundamental human rights issue and we certainly need no religious wars in our country.

Killing the goose that lays the golden egg



The Federation of Swaziland Employers & Chamber of Commerce

The FSE&CC as the voice of business is concerned by reports in the media and from its members, in the past few months, on strikes that have been increasingly characterised by violence, vandalism and/or threats thereof.

Whereas the FSE&CC accepts that lawfully convened strikes are legitimate tools for negotiation and collective bargaining against any employer, however the above-mentioned unacceptable behaviour is totally unacceptable even during such lawful strikes.

Recent incidents have seen the burning of sugar cane fields and forests, vandalism against factory buildings and machinery, intimidation of employees not on strike, insults and threats against management, breaching of agreed to picketing lines, blocking of public roads, blocking of CMAC officials on official duty, carrying of objects that are intimidating in their nature such as bricks and rocks, to name a

few. Some of these activities are not only misconducts in the workplace but they are also criminal offences, warranting arrest and prosecution by the authorities.

In relation to the burning of sugar cane fields and forests, the FSE&CC does not in any way suggest that the trade unions and their officials are involved in such malicious activity. It merely points out to the apparent coincidence that, more often than not, such fires start during the course of a strike.

It is thus a concern that there are people who may use a legitimate strike action as an opportunity to commit an offence against business. In this regard, it would be good to see worker formations, their leadership and members publicly condemning such heinous acts, thus sending a clear message to all and sundry, particularly actual and potential offenders that their conduct is not endorsed nor tolerated. This would certainly go a long way in strengthening relations between business and labour.

It should be stated that early in July 2016, there was an ILO mission to Swaziland to check on the progress in implementing the ILO benchmarks and also to facilitate a workshop on the Code of Good Practice on Industrial and Protest

Action which became law in December 2015. In the workshop attended by business, worker formations, senior officers from the Police, the Correctional Services, the Fire Department, Municipalities, the Public Service, the Ministry of Labour, the Red Cross Society, the two ILO experts, one from the head office in Geneva and the other from the regional office in Pretoria, minced no words in stating that the above-mentioned activities were not part of the rights to freedom of association and collective bargaining.

The Code of Good Practice actually obliges worker formations *inter alia*, to ensure that strike and protests actions are conducted peacefully by appointing informed and unarmed marshals who are responsible for ensuring that demonstrators do not commit any action which may lead to the breach of peace, may be unlawful or may be interpreted as violent or intimidating. Regulation 4(g) actually provides that worker organisations must ensure that employees do not carry or use offensive weapons, such as but not limited to, firearms, spears, sticks and stones, during industrial and protest action.

It is the position of the FSE&CC that, even during a lawful and protected strike, acts of misconduct such as intimidation, violence and

vandalism against business amounts to killing the goose that lays the golden egg. Firstly, it is an attack against one's own job security. Damaging the company's property, machinery and products means the company can no longer continue with production. This inevitably leads to the loss of the very job upon which a worker demands a salary increment and the improvement of conditions of employment. For trade unions, the loss of jobs means the loss of members. Secondly, these acts of misconduct inhibit the attraction of both foreign direct and local investment into Swaziland's economy. The existence of jobs begins with the existence of healthy businesses. No investor, whether local or foreign is willing to invest his money into an economy fraught with lawlessness and lack of the rule of law. Strikes in themselves do not necessarily prohibit investment, this is because they are legitimate tools for bargaining throughout the world. However, unruly behaviour and vandalism during strikes is a disincentive to investment and subsequently job creation. It certainly waters down all the efforts of Government and SIPA in trying to attract investment and to create jobs.

At a time when Swaziland is the third least growing economy, with the second highest unemployment rate in the SADC region, it is very

irresponsible to engage in vandalism against businesses.

Furthermore, it is important to note that in terms of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security's Annual Performance Reports, for the years 2014/15 and 2015/16, 2 595 and 1 152 employees respectively were retrenched.

Reasons given for the retrenchments included business closure, loss of contracts and shortage of orders. It is further reported that in the year 2014/15, there was a total of nine strikes, of these, one was illegal. Most of the other strikes, though legal were characterised by violence, resulting in the subsequent termination of the offenders. There were no strikes for the 2015/16 period even though strike notices were issued. For the period between April-June 2016, three strikes have been recorded, two of which were illegal. The legal strike was however characterised by violence.

During this same quarter, 799 employees were retrenched.

The above-mentioned figures do not make for easy reading, therefore it is important that all stakeholders and workers in particular, are sensitive to the bigger picture, which is job retention and creation. We cannot continue to cut our noses in order to spite our faces by engaging in misconduct during strike actions.



SUNDAYOBSERVER WORLD NEWS

The right place | The right Sunday

WASHINGTON DC - In an attempt to douse charges of racism

against him, Donald Trump admits President Barack Obama "is an American", but accuses Hillary Clinton of initiating doubts about Obama's nationality.

After years of fueling conspiracy theories, Republican White House nominee Donald Trump admitted on Friday that President Barack Obama is an American as he tried to neutralise damaging charges of racism.

However, he also stepped up attacks against his Democratic rival Hillary Clinton, accusing her of initiating the doubts about Obama and later raising the specter of violence against her again.

In a much-hyped televised event, Trump gave a lengthy plug for his new Washington hotel before acknowledging that "President Barack Obama was born in the United States, period."

"The mogul-turned-politico pointedly did not apologise, nor did he walk back similarly baseless claims that Obama -- whose father

TRUMP ADMITS OBAMA IS AMERICAN

...to neutralise racism charges?

was a Kenyan Muslim -- founded the violent Islamic State group. Trump's enigmatic hair was put to the test on US TV. Instead, he tried to pin blame for "birtherism" on his Democratic rival Hillary Clinton, whom he accused, without evidence, of starting the movement that questions Obama's nationality and right to be president.

"Her campaign of 2008 started the birther controversy. I finished it. I finished it."

You know what I mean," Trump said. The celebrity TV star has questioned Obama's US citizenship -- a legal prerequisite for becoming president -- since at least 2011.

The White House has long

viewed Trump's claims as a racist attempt to delegitimise the president. The charges also served to launch Trump's political career, propelling him onto the national stage and winning him fans on the far right.

Voters

But five years on, now in a tight presidential election race, Trump's position has become a liability, repulsing black, Hispanic and moderate voters whose support he needs to win the Oval Office.

The controversy reignited on Thursday when Trump again demurred on Obama's citizenship, forcing his campaign into damage control.

Trump's Democratic rival Hillary Clinton jumped on the

statement as more evidence that Trump is unfit to be president. "For five years, he has led the birther movement to delegitimise our first black president," she said. "His campaign was founded on this outrageous lie. There is no erasing it in history."

"Trump's doctor declares him in 'excellent physical health'. He's feeding into the worst impulses, the bigotry and bias that lurks in our country," she added. Trump went on the attack again later in the day at a Miami rally, where he entered as the epic theme from the musical "Les Misérables" rang out, a reference to Clinton's recent remarks in which she called "half" of Trump backers "deplorable."

AFP

Riots erupt in Congo opposition stronghold

AKAR - Protesters calling for Democratic Republic of Congo President Joseph Kabila to resign and hold elections burned tires on Friday in the streets of the opposition stronghold of Lubumbashi, and police fired tear gas to disperse them, U.N.-backed Radio Okapi reported.

The radio station reported that police had tried to break up the evening demonstration by local members of the UDPS, the Central African country's main opposition party, led by newly returned exile Etienne Tshisekedi.

Elections were scheduled for November but the electoral commission said last month that Congo's voter registry will not even be complete until July 2017.

Kabila's opponents accuse him of stalling the vote to cling to power, though his supporters deny the charge.

However, donors and Western powers have pressured Kabila not to remain in power beyond when his mandate runs out on Dec. 19. Lubumbashi lies in the heart of the copper belt of Africa's leading exporter of the yellow metal. *Reuters*



Joseph Kabila Kabange, President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, addresses the 69th United Nations General Assembly at the U.N. headquarters in New York.

Zimbabwe anti-Mugabe activist speaks out after beating

HARARE - Lying uncomfortably in his hospital bed, Zimbabwean anti-government activist Silvanos Mudzvova details the long list of injuries he suffered this week when abducted, beaten up and left for dead.

Blisters

He has whip-marks, bruises and blisters on his back and feet, burns on his thigh, and wounds left by electric shocks applied to his toes and genitals. He was also injected with an unknown substance.

An activist with the Tajamuka protest group, Mudzvova winced in pain as he vowed to keep protesting against President Robert Mugabe and told of how he was dragged from his home on Tuesday night.

Mudzvova, 38, who is also an actor and playwright, is part of a growing opposition movement pushing for Mugabe and the ruling Zanu-PF party to be



An activist pictured in a skirmish with Zimbabwean police. Mudzvova had vowed to keep protesting against Robert Mugabe.

ousted after 36 years in power. "At this moment we cannot put the brakes on. We actually need to make sure Zanu-PF and Mugabe go," said Mudzvova, who is married with three children. "As the Tajamuka movement, we believe we have a bright future."

This is the only way we can determine our future and the future of the kids we have."

Tajamuka ("We are rising up") has emerged as one of the leading protest groups in a wave of anti-Mugabe protests that have often been violently suppressed by police. *AFP*

Ex-Burkina Faso PM charged with murder

OUAGADOUGOU - Luc Adolphe Tiao, the last prime minister of former Burkinabe president Blaise Compaore, has been detained and charged with murder over unrest that saw the latter unseated in 2014, the Supreme Court prosecutor general said on Friday.

Compaore lost power after 27 years following a popular uprising in October 2014 against his attempts to change

the constitution to remain in office and last year the country's transitional council indicted him and senior members of his government on charges of high treason.

The Supreme Court prosecutor told AFP Tiao had been detained and charged as part of its mandate to investigate the "popular insurrection" which accompanied the collapse of the Compaore regime.

"Former prime minister Luc

Adolphe Tiao has been placed in detention and was taken to a prison facility at Ouagadougou this morning," chief prosecutor Armand Ouedraogo told AFP.

"He has been charged with murder, beating and deliberate wounding and complicity" in violence in connection with military attempts to put down the uprising, which cost 33 lives according to an official toll. *AFP*

BRIEF

Four Somali soldiers killed as Al-Shabaab captures town

MOGADISHU - At least four Somali National Army (SNA) soldiers were killed and another was injured in heavy fighting in which Al-Shabaab militant group captured El-Wak town in Gedo region in southern Somalia, officials said yesterday. SNA spokesman in Gedo region, Col. Warfa Sheikh Aden said the militants suffered heavy casualties during the fighting, which lasted several hours in the town near the Kenyan border. "Al-Shabaab militants attacked our base on Friday. They were destroyed and defeated two times but they captured the town in their third attempt, (and) there are casualties on both sides," Aden said. *ANA*

Nigeria admits failed Chibok girls swap deals

ABUJA - Nigeria opened negotiations with Boko Haram over the release of the kidnapped Chibok girls last year, but the talks were derailed due to a split in the extremist group, a minister said Friday. Speaking at a press conference in the capital Abuja, information minister Lai Mohammed said the Department of State Services (DSS) started negotiations with the Islamists in July 2015. In exchange for the girls, who were kidnapped in April 2014 from a school in the remote north eastern town of Chibok, Boko Haram demanded the release of some of its fighters. *AFP*

Brazilian prosecutors file Olympics terrorism charges

BRASILIA - Brazilian prosecutors filed terrorism charges on Friday against eight people accused of plotting attacks and recruiting followers ahead of the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro last month. The eight Brazilians were arrested in July for organising what the authorities described as an "amateur" terrorist cell that had sworn loyalty to the Islamic State jihadist group. Prosecutors said they had asked a court to charge them with "recruitment and promotion of a terrorist organisation." In an investigation dubbed Operation Hashtag, police intercepted messages sent using the cell phone application Telegram in which the suspects discussed "the idea that they had to step out of the virtual realm and start acting for real," prosecutor Rafael Brum told a news conference. *AFP*

FBI sued over hack of attacker's iPhone

WASHINGTON - Three US news media groups filed a lawsuit on Friday to get the FBI to release details of how it hacked the iPhone of the man who with his wife shot and killed 14 people in San Bernardino last year. The Federal Bureau of Investigation said it wanted to access Syed Rizwan Farook's locked iPhone 5c to look into possible links to the Islamic State group, but phone maker Apple refused to help, citing privacy concerns. Gannett, USA Today's parent company, the Associated Press and Vice Media are suing to obtain details of the mysterious hack that rekindled a national debate on communications encryption and privacy protection. Farook and his wife went on their bloody rampage at a holiday office party in December in San Bernardino, California. The federal law enforcement agency took Apple to court in February to compel them to help, but dropped the suit weeks later after hacking the phone with third-party help. *AFP*

Choose Affordable Advertising

Sunday Observer Classifieds

email: advertising@observer.org.sz
 DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS 11.00AM

ADVERTS
 2404 8699 or 2505 2330

index

1. FOR SALE
2. SERVICES
3. JOBS/VACANCIES
4. TUITION
5. ACCOMODATION
6. NATURAL HEALING
7. PROPERTY
8. HEALTH & BEAUTY
9. NOTICES / PETS
10. CHANGE OF SURNAME
11. DEATHS
12. MEMORIAM/CLEANSING
13. CATERING

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Clients are advised to please check their adverts on the first publication day, for we will not be held responsible for any errors after the first day of publication. If it happens that you note any errors, please call 2404 1555 / 8671 immediately and it will be corrected as soon as possible. Failure to adhere to these terms, we assume no financial responsibility.

Thanking you in advance for we assure satisfactory services.

DIRTY CAR INTERIOR? DIRTY SOFAS / CHAIRS?

CALL: 2404 5783 / 7662 2222

CLEAN IT SERVICES

MASTER MATHS MANZINI REVISION/HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS TAILOR-MADE FOR EACH STUDENT

Grade 4-12 Computer-based individual tuition
and Professional tutors available

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.

Sibembile, Form 5, Waterford

Maths I began to improve and started achieve better marks. My 82% average went up to 94%. In Master Maths you can practice various questions and problems. There are modules on every chapters from sums to equations (there are many more). You can also ask for help from the tutors around you. Unlike lessons at school, where the teacher have to focus on many people, the focus is on you in Master Maths. Master Maths is a wonderful place to improve your math skills, either if you are good or bad in maths.

John, Grade 7, Khanyisile

My name is Ashleigh, I school at Usuthu 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, Usuthu Forest



Shop #14, The Hub Mall, Manzini.
Tel: 76041460 / 76041450
Email: manzini@mastermaths.co.za
www.mastermaths.co.za



BLING RENTALS Rent and Drive

Trailers, Cattle, Cars and Luggage

'MAHHALA' FREE KILOMETRES

Branches: Mbabane - 2422 0191 & Matsapha 2518 8082

Cell: 7602 9990/7602 5400/7640 2899



Trailers
From E250 - E550



Mazda Demio
PRICE E400



Honda Fit
PRICE E450



NP 300
PRICE E500



Nissan Bluebird
PRICE E450



Polo Vivo
PRICE E550



Hyundai i30
PRICE E550



Toyota Corolla
PRICE E700

Deposit from as little as E1000 Discount available on long rentals.
*Terms and Conditions apply



Trailers
From E250 - E550



NP 300
PRICE E500



7/8 Seater
PRICE E500



Mazda Demio
Price E400



Toyota Corolla
PRICE E700



Polo Vivo
PRICE E550



Honda Fit
PRICE E450



Trailers
From E250 - E550



Nissan Bluebird
PRICE E450



Car Trailer
PRICE E550



Hyundai i30
PRICE E550

Deposit from as little as E1000 Discount available on long rentals.
*Terms and Conditions apply

sleep in absolute peace

and trust our sophisticated
security systems



FLEXIBLE
PAYMENT OPTIONS
AVAILABLE

We are specialists in installation and maintenance of:

- Fingerprint locks
- Fire equipment to fire extinguishers, suppression systems, fire hoses, etc.
- Biometric access control and time attendance systems
- CCTV (IP and analogue cameras)
- Intruder alarm system and perimeter beams
- Corporate networking
- Sliding gate and garage automation
- Automatic smoke detectors
- Cellphone opening of garages and gates
- Cellphone viewing of surveillance systems

Contact Us Today And Place Your Order
Fax-tel: 2404 9107
Cell: +268 7694 9195/ 7823 6148
info@w2securitysolutions.co.za

Swazi Observer e-Edition



THE BENEFITS OF SWAZI OBSERVER E-EDITION

- Flipping pages like you're reading a real publication.
- The ability to pan, zoom or rotate pages, articles and photos.
- Opening full articles in easy-to-read text views.
- Listening to publications using on-demand audio.
- Integration with social networks.
- Article sharing through email.
- Offline reading.
- Article voting and commenting.



Download the
Full pages,
Features and
Adverts
and read on
your Desktop,
Ipad or your
Smart phone

log on to www.observer.org.sz and follow link

MANZINI "BOREHOLES"

Expert Services, Competitive prices
"Groundwater is our business"

A Cut Above the Rest

Tel: 2505 3880 / 2505 9402
Fax: 2505 9408, Cell: 7622 5300
www.purelldrilling.co.sz
E-mail: info@purelldrilling.co.sz

WATER FOR LIFE



YOU ARE RIGHT ON TARGET WHEN YOU READ

OUR CLASSIFIEDS SECTION.



SERVICE

VISION 2022

Company registrations,
Monthly Accounts,
FSRA Financials, VAT
Returns, Taxation &
Business Plans.

Call: 7810 5528

For your home
renovations,
construction and
plumbing needs.

Please call:
7810 5528

TUITION

BUSINESS +
ACADEMICS KEYS

We do: Business
Plan

Strategic Plan
Proposals
Presentations etc

We guide: Masters
Bachelors

Dip. Students on:

Project
Dissertation
Research
Assignments
Exams
Tutorials etc

Phone: 2404 4191
/7866 2413

Call now for talks

VACANCY

Sales Girl Wanted.
Call 2404 4191 /
76922918

R/N:10034

G.S CHYANDA PROPERTY
CONSULTANTS

Land surveyor needed
with 4 yrs experience
call 2505 8170 /
76668776

R/N: 181992 Dx: 17/09/2016

BOOKVILLE INSTITUTE is
looking for a Teacher in
Accounting, Economics and
Pastel. Call 2404 6316

R/N: 181093

**Swazi
Observer**

For Advertising
your business ,

Call our office @

2404 3807 /

2404 8699

AFRICAN MEDISINE
EARLY HERBAL REMEDIES

Stimulate power tonic Suku Suku
For Diabetes libido activation, weak bed
performance, total flatness, leg-ears itching,
Infertility, back aching and for those who are
chronic, infected for 10 years.

Welcome at BLACK POWER POINT

MANZINI.

Herbal products, chief Natural Therapist
Maziku Disopi

Call 76233035 / 7832 5305
Email : disoherbex59@gmail.com

R/N: 180251 Dx: 10/09/2016

The AFRICAN Medicine
ARE YOU DISSAPPOINTED OR WORRIED?

In case of various diseases and chronic cases, try the
herbal medicine, the alternative medicine which provides
a wide range of natural effective remedies safe and no
side effects .

AS follows with thanks:

Michel N Canada. The herbal medicine for Asthma did
wonders ,no more breathing problems , I used to have
epileptic fits several times say but after using your herbal
medicine for just a short time ,no more fits and shaking, I
am ok now.

K. Banda Zambia. I am now free from both diabetes and
hypertension, the medicine you gave me worked
effectively, thanks a million times.

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.

R/N:15-244 Dx: 30/09/2016

ALL TYPES OF SECURITY

Fencing, Gate Motor Burglars
& Pre-cast

"If it's Security,
Come to us"

Call: 2505 8191 / 7607 1518



S'HLENG FENCING

We supply and install

Dx:16 Sept. Dec.4988

Classified Section
Book
Your
Classified
Advert Now!

CALL OUR OFFICES @
2404 3807 /

R/N:181986 Dx: 14/10/2016

WE CONNECT YOU WITH
YOUR POTENTIAL
CLIENTS, ADVERTISE
WITH US.



UNIVERSE TECHNIKON

POLISH UP FOR GRADE TESTING
SESSIONS ,GRADE3.

Come register with us for the
following courses : Motor
Mechanic, Building, Mechanical
Engineering, Carpentry, Electrical
and Plumbing.

CONTACTS

Makhaya Convenient Centre Kalman Building
Opposite Mortruck, Manzini
Opposite Railway, Mbabane
25053397/ 76119513
24048040/ 76289453

R/N:181986 Dx: 14/10/2016

DIALLO TAIRE INVESTMENT

VACANCY

APPLICATION FOR QUALIFIED PERSON
FOR THIS POSITION OF EMBROIDERY
FASHION DESIGN (AFRICAN ATTIRE)

- A person with a design certificate
- At least 3 years experience
- She / He must be O'level qualified person
- Fluent and appropriate English speaker
- A local citizen / international
- Application are expected soon as of the 15th
of September 2016 to September 2016-09-
16 Applications must be written under email
address: oumartaire@gmail.com
- Interested applicants must show the job
reference or call this number 76243629

Swazi Observer e-Edition



THE BENEFITS OF SWAZI OBSERVER E-EDITION

- Flipping pages like you're reading a real publication
- The ability to pan, zoom or rotate pages, articles and photos
- Opening full articles in easy-to-read text views
- Listening to publications using on-demand audio
- Integration with social networks
- Article sharing through email
- Offline reading
- Article voting and commenting



Download the
Full pages,
Features and
Adverts
and read on
your Desktop,
Ipad or your
Smart phone

log on to www.observer.org.sz and follow link

CRISOVIK GUEST HOUSE

BED and breakfast
affordable rates, central
town Mbabane.

Contact

2404 9883/7607 8413/7614 2582

R/N:181083 Dx: 16/09/16

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHAT YOU CAN ADVERTISE

- CARS FORSALE
- SERVICES OFFERED
- VACANCIES/JOB\$
- ACCOMODATION
- PROPERTY
- DEATH NOTICES ETC.

COME TO YOUR NEAREST OBSERVER OFFICES
FOR ALL YOUR SERVICES OR CALL 7670 9534

www.observer.org.sz

Swazi Observer
Classifieds

CALL OUR OFFICES @ 2404 1555 / 2404 8699

Advertiser



RONALDO, BALE MISS TRIP TO ESPANYOL

MADRID - Real Madrid will have to cope without Cristiano Ronaldo and Gareth Bale in the quest for a club-record 16th straight La Liga win after coach Zinedine Zidane said both will miss today's trip to Espanyol.

Bale was forced off early by a hip knock as Real came from behind in dramatic fashion to beat Sporting Lisbon 2-1 on Wednesday in the Champions League. Ronaldo started Real's fightback against his old club, but misses out this weekend due to

illness.

"Cristiano won't travel. He has a problem with his throat and is not ready to play," Zidane said on yesterday.

"We are not going to risk anything and much less so with Ronaldo."

Zidane also stressed Madrid's busy schedule with five games in the next two weeks was also behind his decision to leave out Bale.

"He suffered a heavy blow (on Wednesday) so we won't risk anything. All the players want to play,

but we have a lot of games," added Zidane.

"If Gareth gets another knock on the same area he could be out for 10 days or more. I prefer that he is 100 percent for Wednesday (against Villarreal)."

Zidane hinted that James Rodriguez may finally get his chance to start for the first time this season in the absence of Ronaldo and Bale after impressing as a substitute against Sporting.

AFP

Mou tells Pogba to forget price tag

MANCHESTER - Manchester United manager Jose Mourinho has urged midfielder Paul Pogba to forget his world-record price tag and concentrate on producing the goods for the team.

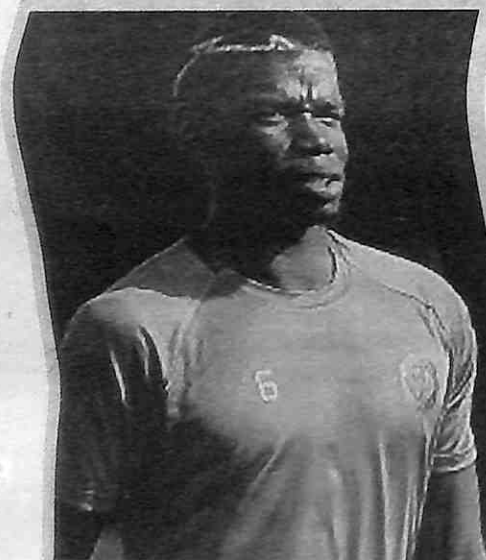
United broke the world transfer record to bring Pogba, 23, back to the club from Juventus last month in a deal worth an initial £89 million. Pogba produced disappointing performances in United's losses to Manchester City and Feyenoord, but Mourinho pointed to the France midfielder's busy close season as a mitigating factor. "The world-record player is always a question that will be open until somebody breaks the record," Mourinho said, in comments published by British newspapers yesterday.

"I think there are clubs that paid 20, 30, 40 (million pounds), which is a bigger deal than what Man United paid for Paul because you make a relation between what you pay and the club revenue. "You realise that other clubs paying 20, 30, 40 is a much bigger thing than what Man United did and I just want Paul to forget that and to play his football."

"Euro final, no pre-season, holidays, come back - it's normal that in the first week he had the very good impact in the first game (in United's 2-0 win over Southampton)."

"It's normal that after the... has

come with the team. The team improves, Paul improves. No problem." United visit Watford in the Premier League today, when they will be seeking to bounce back from their back-to-back defeats by City, in the league, and Feyenoord, in the Europa League. **Reuters**

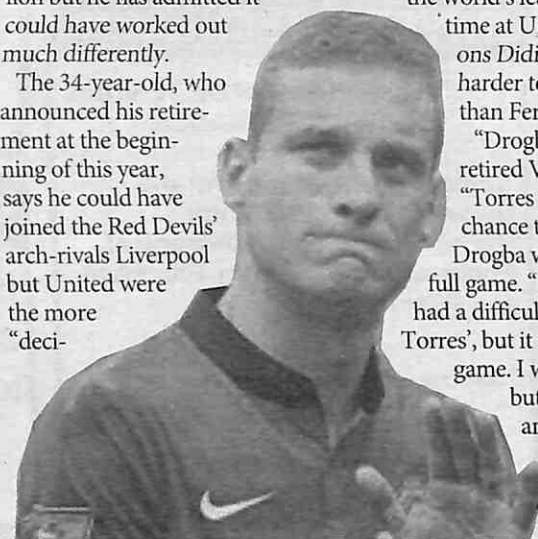


Manchester United midfielder Paul Pogba.

United legend Vidic admits he almost joined Liverpool

MANCHESTER - Former Manchester United defender Nemanja Vidic has revealed that he "nearly" joined Liverpool before Sir Alex Ferguson convinced him to sign. Vidic won almost everything possible in his time at Old Trafford, including five Premier League titles, a Champions League, three League Cups and a Club World Cup. The Serbian signed for Manchester United from Spartak Moscow in 2005 for £7million but he has admitted it could have worked out much differently.

The 34-year-old, who announced his retirement at the beginning of this year, says he could have joined the Red Devils' arch-rivals Liverpool but United were the more "decisive".



Former Manchester United defender Nemanja Vidic.

Allegri unconcerned by Dybala drought

ROME - Juventus coach Massimiliano Allegri has claimed he is not worried about Paulo Dybala's lack of goals so far this season.

Dybala enjoyed a stellar first season at Juventus as he netted 23 goals from 46 appearances in all competitions, but he has yet to find the net this term, with fellow Argentine Gonzalo Higuain, a club-record signing from Napoli, the reigning champions' main man in attack now.

Nevertheless, Allegri sees no reason for concern just yet as Juve prepare for today's trip to Inter.

"Dybala's role has not changed this season," Allegri said at a news conference. "He has not scored yet,

but that can happen to all forwards."

Juventus already hold a five-point lead over Inter after just three games and Allegri is keen to widen the gap today as they chase yet another title.

"Our primary objective this term is to win a sixth straight Scudetto," he said.

"The game against Inter represents a first key duel of the season in our quest to win the Scudetto."

"We put in a good performance against Sevilla despite the result. We need to keep our feet on the ground."

"We can play in different formations, but our attitude is more important." **Goal**

Simeone's early departure will shake Atletico Madrid to core

MADRID - Diego Simone did his best to calm everyone down on Friday.

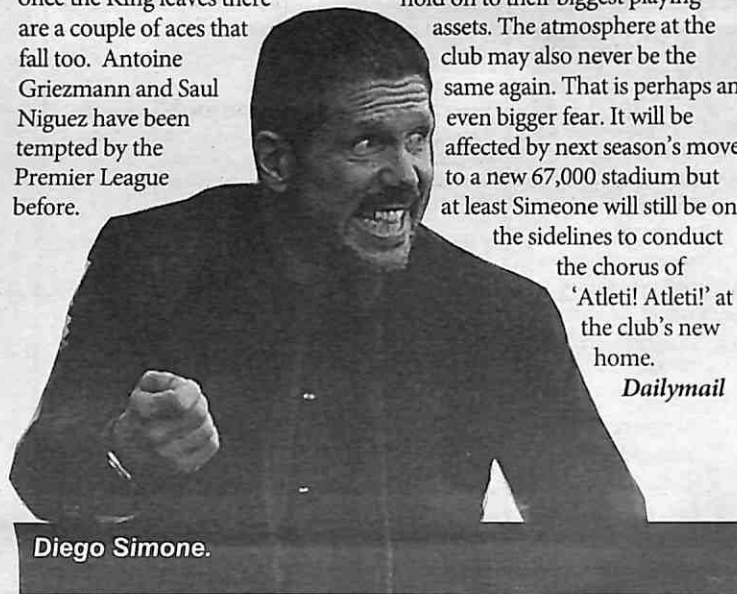
News that he had taken the almost unprecedented step of reducing his contract had sent shockwaves through the massed ranks of the club's supporters who have pinched themselves several times over the last four-and-a-half years as they won five trophies and reached two European Cup finals.

The worse scenario for the AD years (After Diego) is that it's a house of cards at Atletico and that once the King leaves there are a couple of aces that fall too. Antoine Griezmann and Saul Niguez have been tempted by the Premier League before.

Chelsea have watched Griezmann closely and Manchester United have been tracking Saul since the days when Sir Alex Ferguson's brother Martin was clocking up the miles trying to find La Liga's next big thing in Spain. But the Simeone factor has always kept both young players at the club. They will not be going anywhere next summer because Atletico Madrid are banned from signing players until January 2018 so no-one will be leaving. But if Simeone does walk away in the summer of 2018 it may be difficult for the Spanish side to hold on to their biggest playing

assets. The atmosphere at the club may also never be the same again. That is perhaps an even bigger fear. It will be affected by next season's move to a new 67,000 stadium but at least Simeone will still be on the sidelines to conduct the chorus of 'Atleti! Atleti!' at the club's new home.

Dailymail



Diego Simone.

WORLD FIXTURES

TODAY

German Bundesliga

15:30 FC Augsburg v 1. FSV Mainz
17:30 Hertha BSC v FC Schalke 04

Italian Serie A

12:30 Udinese v Chievo
15:00 Cagliari v Atalanta
15:00 Crotone v Palermo
15:00 Sassuolo v Genoa
15:00 Torino v Empoli
18:00 Internazionale v Juventus
20:45 Fiorentina v Roma

Premier League

13:00 Watford v Manchester United
15:15 Crystal Palace v Stoke City
15:15 Southampton v Swansea City
17:30 Tottenham v Sunderland

Spanish La Liga

12:00 Osasuna v Celta de Vigo
16:15 Athletic Club v Valencia CF
18:30 Villarreal v Real Sociedad
20:45 Espanyol v Real Madrid

De Boer confident Inter will be back where they belong

ROME - Frank de Boer is adamant Inter will return to the top irrespective of their underwhelming start to the 2016-17 campaign.

Inter have collected just four points from their opening three Serie A fixtures, while they were beaten 2-0 by Hapoel Be'er Sheva in the Europa League on Thursday. Pressure on De Boer is already building following his stuttering start to life at San Siro, but the Dutchman remains optimistic ahead of today's match against champions Juventus.

"Pressure is to be expected at

Inter. We're working hard to make sure we improve. I'm convinced that we will put Inter back where it belongs," De Boer stated at a news conference.

"We're up against a very strong side, everyone knows that. I have great respect for what Juventus have achieved. We analyse all our opponents with the same level of care, no matter who they are. You will see how we play today. The game against Juventus is a special one for us all. The stadium will be full and we will feel the support of our fans."

Goal

MONTEVIDEO - Paris Saint-Germain star Blaise Matuidi is hoping Edinson Cavani's four-goal salvo against Caen will provide the striker with the confidence he needs to go on a scoring spree.

The Uruguay international has come under fire this season after initially struggling to fill the boots of Zlatan



Paris Saint-Germain star Blaise Matuidi.

PSG CAN TRUST CAVANI COMPLETELY TO KEEP SCORING - MATUIDI

...the Uruguay international has come under fire this season after initially struggling to fill the boots of Zlatan Ibrahimovic in the central striking role

Ibrahimovic in the central striking role at PSG – a position he has publicly craved for some time.

But the tide has been swinging in Cavani's favour of late, with his goal in midweek against Arsenal in the Champions League and four more – all in the first half – at Caen indicating an upturn in form. And his displays in front of goal have provided Matuidi with

evidence that his team-mate is starting to emerge from the Swede's shadow.

"He already scored against Arsenal and [against Caen] he got four goals so we are really pleased for him. I hope he will keep moving forward," the midfielder told reporters.

"We know that Edi is a guy who needs confidence. We know that. But he's a very talented player. He scores a lot of goals every season.

"We trust him completely. I know that he will score a lot of

goals this year."

Close-season recruit Grzegorz Krychowiak believes Caen walked into a PSG backlash following their frustrating draw against the Gunners at the Parc des Princes. The Poland midfielder said: "I think we've been a little disappointed because I think we could have won against Arsenal. We had several chances to. Unfortunately we lacked a bit of efficiency. "The win against Caen is good for what lies ahead. We will keep going."

Goal

Australian Olympic champion Brennan fumes over hacker leaks

CANBERRA - Olympic rowing gold medallist Kim Brennan said yesterday that it was outrageous to link life-saving medical treatment to doping, after she was one of several Australians identified by computer hackers who have targeted the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).

Brennan said she was disappointed to have to clear her name after her medical information was published by the cyber espionage group 'Fancy Bears', which is believed to be Russian.

The hackers claim they were exposing athletes receiving questionable drug exemptions from WADA, but Brennan revealed why she had been granted a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) by WADA.

"In January 2014, I suffered an anaphylactic reaction and was rushed to hospital, where they administered me with adrenaline to effectively save my life," Brennan told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

"That's the only time I've ever taken a substance on the banned list and I followed all procedures to get a TUE after that time.

"That is the only occasion I've ever used adrenaline."

A TUE is granted by WADA for athletes who require additional medication for genuine health problems.

"The reason TUEs exist is for legitimate medical reasons, and particularly in my case it was in no way performance-enhancing," Brennan said.

"I was seriously ill after the administration of adrenaline, as anyone who has had an anaphylactic reaction would understand," Brennan is one of several dozen world athletes to have been named by Fancy Bears throughout this week.

"To suggest this is a form of doping is absolutely outrageous, and I think the fact that it's being allowed to proceed, and athletes such as myself have to get up here and justify a life-saving medical treatment, is seriously disappointing," she said.

Reuters

I'd rather have Pereyra than Pogba - Mazzarri

ROME - Watford boss Walter Mazzarri says he would rather have Roberto Pereyra in his midfield than Manchester United star Paul Pogba.

Pereyra will be reunited with world-record signing and ex-Juventus team-mate Paul Pogba after his comparatively low-key move to Watford, when United travel to Vicarage Road today.

Pogba's displays in United's 2-1 derby defeat to Manchester City last weekend and Thursday's 1-0 Europa League reverse at Feyenoord have come in for criticism, while Pereyra has adapted seamlessly to life at Watford.

He scored on his debut in the defeat to Arsenal and put in a stunning performance in last weekend's 4-2 comeback win at West Ham, and Mazzarri offered a ringing endorsement of the Argentina international's qualities.

"As a principle I fall in love with my players," he said. "They are very important. Pereyra is a great player, he runs from side to side, has great qualities and was the player I wanted. If I had to choose, I'd pick Pereyra."

Players

"But Pogba is a champion. He is a very young player and this may have an influence on him adapting a little slower after changing team.

"Everything is new for him at the moment but with one play he can change the result."

Former Liverpool and England defender Jamie Carragher believes Pogba's problems at United stem from Jose Mourinho having selected him in a deep-lying central midfield two during league matches for United, pointing out that the best football of his career came in a three at Juve.

Even if it means dropping other high-profile stars, Carragher thinks Mourinho needs to give Pogba the extra support in central areas that helped the likes of Steven Gerrard, Frank Lampard and Yaya Toure to become Premier League greats.

"The Pogba I saw for Juventus was able to run free and wreak havoc because he had Andrea Pirlo and Claudio Marchisio chaperoning him, giving him protection and guidance, but I was a little bit disappointed with him when I saw him play in a two for France at Euro 2016," he wrote in a column for the Daily Mail.

"There were flashes of brilliance but he seemed more interested, at times, in doing the flicks and dribbles you would associate with a No 10. That's very unusual for a central midfielder. **Goal**

Drivers weary of the mountain that is the Singapore GP

SINGAPORE - Since its inaugural race in 2008, the Singapore Grand Prix has gained a reputation for being the toughest challenge in Formula 1, providing drivers with an extreme test of endurance in the trickiest conditions.

Raced under floodlights on a tight, 23-turn 5.065km street circuit in downtown Singapore, the 61-lap trawl in tropical heat just north of the equator has only been won by three men - Fernando Alonso, Sebastian Vettel and Lewis Hamilton.

The exclusive triumvirate is made up of world champions, suggesting only the very best can master the Marina Bay circuit, but four-times winner Vettel believes luck can play as large a part as skill.



Since its inaugural race in 2008, the Singapore Grand Prix has gained a reputation for being the toughest challenge in Formula 1, providing drivers with an extreme test of endurance in the trickiest conditions.

German Vettel, who triumphed last year and from 2011-13, said: "It's a race I have enjoyed, but it's always very long.

"You can be lucky or unlucky with the safety cars, which is not

what you hope for as a driver, you prefer it to be fair and square.

"If it plays in your favour then you take it and if it works against you. It's quite annoying, but that's the nature of a street circuit."



Yi Jianlian may not like being compared

No 11 strikes a chord with Yi, Yao

LOS ANGELES - Yi Jianlian may not like being compared to Yao Ming but he isn't shy about wearing his No 11 this season with the Los Angeles Lakers.

Speaking during the Lakers's practice on Friday in El Segundo, California, the 28-year-old forward-center said the two came to a mutual agreement that Yi would wear Yao's former number with his new team.

"Yao asked me. We talked about it," said Yi. Hall-of-famer Yao wore No 11 during his eight NBA seasons with the Houston Rockets, averaging 19.0 points and 9.2 rebounds.

Yi was once dubbed "the next Yao Ming" but says he is a different type of player with his own unique skill set.

"To me it is different. Yao is Yao. The biggest player in China," Yi told a packed scrum of English- and Chinese-language reporters on the practice court.

"I learned a lot from him. I talk to him a lot. We have a different mindset about basketball."

The struggling Lakers signed Yi, of He Shan, Guangdong, to a one-year deal last month at \$1.14 million that could be worth up to \$8 million with incentives and bonuses.

The 2.11 meter (6-foot-11) Yi is back in the NBA after a four-year hiatus. The native Cantonese-speaking Yi played in China with the Guangdong Southern Tigers in 2012-2016 and was the cornerstone player for the Chinese national team at last month's Rio Olympics.

Yi says his stellar performance in his fourth trip to the Olympics likely boosted his worth for the Lakers.

"I had success for sure in the Olympics," Yi said. "Team China was a young team. For myself, I just tried to play hard and play for the team and try to get a win." **AFP**



CONTE WON'T STAND FOR LAST SEASON'S MISTAKES

LONDON - Antonio Conte has warned Chelsea not to repeat the mistakes of last season following their home defeat to Liverpool.

The Italian was left reeling by his first defeat as Blues boss after Liverpool ran out a deserved 2-1 winners in the Premier League contest at Stamford Bridge.

Dejan Lovren was left unmarked to slot in the opener before Jordan Henderson curled in a stunner from 30 yards to put the rampant Reds 2-0 up at half-time.

Diego Costa halved the deficit but Chelsea could not find an equaliser to leave Conte with plenty to ponder.

The Italian, appointed in the summer, handed a second debut to David Luiz at centre-half but knows he is unlikely to be the answer to eradicating the defensive frailties of last term.



Antonio Conte.

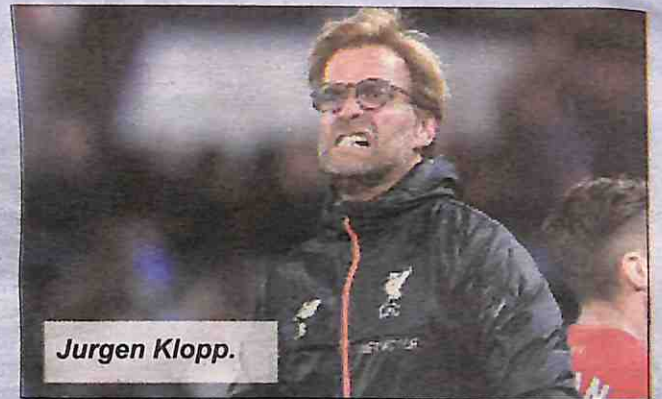
"It's important to understand that every game is tough and we mustn't forget last season," said Conte. "Last season was a bad season and I don't want to repeat it."

"When you finish the season in 10th place it means you have to work

very hard to improve and not repeat the bad season.

"This season the manager, the players, all the people at the club must take responsibility. We win together and we lose together."

Teamtalk



Jurgen Klopp.

Klopp shies away from title talk

LONDON - Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp refused to countenance the suggestion his side might be Premier League title contenders following their impressive 2-1 victory at Chelsea.

Dejan Lovren's close-range volley and Jordan Henderson's sublime 25-yard curler earned Liverpool victory at Stamford Bridge on Friday, with Diego Costa replying for the home side.

Liverpool have also beaten Arsenal and defending champions Leicester City this season, but Klopp was no more willing to discuss their title chances than he had been after their 3-1 win here last

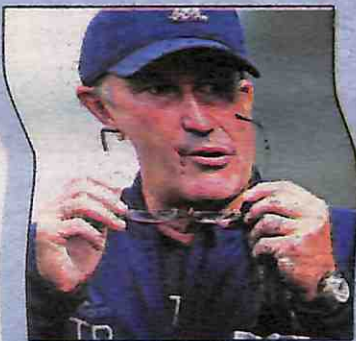
October. "I'm really not interested," he told a reporter in the Stamford Bridge press conference room when asked about Liverpool's title prospects.

Crazy

"Someone asked me that when we won 3-1 last season against Chelsea. My answer was: 'Are you crazy?' I remember it. 'I learnt a little bit about the English (media). We have 10 points. That's fantastic. I'm really happy after these difficult fixtures."

"We know we can play good football, we're convinced about our quality. We just have to do it every week, or every three days."

AFP



Tony Pulis.

Pulis won't quit West Brom

LONDON - Tony Pulis is committed to honouring his contract at West Brom but concedes the club's new owners will ultimately decide on his future.

There had been speculation that Pulis might leave the Hawthorns prior to Thursday's announcement that a takeover by Chinese group Yunyi Guokai Sports Development Limited - led by Guochuan Lai - had been completed.

Following a disappointing transfer window, hints emerged of a rift between Pulis and Albion's new chairman John Williams as both publicly expressed their opinions about the club's transfer business.

Pulis insists that, contrary to reports he might quit, he would never walk away from the job.

Asked if he definitely wanted to remain as head coach, he said: "Yeah, I won't be leaving. If I leave, it will be the club's decision for me to leave, it won't be my decision."

Teamtalk



Manchester United's Marcus Rashford.

'Rashford is always going to cause problems'

MANCHESTER - Manchester United striker Marcus Rashford has the ability to trouble any opponent with his pace and movement, according to former Red Devil Andy Cole.

Rashford impressed after breaking into the first team under Louis van Gaal last term and has looked dangerous when given the chance this campaign too.

Winner

The young striker scored a late winner against Hull City in August and struck a hat-trick on his England Under-21 debut against Norway on September 6, staking his claim for a starting berth under Jose Mourinho.

"Rashford has got in the team and it looks like he's really enjoying it. As

a kid, he's under no pressure so he should go and enjoy his football and he's doing that," Cole told the official United website.

Injuries

"He got in the team last season due to injuries but what a whirlwind start to his Manchester United career and he's carried that on. The boy is enjoying his football."

"If I was his age, I'd want to do the same thing as well. Enjoy it. He's really not under any pressure so he can go and enjoy football and that's what he is doing."

"With that pace, he's got speed and movement and is always going to cause problems. He proved that last season with his goal against Manchester City in the derby."

Goal

Stones wants the privilege of captaining Man City, England

LONDON - John Stones harbours hopes of becoming captain for Manchester City and England one day - belling it a privilege.

Stones is still bedding in at the Etihad Stadium following his big-money move from Everton last month, but has started all of City's seven games in their perfect start

to the season so far.

And the 22-year-old is not afraid to outline his ambition to wear the armband for club and country, revealing it has been a personal dream of his since he was a child.

Captain

"I'd like to be captain one day,"

Stones - capped 11 times at senior level for England - told reporters.

"Every player wants to be captain of their team and to do so for years to come. It's a privileged position to be in - to captain your club and country."

Dreams

"These are dreams you dream about when you're a little boy. You have to deserve the right to be captain and I'll keep working hard to

try to be."

Eyebrows were raised when City spent £47.5 million to lure Stones away from Goodison Park on a six-year deal.

But while he is aware of the scrutiny that his transfer fee brings, Stones insists he is not feeling the pressure.

Goal

POCHETTINO SURE KANE WILL SHAKE OFF EURO BLUES

LONDON - Mauricio Pochettino admits Harry Kane is feeling the strain of a testing summer but is convinced the striker will rediscover his scintillating form of last season.

The 23-year-old England international and his Tottenham Hotspur team-mates will attempt to bounce back from the disappointment of Wednesday's defeat at Wembley to Monaco in the Champions League when struggling Sunderland visit White Hart Lane today.

Kane scored his first goal of the season in last weekend's victory at Stoke, ending a nine-game drought for club and country that spanned the dismal Euro 2016 campaign. Kane scored 32 goals last season but

was again left frustrated against Monaco, appearing below his best. Pochettino however insists the player will turn things around. "The circumstances for all was difficult from the summer with the Euros," said Pochettino referring to Kane and his fellow Spurs and England team-mates Danny Rose, Kyle Walker, Eric Dier and Dele Alli.

Goals

"We are a team that sometimes needs more time to settle."

"Harry Kane will score goals and it's more a collective issue than an individual one."

Pochettino was angered by his side's first half display against Monaco and has demanded they show a significant improvement against Sunderland.

AFP



Maritzburg secure Celtic draw

JOHANNESBURG - Maritzburg United secured a credible 0-0 draw with Bloemfontein Celtic despite playing the entire second-half with ten men at the Kaizer Sebothelo Stadium in the Multi Choice Diski Challenge yesterday morning.

In a game with few clear-cut opportunities, frustrations boiled over as the scrappy affair became physical nearing to the end of the first half, and one of the more experienced players on the field was duly punished.

Marching

Former South Africa U23 captain Kwanda Mngonyama received his marching orders in the 37th minute after a foul the assistant referee deemed was worthy of a sending-off.

However, the Team of Choice produced a resiliant defensive display in the second-half to keep the home side at bay much to the frustration of head coach Morena Ramoreboli.

Both sides have now failed to secure a win in their opening two fixtures but remain unbeaten for the season with two points each.

Teamtalk

Kaizer Chiefs said no to Mathebula

JOHANNESBURG - Kaizer Chiefs reportedly turned down the chance to sign SuperSport United's David Mathebula in the recent transfer window.

Mathebula has fallen down the pecking order at United, with Reneilwe Letsholonyane's arrival adding to a central-midfield department that already contains the likes of Dean Furman, Dove Wome, Cole Alexander and Michael Morton.

The 33-year-old has often been regarded as one of South Africa's most natural talents in his position, but it seems he has sometimes failed to live up to that promise.

His ability did shine in the 2011/12 season for Moroka Swallows when he bagged 10 league goals, as Gordon Igesund nearly led the Dube Birds to the Premiership title.

Unproductive

However, earlier in his career he spent seven largely unproductive years at Chiefs despite on occasion producing a few cameos that spoke of his undoubted ability.

Nonetheless, the 33-year-old was said to be close to re-joining the Glamour Boys in August after talks were held between Matsatsantsa and Chiefs.

With that said, Soccer Laduma report that the deal did not materialise after coach Steve Komphela came to the conclusion that Mathebula would not add much more value to his squad.

The publication said: "Komphela decided that it wouldn't be worth the player's while given that - like Stuart Baxter (at SuperSport) - he also couldn't see a place for the player."

Sport24

KHUNE ISSUES KAIZER CHIEFS RALLYING CRY

CAPE TOWN - Kaizer Chiefs captain Itumeleng Khune has issued a rallying cry to his teammates, reminding them to stick together during what has been a difficult start to the season.

The Glamour Boys have gotten off to an uncertain start to the campaign, with two defeats and a draw in their opening three matches.

In addition, Chiefs are on a run that has seen the club record just one win in their last 16 matches played.

With that said, Chiefs did manage to put an end to the losing

streak with a 1-1 draw against Platinum Stars in their last league outing.

However, Steve Komphela's team still find themselves five points behind leaders Orlando Pirates at this early stage of proceedings.

Nonetheless, Khune has issued a statement reminding those in the Chiefs squad to stick together during this period of adversity.

Strength

He took to his official Twitter account and said: "The strength of the team lies in the individual, and the strength of the individual is in the team. (Let's) come



Itumeleng Khune.

together. You can't change what has already happened so choose

to look ahead instead of behind you." Sport24

SAFA deny Mashaba exit rumours

JOHANNESBURG - SAFA have denied reports that Bafana Bafana head coach, Shakes Mashaba will be sacked on Wednesday.

SAFA president, Danny Jordaan reportedly spoke to a Nigerian journalist and claimed that the Bafana Bafana head coach will be relieved of his duties.

However, SAFA have denied those reports, indicating that the 66-year-old will not be

shown the door.

"The reports are incorrect and malicious, the coach will not be fired and there will be no meeting on Wednesday," SAFA's Communications Manager, Dominic Chimhavi told the Siya crew.

Confirm

Chimhavi did confirm that there is a meeting next week Saturday, although it is a scheduled SAFA Technical meeting.

Soccerladuma



Bafana coach Shakes Mashaba and Danny Jordaan.

Ntshumayelo thought Bucs tampered with his urine sample

JOHANNESBURG - Former Orlando Pirates midfielder Thandani Ntshumayelo's football agent Tim Sukazi, who is also a lawyer by profession, has revealed that his client instructed another firm to hold his drug ban case.

"He has decided to take a different route by instructing another firm of attorneys to deal with the matter. I am not involved," Sukazi told IOL.co.za.

"From my side as

Thandani's football agent, the relationship remains the same. Like all our players, he remains a player we care a lot about, especially now that he is in the situation he finds himself in.

"We understand he is in a



Thandani Ntshumayelo.

desperate situation where he is vulnerable to follow any kind of advice that seems make sense in helping him get his life back."

Laboratory

The findings of a laboratory which is based in Bloemfontein have been

questioned by Ntshumayelo's attorneys. The laboratory was suspended by the World Doping Agency (Wada) on May 3 2016 - four months after the player's urine sample was taken at Pirates' PSL game against Platinum Stars.

Goal

Mamelodi Sundowns fall to Zesco in Zambia

LUSAKA - Mamelodi Sundowns suffered a 2-1 defeat to Zesco United in the first leg of their CAF Champions League semi-final.

The game got off to a good start, with both sides showing their attacking intent in the opening 10 minutes.

The hosts looked more threatening as the half went on, with Jese Were constantly troubling Thabo Nthethe and Wayne Arendse with his pace.

Sloppiness

Pitso Mosimane would not have been pleased with the sloppiness from his charges, having seen his

players give away possession on numerous occasions.

Attack

Without a focal point in the attack, following Leonardo Castro's absence, Sundowns have struggled to carve out opportunities in the final third.

Soccerladuma

CAR AUCTION
25 September 2016 @ 2:30pm
Want to Auction Your Vehicle?
Register For Free
With Swaziland Motor Vehicles

MINI-COOPER 1978 MODEL

Limited to 20 vehicles
Terms and Conditions Apply

9 Parking below The Magistrate Court, Opposite The Omni Center
Gwamile Street Mbabane

SWD_sales@diplomat.co.uk • www.swazimotors.com • 24 09 09 09
076 40 2553

Auction! Auction! Auction! Auction! Auction!

AUCTION

One of the Cars To Be Auctioned

25 SEPTEMBER 2016 @ 2:30pm

9 Parking below The Magistrate Court, Opposite The Omni Center
Gwamile Street Mbabane

SWD_sales@diplomat.co.uk • www.swazimotors.com • 24 09 09 09
076 40 2553

Auction! Auction! Auction! Auction! Auction!

MESSI DOUBLE LEADS BARCA PAST LEGANES

LIONEL Messi, Luis Suarez and Neymar were all on target as Barcelona got back to winning ways in La Liga with a 5-1 thrashing at newly promoted Leganes tomorrow.

Barca suffered a shock 2-1 home defeat to Alaves last weekend, but despite a bright start from the hosts there was to be no repeat of that upset once Suarez teed up Messi to open the scoring after 15 minutes.

Suarez and Neymar tapped home to give Barca a healthy halftime lead before a Messi penalty and wonder strike from Rafinha made it 5-0.

Gabriel Appelt Pires's fine free-kick pulled a goal back for Leganes 10 minutes from time.

Barca move level with Real Madrid at the top of the table, but Madrid play their game in hand away to Espanyol without the injured Cristiano Ronaldo and Gareth Bale today. Messi, Suarez and Neymar were starting together for only the second time this season and, just as



Lionel Messi, Luis Suarez and Neymar were all on target.

in a 7-0 thrashing of Celtic on Tuesday, showed no mercy as Leganes's high defensive line was torn apart in the first-half. The hosts were given a warning when Diego Rico blocked Messi's goalbound effort from Barca's first counter-attack.

However, Leganes were punished moments later when Suarez showed great strength to burst down the right and his low cross was easily turned home by Messi.

The roles were reversed for Barca's second when Messi was gifted possession inside the Leganes half and waltzed past two defenders before teeing up Suarez for a tap-in.

Leganes did pose a threat going forward as Venezuelan winger Darwin Marchis caused Javier Mascherano, playing in an unfamiliar role on the right of Barca's defence, no end of problems.

Marchis was desperately unlucky not to halve Barca's advantage when he was denied by a goal-line block from Samuel Umtiti having beaten Mascherano and Marc-Andre ter Stegen.

Suarez bagged his second assist of the half just before the break when he was released clear on goal and selflessly squared for Neymar this time to roll into an empty net. **AFP**



Nico Rosberg storms in Singapore

Rosberg storms to Singapore Grand Prix pole position

SINGAPORE - Nico Rosberg, in his 200th race, took pole position for the Singapore Grand Prix.

The German's name stood out amid the lights of the city state, beating his team-mate Lewis Hamilton convincingly.

Daniel Ricciardo, of Red Bull, was second, half a second behind. Hamilton was third, seven-tenths off the top. Rosberg banged in a lightning quick time on his first run. Hamilton had no immediate response. The double world champion then went out for his second and final flying lap, but he was ragged,

skimming across the red and white kerbs as sparks lit up the dark air.

The night race has never been a productive venue for Rosberg, and victory is not a foregone conclusion.

Safety cars are a regular feature around the street circuit and there is also the question of how the front few get away from the grid.

A fortnight ago Hamilton qualified massively fastest but was sluggardly at the start. Who will be quicker away today may yet be the decisive factor.

Sebastian Vettel was eliminated in the first qualifying session after another mess at Ferrari. He

was on three wheels at times so he returned to the garage. There his mechanics tried to do the remedial work, but the time ticked away and the car went unfixed. Vettel was last on the timesheets.

All the more galling because team-mate Kimi Raikkonen was scorching ahead well, slower only than the two Mercedes and Red Bulls. "That's just stupid," bemoaned the four-time world champion as he sat in his cockpit helpless, no doubt wondering why his team are less the Prancing Horse than the Pantomime Donkey this year.

Dailymail

Castro grabs double as hosts hit six again

DORTMUND - Borussia Dortmund made a statement of intent to the Bundesliga yesterday, as Thomas Tuchel's youngsters thrashed 10-man Darmstadt 6-0 at home.

Dortmund were surprise 1-0 losers away to RB Leipzig in their previous league fixture, but bounced back with a crushing 6-0 win at Legia Warsaw in the Champions League on Wednesday.

And, despite being without several first-team regulars, including Mario Gotze and Pierre Emerick-Aubameyang, they built on that result by brushing aside Darmstadt at Signal Iduna Park, the visitors finishing a man light and taken apart by goals from Adrian Ramos, Christian Pulisic, Sebastian Rode, Emre Mor and a Gonzalo Castro double.

The result, their biggest in the league since May 2009, sees Dortmund remain three points

off champions and early leaders Bayern Munich, who came from behind to defeat Ingolstadt 3-1 at home.

Despite Tuchel resting Gotze, Aubameyang and Marc Bartra, while Lukasz Piszczek missed out through injury, a strong start from the hosts produced a deserved opening goal after just seven minutes.

Raphael Guerreiro played Ousmane Dembele into a dangerous area on the left-hand side of the box and his cut-back was tucked away emphatically by Castro in the centre of the penalty area.

Darmstadt coach Norbert Meier withdrew Anis Ben-Hatira in the first half and Mario Vrancic at the break, but Dortmund doubled their lead just two minutes into the second half.

Pulisic, embarking on a driving run, cut inside from the right flank and fed Ramos, who laid



the ball off to Guerreiro.

A fierce shot from outside the area was parried by Darmstadt goalkeeper Michael Esser, with Ramos on hand to lift the rebound into the roof of the net.

Dortmund's onslaught continued unabated, Marcel Schmelzer breaking into the box and Guerreiro helping the ball to

the back post, where unmarked teenager Pulisic swept home a cool finish in the 54th minute.

The away team's troubles worsened three minutes later, when Peter Niemeyer was shown a second yellow card for a heavy tackle on Ramos.

Goal

Australia beat Argentina to seal title for All Blacks

AUSTRALIA - Australia beat Argentina 36-20 in the Rugby Championship yesterday in a result which ensured the All Blacks wrap up the title with two games to spare.

The Wallabies led 21-6 at

half-time in Perth and Will Genia ran in two tries as they made it two wins in a row after snapping a six-match losing streak.

Australia - Tries: Samu Kerevi, Dane Haylett-Petty, Michael Hooper, Will Genia (2).

Conversions: Bernard Foley (4). Penalty: Reece Hodge.

Argentina - Tries: Santiago Cordero, Facundo Isa. Conversions: Nicolas Sanchez (2). Penalties: Sanchez (2).

AFP

Stoke players will soon reach their top level - Hughes

LONDON - Mark Hughes is confident the tide will soon be turning for Stoke once all of his players reach "their top level" in the Premier League.

The Potters are bottom of the Premier League having taken just one point from the opening four games of their campaign.

Three successive defeats have followed a 1-1 draw at Middlesbrough - 4-1 at home to Manchester City, 1-0 at Everton and 4-0 to Tottenham at the bet365 Stadium last Saturday.

Manager Hughes feels it has been a particularly tough set of fixtures with which to start the season, but he also has no doubt some of his players are not playing at the required level.

But, emphasising he knows what he is doing in the Premier League, the Welshman has predicted positive results are not far away. "It is maybe to do with the fixtures that have been thrown at us, along with not dealing with certain elements of the game you have to," Hughes said, ahead of today's trip to Crystal Palace. "We haven't as yet been able to put together a really solid 90-minute Premier League performance. "That's to do with the opposition not allowing you to play the game you want, and with early-season form - we have a number of players who are maybe not at the level we know they are capable of."

Teamtalk



Juan Imh celebrates with Axel Muller Aranda, both from Argentina, after scoring a try.

ARSENAL ROMP TO VICTORY OVER HULL

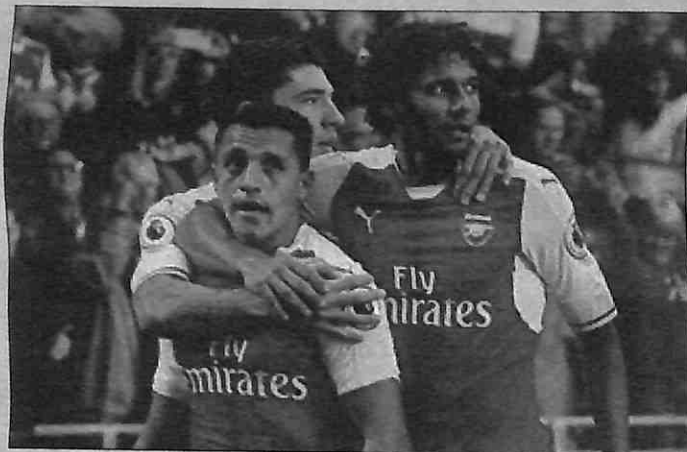
HULL - Alexis Sanchez scored twice as Arsenal secured three consecutive Premier League wins for the first time in nine months with a 4-1 victory at Hull City yesterday.

Sanchez could even afford to miss a first-half penalty at the KCOM Stadium — where Hull were reduced to 10 men — as the Gunners continued their recovery following a slow start to the season which saw them take only a point from their first two games.

Sanchez now has six goals in five appearances against the Tigers, whose fine early season form has deserted them, not helped by the club's on-going take-over talks and continued uncertainty over the future of caretaker manager Mike Phelan, who is yet to accept an offer to take the role full-time.

Problems

Arsenal's problems from the penalty spot continued as Sanchez missed the second of the four they've been awarded this season after Hull defender Jake Livermore was ordered off shortly before half-time for handball. Theo Walcott's



Arsenal's Alexis Sanchez, front, celebrates scoring his side's third goal during their English Premier League soccer match against Hull. (AP)

deftly chipped finish 10 minutes into the second half as the forward sprinted onto a perfectly weighted backheel from Alex Iwobi ensured there was to be no stirring comeback from the hosts.

Credit

To their credit, Hull made light of their numerical disadvantage and pulled a goal back when Robert Snodgrass converted a penalty after

Arsenal goalkeeper Petr Cech had been penalised for bringing down Dieumerci Mbokani. Sanchez made sure of the points four minutes later, powering home his side's third after Walcott took the Chile forward's pass in his stride, only to see his shot blocked by Eldin Jakupovic, the rebound falling invitingly for Arsenal's outstanding performer.

Reuters



Manchester City's Kevin De Bruyne, third-right, celebrates with teammates. (AP)

Unbeaten Man City stroll to victory against Bournemouth

MANCHESTER - Manchester City maintained their perfect Premier League start with a dominant 4-0 win at the Etihad Stadium against AFC Bournemouth.

Goals from Kevin De Bruyne, Kelechi Iheanacho, Raheem Sterling and Ilkay Gundogan secured City's eighth successive win — an unprecedented feat for the club at the start of a season — since Guardiola took charge.

The only downside for City was the sending-off of Nolito for aiming a headbutt at Adam Smith in the 86th minute, but the performance as a whole was highly impressive. Guardiola's men

were commanding in possession and scintillating on the counter-attack. The Spaniard is threatening to mould a highly talented squad into something even greater than the sum of their parts.

Composed

From the back, where Aleksandar Kolarov again looked composed at centre-half, to a forward line formidable even without the suspended Sergio Aguero, City were magnificent and too strong for Bournemouth.

The hosts, and De Bruyne in particular, were in the mood from kick-off with the Belgian needing just eight seconds to register the first shot. **Teamtalk**



Islam Slimani.

Slimani bags brace as Leicester see-off Burnley

LONDON - Record signing Islam Slimani capped a dream Premier League debut as his brace powered Leicester to a 3-0 victory over Burnley.

The Algeria striker scored either side of the break to clinch a 3-0 win and seal a wonderful week after the Foxes' debut Champions League victory at Club Brugge.

Ben Mee's own goal wrapped up the win for the Foxes who played with the swagger which saw them romp to the title last season.

Slimani, a £29million signing from Sporting Lisbon, added the brute force to international teammate Riyad Mahrez's trickery as the pair put Burnley to the sword.

The Claret fell asleep to allow Slimani to score before and after the break and Steven Defour wasted their best chance in the first half.

The Foxes were coming off the back of Wednesday's historic 3-0

win at Club Brugge and manager Claudio Ranieri had warned his side their European success could not be used as an excuse for a poor performance against the Claret. Heeding his words, the Foxes began brightly as Daniel Amartey planted a volley well over and Jamie Vardy miscued a header with Burnley pinned back at the King Power Stadium.

Beaten

The Claret have not beaten Leicester in six years and Jeff Hendrick, making his full debut after a move from Derby, did not look like bucking that trend when he dragged wide after 19 minutes.

The Foxes were comfortable with goalkeeper Ron-Robert Zieler, in for Kasper Schmeichel who was out with concussion, untroubled.

As expected, Burnley posed more of a threat than meek Club Brugge but they relied on Tom Heaton to keep them level after 25 minutes. **Backpage TXT**

GRIEZMANN, TORRES AT THE DOUBLE AS HOSTS CRUISE

MADRID - Antoine Griezmann produced another stellar performance with two goals to propel Atletico Madrid to a 5-0 win over Sporting Gijon at the Vicente Calderon.

Fernando Torres also scored twice, the second from the spot, while Kevin Gameiro added another as Atletico ended a week which saw coach Diego Simeone reduce his contract on a high.

Griezmann suggested his side might end up battling against relegation following draws against Alaves and Leganes in their opening two fixtures and was heavily criticised for his comments by team-mate Saul Niguez.

The Frenchman responded by leading Atletico to their first win against Celta Vigo last week, scoring twice and creating another, and he was again their stand-out performer against Sporting.

The 25-year-old had reason to celebrate for the first time within two



Atletico Madrid's Antoine Griezmann.

minutes, finding the net with a calm finish from the edge of the box, before taking his La Liga tally for 2016-17 to four in as many appearances on the half-hour mark with a stunning strike in the top corner.

Strike

Gameiro had doubled Atletico's lead after just five minutes with a spectacular strike of his own, curling

the ball into the top corner from the left hand side of the box.

Comfortable

Sporting Gijon never really looked like getting back in the game after Griezmann's second and Simeone's men eventually cruised to a comfortable win with two strikes from substitute Torres.

Goal

Chadli shines as Baggies hold-off rallying Hammers

LONDON - West Brom recorded their first PL win since the first day of the season with a 4-2 victory which piled on more misery for West Ham.

In the first game since West Brom announced that a takeover by Chinese group Yunyi Guokai Sports Development Limited — led by Guochuan Lai — had been completed, defeat might have left Tony Pulis, with speculation surrounding his future prior to kick-off, on the brink.

During last weekend's defeat at

Bournemouth Albion fans sang "Tony Pulis, your football is s**t" but no such criticism could be levelled yesterday.

Lead

West Brom surged into a four-goal lead through Nacer Chadli, superb on his home debut, Salomon Rondon, James McClean and Chadli once more finding the target.

West Ham, who have now conceded 11 goals in their last three Premier League matches, replied with Michail Antonio's header and

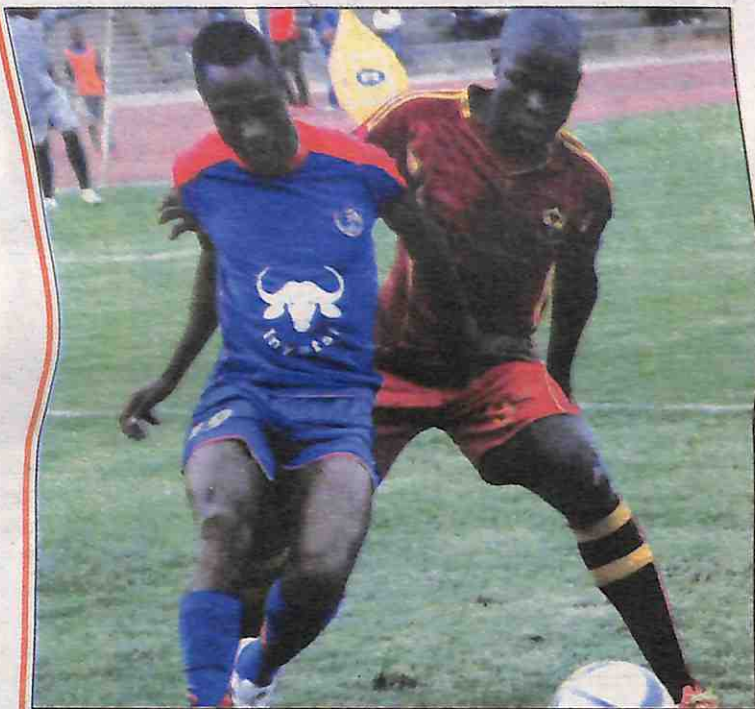
a Manuel Lanzini penalty but never looked like completing the unlikely comeback.

West Brom were on the front foot from the first whistle. Within the opening minute Matt Phillips whipped a dangerous cross into the West Ham penalty area which just eluded Rondon before McClean worked Adrian with a low shot.

Albion were soon rewarded for their positive start but they received more than a helping hand — literally — from Arthur Masuaku.

Teamtalk

MTN PREMIER LEAGUE PICTURES:



Mbabane Swallows' Sandile Hlatjwako and Young Buffaloes' Siboniso Mamba fighting for the ball during the MTN Premier League game at Mavuso Sports Centre yesterday; Swallows won 1-0. (Pic: Lucky Simelane)



Phiwa Dlamini blocked by police officers.



Fuming Buffaloes captain Mphile Tsabedze blocked by Swallows defender Mandla Palma during the skirmish.



Wanderers fan Sidumo Ngwenya having fun with Swallows followers.



Beaten Banele Sikhondze treated by the team's doctor Samkeliso Mdluli.



Sanele Mkhweli and Buffaloes' Phiwa Dlamini calmed down by Swallows coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati during the scene of violence.



Swallows' Banele 'Pupu' Sikhondze negotiate to go past Sandile Gamedze.



Buffaloes striker Phiwa Dlamini cautioned by his teammates.



Police officers and team officials having a tough time separating the players who were involved in the fighting during the game.



Mbabane Swallows supporters celebrating their goal.

MTN PREMIER LEAGUE PICTURES:



Manzini Wanderers' Mfanafuthi 'Taribo' Bhembe attempts to go past Moneni Pirates' Menzi Simelane during their MTN Premier League game at Mavuso Sports Centre yesterday. Wanderers won 2-0. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



A Wanderers fan clad in her team's colours.



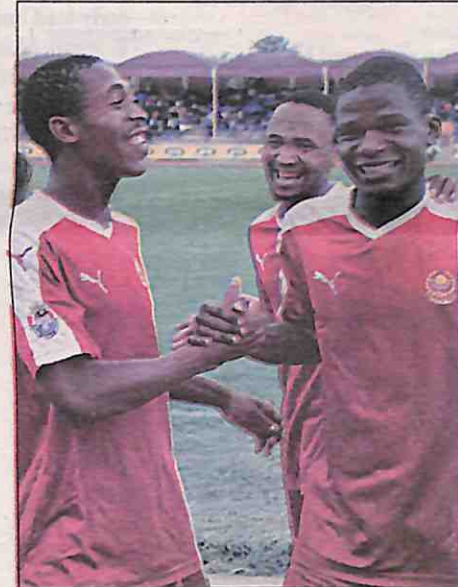
Manzini Wanderers supporter Bheki Gama (wearing hat) and others celebrating the victory.



Action between Wanderers and Pirates.



Ayanda Kunene chasing Mfanufikile Ndzimandze.



Sihle Mkhonta, Jose Machado and Allie Matse in celebration.



Defeated Pirates players leaving the pitch.



Wanderers coach Clement Mdluli congratulated by Pirates' Nhlanhla Mabuza, Mlamuli Zwane (coach) and Bright Nxumalo after the game.

VISION 2022 TILE PROMOTION!

SPECIALS VALID FROM 7 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

PORCELAIN TILES

600x600
P/Box 4pcs
E175.00

600x600
P/Box 4pcs
E230.00

CERAMIC FLOOR TILES

Floor Tiles 40x40
8pc **E110.00**

WALL TILES

Wall Tiles 25x40
15pcs
E110.00

CEILING 3.9m **E65.00**

CORNICE **E110.00**

SINK **E600.00**

TAPS **E180**

MASTER TILES

Find us next to Cash Build Opposite Bandag Tyres Manzini, Mhlakuvane Street
email: mastertile1@gmail.com Tel: 2505 6139 Cell: 7623 8538 / 7647 8651

WANDERERS HAND BUCCANEERS, A RUDE WELCOME

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

M. PIRATES (0)0
WANDERERS (1)2

SOCCEr - Hub giants Manzini Wanderers gave league returnees and town rival Moneni Pirates a rude welcome to the premier league when they beat them 2-0 yesterday.

The two sides battled it out in the first match played at the Mavuso Sports Centre in Manzini.

It was goals Sifiso Matse and striker Mfanafuthi 'Taribo' Bhembe scored in each half that earned the maroon and white outfit the bragging rights in the city.

Matse registered his name on the scorers' chart 27 minutes in the game when he tapped home a Zabo Teguy cross.

The Sea Robbers created some chances during the game but



Wanderers goalkeeper Mbongeni Mngometulu making a save.

lacked a sense of urgency in their play. They could have taken an early lead but trusted servant Bongani Ndzimandze's shot in the third minute was swallowed by Wanderers goalkeeper Mbongeni Mtsa. Impressive winger Xolani 'Messi' Ngwenya was unfortunate a few minutes

later when his rasping shot taken inside the box denied by Mtsa.

The second half saw Manzini wanderers continue piling on the pressure against the Buccaneers. Newly signed Wanderers Zimbabwean midfielder Tawana Chikore almost doubled the score line nine minutes after

restart but his volley was saved by Pirates keeper Sicelo Dlamini. The Clement Mdluli led charges continued to show more aggression and were unfortunate when Matse missed a sitter inside the box in the last quarter.

Second half substitute Mfanafuthi 'Taribo' Bhembe sent the Wanderers faithful into a frenzy six minutes from time. The dreadlocked striker landed connected a pass from Kola Aladeon who dazzled his way past the opposition defenders before laying the ball for Taribo to finish the job

The Teams

PIRATES

Sicelo, Thabo, Macwele, Menzi, Mcedisi, Junior, Xolani, Bongani, Fash, Zombodze (Order) Sebenele (Bhekani).

WANDERERS

Mbongeni, Menzi, Ayanda, Sihle, Machado, Shana (Allie), Sifiso, Samkeliso (Taribo), Kola, Zabo, Tawana

TAMBUTI MAKES PLS DEBUT IN STYLE

BY SABELO MAJOLA

TAMBUTI... (1)1
CITY..... (0)0

SOCCEr - Premier League rookies Tambuti made their presence in the elite league felt when they beat Midas City 1-0 at the Mayaluka Stadium in Big Bend yesterday.

It was former Royal Leopard star Musa Sikhondze who put the National First Division champions ahead 26 minutes into the game.

The midfielder connected a fine cross from Zwakele Dlamini beating goalkeeper Machawe Mamba at the poles.

City opted for long balls targeting Simanga Shongwe upfront but Tambuti's defence was hands on, dealing with the aerial balls.

Tambuti had the upper hand, holding the ball and knocking it around. Roy Mamba stood out, employing skill and pace to make life difficult for City defence. City started the second stanza with determination, looking for an equaliser.

Mcedisi Kunene came close to scoring after a good combination play with Khethokuhle Mkhontfo but his effort went just wide in the 56th minute.

City's efforts for an equaliser proved futile as Tambuti held on to the lead and recorded their first victory in the PLS.

Victory against Moneni good progress - Clement

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCEr - Manzini Wanderers interim coach Clement Mdluli has described his team 2-0 victory over Moneni Pirates as a good progress. Interviewed after the game played at the Mavuso Sports Centre yesterday, the former Wanderers striker said they



were working on reviving the teams brand this season and that the win was evidence that they are on the right track.

"This win is really good for the team. We had a good run during the Charity Cup where we had a good run and the boys maintained that and worked hard throughout the match," he said.

"We still need to work as a team and prepare for the upcoming matches and see what we can achieve at the end of the season," he said.

Moneni Pirates Coach Mlamuli 'Sputla' Zwane, on the other hand, said they played well despite loss.

"We did well but failed to utilise our chances. We were also affected by lack of depth after failing to secure work permits for some of my international players including Sihle Ndaba.

"We will bounce back and need to go back to the drawing board in preparation for the next games because the target is to finish the first round with at least 21 points," he said.

Matsapha Utd records first victory against Madlenya

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

Matsapha United (1)2
Madlenya (0)0

SOCCEr - Star studded Matsapha United thrashed Madlenya FC 2-0 to jump to the summit of the MTN first Division log on Friday night.

This was during an encounter plated at the Mavuso Sports Centre in Manzini.

The Mathews 'Chaka Chaka' Mandlazi led side is now at the top of the table for now with four points in two games played.

It was fullback Sabelo 'Sawa'

Gamedze and striker Sidumo Shongwe who scored in each half to collect the maximum points for the ambitious outfit in front of over 400 football lovers including Bishop Nash Shongwe and Matsapha Town Board CEO Gciniwe Fakudze.

Interviewed after the game, the Mozambican born mentor said he was happy with the performance displayed by his boys during the game.

"I am happy that we collected the maximum points seeing that we are coming from a draw during our first match.

I still believe we could have done better had we not lost focus in the second half.

The main objective is making sure that we play as a unit in all upcoming games," he said.

Meanwhile Madlenya Coach Baggio Gamedze attributed the loss to stage fright.

"My boys were nervous during the first half and they made too many mistakes. The opposition capitalised from these mistakes.

We also failed to bury our mistakes with our strikers being not clinical in front of goals," he said.

Matsapha United
Mathews 'Chaka Chaka'
Mandlazi.



Caleb attributes loss to rough pitch

BY SABELO MAJOLA

SOCCEr - Midas City head coach Caleb Ngwenya has attributed their 0-1 loss to premier League rookies Tambuti to what he described as an unplayable pitch.

The coach made the remarks after the game played at the Mayaluka Stadium in Big Bend yesterday.

He said the pitch made playing their normal game impossible, which resulted in them losing their opening game of the season.

Going back to the game, the coach said they were not patient in the first half and continued to make making poor deci-

sions inside the last quarter of the game. "We started very badly and couldn't put the ball on the ground due to the bumpy and rough pitch.

We also failed to play effectively in the last third and that cost us the game. It was a poor start to the league," he said.

Meanwhile Tambuti Coach Alou Badara congratulated his charges for displaying a gallant performance and starting the season on a high. He said that they articulated their game plan well even though the pitch was not in a good condition.

"It was not an easy game but I should give credit to the players who were tactically disciplined. It is very important for us to start the season well because this is a marathon not a sprint so we would take each game as it comes," he said.



Midas City head coach Caleb Ngwenya.

MTN LEAGUE OPENER MARRED BY DRAMA

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER - The MTN league clash pitting Mbabane Swallows and army side Young Buffaloes was marred with not only drama but ugly scenes of violence which resulted in the assault of Swazi Observer Photographer Lucky Simelane.

The game played at the Mavuso Sports Center came to a standstill about 25 minutes into the second half following an altercation which lasted for

about 16 minutes.

The drama saw four players being shown red by referee Simanga Nhleko who officiated during the encounter witnessed by over 3000 supporters.

The drama ensued after Mbabane Swallows winger Banele Pupu Sikhondze and Buffaloes' defender Bertram Dlamini, exchanged blows inside the field of the play.

Dlamini was however spared by the man in black who opted to give marching order to Swallows left-back Sanele

Mkhweli, Buffaloes Samkeliso 'Rio' Lushaba and Phiwa Dlamini who got into a brawl with two Mbabane Swallows supporters just outside the pitch.

Mayhem

It was during the mayhem that saw the seasoned photographer, who was going about his duties, being assaulted by Buffaloes' defender Mzwandile Nkwanyane who had not even made the top 16 on the day.

The situation was saved by the intervention of the police who calmed the situation.

If found guilty, the two clubs face a maximum of E30 000 each as per Article 7 (d) of the MTN League rules and regulation which state that the use of provocative or insulting gestures/ signals, unbecoming behaviour or conspiracy or attempt to act to bring football into disrepute or inciting people to behave in a manner that brings the game of football into disrepute shall be liable to a minimum of E10 000 and a maximum of E30 000 by the Disciplinary Committee.

'Birds' fly over Buffaloes

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

Young Buffaloes (0)0
Mbabane Swallows (0)1

SOCCER - A Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko second half free kick earned Mbabane Swallows maximum points after beating Young Buffaloes 1-0 in a drama filled encounter at the Mavuso Sports Centre yesterday.

A curler taken outside the box by the seasoned winger went past Buffaloes goalkeeper Nhlanhla Gwebu who could do nothing but watch as the ball rattled the net.

The fast flowing encounter, witnessed by over 3000 supporters, was spoiled by 15 minutes of drama in the second half which was sparked by an off the ball incident between Swallows winger Banele 'Pupu'

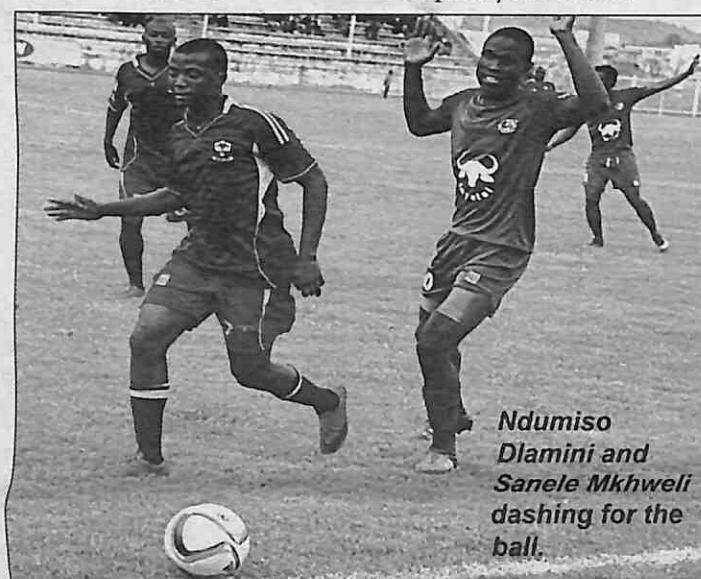
Sikhondze and Buffaloes defender Bertram Dlamini.

This resulted in referee Simanga Nhleko sending-off four players two from each team in Samkeliso 'Rio' Lushaba, Phiwa Dlamini, Banele 'Pupu' Sikhondze and Sanele Mkhweli before ordering the teams back to play.

There first half of the game failed to produce goals as the teams failed to create meaningful chances for prolonged stages of this half. Buffaloes' striker Phiwa Dlamini failed to shoot on target his ground shot in the 11th minute after finding his way past the Swallows defenders.

'Samba Jive' Nhleko had his bicycle kick goes over the bar in the 26th minute when connected a Sanele Mkhweli floated ball.

Soon after play was resumed, Buffaloes searched for the elusive equaliser, but the pair of Sandile



Ndumiso Dlamini and Sanele Mkhweli dashing for the ball.

Gamedze and Sanele Ngcamphalala wasted opportunities for the army side.

'Amathole Ezinyathi's' future prospect Ngcamphalala fluffed a glorious opportunity in the 55th minute when he directed his effort wide after meeting a Nhlanhla 'Mshengu' Kunene defence splitting pass. Gamedze

was unfortunate three minutes before time when his shot inside the box went wide.

The teams

Buffaloes
Nhlanhla, Siboniso, Betram, Samkeliso, Linda, Mphile, Sanele (Ndoda), Sandile, Mshengu, Karas (Skosh), Phiwa
Swallows
Nkomishi, Mabila, Mkhweli, Palma, Siphamandla, Papy, Wonder, Pupu, Sandile, Sikhali, Tony.

10 men Lions hold 'Bull'

BY SANELE JELE

Highlanders.....0(0)
Red Lions.....0(0)

SOCCER - MBA-BANE Highlanders were held to a 0-0 stalemate by a 10-man Red Lions at Tambankulu Stadium yesterday.

The Fairview based ensemble finished the game a man down after midfielder Machawe Mamba was given the marching following a career threatening tackle on Highlanders forward Thokozani Khanyile four minutes before half time.

The game started on a high note with both teams threatening to find the opener but both sides failed.

Highlanders' Mpucuko Dlamini almost snatched an early lead for his side after receiving a through

from Khanyile but he fumbled the ball over the bar 25 minutes into the game.

Three minutes later Lions' Enzo Motsa tried to break through the 'Black Bull' defence but was hacked just before the 18th area, which resulted in a fruitless free kick as the shot taken by Lungelo Tembe bounced off the bar before it was cleared away.

Came

Although being a man short, the Zweli Botsotso Khoza led side came hard on the opposition in the second stanza and got a clear cut chance in the 52nd minute. Striker Solomon Oladele was denied by Highlanders goalkeeper Sidumo Vilakati.

The teams continued to find the back of the net but remained unsuccessful until the final whistle.



Mbabane Highlanders players in a scuffle with Red Lions' players after the latter's Machawe Mamba tackled Thokozani Khanyile. Players almost exchange blows following the incident that saw Mamba get a red card. Landers captain attends to Khanyile (black kit 10 on the left). (Pic: Sanele Jele)

Landers, Lions players in near blows

BY SANELE JELE

SOCCER - MBABANE Highlanders and Red Lions players' engaged in near blows during their MTN league encounter at Tambankulu Stadium yesterday.

The mayhem was sparked by a rough tackle on Highlanders striker Thokozani Khanyile by the opposition's Machawe Mamba four minutes before half time.

Highlanders' players did not take kindly to the conduct of Mamba and charged towards him but was saved by the intervention of his teammates.

The argument which saw both sets of players in a scuffle lasted for about five

minutes before the referee Mbongseni Fakudze gave the player a red card and whisked to the dressing room.

The fracas is also said to have sparked the commotion between the two team's officials and supporters.

Confirmed

Red Lions PRO confirmed the incident when sought for comment yesterday but pointed out that the matter between the officials has been sorted.

"It was a tense game and as a result tempers flared but as officials and players we have smoked the peace pipe.

We also appeal to our supporters to be calm and accept that this is the nature of the game," he said.

MTN Premier League logs

	P	W	L	D	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Manzini Wanderers	1	1	0	0	2	0	2	3
Mbabane Swallows	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
Royal Leopard	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
Tambuli	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	3
Manzini Sundowns	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1
Sea Birds	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1
Mbabane Highlanders	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Red Lions	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Green Mamba	1	0	1	0	0	1	-1	0
Young Buffaloes	1	0	1	0	0	1	-1	0
Midas City	1	0	1	0	0	1	-1	0
Moneni Pirates	1	0	1	0	0	2	-2	0

NATIONAL FIRST DIVISION

	P	W	L	D	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Matsapha United	2	1	0	1	2	0	2	1
Hub Sundowns	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3
City Warriors	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
Hlathikhulu Tycoons	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
Bad Boys	1	0	0	1	2	2	0	1
Madlenya	2	0	1	1	2	4	-2	1
Malanti Chiefs	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Amalanda	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ludzeludze Brothers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sikhalo Se-Afrika	1	0	1	0	0	1	-1	0
Vovovo	1	0	1	0	0	1	-1	0
Mbabane Citizen	1	0	1	0	0	3	-3	0

Results

MTN Premier League			
Highlanders	0	Red Lions	0
Pirates	0	Wanderers	2
Buffaloes	0	Swallows	1
Tambuli	1	Midas City	0
Leopard	1	Green Mamba	0
Sundowns	1	Sea Birds	1

NATIONAL FIRST DIVISION

Matsapha United	2	Madlenya fc	0
Esibayeni Lodge U-17			
Green Mamba	4	Sea Birds	0
Moneni Pirates	0	Swallows	5

FIXTURES

MTN National First Division			
Today at Prince of Wales			
Mbabane Citizen	vs	H. Tycoons	3pm
Today at Manzini Club Stadium			
Ludzeludze Brothers	vs	Malanti Chiefs	1:30pm
Bad Boys	vs	Vovovo	3:30pm
Today at Mayaluka Stadium			
City Warriors	vs	Hub Sundowns	1:30pm
Sikhalo Se-Afrika	vs	Amalanda F.C	3:30pm
Esibayeni Lodge U-17			
Today at Uniswa Sports Ground			
Royal Leopard	vs	Red Lions	10am
Mbabane Highlanders	vs	Tambuli	12noon
Manzini Wanderers	vs	Manzini Sundowns	2pm

Lungelo nets first goal at 'Mamba's expense

BY SABELO MAJOLA

Royal Leopard... (0)1
Green Mamba.... (0)0

SOCCER - MTN Premier League defending champions Royal Leopard started the season on a high as they accumulated all three points in a 1-0 victory against Green Mamba at Mayaluka Stadium yesterday.

It was their new signing, Mbabane Highlanders whiz kid Lungelo Tsabedze who scored his first goal for the police side to ensure they emerge victorious during the game. He broke from defenders after only two minutes into the second half and diverted Green Mamba's Japter Marese at the poles before unleashing a shot that the defence tried in vain to clear off the line.

It was a tightly contested encounter as both teams displayed top notch football with flair and charisma. Green Mamba was out for the kill as they fielded all their new signings including former Manzini Sundowns' Phinda 'Majoro' Ginindza and Mxolisi Mkhontfo.

It was the latter who had the first attempt at goal through Shaka Nkwanyana on the left flank, finding space in the box but his shot went just wide. Veteran forward Civil Masebula almost put his side ahead in the 34th minute after his header in the box from Njabulo Tfwala's cross missed the goal by inches. Leopard's scoring chance came through left back Sikhumbuzo Ntimane, who unleashed a hazardous shot at the edge of the box 11 minutes from half time, but couldn't find the target. The score was level at the break. Green Mamba introduced Phinda Dlamini early in the second half, coming in for Njabulo Tfwala, but his search for an equaliser was met and dealt with by the watchful Leopard defence. Leopard were lucky not to concede in the hour mark after Green Mamba's skipper Siyabonga 'Msholoz' Mdluli's header hit the top pole and quickly cleared.

RESULTS

RESULTS 17 September 2016

CAF Champions League			
Zesco United	2-1	Mamelodi Sundowns	
Premier League			
Everton	3-1	Middlesbrough	
Hull City	1-4	Arsenal	
Manchester City	4-0	Bournemouth	
West Bromwich Albion	4-2	West Ham United	
Leicester City	3-0	Burnley	

FIXTURES

18 September 2016

Premier League			
13:00	Watford	v	Manchester United
15:15	Crystal Palace	v	Stoke City
15:15	Southampton	v	Swansea City
17:30	Tottenham Hotspur	v	Sunderland

SundayObserver SPORTING

SEPTEMBER 18, 2016



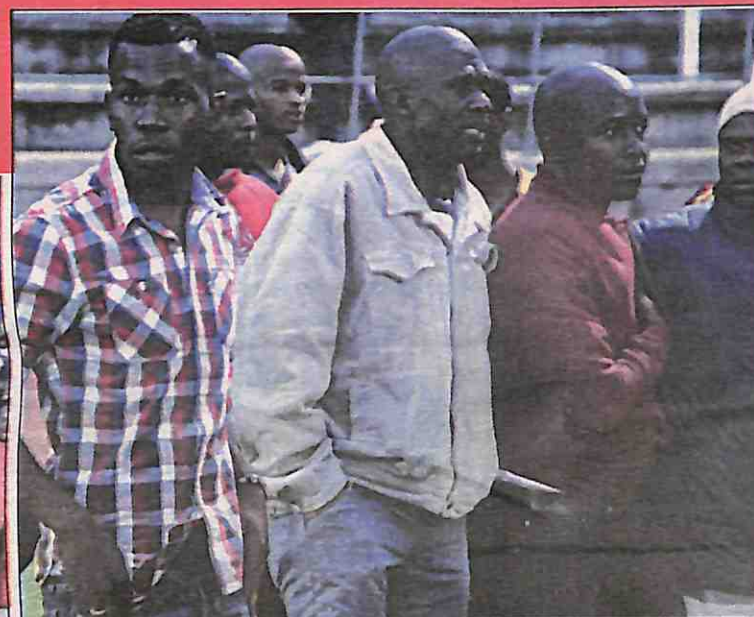
MTN LEAGUE OPENING GAMES:

FOOTBALL'S DAY OF SHAME

...Players in brawl, four shown red in Swallows, Buffaloes clash
...Red Lions, Landers players in near blows
...Buffs player assaults journalist



Fuming Buffaloes Captain Mphile Tsabedze blocked by Swallows defender Mandla Palma during the skirmish.



Buffaloes player Mzwandile Nkwanyane (in chequered shirt) who beat the photojournalist.



WITS BOOK MTN8 FINAL SPOT

CAPE TOWN - Bidvest Wits booked their spot in the MTN8 Final after securing a 3-0 aggregate win over Cape Town City yesterday evening.

The Clever Boys came into the encounter with a healthy lead, after securing a 3-0 win in the first leg at the Bidvest Stadium.

Gavin Hunt's charges dominated from the onset, as the likes of Xola

Mlambo and Thabang Monare pulled the strings from the middle of the park.

Monare wasted a golden chance to hand Wits the lead after 20 minutes, as the midfielder, un-marked, headed wide of the upright with only Shu-Aib Walters to beat.

Erick Tinkler opted to field 17-year-old Duncan Adonis in the midfield, along side Matt Sim and

Lebogang Manyama, although they struggled to stamp their authority on the game.

Wits were in full control throughout the opening and they nearly broke the deadlock after 40 minutes when Rodgers picked out Mhango, who rattled the upright with a fine left-footed volley.

Despite Wits' dominance, the score remained goalless as the sides

entered the halftime break at the Cape Town Stadium.

City continued to struggle as the second half got underway, Eric Tinkler opted for a double change in the 55th minute by introducing Sibusiso Masina and Mpho Matsi.

The introduction of Masina and Matsi certainly improved City, as they started seeing more of the ball as the half went on.

Bhongoletshi Jayiya should have given City the lead after 77 minutes when he was left un-marked at the far post, but the forward fired straight at Darren Keet from close range.

Tinkler's charges created a couple openings in the closing stages but the likes of Masina and Moseamedi failed to take their chances.

Nonetheless, the score remained goalless at the full-time whistle, as Wits progress to the final having won the tie 3-0 on aggregate.

Soccerladuma