ZONE LEADERSHIP



SUSTAINABLE TURES. AN



THE HARD **ROAD AUTISM PARENTS**

DISABILITY



NOKUKHANYA GAMEDZE

CELEBRATING GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

INSIDE

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The Right Place

The Right Sunday



NOVEMBER 20, 2016

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UNISWA ALUMNI COMES OUT TO PLAY:







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HE DIABETE

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GO INTO FARMING, DR A.T

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UNISWA Luyengo Campus lecturer Dr Thabile Nkambule, UNISWA Foundation CEO Vulindlela Simelane pictured with Dean-Commerce Professor Patricia Jourbert, Poet and UNISWA Foundation Volunteer Celimphilo 'Proton' Khanyile with his mother Nomsa Diamini looking elegant during the UNISWA Alumni dinner yesterday. (Pics: Lungelo Nkambule)

INSIDE EZULWINI TOWN COUNCIL MESS:

MINISTER

- Awards open-ended contract
- Abuses minister's name



CLARIFICATION A THE STATE OF

MAKHUBU

ilawu Construction walked away with the Entrepreneur of the Year Award (EYA) 2016 crown.

STORIES BY MANQOBA

The company owned by two young graduates, Ernest Dlamini and Bhekisisa Mavimbela was founded in 2008. The company has capacity to undertake work up to the value of E10 million.

They won the grand prize, a Nissan bakkie sponsored by the Swaziland Industrial Development Company (SIDC) worth E260 000 and a floating cheque worth E18 000.

Representing the company, Dlamini was handed over the key of the brand new vehicle by the Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini.

EYA is an entrepreneurial competition spearheaded by the Small **Enterprise Development Company** (SEDCO) which encourages small, micro and medium enterprises (SMMEs) to excel in their operations. The competition amongst other things looks at tax compliance, good governance and prop-



LILAWU CONSTRUCTION

TAKES EYA 2016 CROW

EYA 2016 Crown winner Lilawu Construction's Enerst Dlamini next to the Nissan bakkie worth E260 000 which was the grand prize of the competition.

er bookkeeping.

According to a brief report tabled by the judges Chairman Mason Dlamini, the business outperformed over 90 participants.

After being announced the winner, Dlamini slowly walked towards the podium looking emotionless and doubtful while the crowd clapped thunderously and cheered creating a moment of sheer excitement.

"It is unbelievable and I am really humbled for the recognition," he said calmly.

Together with his partner, Dlamini said they have created employment opportunities for nine university

"We have a small office, but we have hired graduates both from diploma to degree level," he said.

The company offers comprehensive services including general construction, fencing, building repairs and maintenance, remodelling and alterations, permitting, site preparation, carpentry, painting, and plumbing and utilities installation.

The journey doesn't end there for the ambitious young entrepreneurs who are currently pursuing their master's level studies.

"We want to significantly contribute in the country's infrastructure and we are positioning ourselves to contribute in the country's infrastructure development," said Dlamini.

He said they were looking forward to expand the business in the coming years and create more employment opportunities.

"We would like to thank SEDCO and everyone who have made this event possible, we really appreciate such empowerment initiatives," he

The event sponsors included Swaziland Industrial Development Company (SIDC), Standard Bank, Swaziland National Provident Fund (SNPF), Swaziland Royal Insurance Corporation (SRIC), Macmillan Education, Tee & Jay, Hi-Press Investments, Manzana Engineering, IndlelaYekuphila Restaurant, Absa Investments, Swazi Observer, Times of Swaziland, Swazi TV and Independent News.

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.Former Enactus, Kick-start winner gets award

the results of youth programmes like Enactus and Kick-Start are beginning to show as Ncamiso Nkambule won a green category award during the 14th edition of the Entrepreneur of the Year Award (EYA).

Nkambule, now Ecosol Managing Director started as Enactus Swaziland College of Creative Technology (SCOT) Managing Director from 2007 to 2010. From there he started a company during the 2014 Kick-Start programme.

"The two past programmes have prepared me during the awards gala dinner. to run a sustainable enterprise. Our company is operating in a new industry, so these two programmes have enabled us to be resilient, otherwise I think we should have shut down operations by now," he said.

The contribution of these programmes to mainstream entrepreneurship was also alluded to by Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini who was represented by Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini

He commended the increasing number of young people in these programmes and said he hope to see them compete in the EYA to follow in the next years.

Also present during the function was Junior Achievement Executive Director Siboniso Madlopha who said they would also monitor during the coming years the participation of their programme graduates.

Manzini REO speaking from privileged position -Teachers

"Granted,

teaching is a

which we pur-

sued with the

hope of getting

paid so we will

pursue money

matters when-

ever we feel

the need to."

profession

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

≺eachers have scoffed at Manzini Regional Education Officer Mlimi Mamba's call for them to not make their profession just about money.

Teachers were reacting to Mamba's statements from over a week ago when he pleaded with teachers, while at Moyeni High School, not to namake their money matters cloud the execution of their duties. Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) Secretary General Zweli Mndzebele said there were varying perceptions when it came to money mat-

"It all depends on the side of the fence you are sitting on," adding that Mamba was obviously inclined to say such seeing as he was basically the employer.

"I don't want to agree that it is not all about money," Mndzebele said adding how even when going to church one was expected to fork out money as offering.

"Everything and everywhere is

about money," he said adding there was a correct way of saying what Mamba was saying.

He dared Mamba to work for two months without pay and then turn to say 'it is not all about money'.

"Granted, teaching is a profession which we pursued with the hope of getting paid so we will pursue money matters whenever we feel the need to," he said.

During the said event, Mamba told teachers that he too was hungry but persevered, "Nami ngiyafa yind-

lala but I am here because the job needs to done," he said while calling for teachers to pursue their matters outside of school hours.

Khama's un-pan Africanism irks SA t is one of the many anomalies

of the Zuma administration's foreign policy that it evidently enjoys better political relations with its chaotically governed northern neighbour Zimbabwe than its far better governed western neighbour, Botswana.

The comparison is revealing about Pretoria's basic worldview.

In this year's Mo Ibrahim Index of African Governance, Botswana shone once again, coming second with a score of 73.7%, and Zimbabwe languished as usual near the bottom of the heap, coming in at 39th with a fail mark of 44.3%.

Botswana scores so well on the index because of its steady and peaceful democratic governance since independence and its proper stewardship of the country's natural resources, mainly diamonds.

President Jacob Zuma acknowledged these achievements last Friday, after meeting Botswana's President Ian Khama in Pretoria. Zuma praised Botswana as a "model of democracy, stability and rule of law," adding that its management of its natural resources "to the betterment and development of the country" was exemplary.

Botswana's criticism of South

Africa's decision to leave the International Criminal Court (ICC) irritated Pretoria enormously.

On these scores, Khama has recently confirmed a few times that Botswana is indeed an outlier in the region and even perhaps the continent.

In October, he told a Reuters reporter the Zimbabwe's 92-yearold leader should, "without doubt," have vacated State House "years ago".

Statement

Then Khama's government issued a statement saying it was "regrettable" that South Africa was pulling out of the ICC. B

otswana is the Hague-based court's strongest defender in Africa even as the rest of the continent's relations with the ICC continue to dete-

And then, just for good measure, Khama's foreign minister Pelonomi Venson-Moitoi suggested to her South African counterpart Maite Nkoana-Mashabane last week that Khama's scheduled visit to South Africa to meet Zuma should be postponed because by then Zuma might have been removed from office by the Democratic Alliance's no-confidence vote in Parliament.

Gang of four arrested for robberies in Mbabane

he Royal Swaziland Police Service has arrested a gang of four robbers who terrorised residents of St. Mark's and Thembelihle.

The gang is said to have been arrested on Friday around Mbabane and they face charges of house breaking and theft.

This is according to the Acting Police Information Communications Officer (PICO), Assistant Superintendent Phindile Vilakati who however stated the gang was yet to appear in court.

"The gang was arrested on Friday around Mbabane and have been charged with house breaking and theft for crimes committed around St. Marks and Thembelihle," she said.

Worth noting is that this time of the year is one where the number of robberies, house breaking, and theft cases rise.

According to records from the magistrate's courts, 25 cases involving theft have been heard in recent months.

This is for the last three months of the year with this year having around 14 cases already, while there were 27 in the past year and 24 for

Also, in the past four months police managed to make a number of breakthroughs in house breaking and theft cases, notable ones being that of two men that were sentenced to a collective 29 years by Judge Qinisile Mabuza.

This was in relation to a string of robberies committed around Thembelihle and the duo was further convicted to attempted murder and seven counts of robbery.

Another case was that of two

Mozambique nationals that were charged with terrorising Mbabane residents. These were alleged to have stolen items worth over E850 000 and were slapped with 43 counts.

They were said to have been mainly targeting town houses occupied by high profile individuals where they made away with valuable items mainly LCD television screens.

In the last two weeks, only three cases have been heard at the court within the period in which a daring robbery within the city centre's Pick n Pay. However, a week later, the culprits have still not been found.

Vilakati confirmed there haven't been any developments in as far as the matter is concerned.

"Nothing has been found as yet, but investigations are still ongoing as we seek to find the culprits," she

The shop was discovered to have been robbed last week Saturday when workers arrived for their daily responsibilities only to be met by members of the royal Swaziland Police Service conducting investigations. It was robbed together with the shop's bottle store and coffee

The robbery of the shop saw customers only getting access into the shop four hours later although investigations were still ongoing to also ascertain what had been stolen.

The thugs were alleged to have broken into the supermarket through the ventilation ducts and the suspicion of the roof top entry was supported by the opening of vents leading to the ducts which lead to the roof of the building.

At the time it was discovered that the robbers had made way with an unidentified amount of coins, cell phones and alcohol estimated to be around E4 000 from the liquor shop.



South Africa President Jacob Zuma and Botswana President lan Khamain.

According to the Sunday Times, she told Venson-Moitoi that Zuma would still be securely ensconced in office on Friday. Khama duly

Whether Khama really thought the ANC was about to jettison Zuma or was just mischievously highlighting Zuma's domestic political predicament is not clear. Either way, it clearly irritated Pretoria enormously.

As had Botswana's criticism of Pretoria's decision to leave the ICC. South Africa's High Commissioner to Botswana and the Southern African Development Community

(SADC) Mdu Lembede told the Sunday Standard that "nobody can tell us about encouraging impunity. Nobody has a right to say that".

He noted pointedly that on June 30 2003 Botswana had signed a Bilateral Immunity Agreement with the United States, pledging not to extradite American citizens to the ICC. Lembede no doubt intended to underscore South Africa's apparent perception that Botswana is a stooge of the US.

Pretoria also believes that Khama is not committed to the continent, is not a "pan-Africanist".

- ISS Today

INSIDE EZULWINI COUNCIL MESS

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE AND MLON-**DI MPANZA**

November 20, 2016

receding the events that led to Minister of Housing and Urban Development Phiwayinkhosi Mabuza suspending the Ezulwini Council on Friday, this newspaper understands that the situation within the Council had deteriorated to such bad levels that his directives were

At the height of this breakdown in the relationship between Council and the management of the municipality is a flouted appointment of a company for 'conflict resolutions', which is understood to have been part of the motivation for the minister to launch an enquiry into the Council operations.

The minister had instructed that Council engage in a conflict resolution exercise, as a means to resolve the differences among the councillors.

In a letter dated October 28, 2016, the minister gave an instruction to the effect that the council should facilitate the appointment of a neutral service provider to undertake the conflict resolution exercise while council's business respecting this impasse and any other matters incidental was to be put on hold. The council however proceeded with the deliberations on November 1, 2016 which has also been viewed as improper by the resigned councillors, top lawyer Zweli Jele and Bongiwe Mbingo, which they raised in a detailed letter addressed to Minister Mabuza, just days before they handed in their resignations.

Chairperson of the Ezulwini Council Busi Bhembe is accused of having flouted procedure in attempting to carry out the minister's directive by singlehandedly awarding an open-ended contract to a software solutions' company. This is based on the fact that the appointing letter which this publication has seen is addressed to one Duma Dlamini, the Managing Director of Software Solutions located at Sokhamlilo Building in Mbabane.

"The Local Authority is desirous of engaging the services of an independent consultant to provide conflict resolution remedies to the Council and the management of the Local Authority following recent occurrences that have left the relations between the two parties strained. At an Ordinary Council meeting held on September 22, Council in the presence of Ministry officials resolved that the Chairperson in consultation with the honourable minis How council defied Minister Council Chairperson Busi lied

... 'Fellow councillors have ulterior motives disciplining Ezulwini CEO'

→he two Ezulwini Councillors who have since resigned amid L the institution of the Commission of Enquiry into the affairs of the Council questioned the motives of their fellow councillors in disciplining Chief Executive Officer Vusi Matsebula.

This is contained in the eight page letter that was written by the councillors days before they handed in their resignation letters. The two councillors who resigned are top lawyer Zweli Jele and Bongiwe Mbingo.

"It is conceivable that some of these allegations violate fundamental principles of discipline as not only are they long standing (and were known to the Council) but have also been addressed (thus violating the principles of double jeopardy). This then leads to the inescapable conclusion that the motivation for this 'disciplinary process' at this stage lies elsewhere. It is telling that they come after the CEO has raised governance concerns, and other Councillors have alluded to certain

ter appoint an independent consultant and subsequent to that a meeting took place on September 28 wherein the Council chairperson and the honourable minister elected to appoint your firm to offer the services," reads the letter.

Quote

The letter continues to request the company's managing partner to request a quote for his services although the letter already states that Dlamini's company is being appointed to provide the said services.

The managing partner of 'Software Solutions' company was to address issues such as the strained relationship between the Council and management, the Local Authority's procurement procedures, and the Local Authority's recruitment processes. However, it seems the Mayor went overboard in her decision to appoint the company as she cited the minister's name in the agreement of appointing the com-

As such, Minister Mabuza acted swiftly in distancing himself from this appoint-

Ezulwini Mayor Busi Bhembe.

institutional challenges," reads part of the letter. The councillors resigned are against the resolution by the Council to challenge the letter of insubordination written to them by the Minister of Housing and Urban Development, hence their resignations. Matsebula has been slapped with 11 allegations after the council held meetings which resolved that CEO should be called upon to show cause why he should not be suspended pending the investigation of the serious allegations of misconduct against him.

ment. In response, Mabuza put it on record that never at any point did he give directive or approval of the appointment to the said company. This is contained in a letter signed by the minister addressed to the chairperson of the council.

"To this date, I am in possession of a copy of your letter to one of the conflict resolution service providers insinuating that I, in conjunction with your chairperson, approved for the appointment of the subject firm to undertake the conflict resolution workshop.

For the record, may I state categorically clear that never at any time, direct or indirect, approve the appointment of the said subject firm, but only advised the chairperson that they could be considered by the council among other qualifying service providers."

The minister further advised to follow the agreed route of appointing a neutral service provider to undertake the conflict resolution exercise while council business respecting this impasse.

COUNCIL DEFIED MINISTER

and urban to use alternative means in addressing the impasse between the board and the CEO before the institution of the law.

This is contained in a letter that is in possession of this newspaper where the minister clearly communicates his frustration over this act by the Busie Mayisela-Bhembe led board.

"Citation has reference in your act to proceed in a manner not consistent with my directive communicated to you in the meeting of September 19," said Minister Mabuza.

He further states that this communi-

tive by the minister of housing communication by his officers in a Council meeting three days later and eventually a final reiteration in yet another letter dated October, 28, 2016.

Therefore, he pointed out that his office was duty bound to call upon the Council to show cause why he should not invoke Part XII of the Urban Government Act of 1964. It is for these reasons that the minister then directed the council to submit a written response within five working days of receipt of his communication explaining why his directive had been defied in the first place.

In the letter in dispute, Mabuza brings it to the Council's attention that fol-

lowing a meeting with the council, it The Town board defied a direc-cation was followed up with an oral was agreed that the impasse should be first addressed through other means before central Intervention and central control of Act No. 8 of 1969 could be invoked.

After this meeting, the department of Urban Government was directed to go and provide ministerial advice in the council meeting that was scheduled for that same week in which one of the agenda items was to seek a lasting solution to the ongoing Ezulwini administrative impasse. Nonetheless, the chairperson on behalf of the council went on to charge the CEO despite the minister calling for them to use alternative means before resorting to such.

Government should stop using colonial General Orders - TEAQ

BY MLONDI MPANZA

he impasse between the government and the allegedly underpaid teachers is far from over as recent developments have seen the latter calling for the former to stop using colonial general orders in concern to their matter.

They assert the current era was one which was based on human and workers right, therefore acts of practising unfair labour practice should stop and it was high time this was embraced by politicians and policy makers.

This was said by TEAQ's Secretary and Publicity Officer Mcolisi Motsa on behalf of the aggrieved teachers who a few months ago launched a campaign namely TEAQ meaning, "TO EACH ACCORDING TO QUALIFICATIONS (TEAQ)," to voice their concerns.

"Government through the Ministry of Public Service should liaise with the Ministry of Education to stop this. The government should stop using colonial general orders. We shall incorporate & mobilise other dornestic & international social partners on this. We're going to ILO if push comes to a shove," he said.

Certification

The campaign mainly consists of teachers who hold degrees in Bachelor of Education and Humanities, as well as other equivalent certification but employed on contract basis. Those aggrieved are also holders of degree qualifications who continued to obtain their Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE/PGDE).

The teachers are not happy over the fact that they are allegedly underpaid - a situation that made them not to be eligible for promotions since they were wrongly employed in primary schools.

The allegations are to the effect that those without the PGCE were not entitled to any workers right such as basic allowances like housing, travelling, and maternity

Motsa added they remained resolute on their stand and all they are calling for is for the government to revisit labour laws such as the Employment Act of 1980, the amended Industrial Relations Act of 2000, and relevant United Nations Conventions with respect to their matter.

He said a close reading of these documents with 'proper lenses' and political will inter-woven on same would help them better understand what they are concerned about.

Motsa said, "It's not about secondary posts or primary posts but our arguments are based on principles of fairness.

Our case is one of an unfair labour practice. The relevant authorities should introspect themselves on same to get to the gist of the dispute; nonetheless, let's meet in dispute resolution mechanisms the very same government has established to find closure on same."

In furtherance, the matter at hand is attributed to the last salary review for civil servants that took place over a decade ago when Primary Teacher's Certificate (PTC) holders were left out together with those on contracts. It is alleged the exclusion came with bad working conditions for them.

Efforts

Numerous efforts by the men and women who play a significant role in shaping the society have been hitting a snag as they have tried to report their concerns to the Teaching service Commission (TSC) and convened a high delegation from both the TSC and Ministry of Public Service to the Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) but all have been fruit-

They have also petitioned the relevant offices and they are not getting any help.

DR A.T ENCOURAGES UNISWA ALUMNI TO GO INTO FARMING

BY LUNGELO NKAMBULE

peaking at the second instalment of the UNISWA Alumni Gala Dinner on Friday night Dr Absalom Themba Dlamini encouraged the University Alumni and friends of Uniswa Foundation to go into farm-

Making his remarks Dlamini, who recently received a honorary doctorate from the University of Swaziland said agriculture in the country still needed more people to venture into it. "I would like to encourage you to night that you venture into agriculture because not only does it make you a lot of money but it also helps curb unemployment," he said.

He said he too was a small scale farmer and he was able to employ a few Swazis to work in his farm. Dlamini said he loved farming because it was always important considering that everything that human beings consume are products of farming.

"It is good that we weren't to school and are qualified but it is more important to venture in something that is always reliable like farming," he continued.

Dlamini then said he was happy for Mbabane people who learnt of water cultivation in the times they had no water. "I hear Mbabane people speak about water cultivation and I am happy. This is a branch of farming and one can only hope this will encourage them into the field of farming.," he said. He went on to say that now that they had bought water tanks they had more reason to go into it. "They have the tanks now, they must use them for farming," he said.

Dlamini was the guest of honour at



The guest of honour Dr A.T Dlamini addresses the audience. This was during the UNISWA Alumni Gala on Friday night. (Pics: Lungelo Nkambule)

the dinner hosted by Uniswa Foundation, an office put in place to help the University to come up with money to maintain the University and help it achieve its goal to be the international University of choice.

Dlamini said everyone who was in attendance had a role in helping the University achieve this through the Foundation.

Speaking on behalf of the Vice Chancellor Pro-Vice Professor Mgidi Dlaminisi said the work that was done by the foundation in the University was very visible and they were very proud and happy of the work they had

done. Dlamini further encouraged the Foundation to work harder in helping the University achieve their goal.

"The foundation has a mandate to improve our structure and they are doing well at it, we see the road construction going on," he said.

Acting CEO of the foundation Vulindlela Simelane who was applauded for being so passionate about Uniswa and improving it thanked everyone for working with the foundation.

"Everything is made possible because of the contributions you make to the foundation," he said when welcoming everyone to the event.

...Govt maintains there are no posts in high schools espite the numerous

calls for government to pay all teachers according to qualifications, the government maintains there are no posts in high schools.

This is because the teachers claim to be underpaid in their current primary school posts when they are in possession of degrees that enable them to teach in high schools rather.

In the latest developments, this has been said by the Director of Education, Dr Sibongile Mtshali during a telephonic interview on her stance on the teachers concerns.

The director said at present there were no posts available in high schools hence they found themselves in primary school posts in the interim.

"Then once you are in a primary school posts, your remuneration package will be equivalent to the post regardless of the fact that you hold a degree or not," said Dr. Mtshali.

In simpler terms, she said there were no jobs for degreed teachers; rather jobs were available in primary school posts which paid at diploma scale that is used to pay the teachers who are in such posts.

Her sentiments are similar to those shared by the Minister of Education, Dr. Phineas Magagula in a previous interview where he also pointed out that the situation had been caused by the unavailability of the relevant posts for the teach-

Therefore, he said these teachers were paid according to post and not qualifications because of this stance faced by the government.



Fincorp employees enjoying themselves at the event(I-R) Nothemba Hlanze, Mfanfikile Titus Dlamini, Justice Simelane, Lomalangeni Kunene, Sifiso Nxumalo, Bayanda Thwala and Innocent Thwala



Dr A.T Dlamini was not only the guest speaker as he walked away the biggest winner of the night. Dlamini out bidded all in attendance to take home this portrait home.





Programme Director Gciniwe Fakudze and Uniswa foundation Acting CEO Vulindela Simelane address the audience on how the silent auction will go. KPMG employees Noklinda Dube(I) and Nono Dine(r) also attended the dinner.

Road construction delays event..

he Uniswa Gala Dinner was delayed by almost two hours. The event which was meant to start at 7pm was kicked off at exactly 8:45pm.

Taking on the podium to signal the beginning of the event programme Director Gciniwe Fakudze who is a friend of Uniswa said she would not apologise for the late start because this was Swaziland sending the audience into a fit of laughter.

She said the event wasn't really late but was on Swazi time. "You know we are on Swazi time, so we are covered, I am not apologising," she said jokingly.

Fakudze who directed the proceedings of the event smoothly pleaded with everyone to be patient as she would make sure that everything now ran smoothly, and it did.

Acting CEO of Uniswa Foundation who were the hosts of the event said when addressing the audience, unlike the Programme Director I will apologise.

"Gciniwe will not apologise but I will. We started late because most people were stuck in traffic on their way here due to the gate road construction which is being done by the foundation," he explained.

The traffic was caused by the road construction which runs from Kwaluseni Campus main gate up to the chapel. The usual main gate has been closed and a temporary gate just before the Ludzeludze turn has been opened, this therefore means getting to Ligcabho Lemaswati where the event was took a bit longer than normal and this also meant little parking space at the usual admin parking. Many of those in attendance were not aware of the construction and they were turned back at the main gate.

Fakudze also informed the audience that she was also turned back at the gate.

"I was turned back at the gate and I when I finally got in I was so intent on telling Vuli a thing or two. The moment I alighted from my car he said you were delayed by our work and that was it, I couldn't say anything more," she said.

Lightning strikes brothers, kills one

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

wo young brothers who attend Nsulutane Primary School were yesterday struck by lightning while walking in along the road in Emvembili, a small community situated in Nsulutane in Malindza. Storm

According to a witness, the electric storm which occurred yesterday moming was severe in that several bolts of lightning were seen in the sky before

He said one of the boys died immediately while the other survived with minor injuries.

The deceased (13) died: while the younger brothe Dvuba boys was rushed

Passengers escape three bus accidents in Mahlar & ha

ahlangatsha residents continue to be plagued by bad roads which become impassable during the rainy season and things came to the fore yesterday when three buses lost

The gutted roads are a bane of resident's existence as they have revealed how they usually wait for hours on end for the mud to harden before embarking on their daily journeys.

The road leading to Mahlangatsha from the Mankayane-Sicunusa road is un tarred and hardly ever maintained. Indvuna Yenkhundla Mduduzi Fakudze revealed how three buses slid on the slick mud leading near the kaDvuba station just before the Inkhundla Centre. Of the four buses servicing the area, three nearly landed on their side while trying to negotiate the slippery part of

"In the morning, two buses headed to Manzini slipped and had to abandon their journey to Manzini after being ... as buses slide at same spot, stopping in precarious positions

affected mechanically. These were Phakama and Mazizi buses," he said. He was called after reports of an accident which occurred at around 4pm surfaced.

He revealed that the afternoon accident involved another Mazizi bus which services the Gege Mahlangatsha route.

"This is getting dangerous as passengers tried to escape from the windows while the bus was in motion due to the fear at the way the bus was meandering before it halted against the embankment," he said during a telephonic interview. He pleaded with the ministry of public works to look into their area's roads as they were usually cut off during heavy rains due to low lying bridges.

"Not only do we have to deal with oad road which are heavily gutted, the bridges cut us off," he said.



A bus that slide on the Mahlangatsha road.



A man of Bulandzeni lost his line after his car was rammed into by a bus styled Izigi Zendoda

Bus rams into U-turning BMW, killing driver

49 man of Bulandzeni lost cles and chatted while parked parhis life after his car was rammed into by a bus styled Izigi Zendoda as he made a U-turn along the Yithi Abantu road yesterday morning before 10 O'clock.

A witness who identified himself as Bhembe said the driver of the BMW had pursued a sprinter towards the direction of New Village after leaving ka-Shali where he usually left his car with a mechanic for fixing.

"The two drivers stopped their vehi-

allel on the road near the last curve just before New Village and had a conversation after which the sprinter left heading towards Manzini," Bhembe said.

Misjudged

He said the driver of the BMW then made a u-turn to return to ka-Shali via Mkhiweni after misjudging the on-coming bus which was from Manzini heading to Mhlosheni. "I think he was affected by the red mist

as he misjudged the bus' speed and distance and it rammed into his side," Bhembe said.

He revealed that the driver was rushed to hospital while still alive but barely conscious.

On the other hand, Acting Chief Police Information Communication Officer Phindile Vilakati said the driver succumbed to death as he was pronounced dead on arrival at the Raleigh Fitkin Memorial Hospital.

RSSC PLANS ON EXPANSION WORTH E1.4BILLION

...This includes five to six thousand hectares inside and outside Swaziland to increase on their sugar production.

BY MLONDI MPANZA

◄he Royal Swaziland Sugar Corporation (RSSC) is planning on expanding their empire in a move that will be worth around E1.4billion in order to increase their production.

This is inclusive of around five to six thousand hectares in and out of Swaziland as the company seeks to be the world's blong tually not have anyone interested in

largest producer of sugar method in deather cutting.

This move is also set to impact most laid. He even went to the extent of makely on the case out the contract that the contract the contract ly on the cane cutters as this comes and an example by pointing out that with the introduction of machinery that will do their job and this was revealed by the corporation's Managing Director, Nick Jackson during a media tour of

the Simunye production plant on Friday. However, he explained this was part of the company's plans for the future

and added this would only at the happen if the country's economy improves because that will mean the cane cutters will get similar if not better paying jobs in different sectors.

"This is not to say we want to push them out but already we have been see. inga

decline in the numbers because they find better jobs such as in the construction industry and the introduction of machinery will act more of an alternative option for the company," he said.

Jackson said it could take at-least 20 years for this to happen so by means of the machinery they are trying to prepare for times when they would even-

here was no parent who dreamed of having their children work in the fields as cane cutters, instead they had high hopes for their children.

Reference was also made to Brazil and Australia which are one of the leading countries in sugar production where it was said machinery was used instead of man power.

But, the managing director assured the public that no jobs will be lost in the near future as they will continue to engage cane cutters to do the

In fact, he revealed that the company employed 1 900 people on a permanent basis, whilst they engaged around 2 500 people as casuals seasonally depending on the

> Further, Jackson presented on the future plans of the company from which he said they were looking at increasing their cane production as means of increasing their sugar production to

reduce the unit

time of the year.

Managing Director, Nick Jackson.

He said, "If we manage to produce more of the cane on our own, it would mean that the unit cost will drop and that would be good for the market."

At present moment, the company gets its cane from farmers around the area and from Malkerns, as well as produce their own.

Jackson said they will also be working on adding value to their by-products such as ethanol, packaging, and stillage, to name a few.

He further went on to reveal that the company was the largest drip irrigated farm in the world with 13 hectares contrary to the previously used method called Center-pivot irrigation. This is also called waterwheel and circle irrigation and it's a method of crop irrigation in which equipment rotates around a pivot and crops are watered with sprinklers

One of the reasons they had ventured into the new method was that the previous one was wasteful when it came to water usage. He said it was also expensive in terms of electricity usage too.

Meanwhile, the director told of how they managed to keep all cane alive in the midst of the drought that was faced by the country in the past year which saw their only source of water, Mnjoli dam running from full capacity to only five per cent of water.

Despite these conditions, he said they managed to record 3.5 million tonnes of cane due to what he termed as 'good management'. By this, he said they managed to save around E200million in costs they would have incurred for replanting the cane.

On another note, the MD revealed that if the Swaziland Electricity Regulatory Authority (SERA) approves the proposed electricity hike of 20.2 per cent, the bill for RSSC will escalate to E10 million monthly.

Currently, he said the company used electricity worth around E8 million per month and if their plans go according to plan they will be able to produce their own energy and probably export it in the near future.

.....Employees to lose bonus for every accident

mployees of the corporation will all lose their bonuses in ■ the event an accident occurs within the company.

This is in efforts to minimise on the number of accidents, particularly fatal ones from happening within the sugar producing company.

In recent times, the company recorded three fatalities one of which was the death of Lucky Sifundza who was crushed to death by the Sugar Mill at his place of employment on May 23,

2012.

"We regret these fatalities and are working very hard to avoid these from happening in the near future. As means of reducing these, we have agreed that employees will be charged for every accident that occurs within the company," said Jackson.

This is regardless of whether an employee was present or not within the premises when the accident happened but all employees will lose money for concentration.

Of note, all three fatalities happened at the Mhlume Mill which is said to be the largest production mill in the

The manager made these sentiments when explaining on issues about safety precautions being undertaken by the company which he also explained in statistic. He said from April up to date there had been no fatalities from 10 millions hours of work where they only had 61 accidents that were however not fatal.

Hydro-electricity production resumes

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

¬he recent rains have spelt good fortune for the Swaziland Electricity Company as hydro-electricity production resumed last week Monday.

Due to severe drought which came about due to the El Nino effect, SEC had ceased production of electricity in the country after water levels dropped while the phenomenon prevailed.

During the peak of the drought, interventions such as de-silting of the Mkinkomo Wier, a water storage facility situated at the Matsapha Industrial Site from which water gets channelled to Dwaleni Hydro Power Station, were initiated. This was purposed to increase the carrying capacity of the weir in preparation for the rainy season which started last month resulting in the resumption of production at the 15MW plant which last produced electricity in October last year.

SEC Communication Officer Khaya Mavuso revealed production resumed this week, albeit as a cost mitigating measure as they only produce during peak hours.

Responding to a questionnaire on Friday, Mavuso stated the de-silting project of the weir which had

been choked by several metres of silt was halted following the positive amounts of rain received over the past few weeks.

"In essence, this means we have stopped the de-silting project at Mkinkomo weir in Matsapha, where we were increasing the capacity to store water for generation purposes," he said adding how the project had initially been expected to be fully completed in January 2017. "We are taking advantage of the available water to generate electricity so as to reduce import costs from our neighbouring countries," he

He revealed, however, that other hydro power stations were not operational due to differing reasons.

He revealed how Maguga Dam, despite the increased rains, did not have enough water for electricity generation. On the other hand, Ezulwini Hydro Power Station supplied by Luphohlo Dam was not producing any electricity due to the water being saved for increased demand which is usually noted during winter. However, Mavuso cautioned, "despite that we have resumed generation in the selected hydro power stations, we still encourage customers to use electricity efficiently and effectively so as to reduce the demand."

Country has capacity to produce 100 per cent electricity, more

ountry has capacity to produce 100 per cent electricity and

Despite importing 80 per cent of _ more electricity. the country's electricity demand, several projects have indicated that the country has potential to produce more than what is useS locally.

This past week saw the touring of the Lower Maguduza Hydro Power Plant which is set to supply 12 MW above the current maximum 60MW production of hydro-electricity. The Royal Swaziland Sugar Corporation (RSSC) stated how they envisaged producing 100MW electricity from green power by maximising usage of things like sugarcane trash.

Presentation

The Managing Director Nick Jackson revealed this during his presentation entitled 'RSSC and the Power Utility at Malandelas in Malkerns in September before Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) stakeholders.

The MD explained how their over 23 000 hectares of sugar cane and sugar mills needed 44-46 million kWh which they mostly used towards irrigations having embraced dripirrigation. He further revealed how they further used 20MW in their estates which they could meet in the event they fully utilised the tops and trash which got burnt during harvesting. He noted their over 23 000ha could produce in excess of 257 600 tonnes cane and 34 000 tonnes sugar. He revealed there were three sugar mills and several timber producers which could look into hydro and solar production.

"In theory we could produce sufficient power to make Swaziland a 100 per cent green power producer," he said. On the other hand, several

memorandums of understanding have been signed with different companies which envisage producing

Signed

In September, United States of America company, Zoetic Energy, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with government through the Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC) which envisages to generate 200 megawatts (MW) of electricity at an estimated cost of about US\$600 million (about E8.5 billion).

The company is expected to deploy a fully-fledged team to explore precisely how much electricity can be generated by surveying the river system and determining their various speed and

According to the hydrokinetic energy company's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Jerome Ringo the electricity that will be enough for the country's consumption with the surplus produced being exported to other countries in

Signed

Last month, the country signed another MoU with JSW Energy through government. During the signing of the memorandum, it was revealed that the Indian company will bring an investment of about E7 billion to establish the first ever thermal power plant in the country. The country imports 80 per cent of its electricity from neighbouring South Africa as well as Mozambique.

Current hydro generation capacity per power station:

Maguga: 20 MW (33 per cent) Edwaleni: 15 MW (31 per cent) Ezulwini: 20 MW (22.4 per cent) Maguduza: 5 MW (13.6 per cent)

CONFUSION REIGNS SUPREME OVER MOTSHANE CHIEFTAINCY

BY MLONDI MPANZA

onfusion reigned supreme yesterday at the Nduma Royal Resident as residents demanded to know the rightful inner council that should be used in the area.

This was subsequent news delivered to the residents by a council led by Acting Chief Mdokwana Shongwe and Indvuna Nakani Mkhonta who alleged to have been given the authority to do so by the Ludzidzini Council.

The confusion was brought about by the fact that there were now two inner councils, one from each of the two factions currently fighting for power.

On one side is Princess Salaphi, who is a mother to the late Chief Sipho Shongwe whilst on the other hand is the council led by the wife to the late chief and a senior member of the Shongwe family.

In the heated meeting that was quickly adjourned to avoid further confusion as residents demanded to know who they should listen to and seek help from now that there were two inner councils.

This was responded to the former member of parliament of the area, Robert Magongo who said the



Former Member of Parliament of the area, Robert Magongo.

news delivered to them had made it clear on who they should recognise at the rightful council, referring to the Mkhonta led one.

He said this was in accordance to the order issued at Ludzidzini that the Princess should be stripped of her powers of overseeing the area, despite allegedly being given the right to do so over five months ago by Hhohho Regional Administrator, Prince Tshekedi who had been allegedly sent by the very same Ludzidzini Council.

It is for these reasons that the res-

idents wanted this to be made clear so they know who their leaders were because this issue touched on the chiefdoms stamp which they could not access since it was with the late chief's mother.

At some point, the Shongwe family present at the meeting told the over 100 residents they were going to meet as the family and come back with feedback and the residents heard none of this as they wanted to leave knowing what was happening in as far as the matter is concerned

"Since the chief passed away, there have been many confusing incidents displayed within the Shongwe family. We really do not know who is who because everyone claims to be part of the rightful inner council hence we would like the council that has convened us here to give us a clear direction as to who is who here," asserted a resident.

Another said that if they were to allow the family to go and deliberate on the issue while they remained in the dark, this would further cause more problems as there was a possibility by the time they came back they would have gone a long way with the council led by the Princess.

"If you provide room for someone else to take us far, we will not think again about that as we will do as they say. It is unfortunate that the area should be progressing but all we seem to be doing is taking lots of steps backwards because of this infighting," added the residents.

In addition, it was said that although there was a new inner council that had served for some period but the truth of it all was that the one led by Mkhonta deserves to be in power as each and every one of the residents particulars were to the effect that their headman was him and the country's systems recognised him too.

...Forget about old stamp; make us new one – residents

he incoming council has been told to forget about the stamp in possession of Princess Salaphi.

This was said by residents who told the council that had been replaced by another under the leadership of the Princess for a couple of months that they should create a new one

Creating a stamp has never been a problem, you simply go to town where its done and make the request. That's all that has to be done and it should be different from the one in her possession," said a resident.

This was met by mixed feelings from the residents as some were of the impression it would not be possible to do such because there were protocols to be observed in doing

But, a majority of the residents begged to differ as they said doing a new stamp would be the best way of addressing the issue of the stamp currently held by Princess Salaphi.

Of note, the matter of the stamp dates back to seven months ago when Mike Shongwe, an elder of the ruling faction accused Princess Salaphi of refusing to surrender the area's official staffip to the acting Chief Mdokwane Shongwe who they had appointed.

He alleged the princess was refusing to surrender power to the incumbent chief and further banning certain members of the family from the setting foot at the chiefdom.

Mamba also revealed they were frustrated by the fact that they could not do anything as the authorities since Princess Salaphi was holding onto it, despite the fact that it was supposed to have been surrendered to Ndabazabantu in Mbabane who was expected to keep it until the matter had been solved.

KaShewula farmers worried about porous cordon line

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

·hile farmers around the country are looking at improving their herds, those from Shewula are worried about the porous cordon line which has rendered them unable to sell their animals.

Shewula is situated along the Lubombo Plateau and borders Mozambique and the cordon fence situated along the border has rendered control of the cattle unmanageable.

According to Lomahasha Indvuna Yenkhundla Mncedisi Matsenjwa, farmers had incidences of cattle roaming into Mozambican territory and when they returned, they were captured by veterinary workers who stated they should be quarantined due to having entered suspected foot and mouth territory.

"Farmers had their cattle quarantined at Maphiveni for about two months after their cattle had their blood works taken to South Africa for testing.

On return, the cattle were found to be free of the disease. However, whenever they tried to sell them they were told about a ban on the movement of their cattle," he said while pleading for something to be done about the livestock control fence.

He said it was confusing for the farmers who were told to reduce livestock numbers while they were stopped from selling their stock.

"With the year coming to an end, most farmers hope to sell their livestock in order to reduce rising numbers as well as well as earn some money, however, this ban has caused them grief," he said. When asked about the cordon line, Minister of Agriculture Moses Vilakati said it was not just a problem faced by farmers in Shewula.

Money divides Mantenga performers

BY MLONDI MPANZA

he adage that money is the root of evil is proving to be true in the case of performers of Mantenga Cultural Village who are on each other's throats over payments for their performance. In fact, the performers are pointing at one of their own for all their troubles that they allege was robbing them of their hard earned money.

This is according to sources who spoke to this newspaper after they had been made aware of the rot that had since caused a division within the group.

The sources revealed a tangible fraction of the group was aggrieved over a number of issues that are in relation to their payments. "The whole trouble started when the employer decided to pay them through the issuance of a single cheque that is deposited to one of them.

This particular person is now causing

the division in that they allege he is robbing them when making the payments," said the source. It is alleged this person known to this newspaper does not forward to their benefits that include bonuses and overtime allowances yet the employer makes a provision of

The performers are also aggrieved over the fact that they claim to have been sold a false dream when engaged in that they were made to believe their tourists, however things turned to be This was because following to

duties would be mainly entertaining

engagement they were informed that part of their duties would include doing all the village's domestic chores and it was late for them to withdraw by that

The accused is also alleged of not giving them overtime allowances as there were times where they knock off work around midnight depending on the schedule of tourists billed to make a stop at the entertainment centre.

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

normer pupils of Lubombo Central High School have come together to form an alumni association which seeks to tackle various challenges faced by their former learning institution.

The alumni is calling upon all former pupils of the school to a meeting next Saturday to be held at the school premises which its aim is kick starting and expanding the association with former pupils who completed in all years.

Noted

Former pupil Mary-Anne Stevenson said the concept came about after some of the former pupils noted a need to take action which will reflect where the school comes from and where it is

The invitation is extended to all former pupils who completed in all years. The alumni behind this idea have noted in the early 70s Lubombo Central High School was the only school in the region and pupils from most of the secondary schools ended up completing their studies there hence their alumni consists

Lubombo Alumni to unite to assist school



Lubombo Central High School alumni who have started the association for all former pupils to a meeting next week Saturday. (Pic: Noxolo Nkabinde)

of 'Lucentra Legends.'

The school has, since that period, been known for its excellence in the academic world and in the sports fraternity.

The school has produced the likes of

High Court Justice Mzwandile Fakudze. Advocate Lucas Maziya, UNISWA Lecturer Dr Milton Mkhabela, Veterinary Surgeon Dr Bernard Dlamini, Premier League Swaziland Chairman and businessman Victor Gamedze, to

OTHER FORMER PUPILS OF THE SCHOOL;

- Lugongolweni Member of Parliament Joseph Souza
- Ambassador Mlondi Diamini Principal Magistrate J. Gumede
- Ministry of Defence Principal Secretary, Mr A Mathabela
- Entrepreneur and Galp Filling Station Director Issofu Calu SMAOQ Consultant Director Mavela
- Sigwane
- Industrial Relations Expert Mhawu Maziya
- Managing Director of N.E firm of Attorneys Attorney Mzobanzi Dłamini

mention a few.

Alumnus of the school Justice Fakudze said they had a lot to share with the current students and offer some motivational talks to them.

The other aim of the association is to assist the school in any way they can. The short meeting will start at 9.30 on November 26.



Vetkoek and Mahoota.

'Swazi artists should infiltrate South African Music Industry'

BY LUNGELO NKAMBULE

he legendary Mahoota (53) has implored Swazi artists and deejays to infiltrate the South African music industry.

Speaking to this publication yesterday a few hours after his arrival in the country, Mahcota born Zane Sibika said Swaziland had the necessary talent to infiltrate Africa but they should use the South African industry as a platform to make a name for their pusic

"Look at the Nigerian guys they have penetrated the music industry in South Africa and now their music is big. Not just in South Africa but the rest of Africa," he said. He said because they knew what they wanted, the Nigerian musicians had moved to South Africa to make sure that their music gained momentum. "We have a great platform, they know that so they moved, we have guys like Davido who have moved to South Africa on a permanent basis, they have homes though," he said.

He further said they needed to be passionate enough to take whatever hardships came with the industry. "I know about two or three people from here who are pushing and working real hard to make a name for Swazi artists that side.

What Swazi artists must know is that there is room for everyone and our market is very welcoming just as long as you know your story."

The artist cum deejay who has been in the industry for so long attributed his long stay in the industry to passion.

"Like I am saying, you need to be passionate about what you are doing, I love this industry, I love music that is where I get my staying power from," he said.

He said it was therefore important for Swazi artists to love the music so that they could last. "They can infiltrate the industry if they are not doing it out of love for the music then they won't last. I don't do it for the money and the glam life, all that is just a bonus," he explained.

Mahoota also spoke about the power of taking care of yourself. "I do medical check-ups every now and then, so I know where I stand in terms of my health.

"I do everything so I know what my body needs," he said.

He further said this was the reason he looked younger than he really is.

Vetkoek (39) who is the playful one of the two said he had also seen great talent in the country. "They are talented they just need to believe that," he said. Speaking about his working relationship with Mahoota and what made it stand the test of time, Vetkoek credited that to respect.

"We have mutual respect for each other and we understand each other.

"It all goes down to respect. It is the respect between us that keeps us together," he said. He then said they also understood that they brought different factors to the table.

"He is an artist and I am DJ so we make those two things work in harmony. The reason we work is simply because of that," he said.

The two gentlemen said they were above all excited to be performing in Swaziland.

"We can never get enough of being in the country, the people here are beautiful," they said.



PRIZES WORTH OVER

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

utstanding entrepreneurs in the country were once again honoured and celebrated at the Entrepreneur of The Year Awards Gala Dinner that was held at Esibayeni Lodge on Friday evening.

14 Entrepreneurs were awarded with prizes worth over E480 000 at the dazzling annual event.

Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini in his remarks which were delivered by Acting Prime Minister Senator Paul Dlamini applauded the competition organisers for continuously increasing the culture of entrepreneurship in the country.

"This competition stimulates the entrepreneurial culture out there in the economy. Positive signals go out to the entrepreneurs and would be entrepreneurs, encouraging them to put as much, if not more energy into starting a business as looking for a job in an employed position. For the country, more enterprise activity spells faster economic growth, from which everyone gains and sends highly encouraging signals to the youth who are the society and economy of tomorrow," he said.

The PM said increasing the numbers of youth participating in competitions such as Junior Achievements and Enactus were getting the opportunity to absorb and develop further the entrepreneurial culture that propels the individual



EYA 2016 Crown winner Lilawu Construction's Bhekisisa Mavimbela inside the Nissan bakkie worth E260 000 which was the grand prize of the competition. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)

be into business activity. He said it was his hope that in the future years of the competition the high school and university alumni who have participated in the competitions take up entrepreneurial careers and motivated to compete for EYA.

Meanwhile, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Jabulani Mabuza also noted that sponsorship for the competition had increased to over E1 million, a significant increase from the E817 000 sponsorship last year. He extended his appreciation to the sponsors, who were also given awards of recognition on the night.

The event sponsors include Swaziland Industrial Development Company (SIDC), Standard Bank, Swaziland National Provident Fund (SNPF), Swaziland Royal Insurance Corporation (SRIC), Macmillan Education, Tee & Jay, Manzana Engineering, IndlelaYekuphila Restaurant, Absa Investments, Swazi Observer, Hi-Press Investments, amongst others.



Small business category winner from Shiselweni Gladys Dlamini accepting her prize with Nontsikelelo Dlamini.



Brenda Nhlengetfwa receiving her cheque, she won under the category of people living with disabilities.



disabilities.

Lubombo small business winner

Mavis Zwane accepting her prize.

E400 000 AT EYA 2016 AWARDS



Tanele Diamini receiving her cheque after winning the Best Street Vendor Award.

...King applauded for visionary leadership

is Majesty King Mswati III has been applauded by South African real estate property development mogul Eric Mabuza who was the guest speaker at the EYA gala dinner. Mabuza, who has completed projects worth almost E7 billion, shared this sentiments as he delivered his talk on the importance of having vision, and visionary leaders.

& NEDBANK

He said Swaziland was lucky to have a leader with a clear vision for the nation. He said people in the country should support His Majesty King Mswati III in implementing this vision for the nation, and celebrate new projects such as the King Mswati III International Airport and the International Convention Centre (ICC) and Five Star Hotel which is currently being constructed as they

were necessary for development.

"In my brief encounter with the King he said 'It is not easy but it must be done.'

"If you have leaders who speak like this about a vision for the country, it shows that you have visionary leaders." Mabuza is also a corporate trainer, management and strategy consultant, leadership coach, advisor and infrastructure development professional.



Rose Maseko of Tshala Seeds was awarded for Agri Entrepreneur of the Year. RIGHT - Nomcebo Dlamini of Nomcebo Sewing and Design won the Most Innovative Entrepreneur Award.



Representatives from Ecosol Investment receiving their cheque as they were awarded for Green Entrepreneur Award.

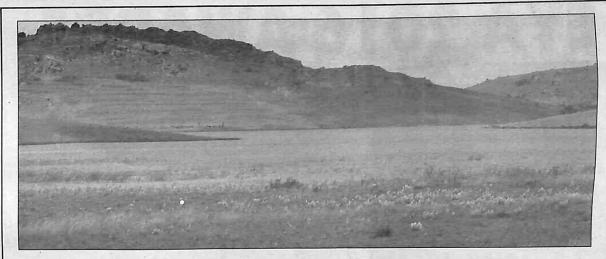
	LIST OF WINNERS					
	Name Tanele Dlamini	Business name Place of Power	Category Street Vendor	Amount E15 000		
	Tsabile Mhlanga	Oxfo Creations	Handicraft	E15 000		
	Brenda Nhlengetfw	a Brenda Investments	People with disability	ties E15 000		
1	Tanele Mphofu	Clothing Design and Boutique	Youth	E15 000		
	Nomcebo Dlamin	i Nomcebo Sewing and Design	Innovative	E15 000		
	Ncamiso Nkambule	Ecosol Investments	Green	E15 000		
	Sibusiso Baartjies	Damatics Swaziland	Technosavvy	E15 000		
	Rose Maseko	Tshala Seeds	Agri Entrepreneur of the Year	E15 000		
	Khetsiwe Mavundla	Nice and Easy Bridal	Micro Entrepreneur of the Year	E17 500		
Salabata S	Phiwokwakhe Mayabane		Manzini Entrepreneur of the Year	E18 000		
	mada dibantand	SMS General Suppliers	Hhohho	E18 000		
	Mavis Zwane	Mangwe Investments	Lubombo Entrepreneur of the Year	E18 000		
	Glady Dlamini	Siyeta Dressmaking	Shiselweni	E18 000		
	Bhekisisa Mavimbel	a Lihawu Construction	Overall	E18 000 plus		







Winners of the awards 1. Micro Entrepreneur Award which was awarded to Nice and Easy Bridal. 2. Hhohho Entrepreneur of the Year award won by SMS General Suppliers and 3. Handicraft Entrepreneur of the Year winner from Oxfo Creations.



Hawane Dam water levels have increased by three percent from the recently received

ADOPT CULTURE OF WATER CONSERVATION

...SWSC pleads as Hawane Dam levels increase by another 3 percent.

He quened on where ' - sa STORIES BY THEMBERA TO ASSIST

Boreholes in Mbabane operational again

espite Hawane Dam water levels rising by another 3 percent over the past week, the Swaziland Water Services Corporation (SWSC) has pleaded that water be used sparingly.

In a statement released yesterday, Public Affairs Manager Nomahlubi Matiwane said the country as a whole was not yet out of the woods as the impact of climate change called for water conservation measures to be ingrained in every body.

She revealed that though the rise of water levels to 18percent could be looked to be positive, it did not by any means open floodgates for wastage. Last week Monday, the corporation revealed how water levels at the dam had increased to 15 percent, levels last witnessed over four months ago.

Issue

The water levels in the reservoir were a thorny issue as the dam was last used while water was at 5percent in August.

ith the Swaziland Water ing to rely on buying water from tanks Services Corporation

ed water rationing in Mbabane, residents with boreholes have revealed how ground water levels had risen The severe water shortage which hit Mbabane did not only affect the

(SWSC) having suspend-

capital's reservoir, Hawane Dam, but underground water levels as well. This resulted in residents who had drilled their own water supply in

places surrounding Mbabane hav-

The capital city and Ngwenya were placed on four day cyclical rationing which was first introduced in January.

"SWSC is appreciative of the rains received in the country in the last couple of weeks as they made notable change in our raw water sources," Matiwane stated in the statement yesterday while reiterating that usage should be within reason.

She stressed that it remained imperative to adopt a culture of water con-

after their boreholes ran dry.

As early as December last year, several residents of Mpolonjeni, Mahwalala and Motjane revealed how their boreholes failed and resorted to other means of getting water such as collecting raw water from rivers, storing it in tanks and purifying it in various ways.

The residents, during the festive season, revealed how they paid E80 per 1000 litres in order to have water for domestic purposes.

servation and utmost respect for this finite resource.

Campaign

"We continue to plead with all water users to use water sparingly and to recycle where possible," she said stressing that the corporation will soon embark on a national behaviour change campaign on water conservation. "We count on the usual support of our customers and all water users," she said.

Effects of drought not yet over

espite the seemingly incessant rains falling in the country as well as the changing landscape looking green, cattle are still dying from hunger.

As recent as three weeks ago, Mbikwakhe farmer Mandlies of groundrive her cattle far and wide in Tshabalala lost two cattle: search of grass.

He confessed to have underestimated the extent of the drought and said he would be carrying on buying bales of hay for them. "They succumbed from hunger," he said when asked about the cattle's cause of death.

Rains

Sabelo Zulu, a farmer from Lavumisa, said despite the rains received, they still had to look after their remaining herds of cattle which were slowly recovering.

"We hear of floods taking place in other areas in the country,

unfortunately, we still have a long way to go before grass grows properly in this area," he said during a telephonic interview.

His views were supported by Malindza based farmer Selina Dlamini who said she had to

The slow recovery of grazing lands has seen some areas in the country continue needing valuable hay bales as farmers in several areas were reported to have last week been presented with them courtesy of World Vision Swaziland supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). It therefore comes as relief for about 6000 farmers from Mpolonjeni, Matsanjeni, Somntongo, Sithobela as well as Shewula, who are set to receive

bales of hay to supplement their livestock feed as drought mitigation measures.

On the other hand, places which have received adequate rainfall have seen farmers turning their cattle to grazing lands which had turned to brown earth several months back.

Lomahasha's Indvuna Yenkhundla Mncedisi Matsenjwa said they were relieved by the rains as their cattle were recovering.

"The grass is looking better and we are positive that the herds will return to their former state," he said yesterday during a telephonic interview.

He was echoed by Siphofaneni Member of Parliament Gundwane Gamedze who said they were thankful to God for intervening with timely rains. "The cattle are looking better," he said yesterday.

Mbabane Council

STORIES BY MLONDI MPANZA AND NOXOLO NKABINDE

n action which took the council over a year to move the family of a four year old boy with webbed hands and feet into a new donated house took the Mbabane Municipal Council exactly one day after the Sunday Observer sent a questionnaire on the same concern.

This publication was pursuing a story concerning the delayed hand over of the house and surgery for four year old *Zwakele Dlamini. The house donation was made two years ago together with funding for Zwakele's operation who was born with a condition called polydactylism and syndactylism referring to a person having too many toes and fingers or fingers and toes that are webbed, courtesy of Umsebe Accord.

Umsebe Accord is a partnership between the municipalities of Matola in Mozambique, Mbabane as well as Mbombela and Nkomazi in Mpumalanga to develop and promote cooperation and understanding between their citizens.

A questionnaire was sent to the Council's Information and Public Relations Officer (IPRO) Lucky Tsabedze on Wednesday morning on the matter, and Tsabedze requested to be shown the house the family was occupying at the time the questionnaire was sent.

The following day, on Friday, the Mbabane Municipal Council sent a truck to the family as they announced that they were ready to move them into the new house that was being occupied by security guards. Until Friday, the family lived

in the stick and mud house that has a roof, with a circumference of atleast five metres and could fall off at anytime, particularly now that it's the rainy season.

When reporters from this publication first paid the family consisting of three children, inclusive of *Zwakele and a bedridden sibling a visit on Tuesday, the three children were found in the dilapidated house on their own with their grandmother said to be at work. She works as a domestic worker to feed her child and grandchildren.

This was before the IPRO singlehandedly handed over the house before being joined by two colleagues including the truck driver.

The reporters had paid a visit to the family following concerns from members of the community who were not happy with the conditions the children lived under after they had been made to believe help was on the way when Umsebe Accord made the donations in the presence of delegates from the Mbabane Council, one of which was the Mayor, Bennito Iones.

They donated money in the region of E300 000 meant for both the construction of the house and the operation, however, up to date only the promise of the house has been met, although the family has not been allowed into it despite that the primary goal of the project was to provide a better place to stay for them. The young boy was said to be abandoned by his mother when he was 18 months old and all his fingers are fused except for his thumbs and he has seven toes on his left foot and eight toes on his right foot but is able to walk.

Where it all started

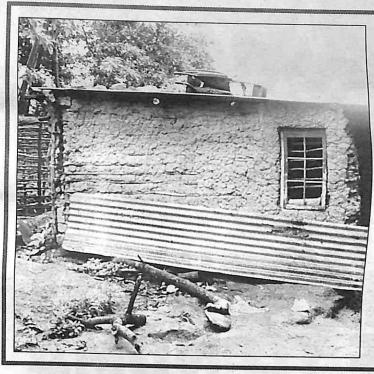




AFRICAN MOTHERLY LOVE: Matola Women's Bank CEO Natividade Bule carrying Zwakele at the construction site.

HOW DEEP CAN YOU GO?: Mbombela Councillor Morris Mazibane, Nkomanzi Councillor Jackie Masiye, Mbabane Municipal Mayor Benito Jones and Matola Presidente Calisto Cossa turning the sod to officially mark the construction of Zwakele's family house.

'dumps' Zwakele's family in new house





BEFORE AND AFTER: Zwakele's former house and the newly built home they moved into.

Residents expressed concern over the welfare of the children, particularly because the presentation by Umsebe Accord had been made public and it was now puzzling as to what was stalling the process to operate the young boy as well as allow them into the new house located at Mahwalala Zone 2.

The concerns are over the fact that it has taken a long period for the boy to have his feet and fingers separated yet funds for the operation had been availed.

The concerned residents who preferred to comment on condition of anonymity allege that the boy was supposed to be operated in one of the hospitals in neighbouring South Africa and also revealed that they had made numerous follow-ups with the councillor who claimed to be struggling to get answers from the Council.

"Someone needs to shed some light on what is stalling the young boy's operation as he cannot even put on shoes because of his situation and this is particularly bad because he now has to go to school and with this situation it means he has to go barefooted," a resident pointed out.

It is alleged that the Council refers all inquiries to Umsebe Accord's offices despite that they should be the point of contact locally especially with the presentation having been done in the presence of Mayor Jones.

When Ward One Councillor Nganono Manyatsi was contacted, he said he was not privy to the reasons why there seemed not to be any action in as far as the boy's operation is concerned.

However, he revealed that, "I am only aware of the fact that the house was supposed to be handed over last month but the event could not take place due to other national commitments that fell on the proposed date before we left for Matola in Mozambique for Umsebe Accord."

Manyatsi added that during the trip to Matola, Umsebe managed to hand over 10 houses that had been built under that municipality and they had been constructed and

handed over after the one meant for Zwakele's family.

The boy lives with his grandmother, who earns E500 a month as a domestic worker and he sometimes wanders away from home searching for food because of insufficient food in the house. Besides surgery and the house, representatives of the municipalities said the beneficiary would also receive religious and psychological support as Umsebe Accord wanted to leave a legacy as they did not want to just donate food but also build houses and also offer psychological support to various needy families in the four countries.

Different businesses showed interest in working with the municipalities in making this a reality.

Chronology of events

Tuesday

Reporters from this publication pay a visit to the family after members of the community raised concerns over the delayed hand over, a year after a donated house for the family was completed.

Wednesday

cerning the pending handover of the house that was completed over a year ago. He was asked reasons for the delay in the hand over, as well as an explanation why the young boy's operation had not happened when funds had been reportedly made available by Umsebe Accord and the Council had to facilitate the processes.

A questionnaire is sent to the IPRO con-

Thursday

The IPRO Lucky Tsabedze calls to inquire about the issues cited in the questions he had been asked to respond to.

He queried on where the said children stayed and asked to be taken to them so he could make his own assessment of the situation.

Upon reaching the place, he displayed gestures that suffice to say he was shocked by what he found. Tsabedze further promised the children he would get them assistance as soon as possible before another stop

was made at the new house where a security guard from 4Him Security Services was found guarding the new compound that is only short of furniture, with running water and electricity.

Friday

The IPRO 'acts swiftly' and contacts the newsroom once again announcing that the council would be handing over the house, only to find him with two colleagues including a truck driver.

The family is assisted to move into their new house and after moving their few clothing items and two blankets, they are left to settle in the house.

Yesterday

A follow up visit was done to see how the family was settling in at their new home where they were found playing around the house in a jolly manner under the guardianship of a relative who was found doing laundry.

The relative was asked on her presence and she revealed that she had been asked by the children's grandmother to look after them as she was away at work and it was noted that she was also preparing something to eat for them as there was a pot on a paraffin stove.

Asked if there had been any visitors since their arrival, she told this newspaper that they had been visited by a woman from the Council who had brought them curtains and the unpreparedness was blamed on the fact that the handover had been planned for tomorrow but due to the situation found by the IPRO on Thursday they saw it fit that they move them in.

It was also stated that a promise to fur-

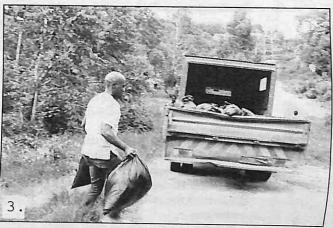
nish the house was made although it could not be ascertained as when exactly this was expected to happen.

The Council's reaction



1: The webbed hands and feet of the young boy who is yet to go through surgery.

2: The home in which the boy lived in before the intervention of Umsebe Accord.





3: The councils' IPRO packing the family's belongings into the back of a truck.4: The IPRO helping the family offload their belongings.

Reality TV finalists demand answers from Fidelis

BY SUNDAY OBSERVER REPORTER

he man who is behind Swazi Reality TV, Xolani Fidelis, has been asked to explain himself on allegations that were posted on social media networks about him.

Unknown users have gone on the platform, Facebook, to post a string of allegations, some which will not be repeated for ethical reasons.

Finalists in the Swazi Reality TV presenter competition have since questioned Fidelis on these allegations in a WhatsApp group that was created for easy communication among them. Among these allegations is that in South Africa he claimed to be a pastor, an allegations which he has since disputed when reached by this publication. Responding in the group, he said all the allegations were 'false and launched to tarnish my image.' While he pleaded with the finalists not to give it any credibility, they continued to question him on whether there was any truth on what was being written about him.

"Why would they want to tarnish your image sir, if wenta intfo lenhle for umphakatsi? there's never smoke without fire and not only did I get this on Facebook but even some fellow Swazi girls that I won't mention can attest to what *the hater* is saying about you," wondered one person.

Fidelis responded by requesting them to be cautious as there was no truth in the claims.

"That page is a hater attempt to tarnish my image. It stops now!" He was also questioned on why the long to which he responded by saying the process was long, like any other business in the country. He further pleaded with them not to take part in these social media talks that were set out to 'ruin his image.'

Responding to questions from this publication, he said he was aware of all the allegations that were being written about him on Facebook. He claims that so serious was the matter that it is being investigated by the South African Police Service (SAPS). "I cannot say much on the matter because it is now with the South African police. The allegations are not true however they are perpetuated by people who are just trying to tarnish my image," he said.

Fidelis got publicity when he came to the country to launch his 'new and innovative' idea of the Swazi Reality TV. He is the founder of a newly established company Swazi Reality Media Pty Ltd, which has been working on a project that seeks to put Swaziland Reality TV on the spotlight.

The company has been working towards introducing reality TV that covers different areas of interest such as culture and lifestyle, industry specific development, tourism, entertainment, education, health as well as current affairs. One of the first shows that Fidelis said the company was working on was a home and life make-over reality show, which will be broadcast locally and internationally.

He recently hosted auditions at the Happy Valley Hotel with over 50 people showing interest in being part of the final six presenters. The selected candidates are the same people that have since demanded





Ambassador Thomas Chen presented E5 million worth of rice to the NDMA yesterday at their warehouse in Matsapha as well as 350 bags of mealie-meal, a donation received by the DPM. RIGHT -Ambassador Chen, DPM Paul Dlamini with Ministers Moses Vilakati, Owen Nxumalo as well as Mduduzi Dlamini listening to NDMA Director Russel Dlamini (obscured). (Pics: Thembeka Dlamini)

AWAN PRESENT E5M RICE TO NDM

as well as 350 bags of maize-meal to mitigate food shortages caused by drought

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

he Republic of China on Taiwan vesterday presented the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) with 260 metric tonnes of rice intended to sustain 52 000 people.

Ambassador Thomas Chen handed the donation over to Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) Paul Dlamini yesterday morning at the Disaster Management Warehouse in Matsapha during an event attended by ministers Mduduzi Dlamini, Moses Vilakati, Owen Nxumalo as well as NDMA staff.

Ambassador Chen revealed that the 8667 bags of rice were shipped into the country about a week ago after he requested assistance from his home country to mitigate food shortages in the country,

He commended the DPM for the NDMA's tireless work. He said the DPM worked closely with Tinkhundla in food distributions to the needy hence the donation presented to him. The ambassador noted that the year was bittersweet in that the country was ravaged by the drought whereas the positives steered the country to greater heights.

"It was both a promising year and a challenging one to all our sisters and brothers. The country hosted the 36th SADC Summit and His Majesty King Mswati III ascended to the chairmanship. On the other hand, the kingdom has been ravaged by drought which is the worst in the last 30 years, I have been made to understand," he said.

He said with over 500 000 people affected by food insecurity, he requested his government to send another consignment next year.

Expressing gratitude for the donation of food, the DPM said the rice arrived at an opportune time as people who had to work their fields needed sustenance. He lauded the Taiwanese government for the timely intervention as the burden was on the Swazi government to ensure that people were fed. "We trust that Swazis will not take this donation lightly," he said.

He further extended his appreciation for the promised relief which the ambassador promised for next year.

He said the timely intervention would assist part of the over 600 000 people who are in dire need of food. "We are grateful for the response made to the appeal made during the donor conference a few months back. We saw His Majesty leading the way as he was the first to give towards the nation. However, the assistance received to date has not been enough as people need food until the current maize gets harvested," he said.

He further thanked the ambassador for the 350 parcels of mealie-meal.

Expressing gratitude for the donation, NDMA Director Russell Dlamini said they would donate the food as soon as they received donations of beans. He said the recipients of the rice would be apportioned 5kg each.

lt is rainy season, time for ploughing-ambassador Chen

he Republic of China on Taiwan Ambassador Thomas Chen has reiterated calls to farmers to go out to the fields in order to ensure food

He said he had heard calls by the minister of agriculture Moses Vilakati who he said encouraged farmers to go to their fields. He urged farmers to make the best of the rains as they looked promising.

Minister Vilakati echoed the ambassador's call stating that the whole nation should embark on farming for sustainable food supply. "All should go out and plough. We have rains and if need be, use your hands, hoes, donkeys, cattle and tractors to prepare the land for the season," he said.

On the other hand, after the presentation, the deputy prime minister revealed he was rushing to plant his seasonal crop

"I have prepared the land and I had set today aside for planting," he said.

He further called for the nation to unite in prayer in order for the rains to persist as this would help the country mitigate food shortages.

"All Swazis should plant in every avail-



The DPM and Ambassador Chen with part of the 8 667 bags of rice donated by the government of the Republic of China on

able space; be it behind the house or any other small piece of land, use it for your maize crop," he encouraged.

He noted that some farmers could have been deterred from going to their fields by last year's crop failures, "We

are pained that some people planted but failed to realise harvests. The country has not witnessed such a severe drought in the last 35 years; however, we cannot discourage ploughing based on past failures."



Email: info@birchcooper.org

THE ENGINEERING TO STREET THE STREET

ease note: Buhleni & Lonhlupheko (Siteki) Secretarial & Diploma Program

PRINCESS SIKHANYISO HONOURED IN DUBA

rincess Sikhanyiso continues to host the Swazi flag high. The Princess was recently honoured in Dubai at the Pan African Humanitarian Summit Awards along with outstanding individuals from 26 African coun-

The princess was represented by Prince Bandzile at the event, who received the award on her behalf at the glamorous awarding ceremony that was held in one of the world's most prominent global event destination for business and individuals.

Dubai played host to highly recognised leaders in various sectors of industry, government, business and humanity from the 27 African countries to discuss the future challenges and opportunities for those who are involved in developing the humanitarian practices, advocacy and socio-economic development in Africa.

Princess Sikhanyiso, along with prominent figures was honoured for work of excellence at the award ceremony.

The princess was awarded the Young Achievers Award on Social leadership and Community Development.

The Pan African Humanitarian Awards ummit popularly known as the prestigious Night of Honour is an annual event conceived to recognise and profile men and women, leaders and peace

The princess was represented by Prince Bandzile at the event, who received the award on her behalf at the glamorous awarding ceremony that was held in one of the world's most prominent global event destination for business and individual



Princess Sikhanyiso.

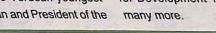
builders creating change at the grassroots to national levels in Africa and who have demonstrated kindness in

building and supporting the less privileged in their communities.

OTHERS WHO ATTENDED THE PRESTIGIOUS NIGHT OF HONOUR ARE:

- Gambian First Lady Her Excellency Madam Zineb Yahya Jammeh
- Former Liberian 1st Lady who was also rated most influential woman in Liberia after the President- Senator Howard Taylor
- President of the World Leaders Forum Dubai Sabine Balve
- Acclaimed CNN Hero and Founder of the Girl Child Network International Muvzare Betty Makoni
- Speaker East African Commission Rt. Hon Daniel Fred Kidega
- Uganda Member of Parliament and Board member of the Parliamentary Network of the World Bank and IMF Hon. Nathan Nandala Mafabi
- Former Cabo Verdean Minister of Justice and Internal Affairs - H.E. Morias Morris
- Chairman of Royal Africa Holdings HRH Prince Ebrahim
- Governor Emeritus of Rotary International Dr. Mike Omotosho
- Director General of the West African Institutes Prof. Djénéba Traore
- Hon. Consul General of Antigua and arbuda to Nigeria Ambassador Capt. Williams Wallace
- Chairman of Innoson Motors-the first indigenous vehicle manufacturing company in Africa Dr Innocent Chukwuma
 - Former Cabo Verdean youngest Parliamentarian and President of the

- Network of Women Parliamentarians **Graca Sanches**
- Felak Concept Managing Director Dr Mrs Aisha Achimugu
- Guinean gender activist and Founder of Make Every Woman Count Foundation Rainatou Sow
- Africa's Queen of Comedy Kasiime
- Miss Heritage Global President Mr Nhlanhla Shabangu
- Executive Secretary African Project & Programme Management Association Dr. Donald Agumenu
- Seasoned Kenyan actress and dancer Ruth Miangi
- Renowned Media Personalities: Dlamini Minnie of South Africa, Nigerian Ginika Tor; Kenyan Beatrice Ndung'u
- Nigerian Blogger Laila Ijeoma
- Cameroonian Photographer Peter Njodzeka
- Zimbabwean Entrepreneur and founder of Kindacare Faith Nyamukapa
- Most Beautiful Model in Nigeria Queen Yvette Meurer
- President Pan African Film Consortium Mykel Parish
- President African Heritage Awards and Miss Heritage Nigeria Chinor
- Ecokaya Executive Director and President of the Mozambigcan NGO for Development Tania Tome and





...Princess dedicates award to nation

to the nation. The Princess, who is the in Dubai. tounder and chairperson of Imbali Foundation, said had it not been for the support of the nation her dreams would be stag-

In her own words, the princess said "I am encouraged that the world has taken note of my work and give God the glory as He is the one who called me to be salt in this earth and light in this world. He is the one who gives me ideas and the wisdom to execute them as well as the people to support and enact them.

Indeed, I owe this one to the nation because without their support, my dreams would be stagnant. I hope that His Majesty is proud of our

rincess Sikhanyiso has dedicated her award work and for having raised the Swazi flag high

I am pleased to have been represented by HRH Prince Bandzile who made a brief but sterling presentation about the Kingdom of Swaziland. His Highness was greatly honoured and treated hospitably, as he was given centre stage. We were able to form many partnerships, including new relationships with senior officials in the

Many developed a keen desire keen to visit the Kingdom and set up establishments. I am grateful to God that the award has turned out to be a blessing to us all. Great job to the Imbali Foundation team and SWALA team, Let us keep on keeping to the glory of the Father."



MATSAPHA Municipality

PUBLIC NOTICE

IMPROPERLY MANAGED ANIMALS

Matsapha Town Council calls upon all owners of animals including dogs, cows, goats, horses, sheep, etc. within and outside the Matsapha urban area to ensure that their animals are kept within their premises in accordance with the Urban Government Regulations of 1969. Poorly kept and improperly managed animals have been identified as a nuisance in terms of the Public Health Act of 1969 section 11 (k) as they pose a threat to the safety and health of the public.

Council will remove all poorly and improperly managed animals found along the roads, streets and within public spaces: Livestock will be taken for impoundment at the Manzini City Council Pound or any other pounding facility within the country; dogs and such other animals will be exterminated with immediate effect.

For any further information contact: +268 2518 6637 /8285

GCINIWE FAKUZE TOWN CLERK

THE KINGDOM'S INVESTMENT HUB



Matsapha Town Council



KING ENDORSES E12 MILLION



His Majesty King Mswati III's representative Princess Tsandzile seen cutting the sod marking the construction of a health centre at Methula/Mashayikhatsi under Sandleni Inkhundla. (Pics: Starsky Mkhonta) or 10 000 p

STORIES BY STARSKY MKHONTA

is Majesty King Mswati III has given his full blessings to the construction of a new health centre, a project to cost over E12 million at Methula, an area near Mashayikhatsi under Sandleni Inkhundla.

His Majesty through Home Affairs Minister Princess Tsandzile officially cut the sod of the project on Friday.

The project marks the relocation of the New Haven Clinic which is now in a dilapidated state.

Present during the launch was His Majesty King Mswati III's Private Secretary Mbongeni Simelane, Minister of Health Sibongile Ndlela-Simelane and senior officials as well as members of the Land Management Board (LMB) headed by former Minister of

Agriculture Clement Dlamini. Others were Shiselweni Regional Administrator Themba Masuku and Regional Secretary Zwakele Dlamini as well as chiefs.

Regional Health Administrator Thoko Ngubane as well as Lungile Mkhweli also attended.

Instrumental

The dilapidated New Haven Clinic was built in 1911 and the Free Evangelical Assembly (FEA) church was instrumental having the facility established nearly 105 years ago. The construction of the new health centre will see the clinic relocated to Methula/Mashayikhatsi.

In her remarks, Princess Tsandzile said hers was to endorse what His Majesty had communicated and recommended the project to community leaders and the people of the affected communities after the dream



MInister of Health Sibongile Ndlela-Simelane.

Minister screams Bayethe!

ibongile Ndlela-Simelane who is Minister of Health shouted 'Bayethe!' after His Majesty sanctioned the construction of the new health centre at Methula/Mashayikhatsi under Sandleni Inkhundla.

When addressing the gathering during the launch of the project to mark the beginning of work she said she was short of better words to express hergratitude to His Majesty for giving a green light to see the project becoming a reality.

"The New Haven Clinic which I happened to tour, is now no longer fit to be providing health services. I was in pain as I a porous roof.

toured the facility and I must confess, everything is in tatters. It's a building that is an eyesore and it is the reason I pray that construction of the new facility finishes in time to help serve that situation I came across at the New Haven Clinic.

Structure

It is a structure that has been existing since 1911 which means it is now over 105 years now," said Minister Simelane.

The New Haven Clinic has leaking roofs and almost all areas of the building are no longer fit for use while medicines and equipment are squeezed in a small room with



The RA Themba Masuku seen showing, Princess Tsandzile boundaries of the land where the health centre will be built. On the Princess with Health Minister Sibongile Ndlela-Simelane and Sandleni MP Jameson Simelane.

RA tasked to monitor progress of health centre by King

bongeni Simelane, who is His Majesty's Private Secretary, disclosed that His Majesty tasked Shiselweni Regional Administrator Themba Masuku to monitor progress of the construction of the health centre at Methula/Mashayikhatsi.

Simelane said he was just reminding all the stakeholders including the community leaders whose people are to benefit from the project His Majesty's expectations. He was speaking during the groundbreaking ceremony of the project whose cost is estimated to be over E12 million. Simelane, who was tasked with introducing Princess Tsandzile during the ceremony, said his was to emphasise on the importance of meeting His Majesty's wish in regard to the project.

"His Majesty tasked the RA to monitor the project from the first day of construction and up to the time when it is completed and ready to operate. That is the command from the mouth that tells no lies and we all have to respect that. Community leaders and everyone else, let me take this opportunity to remind all of you that this is a project that has received His Majesty's blessings and today Minister Tsandzile is



Shiselweni RA Themba Masuku and Princess Tsandzile following the proceedings.

here to make all of us aware that this law and to officiate on behalf of His project has been sanctioned by His Majesty the King," said Simelane.

Simelane said it was His Majesty's dream and wish that the project progress as planned and in order from the first day up to the last day of constriction.

Supporting

"Let us therefore all be seen supporting His Majesty's wish," said Simelane. When inviting the Princess to make her remarks on behalf of the King, Simelane said Minister Tsandzile was no stranger to the Shiselweni folk as she was known to be the region's sister-in-

Majesty was another way of symbolising how well she represented royalty to her in-laws.

Humbled

"She is a southerner as she is our sister in law in this region and therefore I am not introducing a stranger but someone humbled and who knows her place as our sister-in-law.

"We are humbled and honoured that she is in our presence to make few remarks on behalf of the highest authority in the land about this important project," said Simelane.



Masuku with Princess Tsandzile and Minister of Health Sibongile Ndlela-Simelane with Shiselweni Regional Health Administrator Thoko Ngubeni.

HEALTH CENTRE



Dignitaries at the launch of the construction of the new health centre.

and planning of the project was raised to

The Minister said the King emphasized

that he wanted to see the project implemented and becoming a reality.

She extended gratitude to the FEA as it

was one of the major players behind the project's implementation. "His Majesty is looking forward to this project and all the communities who are to benefit from it have been advised to cooperate and be supportive from the construction stage up to the completion stage. You have been further advised by His Majesty to take care of the facility when it is operational,"

The Minister said she was hopeful that His Majesty may one day consider coming in person to see the progress of the project. She said it was possible that when the project was completed and ready to start operating, His Majesty would officially open it.

"It's possible that His Majesty could decide to officiate in its opening or he would again decide to also assign me again to officiate on his behalf like he has done today that I should come and launch the project on his behalf," said the minister.



Shiselweni Regional Secretary Zwakele Dlamini with Sandleni MP Jameson Simelane and King's Private Secretary Mbongeni Simelane conversing.

Health Centre to cater for over 10 000 people

he health facility at Methula/Mashayikhatsi that is to be constructed is designed differently from any other health facility in the Kingdom.

Project Coordinator Dumisani Shongwe said: "The World Bank and European Union, are major players when it comes the design of the facility . It is a facility that is to have two main areas, being the clinical building and administrative building." He said the clinical area would be where health care services such as TB, HIV and AIDS and laboratory ser-

vices are provided. He said the facility was designed in such a way that it would allow all its operations to flow with ease including the well controlled flow of patients as well as having infection control mechanisms in place.

Facility

"The facility is designed in such a way that it is going to be easy to have it maintained when there is need. This is a project which is worth over E12 million and construction work is estimated to take not less than nine months," said



Prince Ngangabani seen shaking hands with Chief Velebantfu.

RA attends to close to 10 disputes a week

hemba Masuku, the Shiselweni Regional Administrator explained how most of his time is consumed by disputes instead of development issues.

The RA said just this past week; he had been busy handling disputes ,some which were delaying progress and development of the region. Masuku said ever since he arrived in the region to assume the RA's role, he had seen himself attending to disputes more than anything, something he said was dampening his vigour of transforming the region to become the best region ever.

The RA said His Majesty by sending Princess Tsandzile to officiate in the sod cutting ceremony showed how keen he was to see the project progressing without any hindrance.

"The presence of Princess Tsandzile in this gathering, signifies the presence of His Majesty himself. This is the reason I feel we are really blessed and it shows His Majesty has passion for this region and does not want to see us lagging behind," said

The RA said it was time disputes of all nature were not entertained and were avoided at all cost.



RA Themba Masuku and Princess Tsandzile with King's Private Secretary Mbongeni Simelane.

He said focus should be in supporting all His Majesty's initiatives and by that the country would be seen moving forward and achieving its first world status without any hiccups. He said personally, he was tired of tackling disputes as they

were delaying development. **Disputes**

"Just this week alone, I attended to almost 10 disputes and I feel we can't make meaningful strides in as far as development is concerned. There is nothing achieved in disputes but they take us backward. Today's gathering, it is strictly meant for development," said Masuku.

Interesting

Masuku said it was also interesting and something to note that Princess Tsandzile was now used to

officiate in development projects in the region. He said the Princess officiated during the launch of a power station depot in the region.

"Few years back, Princess Tsandzile was here to officiate in another project, the power supply depot that is just across here. It is such an honour indeed," said Masuku.

Masuku said he was looking forward to have the minister coming back again to launch another project.

Projects

As someone from the area (Lawuba), the RA said he was seeing more projects coming in the area which would soon open opportunities.

He said he heard from the grapevine that there would soon be a police station, a project that he said should not be delayed so that even employees at the health centre could feel safe and protected.

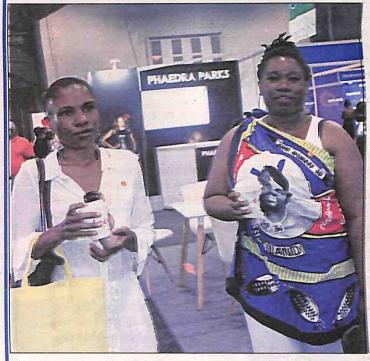
He said development comes with challenges. "Now that we are to have a health centre, we need to think what else should follow. A police station is a project that comes to mind and I am optimistic that it is to be considered and given a priority," said Masuku.



US comedian and motivational speaker Steve Harvey speaking during one of his lectures in Durban last week where the City of eThekwini hosted the first Essence Festival in Africa. (Pics: Simon Shanbangu)



Young ladies clad in their traditional wear were show stoppers at the event.



The Swazi traditional kanga was also a hit at the event.



The Durban ICC where the business seminars were held.

STEVE HARVEY JOKES ABOUT MISS UNIVERSE BLUNDER

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

orld Famous Speaker and Comedian Steve Harvey recently had hundreds of people in stitches in Durban when he joked about the mistake he made during the Miss Universe contest where he mistakenly crowned a contestant in 2015.

Harvey, who was the host of the contest, came out to announce Miss Columbia Colombia Ariadna Gutierrez when she was the first runner-up hence a contestant from the Philippines Pia Alonzo Wurtzbach had won. Speaking during one of his lectures at the inaugural Essence Festival in Africa, he joked about this mishap once again. The motivational speaker was speaking on how some mistakes in life could be God answering prayers. "In 2015, I made a big mistake..."he said to the response of roaring laughter. "Oh its funny here too, huh!"

Mistake

He continued to narrate the ordeal of how he had rehearsed his lines the previous day and how he would read from the teleprompter, while it did not go the exact same way on the fateful day. Harvey however owned up to the mistake, although he said there was a lot to be learned from it. One of the things was that he had asked God that morning to increase his reach globally.

He joked that although he did not appreciate how God answered this prayer, from the mistake he made his prayers were also answered. "Behind every mistake there is a lesson and a blessing. The lesson in this case was everything should be double checked. The blessing came a few weeks after when I was approached by a TV station to do an interview on the Miss Universe issue and I refused, but when they told me how much they were paying. All I can say is I did the interview! I made so much money," he said. Harvey continued to say there were more doors and opportunities that came after that. For one, the comedian



South African Multi millionaire entrepreneur Lebo Gunguluza also delivered a lecture on running a successful business.

said he had made records in a short space of time including being googled over six billion times in less than 24 hours. He was trending on social networks in locations across the globe. "Everyone laughed, people I thought were my friends, created memes, people talked about me everywhere and I was receiving threats such that I had to get 24 hour security.

They did not realise however that from that God was answering my prayer in a way. Prayers are not always answered in the form that you expect," he added. He said it was okay to make mistakes, even a big one, and the lesson and blessing from it would be as big as the mistake.

When Harvey mistakenly announced the wrong winner, she was crowned and started waving a Colombian flag smiling broadly, and also blew kisses at the audience. The comedian however returned to the stage to announce the mistake with Wurtzbach walking to the front of the stage, where the coveted crown was taken off the head of

Miss Colombia and put on hers. Essence Festival Durban hosted the world renowned speaker at the first ever festival and conference in Africa, where people travelled from different parts of the continent to participate.

Other participants flew into the neighbouring country from as far as the United States of America, where the festival originates. Other speakers at the business seminars included former Miss South Africa turned business woman Basetsana Khumalo, millionaire and entrepreneur Lebo Gunguluza, founder and President of the National Action Network (NAN) Reverend Al Sharpton, Estelle, Beyonce's Mother Tina Knowles-Lawton was also honoured, amongst others.

Meanwhile, the artist line-up was also packed with the cream of the crop in both kwaito and hip hop genres including DJ Black Coffee, Tira, DJ Zinhle, Oskido, Biz

Nuz and Babes Wodumo, AKA, Cassper Nyovest, Burna Boy, Ricky Rick, who shared the stage with world stars Neyo and Whiz Kid for the main event last Saturday.



Attendees from across the continent also got a dose of cultural activities and dances at the event.



The Essence Festival Durban was a fuse of business and motivational talks as well as a musical explosion.



1ST ANNUAL SWAZILAND SERVICE **EXCELLENCE AWARDS NOMINEES**



HOSPITALITY	HEALTHCARE (HOSPITALS AND	lase townsold las	
BETHEL COURT	CLINICS)	HARDWARE	SERVICE STATION
GEORGE HOTEL	BAYLOR CLINIC CLINIC GROUP	BUILD IT	ENGEN
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FNB	BOXER	B3	SEC
NEDBANK	PICK N PAY	CRUCIFICS	SNPF
STANDARD BANK	SHOPRITE	DUPS	SPTC
SWAZI BANK	SPAR	MBABANE BURIAL	SRA
SWAZILAND BUILDING SOCIETY			SWSC
LOCAL AUTHORITIES	RETAIL (CLOTHING)	MANUFACTURING (SERVICE QUALITY AWARD)	BEST CALL CENTRE
EZULUWUNI	EDGARS	PARMALAT	MTN
MANZINI	JET JET	SWAZI BREWERY	SWSC
MATSHAPHA	MR PRICE	SWAZI WIRE	SEC
MBABANE	PEP PEP	TEE & JAY	POLICE
	TRUWORTHS	WATER MAN	
INSUARANCE	FAST FOODS / RESTAURANTS	1	CORPORATE SOCIAL
LIDWALA	GALITOS	COURRIER	RESPONSIBILITY
DUPS	KFC	DHL	FNB
COVERITE	NANDOS	ELIANG	MTN
METROPOLITAN		FEDEX	NEDBANK
SRIC	OCEAN BASKET	GLOBE FLIGHT	SEC
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TELECOMS	PHARMACIES	AUTOMOBILE	CUSTOMER CENTRIC EXECU- TIVE WITH BEST LEADERSHIP
MTN	CLICKS	CARSON MOTORS	AMBROSE DHLAMINI -MTN
SPTC	GREENCROSS	GWM	FIKILE NKOSI -NEDBANK
	MEDIRITE	KIA MOTORS	PETER BHEMBE
	MPHANDLANA/LINKMED	LEITES TOYOTA	PHIL MNISI
	PHILANI	MBAMBANE MOTORS	ZWAKELE LUKELE -SWAZIBANI

1st Annual Swaziland Service Excellence Awards



Date: 25 November 2016

Venue: Happy Valley Hotel

Time: 1830Hrs - 2130Hrs

E350/person













Focus on Sa scene

THEY RECORD YOU WITHOUT YOU EVEN KNOWING - ZUMA

IETERMARITZBURG – In a jibe believed to be aimed at former public protector, Thuli Madonsela, President Jacob Zuma said it was important to know your enemy.

"They even tape [record] you and play the tapes and tell others what you said about them because you don't have money to buy recorders.

They have everything," Zuma said at a cadres forum at the Pietermaritzburg city hall.

Although Zuma did not talk about the incident directly, it was believed that Zuma was referring to Madonsela's recently released private recording of an interview with Zuma and his lawyer Michael Hulley. The recording was made while she was investigating allegations of state capture.

The president complained to the public protector's office after the recording was released to the media.

Madonsela's report was released earlier this month after a high court order and the recordings were apparently leaked to eNCA.

"The Presidency has sought clarity from the office of the public pro-





Former Public Protector, Thuli Madonsela and President Jacob Zuma.

tector on the policy of the institution regarding the release of audio recordings of interviews conducted during the course of investigations," spokesperson Bongani Ngqulunga told the media previously.

Speaking on Friday, Zuma said, "They call you to come and have dinner with them meanwhile they are recording you and they ask critical questions. You don't even know that you are selling yourself out".

"Then they turn and play it back

and say, you can hear whose voice it is. Then you realise how dangerous the comrade is. They have recorded everything you said to

OPPOSITION 'DISRUPT-ING' PARLIAMENT

Zuma also hit back at opposition parties in Parliament, saying there were people these days who liked to delay proceedings.

"They stand up all the time and say nothing. They learnt an English word called 'order', 'point of order'.

This is what delayed us."

Zuma was referring to an incident that occurred in the National Council of Provinces meeting on Friday morning where EFF members reportedly tried to disrupt Zuma's speech in East London, Eastern Cape.

The SABC reported that EEF members said the President has broken his oath of office and therefore has no right to address the sitting. They walked out.

One day I will tell you the truth - Zuma

IETERMARITZBURG -When President Jacob Zuma retires, he will write a tell-all book about his tenure as the president of the country, he said.

Zuma was speaking at a cadres forum in Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal on Friday when he suggested that it was former friends, and not his enemies, that are threatening his presidency.

"One day when I am retired I will write my book and you will realise why I said what I said," he told more than 3 000 ANC supporters at city hall.

"This is because I know where things went wrong.

"I know who are the witches at work. It is fine when the enemy is at a distance, but when it is your

friend, it is not easy because they know your weaknesses."

Zuma said enemies were dangerous because "they knew where your ancestors were buried."

"At least I know who [my enemies] are and what they are doing. I am not worried. If I was crazy, I would make the whole of South Africa crazy as well.

"As you can see, I am not bothered. People can say whatever they want. I know what it means, where it comes from and where it is going."

Zuma said he joined the ANC at a very young age and he had no

"I told you one day that when I retire, when I am on pension and no loriger earning a salary, I will become an ANC volunteer and I will work like a madman.

"No one will say we are fighting for positions because I won't want anyone's position. I have never wanted a position in the first place."

Zuma said he had already identified two departments he was going to volunteer in. He did not reveal them however.

"I will tell you when you are doing something wrong. When there is a [ANC] congress and things are not going right and I am among the delegates, I will raise my hand and say things are not going right."

Zuma said the ANC was faced with a huge challenge but this was not the first time for the party.

"The question is how are we going to get out of it? Are we going to be like other liberation movements or

are we going to be different? I trust the ANC because it knows how to get itself out of a tight corner."

He said the party knew how to adapt to changes.

"Don't leave everything to the leadership. Sometimes leaders appear as though they know what they are doing but they don't. You must help them and fix the ANC, build the ANC.'

He encouraged the supporters to study politics.

"Unity was the secret of the life and success of the ANC. Stop hating other comrades. Where will you find another, if you hate this one? It is not easy to find comrades, do not get rid of them so easily. Keep them close, especially for the tough days. News24

Masutha holds 'constructive talks' with ICC

OHANNESBURG - A month after announcing South Africa's intention to withdraw from the International Criminal Court, Justice Minister Michael Masutha held talks with its president.

Masutha and Judge Silvia Fernández de Gurmendi agreed on the importance of discussing problems with the system of international criminal justice, which was aimed at ending impunity for the most serious international crimes, the court said in a statement on Friday.

Masutha visited the astitution, in The Hague, earlier in the day.

"Minister Masutha emphasised South Africa's willingness to continue engaging with the court, as well as with the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute.'

Fernández briefed Masutha on legal and technical issues concerning the court's functioning.

Their "constructive and open discussion" included the reasons for South Africa's decision to withdraw from the Rome Statute, the ICC's founding treaty. The instrument of withdrawal was deposited with the United Nations on October 19 and would take effect in one year. In the meantime, South Africa remained a state party to the statute. Masutha announced on October 21 that South Africa would withdraw from the

Rome Statute, due to a conflict between its obligations to the African Union and the ICC, and between the statute and the provisions of the Diplomatic Immunities and Privileges Act, 2001. The move followed several court rulings that the South African government violated its own laws when it failed to arrest Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir while he was in the country for a ... two-day AU summit in June 2015.

Investigator to probe Wits' handling of Junction res rape

APE TOWN - An investigation into the alleged rape of a student at the Wits Junction Residence has been authorised by Wits University Vice Chancellor Professor Adam Habib, he confirmed yesterday.

Researcher, analyst and speaker on gender, politics, leadership and cultural issues Nomboniso Gasa has been appointed to investigate the university's handling of the alleged attack, which took place on 30 October.

This is in addition to the university's investigation into the incident, which was announced on Thursday.

Habib said he had met with the student and her mother on the university's handling of the rape, following allegations that the Wits structures and managers "did not respond timeously and sensitively to the complainant's concerns".

"I particularly enquired about her experience of the Office of Residence Life, Student Affairs and the Gender Equity Office regarding her complaint.

"She explained that some individuals engaged with her more some were extremely helprur and her needs, others had not been equally responsive to her situation," he said. with her more effectively than others, and while

"This sug-

may be that particular processes and procedures of the HANNESBURG university have not been

fully complied with by certain individuals in these circumstances.

The student felt that a considered conversation about issues related to rape, sexual harassment and gender based harm in residences is urgently needed in all universities and in society as a whole, Habib said. U - U

He appealed to those commenting on the issue on social media to engage "in a way that is truthful, measured and engaged, and in a way that does not contribute to the distress of the complainant and her family".

"We must be protective and sensitive of her personal circumstances at all times," he said. News24

Toddler, 2, killed in Eastern Cape rondavel fire

AST LONDON - A toddler burnt to death when a rondavel burnt down in Centane on Friday night, Eastern Cape police have confirmed.

Police spokesperson Captain Jackson Manatha said the incident took place at 23:20 in Mazeppa Location, Gcina Village.

"The allegation is that the mother of the three girls was alerted by community members that her hut was on fire. The mother was sleeping in a different house," he said.

The father of the children had been away attending a funeral in Willowvale.

"The mother managed to rescue two girls, aged nine and 13, but unfortunately a twoyear-old girl was burnt to death.'

The children have been admitted to hospi-

The cause of the fire has not yet been deter-

An inquest docket is being investigated.



SUNDAYOBSERVER WORLD NEWS

The right place

The right Sunday

TRUMP FILLS NATIONAL SECURITY, JUDICIAL POSTS

President-elect Donald Trump's Cabinet began taking shape Friday, with three conservative stalwarts named to fill key national security and judicial posts, nominations predictably hailed on the right and condemned by Democrats.

Anti-immigration Senator Jeff Sessions, one of Trump's earliest supporters during the campaign, has been nominated to be attorney general, signalling Trump is prepared to take his hard line on illegal immigration into the White

To lead the CIA, Trump tapped hawkish Congressman Mike Pompeo, a strident opponent of the Iran nuclear deal and a sharp critic of Trump's campaign rival Hillary Clinton during hearings into the 2012 attack on the US mission in Benghazi, Libya.

The incoming commander-inchief also appointed retired Lieu-

S Korea president refuses to resign after renewed protests

CEOUL - Up to didlf-lamillion protestors were expected to take to the streets of Seoul yesterday for the fourth week in a row, demanding President Park Geun-Hye resign over a corruption scandal.

The weekly mass demonstrations -- among the largest seen in South Korea since the pro-democracy protests of the 1980s -- have provided a stark challenge to Park's authority, but the president has defied calls to step down.

After claiming a turnout of around one million for last Saturday's protest, organisers said they expected around 500 000 people to march in Seoul, with a similar number demonstrating in other cities across the country.

So far the candlelight protests have been largely peaceful, with many families participating, but there was still a heavy police presence yesterday, with buses and trucks blocking access roads to the presidential Blue House.

"We want to have a peaceful protest as in the three previous rallies", Nam Jeong-Su, spokesman for the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, told AFP.

Nam said he expected the ranks of protestors to be swelled by thousands of students who sat the national college entrance exam earlier in the week.

Reuters



USA President-elect Donald Trump.

tenant General Michael Flynn, a top military counsel to the 70-yearold Republican billionaire-turnedworld-leader, as his national security advisor.

"I enthusiastically embrace Presidentelect Trump's vision for 'one America.' and his commitment to equal justice under law," said Sessions, a 20year veteran of Congress.

Trump described Sessions in a statement as having a "world-class legal mind.'

While his picks suggest he is adhering to far-right positions, Trump made efforts to send reassuring signals about stability and continuity regarding America's place in the

NATO Chief Jens Stoltenberg said

Friday he had a "good talk" with Trump by telephone, telling AFP in Brussels he was "absolutely confident" that the incoming president remains committed to the transatlantic alliance.

Pompeo, 52, said he would be "honoured and humbled" to head the Central Intelligence Agency.

The Kansas lawmaker co-authored a report slamming then-secretary of state Clinton's handling of the Benghazi attack, in which the US ambassador to Libya and three other Americans died.

Deeper controversy surrounds Trump's national security adviser Flynn, 57, who is set to play an influential role in shaping policy for a president with no experience in government or diplomacy, including how to contend with an increasingly aggressive Russia.

Flynn raised eyebrows when he travelled to Moscow and dined alongside Russian President Vladimir

Putin. AFP

BRIEF

Trump quickly settles \$25m lawsuits after long fight

SAN DIEGO - For more than six years, Donald Trump fought hard against a civil lawsuit in which former customers of his now-defunct Trump University accused him of fraud. Less than two weeks after being elected president, he agreed to a \$25 million settlement.

We definitely detected a change of tone and change of approach" after the election, plaintiff attorney Jason Forge said when the agreement was announced yesterday.

Thai conwoman gets 150 years for bogus claims

BANGKOK - A Thai court handed a conwoman a 150-year sentence on Friday for a cascade of offences including defaming the royal family by trumping up connections with the monarchy to solicit cash. Kramonthas Thanathornkositcheera, 62, will serve the maximum of 50 years in jail allowed under Thai penal law after pleading guilty to scores of charges including 29 counts of royal defamation.

The Thai monarchy is protected by one of the world's toughest lese majeste laws. She was accused of swindling four people, who owned a printing factory, out of around \$145 000 between 2010 and 2014.

Pope boosts US church's "progressive wing" in creating 17 cardinals

VATICAN CITY - Pope Francis has created 17 new cardinals from across the globe in a time-honoured ceremony, elevating them to an elite body that advises and elects popes.

Three of them are from the US, while others come from corners of the world where the Catholic Church needs a boost. Dressed in red robes, these "princes of the

Church" will kneeled before the pontiff to pledge their allegiance in a solemn ceremony known as a consistory.

Thirteen of them were under 80 and therefore eligible to take part in the next secret conclave to elect or become the head of the world's 1.2 billion Catholics. They are known as cardinal electors. AFP

Thousands march in Malaysian capital calling for PM Najib to step down

KUALA LUMPUR - Tens of thousands of anti-government protesters marched in Malaysia's capital yesterday demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Najib Razak over his alleged involvement in a multi-billion dollar misappropriation scandal. Protesters clad in yellow shirts marched through the heart of Kuala Lumpur bringing traffic to a standstill in several tourist spots - to gather in front of the iconic Petronas Twin Towers after an initial plan to assemble at Independence Square was thwarted by police. Turnout was lower than a similar rally last year, with news portal Malaysiakini estimating around 40 000 participants. As many as 200 000 people showed up last year at one point.

Reuters

Fresh calls for monarchy to be dissolved

ARIS - Campaigners have renewed calls for the monarchy to be abolished after it was revealed that taxpayer funding of the Royal Family is set to soar by up to 66 per cent to enable the Queen to renovate Buckingham Palace.

The Government has agreed to increase the royal grant to cover the £396 million cost of the refurbish-

The funding was agreed by the prime minister, the chancellor and the keeper of the Privy Purse, who together act as the royal trustees who determine how much public money is given to the royal family. Queen 'confused Vladimir Putin with Andrew Marr' during state visit In a report they said Buckingham

Palace was "in urgent need of a major overhaul to avoid the very real danger of catastrophic failure leading to fire or flood".

This would result in "incalculable damage", they added.

But republican campaigners said the decision was an "absolute disgrace" and called for the public grant given to the queen to be "stripped right back".

Graham Smith, Chief Executive of anti-monarchy group Republic, said: "This is an absolute disgrace. An indictment on the queen's scandalous mismanagement of royal finances over six decades.

"MPs have repeatedly called on the palace to fund repairs by opening up to tourists all year round and

they've refused. If the royals can't look after the buildings and raise their own revenue to fund maintenance, it's time to give them up.

"The royals cost the taxpayer over £334m a year and that keeps going up. We need independent inquiry and full disclosure into their spending. The monarchy's costs need to be stripped right back, put the institution on a proper budgetary footing and allow Parliament to approve the budget each year."

The queen is reported to have around £300m in personal wealth, while land owned by the monarchy is thought to be worth more than £7bn. The royals also receive hundreds of millions of pounds from taxpayers each year. AFP

Arab coalition declares 48-hour Yemen truce

IYADH - A Saudi-led coalition supporting Yemen's government against Iranbacked rebels declared a 48-hour ceasefire to begin in Yemen yesterday, it said in a statement on the kingdom's SPA news agency web-

"It has been decided to begin a 48hour ceasefire from 12:00 noon in Yemen's timing (0900 GMT) yesterday," the coalition statement said, adding that the truce could be renewed if the Huthi rebels and their allies abide by the deal and allow aid deliveries to besieged cities.

The coalition announcement followed a request for a ceasefire by Yemen's President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi -- himself based in Riyadh -- to Saudi King Salman, the statement said.



More than One-third of Saudi-led Air Raids on Yemen Hit Civilian Sites.

"Coalition forces will abide by the ceasefire", it said, but warned that should the rebels or troops loyal to former president Ali Abdullah Saleh make any military moves in the area the coalition would respond.

The naval and air "blockade" will

also remain in place and surveillance jets will continue to fly over Yemen, it added. The coalition has been militarily supporting forces loyal to Hadi's government since March 2015.

Reuters

BRIDE

Suicide bombers reportedly dead in Maiduguri, Nigeria

ABUJA - Three suicide bombers have reportedly been killed during explosions while a colleague of theirs has been arrested in Maiduguri, the capital of Nigeria's Borno State. According to sources from security agencies and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), there were no casualties during the incident.

Two female and a male suicide bomber were killed. Rescue workers have evacuated the corpses from the scene at the High Court Njiddari Polo. Maidiguri is the epicenter of the Boko Haram insurgency ravaging the northeastern parts of the country. Africa News Agency

UN warns of hunger threat in southern Madagascar

ANTANANARIVO - The United Nations says farmers in southern Madagascar urgently need support ahead of the year-end cropplanting season to offset the devastating impact of years of drought.

The UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation and the World Food Programme said more funding is needed to help an estimated 850 000 people facing hunger in southern Madagascar.

The UN officials say they will start distributing plant cuttings and seeds to farmers in December, as well as provide food and cash to help sustain people until the next harvest around March and April, AP

Egypt journalist unionists get two years' jail for harbouring colleagues

CAIRO - An Egyptian court sentenced the head of a journalists union and two board members to two years in prison yesterdayfor harbouring colleagues wanted by the law and spreading false news, judicial sources said. Yehia Qalash, Khaled al-Balshy and Gamal Abdel Rahim can appeal the decision. Police raided the Egyptian journalism syndicate in Cairo on May 2 and arrested two opposition journalists who had sought shelter from arrest inside. Reuters

Mauritania court frees 10 anti-slavery activists - Amnesty

GOMA - An appeals court in Mauritania overturned the convictions of three antislavery activists on Friday and reduced the sentences of 10 others for their alleged role in a riot in June, Amnesty International said. A tribunal had sentenced the 13 members of the Initiative for the Resurgence of the Abolitionist Movement (IRA) in August to up to 15 years in prison after a protest against eviction by residents of a slum in the capital Nouakchott, many of whom are themselves former slaves. Reuters

Nigerian university graduate hanged in Singapore

SINGAPORE - A 38-year-old Nigerian man was hanged in Singapore on Friday for drug trafficking after being caught with 2.6 kg of cannabis. "A 38-year-old male Nigerian national, Chijioke Stephen Obioha, had his death sentence carried out on 18 November at Changi Prison Complex," the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) said in a statement. Obioha, who graduated in industrial chemistry from Nigeria's Benin University, had originally moved to Singapore in 2005 hoping to be a footballer, the BBC reported.

Reuters

SUNDAY OBSERVER AFRICA

The right place The right Sunday

REFUSED ACCESS TO OBSERVE GAMBIA'S DEC. I ELECTION

AKAR - Gambian authorities have refused the European Union access to observe upcoming elections, an EU spokesman said on Friday, amid concerns about the fairness of the voting process in the tiny West African nation.

The EU had been ready to deploy a small team to provide what it described as a "technical assessment" of the Dec. 1 vote. An EU source said Gambia's election commission had signalled last week a willingness to allow the EU to participate, as it had done in the previous election in 2011.

"We have been informed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Gambia that the mission was not

accepted," the spokesman said. did not respond to repeated

requests for comment.

toral commission told Reuters that African Union observers had been accredited to attend

President Yahya Jammeh and opposition leaders have begun two

Eight opposition parties have ral- electoral process".

lied behind one candidate, busi-A Gambian government spokesman nessman Adama Barrow, in a bid to end Jammeh's 22-year rule, which activists

and diplomats An official at the elecsay has been the elections.

weeks of final campaigning across the former British colony.

marred by human rights abuses a n d repression Jammeh said last week observers were

welcome to come and observe "the credibility of the

Visiting Gambia last week, the top UN regional official for West Africa, Mohamed Ibn Chambas, called for transparency and a "level playing field" for the vote.

At the last election in 2011, regional African bloc ECOWAS refused to send observers, citing intimidation of the opposition and the elec-

Worries have been stoked this year by the treatment of opposition politicians. Nearly 50 protesters were arrested in April and May, including UDP party leader Ousainu Darboe and at least 18 other senior members.

Two have since died during their detention.

Reuters

Guinea-Bissau president names new prime minister

ISSAU - Guinea-Bissau President Jose Mario Vaz on Friday named Umaro Sissoco Embalo as prime minister of the troubled west African state, replacing Baciro Dja whose government he dissolved earlier in the week.

"Mr Umaro El Mokhtar Sissoco Embalo is named Prime Minister," said a presidential decree.

The new premier was sworn in later on Friday in a brief ceremony.

Monday's dissolution by the head of state aimed to solve a succession crisis that has paralysed the tiny west African state.

Guinea-Bissau has been in the throes of a power struggle since August 2015, when Vaz sacked then prime minister Domingos Simoes Pereira, leader of the ruling African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde (PAIGC).

Two factions of the ruling PAIGC had failed to resolve their differences over Pereira's successor, Dja, since he was given the job in June, with some lawmakers refusing to



Guinea-Bissau President Jose Mario Vaz.

work with him.

The new 44-year-old premier is not a well-known public figure though he has served as advisor to several heads of state. Hours before his appointment, Embalo appeared confident in an interview with AFP that he might be chosen to head the new government, though he was aware of the challenges ahead.

"I have held various positions in previous governments, including

advisor to the president, to the prime minister and to the speaker of Parliament, and I was promoted to the rank of state minister and brigadier general in 2012," Embalo said.

"I know that the task that awaits me will not be easy," he added.

Guinea-Bissau has been plagued by military coups and instability since its independence from Portugal in 1974.

AFP

Zim's bond note in 'conversation' with US dollar

ARARE - Zimbabweans have shared a video on social media showing a US dol-Tar note in "conversation" with the bond note, a surrogate currency set to be introduced next month to ease a chronic cash shortage in the southern African countr

According to BBC, the video was made available on social media ahead of protests that had been planned for Friday against the bond notes.

In the video, the US dollar is heard asking the surrogate currency who it is, and why it is telling people that we are similar".

In response the bond note says it was told by its father [Central Bank Governor John Mangudyal that they are the same as their value is 1:1.

However, the US dollar tells the bond note that this is impossible, as



it (bond note) is not able to trade outside of Zimbabwe.

The new notes, starting with small denominations of \$2 and \$5, are expected to be introduced next month.

Reports indicate that Zimbabweans, who know the risks of worthless money all too well after hyperinflation between 2007 and 2009 gave

them the 100-trillion-dollar banknote that barely bought a loaf of bread, are against the introduction of the bond notes.

They fear that the government is about to create another devastating crisis by printing its own "bond notes" that will officially be worth the same as the US dollar.

News24

Anger, tears as Tunisians relive torture years

UNIS - As anger erupted and the tears began to flow, four hours of testimony on live television by abuse victims shone a rare spotlight on the crimes of Tunisia's dark dictatorship years.

In a plain white room inside a night club once owned by a dictator's entourage, victims of torture and abuse joined bereaved relatives to deliver an unprecedented account of the violence and intimidation Tunisians endured over decades of despotic rule.

"We will not be silent," said Ourida Kadoussi, whose son was killed by security forces during the 2011 uprising against the regime of Zine El Abidine Ben Ali. "We want justice for our martyrs."

Kaddousi's witness statement is one of tens of thou sands gathered by the

Truth and Dignity Commission (IVD), which has tracked human rights violations spanning five decades.

The complaints which the commission received include torture, arbitrary detentions, physical abuse and violations of freedom of speech.

The televised interviews, which will continue on Friday, are part of the panel's attempt to get Tunisians to confront the demons of their past, as well as provide justice to those who endured the worst.

Latifa Matmati's husband Kamel died in police custody after his arrest in October 1991, just one of hundreds of Islamists to be detained and mistreated under Ben Ali's rule

News24

CALL C

THE DIABETES

OSSUE

Lungelo Nkambule WRITER'S NOTE:

he struggle against diabetes is a real

one. Diabetes is a lifelong condition that needs proper management.

It has been said on many occasions that the disease is a silent killer and it is going about killing many without the world noticing because the seriousness of it is unknown. For long, diabetes was known as an old people disease when in actual fact anyone can be diagnosed with it.

It is defined as failure to produce insulin by the body, in lay man terms that is. Diabetes if not managed has serious repercussions.

This week is international world diabetes week and November 14 was Diabetes day, a day where the world comes together to raise awareness on diabetes.

It is unfortunate that not much activity was done in the country to this effect. even though diabetes has claimed many lives in the country.

What is worth noting is that there is an organisation in the country that works hard to raise awareness and to help those with diabetes in the country.

The organisation, Diabetes Swaziland led by Dumsile Mavuso has done a lot in pushing our government to come up with more facilities and means to help people leaving with diabetes.

Diabetes is not a death sentence nor must people who are diagnosed with it feel helpless instead families must help them manage the disease because it is manageable.

It is said that we are what we eat and therefore as individuals we must be mindful of what we consume.

If you are living with diabetes and are mindful of what you eat and exercise a lot then you are on the right track.

Today we salute people who are fighting the war against the silent killer that is diabetes and we call on stakeholders to join in the fight for a better and healthier nation.

A week ago we were utterly disturbed by Facebook users who circulated pictures of the Matsetsa bus accident and we call them as in particular and to order on our social scene is suit sit social. increased risk on page three.

olive oil help

by as ingch a

On this very page we have the Sunday podium.

We also have headline of the week on page seven and we bring you more pictures from the Essence Festival on our back page.

Till next week. Bless!!

Sunday Podium

o after last week's Sunday Podium that was on our youth section and Lungelo's opinion on Sakhile's rant - he chooses to tell the media off.

He says the media should be focusing on more important things such as education and the water shortage situation, instead of reporting on things that are on his timeline.

Now, if you read last week's Sunday Podium, you will know I believed there might just be some justified reason of the Swazi Jive director's rant.

I was demading that he show the public proof of all the allegations he has leveled against THASA, considering that some people were already speaking - albeit in low tones - about them around the entertainment rumour mill.

Now, I was very dissapointed with what he did next.

Instead of telling us what his differences in opinion, ethical behaviour, and business morals with Tabo are, he blasts the media for reporting - the truth!

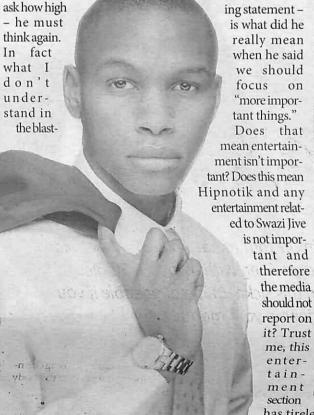
As I said last week, Sakhile is acting like a spoilt brat who has been denied candy as now, he wants to tell the media what and what not

I am very livid because when I met him, I never thought he was capable of such. He came across as the humble, determined and passionate type.

Where is his PR team in all of this 'lostness' that this boy is showing? Or does he tell them what and what not to do, so he thinks he can do the same with the media too? If he thinks that when he

says we should

jump, we will



should he done?This is the man who risked his job and put the future of Form five students in jeorpardy when he chose to travel with the team to Namibia for the COSAFA tournament.

He chose passion, he chose the country.

has tirelessly supported their team, but we will not keep quiet when he is wrong!

When he does something right, it's okay for us to report but when he does something wrong then it's a big

problem for us to report on it.

Then we are forced to focus on his Sakhile and friends foundation instead because it serves a greater purpose than entertainment. Ungrateful and wrong boy, we will not lie to you!

Now as if sent to ruin my recent obssesion with sport - something came up this week. Our national soccer team coach Harries 'Madze' Bulunga was fired. Call it whatever

you want, I call it being fired. I mean how can you say

someone isn't fired, instead his contract isn't renewed. It just does not make sense to me.

For those who don't know - when 'Madze' took over from Belgian native Valere Biden as Sihlangu Semnikati coach, the nations pride hadn't won a game in 18 months let alone score a single goal

The local lad and his local technical bench had no problem with getting the team to score a goal. He got the boys to score on his second match in charge when we faced our neighbours Mozambique. They also led us to our very first silverware where I don't know how many years if not since our inception when they won a bronze medal in the COSAFA Cup tournament that was held a few months ago. He also lifted the team from 186th position to the 100th in the FIFA rankings. With a 40 per cent win rate for goddness gracious what more did he need to do to prove that he was the one.

What more should he have done? This is the man who risked his job and put the future of Form Five pupils in jeorpardy when he chose to travel with the team to Namibia for the COSAFA tournament. He chose passion, he chose the coun try. He slowly but surely instilled a sense of direction and belief into the team and the nation at large. He showed all and sundry that Swazis could play carpet football, but he still got fired, oh sorry he wasn't good enough anymore as the FA said. Sorry to you Madze, I hope you've learnt your lesson on being exploited for your passion and love for the beautiful game.

The FA is ungrateful and wrong in this Madze situation. Finish and Klaar!

(Sibusiso and Lungelo)





Where is his PR team in all of this 'lostness' that this

boy is showing? Or does he tell them what and what not

to do, now he thinks he can do the same with the media

too? If he thinks that when he says we should jump, we will ask how high – he must think again. ing statement is what did he really mean when he said we should hat more on



ocial media is a powerful tool and if only we could learn to use it wisely.

Time and time again we find ourselves misusing this powerful tool. The problem here is we really don't understand how this tool is to be used. Just this week I had a conver-

sation with a friend who lives in another country, this person asked me why we are quiet when people abuse platforms like facebook? This comes after the Matsetsa accident. For those that don't know last week Friday a bus was involved in an accident and two people were reported

e are Swazis and we are known for our respect. Growing up I was told to respect the dead and to never speak ill of them.

to have died on the spot.

The death toll has increased over the

In less than an hour of the accident taking place there were already pictures of the bus circulating on social media. In these pictures there were motionless bodies laid bare for all to see, people were updating their statuses about the accident without a care in the world of the people that might have lost their relatives in the accident.

This is insensitive because half the time we update our statuses and post pictures

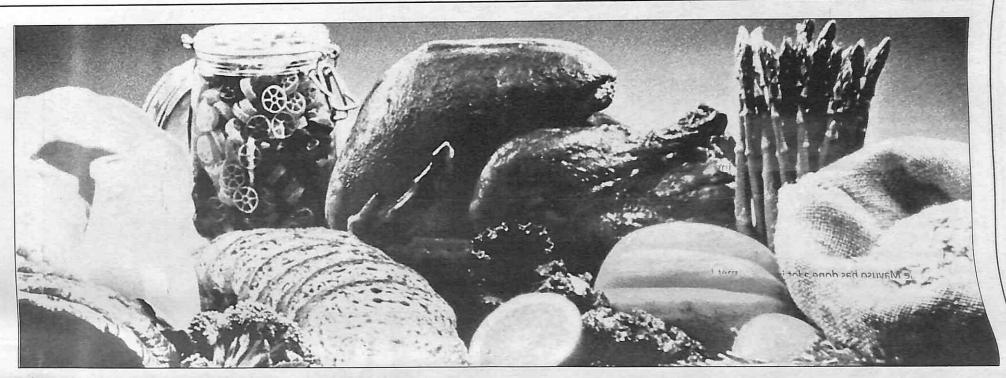
of these accidents even before the families are properly informed of the deaths. Imagine you have lost a relative in an accident of this nature and you learn about it on social media, how would that make you feel? How would you deal with

Secondly what purpose does posting these pictures serve? Actually I refuse to believe a sane person would take such pictures and circulate them. I feel it takes a certain level of insanity for you to take pictures of a lifeless body unless you are a journalist. I am a trained journalist but

my biggest fear is to be sent to an assignment of this nature and have to take pictures, which is why I question the mental state of a person who has no problem taking pictures at this scene. If you are one of those people please do get yourself checked.

We are Swazis and we are known for our respect. Growing up I was told to respect the dead, to never speak ill of them. Can we go back to these things that we were taught, can we go back to being those people who would never be caught dead walking on a grave. Let us stop this business of posting lifeless bodies on social media, let us not strip the dead their dignity.

Whilst we embrace this new powerful technology that has been given to us but more than anything can we not lose who we are. Let the spirit of Ubuntu reign.



any studies on diet have emphasised that we are what we eat.

Therefore it is important to have a healthy diet plan especially if you are living with diabetes. Studies have also shown that this sickness is manageable if you are mindful of what goes in your mouth.

If you have diabetes, it is recommended that you follow a healthy eating plan based on plenty of vegetables and legumes (such as chickpeas, lentils, low-salt baked beans and kidney beans). Include some high-fibre carbohydrate foods such as wholegrain breads and cereals and fruit, as well as some lean protein sources and reducedfat dairy products.

Reduce your intake of saturated (unhealthy) fat and added sugars, and choose foods low in

Reducing the serving size of your meals can also help you to maintain a healthy body weight and allows for better blood glucose management. It is recommended that you see a dietician who can work with you to develop a healthy eating plan that is just right for you as an individual:

Dark chocolate

Chocolate is rich in flavonoids, and research shows that these nutrients reduce insulin resistance, improve insulin sensitivity, drop insulin levels and fasting blood glucose, and blunt crav-

But not all chocolate is created equal. In People who eat dark chocolate reported rarely then indulge in sweet, salty, or fatty foods compared to milk chocolate, with its lower levels of beneficial flavonoids (and, often, more sugar and fat,

The flavonoids in chocolate have also been shown to lower stroke risk, calm blood pressure, and reduce your risk for a heart attack by two percent over five years.

WE ARE WHAT WE EAT....

herefore it is important to have a healthy diet plan especially if you are living with diabetes. Studies have also shown this sickness is manageable if you are mindful of what goes in your mouth.

Broccoli

Broccoli is an anti-diabetes superhero. As with other cruciferous veggies, like kale and cauliflower, it contains a compound called sulforaphane, which triggers several anti-inflammatory processes that improve blood sugar control and protect blood vessels from the cardiovascular damage that's often a consequence of

(Heart disease is the leading cause of death for people with diabetes, so this protection could be a lifesaver.) Sulforaphane also helps flip on the body's natural detox mechanisms, coaxing

enzymes to turn dangerous cancer-causing chemicals into more innocent forms that the body can easily release.

Blueberries

Blueberries really stand out: They contain both insoluble fiber (which "flushes" fat out of your system) and soluble fiber (which slows down the emptying of your stomach, and improves blood sugar control).

In a study by the USDA, people who consumed 2 1/2 cups of wild blueberry juice per day for 12 weeks lowered their blood glucose levels, lifted depression, and improved their memories.

Researchers credit these results to anthocyanins in the berries, a natural chemical that shrinks fat cells and also stimulates the release of adiponectin, a hormone that regulates blood glucose levels, among other things. Increasing adiponectin levels can help keep blood sugar low and increase our sensitivity to insulin.

Fish

Fish is a slimming star: rich in protein, it will help to keep you satisfied; but also, fish contains a special type of fat that helps cool inflamma-

Thousands of studies show that people with the highest blood levels of omega-3 fatty acids have less body-wide inflammation, the very inflammation that leads to and worsens diabetes and weight problems.

A fish-rich diet can also reduce your risk of developing health problems, especially stroke, as a result of your diabetes.

People who ate baked, broiled, or steamed fish reduced their odds for a stroke by three percent, as reported in a 2010 Emory University study. (However, fried fish-such as fast-food fish sandwiches, fish sticks, and fried seafood of any typeincreased risk.)

Olive oil

Following a Mediterranean-style diet rich in olive oil helps reduce the risk of type 2 diabetes by as much as 50 percent compared to a diet low in fet, according to a recent Spanish study. In pendently, researchers at Technical University of Munich (TUM) and the University of Vienna found that olive oil improved satiety the most when compared to lard, butter, and rapeseed (canola) oil.

In addition to being a standout source of healthpromoting monounsaturated fats, olive oil is also rich in antioxidant nutrients that protect cells from damage, and prevents the develop-ment of heart disease.

This is on many levels different from the life our grandfathers lived. Back then there were no lifts and cars were a luxury hence they would walk to work, walk up and down the steps to move from one office to the next. This kept them fit and they lived longer, they succumbed to old age unlike the newer generations. The most unfortunate thing though is that while chances of staying active naturally are getting slimmer sick-

With diseases like HIV and diabetes on the rise exercise is of importance to help us fight these deadly diseases and elongate our lives. Exercise makes the body stronger, it keeps it alive and alert and ready to pounce on anything foreign attack-

This past week the world was celebrating Diabetes week. On this week, the world comes together to create awareness about diabetes. A sickness that has claimed many lives diabetes is very much underrated, it is not given the same prominence as Tuberculosis and HIV yet it is the cause of many deaths as well. The sad thing is that in a week that was dedicated to diabetes awareness very little was done in our country. The thing is people like Dumsile Mavuso can only do so much. The whole country needs to step up, help her and her team to spread

Diseases As a country we also need a robust plan of action on how we will defeat all these diseases and they need to be given the same treatment if we are to defeat them because one way or the other they are all related. Because we understand the role of exercise in the fight against diabetes we met up this week with fitness

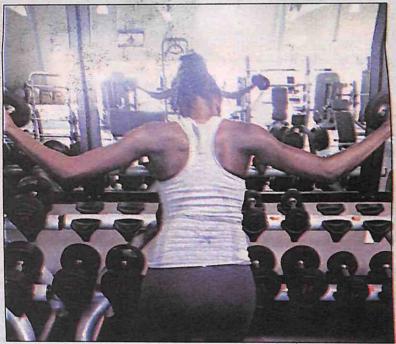
nesses are on the rise.

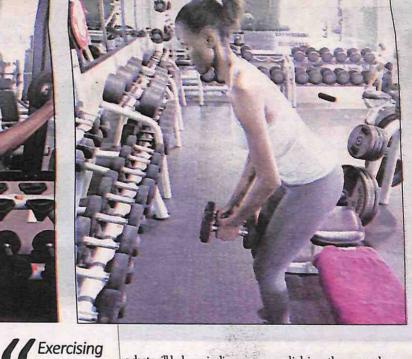
ing the body.

the word.

or any person that wants to MAKEITA ◀ stay healthy, exercise is very important. It is important to keep fit by doing regular exercise and the unfortunate part is that everything has become mobile hence our bodies have been robbed off the chance to be active. We get on our cars, drive to work, HESTYLE get to our office building get on the lift get to our work station and sit down the whole day.







The curvy Zubuko spoke about Lifestyle the importance of exercising for yourself not because you've been diagnosed with a certain disease. She said this then took off the burden if knowing that you are doing it for a reason.

motivated but if you are under pressure to do it you will probably hate it," she said.

junkie Telamsile Zubuko.

The former Miss Swaziland 2nd Princess Known as Lammy to those closest to her who was on her way to a basketball match made time to speak to us about the importance of gym and what exercising is for her. We hope that after you read what she says you will be motivated to take charge and exercise to give yourself a longer life.

"More than anything this for me is a lifestyle, I will be exercising in the house while watching television or doing something, I will just start doing something," she said. She said unlike many people she believes exercising is not a lot of work if you

"It is like anything else that you do everyday and enjoy, it becomes very easy with time.

Yes, it will be painful the first few days but that is simply because you are not used to it but with time it gets better," she said. She was speaking about how people often than not complain of cramps after a few days of exercising.

"Your body is not used to it hence the cramps, I exercise everyday now and I no longer get cramps. I only get cramps if I have overdone something like hiking because I hardly do it," she contin-

Personal Trainer

Zubuko who is also a personal trainer said she helps people with their training because she knows the importance of being well trained. "I help people train. It is what I

I have been doing this for a while always encouraged people to set now and I have a very good idea of

is good for your skin, your blood circulation and many other things so tell yourself you are doing it to look better, because if you look good, you will

feel good,"

what will help an individual," she said. Zubuko added she knows what exercise will help an individual.

the business of training because you are sick or something but I encourage people to do it way before they find themselves in situations where they really need to exercise because then it becomes a drag," she said.

Zubuko said she

goals for themselves and work towards

accomplishing those goals.

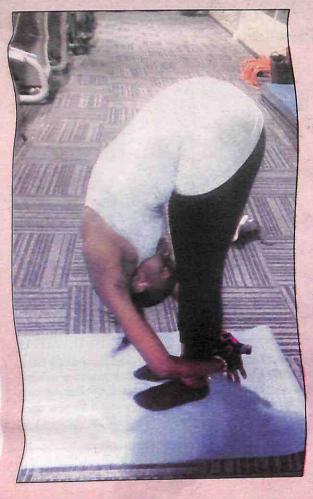
"Set a target, have a goal and work towards it. Make sure that you are doing it for all the right reasons, I promise you after achieving the first goal you will move on to the second and pretty soon you will be on to the second one and then it will just go on and on," she explained.

She emphasised that even if you are sick or you have been diagnosed you must still train for yourself not for the sickness.

"Exercising is good for your skin, your blood circulation and many other things so tell yourself you are doing it to look better, because if you look good, you will feel good," she said. She even testified that her skin and body had only gotten better ever since she started exercising.

As a country we also need a robust plan of action on how we will defeat all these diseases and they need to be given the same treatment if we are to defeat them because one way or the other they are all relat-





Zubuko who doesn't look a day above 20 also took time to show us on how to do squats properly and explained that they were not for muscle burn, but for other lower muscles depending on how deep you decided to go.

She said what people needed to know is that exercise was a day at a time thing.

"I didn't wake up to be like this, I just started doing it once then I took it with each day, now I am where I am, I would like to encourage people to do it once, twice and then you will get the hang of it.





SundayObserver



'Almost Christmas,' a Homefor-the-Holidays Comedy

he family comedy-drama "Almost Christmas" is an often disarmingly entertaining picture, in spite of its being a not particularly wellthought-out cinematic contrivance.

After a brief opening montage showing the history of the Meyerses, a middle-class household in Birmingham, Ala., the movie alights on the five days before Christmas 2016. We soon learn that one of its main characters is running for Congress. Even though it's the middle of December. This is a little dis-

The writer-director David E. Talbert showed similarly questionable craftsmanship in his 2013 film, "Baggage Claim."

"Almost Christmas," though, eventually represents a substantial improvement; I suspect this is because he seems to have left a lot up to his appealing and talented cast.

As the widowed patriarch Walter, Danny Glover shows his mastery of playing it bighearted; Gabrielle Union and Omar Epps have real charm and chemistry as former high school sweethearts thrown together for the holidays;



and J. B. Smoove does his egocentric Lothario bit with customary aplomb.

Mo'Nique, playing a superspirited sister-in-law, is simply magnificent, investing even tired lines like "I got vibrators older than that child" with a ferocious warmth that coaxes uninhibited laughter. She should get another Oscar for this. (It'll never happen.)

Marital infidelity, drug dependency

and selling out are among the topics of the dramatic threads, and for most of the movie the comedic material outpaces the serious stuff.

The most affecting subplot has Walter trying to reproduce his recently deceased wife's sweet potato pie. It's one of many crowd-pleasing bits in a movie that at its best seeks a warm, direct connection with its audience.

The Accountant

the Accountant is a 2016 American action thriller film directed by Gavin O'Connor, written by Bill Dubuque and starring Ben Affleck, Anna Kendrick, J. K. Simmons, Jon Bernthal, Jeffrey Tambor and John Lithgow.

The film follows a highly-functioning autistic[3] small-town certified public accountant who makes his living uncooking the books of dangerous criminal organisations that are experiencing internal embezzlement.

The film premiered in Los Angeles on October 10 and was theatrically released in the United States on October 14 by Warner Bros. Pictures. The film received mixed reviews from critics and has grossed \$129 million.

Christian Wolff, a mental calculator, works as a forensic accountant at



ZZZ Accounting in Plainfield, Illinois, tracking insider financial deceptions for numerous criminal enterprises brokered to him by a mysterious figure known as "The Voice", who contacts him by phone. As a child, Christian was diagnosed with a high-functioning form of autism and offered an opportunity to live at Harbor Neuroscience Institute in New Hampshire.

Although Christian had bonded with Justine, the mute daughter of the institute's director, his father declined, believing that Christian should overcome the hardships inherent in his condition rather than expect the world to accommodate to them.

CELEBRITY NEWS

Black Coffee adds more artists for #FillUpFNB

SA's biggest act, acclaimed DJ and music producer
Black Coffee has assembled an artist line-up
for a guaranteed roadblock event at FNB
Stadium Outer Fields 3rd of December.
Phase 1 tickets are sold-out and Phase 2

Phase 1 tickets are sold-out and Phase 2 tickets are currently selling fast. Black Coffee, Cassper Nyovest, Riky Rick and Osckido were announced in the first round of artists.

Nasty C and chart topping trio Mi Casa, will also take to the stage and serve up their unique fusion of jazz, soul, funk, and pop.

DJ Tira, the founder of Afrotainment, Soulistic Music's rising star and SAMA nominee, Da Capo, Metro FM favourite Naked DJ, and newcomer Mike Anthony are added to the heavyweight house line-up.

KHANYA MKANGISA TO HOST FEATHER AWARDS!

Actress and TV presenter, Khanya Mkangisa has just been announced as the co-host for the Chevrolet Feather Awards 2016 alongside Lumko Johnson.

This comes after TV and Radio Personality Lerato Kganyago pulled out of hosting the Awards a week ahead of the event

The Feathers will be taking place later today at Theatre on the Track, in Kyalami. "We are so excited to have the beautiful

Khanya as host of our 8th anniversary ceremony! She has JUST '24 hours' to prepare for tomorrow night", FearthersSA wrote on their Instagram page.

IS PEARL'S ENGAGEMENT OFF?

TV and Radio Personality Pearl Modiadie has never been shy to show off her diamond engagement ring but now its off and she would rather not talk about it.

The Zaziwa host who got engaged to Nkululeko Buthelezi last year in December recently posted a picture with her engagement ring missing and her fans wanted to know why.

Pearl has not yet replied to the social media questions that she has been getting and looking at her Instagram profile the MIA

ring dates back to a week ago.

DR MALINGA'S JUMPSUITS COST R1 200

If you have always been a fan on Dr Malinga's style, you can now purchase a personalised

jumpsuit from the star for R1200.

The muso shared the snaps of his branded short jumpsuits on Instagram saying,

"Wow nice jumpsuit ne?

For sale R1 000 with your name on it R1 200."

So what do you say? Have some extra cash you've been dying to get rid of?

MISS SA'S DRESS GETS A THUMBS DOWN!

Miss SA Ntandokayise Kunene will be taking on the world to represent South Africa at the Miss

World competition in the US next month.

Ntando revealed what she will be wearing to the prestigious event and not everyone is happy with the dress.

Yesterday Miss SA revealed the two dresses she will be wearing to the event that are designed by JJ Schoeman and the national dress was inspired by the rising Mpumalanga sun where she was born and raised.

A lot of people have been questioning the dress including actress Florence Masebe who voiced out her opinion on twitter that the dress looks like an "orange sack".

KHABONINA QUBEKA SHUTTLES BETWEEN UZALO, ISIDINGO

The celebrated Thespian has been air-shuttling between Uzalo shoots, that are in the township of KwaMashu in Durban, and the Isidingo set in Joburg.

Her work schedule involves being on the sets of SABC1 and SABC3's two most popular shows, besides doing her cooking show on SABC2 and her women and children "Love Yourself" projects entailing workshops. Qubeka, 35, has certainly had her hands full working on SABC1 telenovela Uzalo, on which she stars as a cougar named Nokuthula,

and SABC3's Isidingo, where she plays Nina, a tough cookie vixen, drug dealer, shebeen owner and daughter of feared gangster Georgie Zamdela.



MARIAH CAREY 'DEMANDS EX NICK CANNON PAY \$5K-PER-MONTH

hile her messy separation from ex-fiancee James Packer rages on, diva Mariah Carey appears to be driving more of a divide between herself and ex-husband Nick Cannon.

The musician has reportedly asked her twins' father - who takes home one third of her \$6 million income - to top up the kids' trust fund by \$5k-a-month, while excluding herself from the same obligation.

News website TMZ has been told that one clause even stipulates that four-year-olds Monroe and Moroccan are prohibited from calling Mariah and Nick's future spouses 'mummy or daddy'. After declaring their individual income in 2014, it was revealed that Mariah's take home was \$6.3 million while his was \$2.7million.

Lucky for Nick, there is an understanding that he will get their 2012 Ferrari, however.

The couple are aiming to share custody of the children but the little ones are going to primarily stay with their mother.

...into twins' trust fund while she pays nothing'... and they can't call anyone else 'mummy or daday



Finally, only Mariah and Nick will ever be allowed to be called 'mother' and 'father' monikers by the children, as one clause in the settlement outlines. The singer and America's Got Talent host Nick married in the Bahamas in April 2008 after just six weeks of dating and a 10 year age difference. *Daily Mail*

Mos Def to broadcast live from Cape Town

APE TOWN - Radio is dead. Long live radio! That's the motto of SA's groundbreaking new online radio content portal, The Eye. The Eye is the brainchild of radio veterans Jon Savage and Catherine Grenfell. It breaks the mould of not only traditional radio but also gives online radio a swift kick in the pants. With a different broadcasting formula to other stations, The Eye offers something no-one else does: celebs

with serious street-cred airing shows on a rotated schedule - missed your weekly dose of your favourite radio show? Don't worry - you can catch it again tomorrow in a different time channel.

The latest additions to the line-up are Hollywood star Yasiin Bey (aka Mos Def) and journalist/ producer Ferrari Sheppard. Their first show airs at 14:00 on Thursday.



TIT BITS....

X-STACY SHADES BEACH PARTY...

n a rear occurrence in the entertainment industry Big Fun's dj X-stacy has thrown shade at the flying fish beach party festival line-up.

The Swaziland beverages this week released an exciting line-up for the festival scheduled for next week. The line-up which includes SABC 1 Live Amp's Lerato Kganyago and PH dj rubbed the local dj the wrong way as he posted a comment on facebook asking who they are? He further questioned how long

were event organisers in the country going to import unknown artists from South Africa to promote them in Swaziland? He then said parties like the beach party



festival did not need foreign deejays.

Organisers of the event did not entertain the deejay's post saying everyone had a right to have an opinion and some of his counter-

parts in the industry called him to order and told the talented dj that event organisers had the right to employ whoever they saw fit for their shows.



week Friday will be exciting for fun lovers as they are expected to get a lot of prizes.

This is the last show before the finale which will be held on 16 December. SFNL has been running for over two months now and with each addition fun lovers were yearning for more.

Dlamini has promised that the show next week Friday will not

Farai Foundation heaven sent...

disappoint instead it can only get better.

Farai foundation has proven yet again that they have a big heart. The foundation based in Sandton, South Africa has chosen to spend their fifth birthday celebration with the needy. Instead of throwing themselves a lavish party to celebrate the milestone, the foundation has decided to cele-

brate by giving back to the needy.

Their media relations officer Ur Gal
Zee informed this publication that
they would be spending the day
with children from Ekwetsembeni
special school.

"It is the season of giving and what better way to celebrate our milestone than to give back?

We will be at the school giving out clothing and food. We invite the public to be a part of this beautiful day," she said.

Zee also said there would be many activities on the day. "We

will be playing games. More than anything it will be a fun day for all," she said. She then called on all friends of the foundation to join hands.

Disount for students at Black Coffee show

T'S a bargain for students who will be attending the 'GSS Nights' headlined by the legendary Nkosinathi 'Black Coffee' Maphumulo as tickets will be discounted by 17 per cent for them. According to Entertainment World's Ambassador Mangaliso 'Elfoe' Masilela, Entertainment World had a lot of university students who showed interest in the show.

They realised students are future car owners who will also be fun lovers so this campaign is better suited for them so they curb drinking and driving in the

for this weekend tone, there will be a student discount. In Friday, all University students approduce their school ident words and control ticket

selling points (Spur Mbabane, EMC Studio in Manzini, Nandos Manzini and Matsapha) can buy a ticket at E150.00 and not E180.00. This applies only to general tickets. VIP stays at E300. This will run from Friday to Sunday. From Monday it will be back to the normal price," informed Masilela.

This mega show whose aim is to send out the message 'Drink responsibly, don't drink and drive, get a ride' is slated for November, 24 at Esibayeni Lodge in Matsapha and it is hosted in the courtesy of Entertainment World.

undayObserver Scene



eople came from all walks of life including the United States of America to witness the inaugural Essence Festival Durban held at Moses Mabhida and ICC Durban Hall in the past week.

International artist from different music genres and the cream of the crop from the South African music scene were lined up to perform in the two musical shows held last Saturday and Sunday.

The Saturday show was dedicated to different music genres which were headlined by USA Star Ne-Yo and Burner Boy among others. The Sunday show was strictly gospel which was headlined by Mary Mary and Yolanda Adams all from the United States of America.

This was the very first time for the festival to be held outside of the United States of America and it had to be the City of Durban to bring the show down

The city which is well known for hosting the biggest and most successful shows did just that and pulled a big one even on this one. The show was also graced by the country's head of state President Jacob Zuma who came specifically to honour Joseph Mshengu Shabalala. The Black Mambazo founding father was honoured by the City of Durban for his contribution in growing the music and also promoting the city, the province and the country at large through their

By Simon Shabangu

Somizi Mhlongo directing proceedings of the event.



Businessman Gcina Mabhena with celebrities Ntokozo Dlamini aka Mastermind SABC's Uzalo Actor and Shahle Mpisane who is the daughter of Durban Billionaire.

INAUGURAL ESSENCE **FESTIVAL**



Isidudla Sasethekwini, Thobekile rendering her performance during the gospel show last



Mary Mary, United States of America contemporary gospel duo, consisting of sisters Erica Atkins-Campbell and Trecina Atkins-Campbell rendering their performance at the Inaugural Essence Festival in Durban last Sunday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



USA Star Ne-Yo was a maran electrifying perfor-





SABC's Hlaudi greeting the audience while Joseph Mshengu Shabalala and President Jacob Zuma among dignitaries look on.



AKA also thrilled thousands of his fans.



Sbahle Mpisane striking a pose for our camera.



SUNDAYCOMMENT:

Self-serving MPs

The boycott of the Remembrance Sunday commemorations by the country's legislators is shameful. It really smacks of arrogance, to put it in five words.

Their decision to take time paid for by the tax payer to talk about how they were treated at last year's ceremony is also disgusting and characterises the calibre of legislators the country has, self serving and hoity.

Instead of serving the electorate, they want to be served, to be put on a pedestal. They forget that the electorate hired them with their votes and they have become more important than those who gave them their cushy jobs, with less than 17 months left of earnings.

Looking at how the majority gained weight immediately after their first pay cheque, the discussion and resultant boycott shows how they have quickly forgotten their promise to serve.

They displayed their ignorance of the day reserved for veterans who gave their lives for this country. The usually talkative Mtfongwaneni Member of Parliament Mjuluko Dlamini made it known they were badly treated by soldiers who "...did not care who they were." With this commotion not witnessed during the event last year, one can assume it happened during refreshments where only ministers and ambassadors are usually reserved a place to eat within the army head quarters building and allowed the privilege of serving first while the rest line up thereafter to eat the same food.

Personality

With Gege MP Mbongiseni Malinga supporting how "...people like them" were treated, this shows the collective personality of the MPs. They are more important than those who were supposed to be honoured.

Instead of calling for the remaining soldiers to be well looked after, the MPs looked at their own welfare. Wearing their blinders of self importance, they called for cards to be made and delivered to them in order to show they were welcome. Talk about being invited to a memorial service!

They forget that the ceremony is held annually to honour 53 Swazi soldiers who died in Swaziland and 24 who died in Egypt during World War II who have no known graves. For the families of the 24 fallen soldiers, the War Memorial Plaque is the only place where they get to honour them, remember them. They forget about the contribution of fallen soldiers during the Battle of Mshadza.

Our esteemed MPs want to instead be honoured and bowed to as they strut their stuff.

It is however gratifying to note how real 'servants of the people' have made it a point to attend the memorial service on a yearly basis and have shown utmost respect for 'lowly' soldiers.

Ambassadors like Republic of China on Taiwan Thomas Chen, United States of America's Lisa Peterson, Mozambique's Luis Adelino da Silva and South African High Commissioner's Representative Colonel Gaogakwe Molefe braved the cold and drizzle and made their way to Bethany and did the right thing.

Analysis & pinion

MINISTER FAILING EZULWINI TOWN



BY MBONGENI MBINGO

Phiwayinkhosi Mabuza to launch a probe into the Ezulwini Town Council is not such a brilliant one as it does not solve the problem.

If anything, it makes things worse. In fact, to be brutally honest, the probe is a shocking decision, and only exposes the minister as being afraid to take the right decision.

The Housing and Urban Development Minister has instituted a commission of enquiry into the Ezulwini Town Council mess, as per legal notice No.191 of 2016, in which the commission shall enquire into whether the council, a council or any other or an official has failed to observe and perform any of the duties and powers conferred or imposed upon it by the provisions of the Urban Government Act, or any other law regarding the operations and administration of the Ezulwini Town Council

This obviously is well and truly fine, and on another day, the minister would be commended for taking this decision. But, for me, it is a decision way too late. It is a soft decision. It is the kind of decision that leaves one baffled, if not overly disappointed.

Toxic

The reason I say this is that the Council is split—and the relationship has been very toxic. In fact, the relationship among Council, and especially between the CEO Vusi Matsebula and the Board has always been toxic—from the very first day.

I recall, for instance, how the Council refused to renew Matsebula's contract—some two years ago. That impasse was resolved by the minister, when the ministry eventually intervened and issued a directive to have him offered a contract. If I recall, the Council itself was new in office, and therefore this set a perfect foundation for a relationship that would be based on distrust, dishonesty and difficulty.

It is not surprising therefore that the two parties have been at each other's throats since then and this has been happening right under the minister's watch. The chief executive of the Council has found it difficult to operate, and stirred the hornet's nest when he reported this to the minister in what is referred to as Section 27—a clear cry for help and a sign that things

return. Matsebula wrote to the minister seeking for his intervention and citing that the relationship between him and his Board was becoming irretrievable, alleging irregular acts on the part of Council.

That was the beginning of the end, and sadly, the minister continued to take this lightly. At least he admitted as much when he announced the probe, saying that he thought the issues were minor. This is why I find that he is to blame for this.

The blame should be placed squarely on his lap because he just didn't apply his mind on this issue, even when it was plain to see that he had been failed by the person he had placed there as his ears and eyes—and that the Council was an accident waiting to happen.

Intervention

I will qualify this by pointing out two issues, excluding the fact that the CEO had already requested his intervention, in which the minister chose to call a meeting of Council and to beg for them to continue working together.

The first issue is that during the meeting with the Council on September 19, the minister issued a directive that Council should resolve their differences by engaging in a conflict resolution workshop, in which the idea was to resolve the impasse amicably. On the face of it, he was asking for a miracle.

One therefore pauses here and reflects on this being the

minister's attempt

to resolve the chaos,

for which I can-

not fault him. I

do however,

believe that he

should have

noted-with

concern-that

his appointee

within Council

was the subject

the

of the complaints

controversy, which would have raised the question of where his other appointee lied in the scheme of things. Crucially, it would have also meant that he would have known (or took note) of the serious allegations being thrown about, especially with regard to the leadership of the Council and along the issues of corporate governance. This would have been enough for him to act upon. This is more important if we reflect on the directive in favour of an inclusive process as a conflict resolution, despite there being serious allegations of acts of misconduct within Council and mainly the Finance Committee Chairperson and the Chairperson of the Council. Surprise To me this would have determined

CEO, and as well that Councillors

were accusing each other of serious

This would have meant two things;

his appointee was failing to provide

good leadership or handle this sit-

uation by being embroiled in the

allegations.

To me this would have determined the course of action thereafter, and so it was not a surprise that despite having taken the soft approach, the Council still defied the Minister, the second issue I have against the minster's decision. The Council went against his directives—twice. And, not only that, in the process he had engaged the Council and issued his directive for an inclusive process, the CEO was then charged with gross irregularities and mismanagement

of funds—a clear indication of abuse of position and defiance of the minister.

ance of the minister.

As the other councillors told the minister, it is indeed, 'preposterous that Council may level an allegatyion of misconduct against the CEO, predicated on a letter sent to him confidentially'—the minister had already acted on this!

Therefore, this coming

from an individual the minister appointed into Council, an individual who represents the minister more than the constituency of Ezulwini, is worrisome. From it, it could be deduced that this was a sign that the minister was not in control of this situation—and that things were getting worse. At that point, there was no other alternative than to pull the trigger, and disband the Council—en masse.

The chronology of events, as outlined in a letter addressed to him by three councillors who were distancing themselves against a decision of the Council should have also informed him that there was nothing else left to salvage. The contents of this November 14 letter show exactly that there was no longer any leadership to work with, and that the impasse was only going to be resolved in one way.

It is no wonder that subsequent to this letter, two councillors then resigned—clearly because the timid approach by the minister would serve no purpose.

It is in this regard that I find that not only has the minister buried his head in the sand here, he has wasted taxpayer funds by instituting a commission that will give him the same conclusion as he has now. To make things worse, Council term ends in six months, and consequently, the commission of inquiry will be a foregone conclusion—no matter how he may refuse to accept this.

Concluded

Other than that the probe cannot surely be concluded in less than three months, I do not see it solving the problem, except to add to the controversy, obviously because this enquiry being public means the dirty laundry will be out in the public for all to see.

In that case, I do not know what the minister must have had in mind when he took this decision. But, it is a pretty bad decision if the end result will be that there is no other solution than to disband, or to remove certain people.

By that time, the image of the Council would have been battered. By which time, the officers involved would have been dragged through the mud—some of them very unfair-

What I draw from this is that the minister has contributed to this mess by treating it lightly, and also refusing to accept the reality that he got it wrong from the start. He needs to accept the blame before he can be able to solve it.

Otherwise this probe is an exercise in futility.

were at the point of Housing and Urban Development Minister Phiwayinkhosi Mabuza.

CELEBRATING GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK



NOKUKHANYA GAMEDZE

JA BOARD CHAIR

oday marks the end of the Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) celebrations taking place all over the world.

During one week each November, thousands of events and competitions in 160 countries inspire millions to engage in entrepreneurial activity while connecting them to potential collaborators, mentors and even investors.

Swaziland has been actively participating in the celebrations of GEW since 2009 and JA Swaziland has been the host organization since 2011, taking from TechnoServe. This initiative has evolved over the years from just a one week celebration of entrepreneurship to become the Global Entrepreneurship Network (GEN) which is a year-round platform of programmes and initiatives aimed at creating one global entrepreneurial ecosystem. We have had a number of activities happening this week promoting and celebrating entrepreneurship, with the highlight being the Entrepreneur of the Year Awards being hosted during this significant week. JA Swaziland nas been going around the country recognising all the students who have completed the in-school entrepreneurship programme, JA Company.

We also had a graduation ceremony for the Out of School Youth entrepreneurship programme in partnership with Matsapha Municipality. There are other partners that have hosted various activities and we would like to extend our gratitude for keeping the entrepreneurship fires burning.

Being part of this initiative drives home the point that we cannot confine our entrepreneurship efforts within Swaziland, out we can thrive if we are part of a global ecosystem. I am pleased that as the This initiative has evolved over the years from just a one week celebration of entrepreneurship to become the Global Entrepreneurship Network (GEN) which is a year-round platform of programmes and initiatives aimed at creating one global entrepreneurial ecosystem.



JA out of school youth Certification as part of GEW Celebrations.

host of the GEW in the country, JA Swaziland has partnered with other organisations to expose our entrepreneurs to what is happening in other countries. One of the activities happening during the GEW saw over 40 participants from Swaziland, comprising of young entrepreneurs and organisations in the entrepreneurship space attending an entrepreneurship conference and fair in Mozambique, in an effort to seek for opportunities and business networks with their counterparts.

It is such exposure that opens the doors for collaboration with entrepreneurs in other countries to broaden our thinking beyond the borders of Swaziland. Such exposure is also very crucial for us to understand how we are progressing as a country in terms of entrepreneurial mindset and initiatives.

To contribute to the conversations around GEW, the Global Entrepreneurship and Development Institute (GEDI) published the Global Entrepreneurship Index 2017 report measuring the health of entrepreneurship ecosystems in 137 countries.

The Global Entrepreneurship Index measures entrepreneurial attitudes, aspirations and activity using various criteria including start-up skills, risk acceptance, networking, cultural support, opportunity start up, technology sector, human resources, competition, new products, new technology, high growth, internationalisation and risk capital.

According to this report, Swaziland was placed at number 88 in the world rankings, showing an improvement from 95 last year. Interesting to note is that Swaziland is ranked the 10th African country, out of the 36 African countries surveyed, with a better enabling environment for entrepreneurship to thrive.

The report revealed that Swaziland showed improvement in entrepreneurs with the necessary start up skills as well as entrepreneurs who accept risk and are not paralyzed by the fear of failure. It also revealed an improvement in the

country's capacity for firm-level technology absorption as well as increase in businesses in the technology sectors.

However, there are areas where the report indicates that Swaziland has not shown much improvement, which include the ability of Swazis to identify good opportunities to start a business in the area where they live. Linked to that is the low level of cultural support for entrepreneurship, meaning that in terms of status and career choice entrepreneurship is still not yet viewed as a viable option. This is where initiatives such as the Global Entrepreneurship Week play a significant role in changing that perception. Another area that Swaziland has not made much progress according to the report is the availability of risk finance, particularly equity rather than

Such information triggers our thinking and challenges us to re-look at the work that we are doing to promote entrepreneurship at different levels and capacities.

As a nation that is geared towards the first world status, where entrepreneurship drives the economy, we are challenged to strengthen our digital ecosystems, promote high growth and high impact entrepreneurship. This will be achievable if we connect our entrepreneurs with the rest of the world, hence being part of the Global Entrepreneurship Network is essential.

Subsequent to the November celebrations of entrepreneurship is the Global Entrepreneurship Congress (GEC) where thousands of entrepreneurs, investors, researchers, policymakers and other start up champions from the over 160 countries gather together. At this four-day congress delegates make connections, gain insights, and learn about new research.

I would like to invite all interested entrepreneurs and partners to participate in this congress which will be held in Johannesburg next year, 13 – 16 March, where over 5000 delegates are expected.

This is the first time the congress will be held in Africa and this being next door is a grand opportunity for Swazis to experience this vibrant entrepreneurship movement. (More information is available at www.gec.co).

What is the value of a qualification in SD?

Sir,

s I introspect myself on the fate of a Degreed Primary School teacher in Swaziland, I'm at a loss of words as I reflect on what is the value of education in Swaziland, especially in the teaching fraternity?

Swaziland as a middle-income country has thousands of teachers armed with Degrees and Post Graduate Certificates in Education: teaching in primary schools who are not paid according to the qualifications they possess.

These Swazis spend a lot of the tax payer's money (through scholarships) and sometimes their own monies paying for tertiary education: for what? If I may ask: when after graduating they are made to work under appalling conditions and at the end of the day they are not paid according to their qualifications.

Why does the government spend/waste the tax payer's money in awarding scholarships to deserving students to study in tertiary to get high qualifications when it deliberately fails/refuses to pay them as per their qualifications once they join the working class?

Where is the value of education in this? Where is the pride in acquiring a degree and

even a post graduate qualification when salaries are paid equally to those with lower qualifications (no harm intended to my colleagues with primary certificates and diplomas).

Where is the difference in spending four years studying for a degree when you

will be paid similar to one who spent three years studying for a Diploma?

Am I wrong to infer

Am I wrong to infer that there is no value in education in Swaziland, for the government seems to disregard one's qualification when it comes to paying salaries? Children,

'our learners,' learn by copying i.e. they look up to us (teachers) as their role models.

How are they going to aspire to have Degrees (BA's), Post Graduate Certificates and Master's Degrees (MA) when they see their teachers with these qualifications living in abject poverty and barely surviving? The honest truth here is that these teachers are not living: they're surviving.

With this government, teaching has been

degenerated from being a NOBLE profession to merely a worthless career in Swaziland that is flooded with worthless individuals.

To bring the nation up to speed, these Degreed teachers are supposed to be posted and teaching in secondary schools. Due to the

shortages of secondary schools in the country (an excuse by TSC), they are posted in primary schools with the 'promise' that once posts are available in secondary schools, they shall be

moved there. Lo and behold, this turns out a blue lie by the HR's there at TSC.

Teachers spend years in the waiting list to be transferred to secondary schools but only those with money to bribe the officers at TSC are transferred sooner to secondary schools regardless of their position in the waiting list. Isn't that corruption? Certainly it is.

Why are these teachers made to resort to such practices when their transfers should be automatic or should be remunerated at Degree scale even at primary level?

When these teachers ask such a question they are told that there are very few if not close

to none Degree posts in primary schools.

Why is the TSC employing teachers with Degrees to teach in primary schools? Isn't this a breach of labour laws, one wonders.

I am sure most of these affected teachers wouldn't mind continuing teaching in primary schools if they were to be paid according their qualifications.

I stand to be corrected by my fellow colleagues, I for one wouldn't mind.

I cannot help but wonder how then are we, as teachers supposed to inspire our learners to value and take education seriously when they see dropouts, drug dealers and criminals living better lives.

I will not use the word decent here, than the highly educated and hardworking citizens like us 'teachers'.

If we ask these learners in class as to what they aspire to be in life career-wise, a disturbing 20% if not 10% will choose teaching with the rest opting for the armed forces. Compare the entry requirements and qualifications one must have to either join the army and those required in the teaching profession: there is a huge disparity.

Is this not then a clear sign that education and one's qualifications are not valued in Swaziland?

Something needs to be done to salvage this, the sooner the better.

COW 1



eference is made to the matter above and in particular, to the Article by the International Trade Union Council, published in their Website on the 26th October 2016 and reported on in the Times of Swaziland newspaper on November 7, 2016.

It is FSE & CC's considered view that the article is politically motivated and it conveniently misrepresents facts for the purpose of unfairly politicising the Swaziland sugar industry. FSE & CC believes that the article apparently and intentionally distorts the figures to present the negative impression that the Swazi people do not benefit from the sugar industry.

In page 3 of the Article, the figures on the production of the four (4) main actors in the sugar industry are deliberately misrepresented in favour of the miller companies in which Tibiyo Taka Ngwane is alleged to have inter-

This is further from the truth, millers are responsible for less than 50% of cane production and the small out-growers are the second highest producers, with their contribution increasing year on year.

Poverty Alleviation and Job Creation

It is not by chance that there are so many small-holder growers in Swaziland. Poverty alleviation and job creation has been a top priority for the Swaziland Government, as reflected in its National Development Strategy (NDS) of 1997 which is a 25 year action plan ending in 2022; and the Poverty Reduction Strategy and Action Programme (PRSAP of 2008) which seeks to halve poverty by 2015 and eradicate it by 2022.

The gist of these Plans and Programmes is to empower the rural poor to engage in small holder irrigated farming, particularly in the Lowveld/Lubombo region where the poverty and unemployment rates have historically been high. This has been due to the fact that it is the driest region in Swaziland and is most susceptible to drought.

FSE & CC is aware that, to address this problem, the Government of Swaziland engaged in the Komati Downstream Development Programme (KDDP) which resulted in the construction of the Maguga Dam. In 1999, the KDDP was then transformed into a Government parastatal, Swaziland Water and Development Enterprise (SWADE), under the Ministry of Agriculture. SWADE duly implemented the Lower Usuthu Smallholder Irrigation Projects (LUSIP) 1 & 2, respectively between Siphofaneni and Big Bend in 2005 and around the Big Bend and Nsoko areas in

The LUSIP 1 & 2 were both preceded by comprehensive socio-economic and environmental impact assessments in 2000.

Following a decade of non-implementation, other assessments had to be done in 2012 for the LUSIP 2.

The reports of these assessments are accessible on the SWADE website. Families and communities to be affected by the establishment of dams and irrigated fields were duly consulted, resettled and compensated in line with the Swaziland Resettlement Policy of 2003. Many of the affected community members, as individuals or in groups called associations, decided to engage in sugar cane growing and other cash-crop farming following their new access to irrigated land. This is in

WORKERS RIGHTS AND LAND CONFISCATION SD'S SUGAR INDUST

KNOWYOUR RGHS

November 20, 2016

line with SWADE's mandate which has been to facilitate the process and not to manage the projects, so as to enable the affected communities to autonomously manage their development.

In this regard, the KDDP and LUSIP were set up for poverty alleviation through rural development complemented by social and economic infrastructure.

The main question is, have these projects succeeded? The response is an astounding yes!, historically, the unemployment rate in the Lubombo region where these projects are located has been the highest in Swaziland. In the last Labour Force Survey of 2013, unemployment in the Lubombo region went from being the highest in 2007 at 45.2% to be the lowest in 2013 at 39.08%. People in the affected communities were transformed from being unemployed and poor to become small-holder farmers and employers as individuals or through associations.

It is in such circumstances that Government's initiatives of poverty alleviation should be applauded. It is also why, it is untrue that all of the resettlements were by royal command, without consultation and compensation. In essence, the resettlements were for the very benefit of the affected residents.

WORKERS RIGHTS

Seasonal Workers:

The issue of returning seasonal workers is currently the subject of ongoing 2016 negotiations at the Agricultural industry's wages council where the workers have proposed the inclusion into the Regulations of this cadre of work-

A whole new section on this type of workers has been included in the Employment Bill, 2015 which seeks to significantly overhaul the current Employment Act No.5 of 1980, to bring it in line with the Decent Work Country Programme of 2009 and other current workplace realities.

The Labour Advisory Board finalised its deliberations on the Bill in its workshop of the 27th28th October 2016.

Casual Employees:

Casual employees are engaged for work of a very temporal nature, as in other industries within and outside of the country. The FSE&CC and its members do not endorse the casualisation of labour for work which is of a permanent nature. On the non-payment of casuals at the end of the day as per the definition of the Employment Act, 1980, the reality on the ground is that employees engaged for a few days normally request to be paid at the end of their term instead of receiving payment daily, so that they can receive a lump sum which the can be relatively used mean-

The definition of a casual employee is changing in the Employment Bill, 2015 to address this reality.

Contractors / Outsourcing:

Outsourcing for the purpose of concentrating on core business is not an unusual phenomenon both locally and internationally. In actual fact, it results in the creation of business opportunities for many a

Nevertheless, the miller companies do voluntarily place standards for their contractors, for the purpose of ensuring that their supply chain is compliant with labour laws.

PREVAILING CONDITIONS OF WORK IN THE AGRICUL-TURE INDUSRTY:

Minimum Wages:

The minimum wages in the Agriculture industry, under which the sugar industry falls were also misrepresented in page 9 of the ITUC Article by using figures of the revoked Regulation of Wages (Agricultural Industry) Order Notice 56 of 2012.

The current Wages Regulations under Legal Notice No. 11 of 2015 came into force on February 1 2016. Negotiations on the latter had been concluded by the Wages Council late in 2013. Negotiations for the 2016 increments are currently ongoing and they include deliberations on the introduction of "returning seasonal workers" into the wages regulations.

Below are the correct minimum wages, the lowest of which is E38.55 per day, which is equal to US \$2.78 and above the World Bank's poverty thresh-hold of US \$1.90 per day. In addition to these wages, the employers are obliged by the Wages Regulations to provide minimum weekly rations.

Hours of work, overtime, maternity leave, personal protective equipment and child labour:

The rest of the Article including the case studies on the violation of worker rights represents unacceptable, manipulative one sided reporting in that isolated and exceptional cases are reported as representing the norm in the sugar indus-

The veracity of these alleged cases is questionable in the absence of the respective employers being given an opportunity to respond. In fact, no attempt is made in the article to state whether or not these employers were contacted to give their side of the story.

Furthermore, Swaziland has robust and effective labour dispute resolution institutions and procedures in the form of inspections by the labour department, the Conciliation, Mediation & Arbitration Commission (CMAC) and the Industrial Court. The Labour and CMAC offices are evenly spread out throughout the country and are therefore accessible to aggrieved workers.

The representation in the article of the alleged workers being without recourse is rather disingenu-

As apparent from the article, many of the alleged abuses are outlawed by the Regulations for the Agriculture Industry as well as the Employment Act, 1980.

However, no mention is made on what attempts the alleged victims have engaged in to seek relief and whether or not they have been assisted by the abovementioned institutions.

THE USE OF VIOLENCE TO **BREAK PEACEFUL STRIKES**

The case study on the alleged use of violence to breakdown a strike

is well documented in the media. After three weeks of a peaceful strike, the employees started getting agitated and rowdy.

They stormed the head offices

of the company and vandalised same. Police were only brought in to restore peace and order. Police successfully did that and the demonstrations continued in peace up until the employees insisted on reentering the company head-offices. Employees became rowdy and went on to the extent of attacking police officers, seven of which were injured . During this time, a number of sugar cane fields had already been set alight.

Another strike at a sugar cane growing company called by the same trade union during that same time, was also characterised by the burning of sugar cane fields. Despite the promulgation of the Code of Good Practice on Industrial and Protest Action in December 2015, strikes called by this trade union have continued to be characterized by vandalism, intimidation and arson attacks.

On May 13, 2015, members of this trade union held hostage officers of CMAC who had come to conduct a strike ballot at Swazi Can in Malkerns.

The strike which subsequently took place early in June 2016 was characterised by the breaking of picket lines, the blocking of a public road and the vandalising of a factory. Pictures and footage of this vandalism by members of this trade union are readily available. In August 2016, the same union called another strike at a forestry plantation. Again this strike was characterised by forest fires . All these incidents have been well documented in the

In a bilateral meeting with the TUCOSWA executive on a number of issues in July 2016, the FSE&CC raised a concern on the incidence of strikes that are characterized by misconduct, vandalism and arson. In August 2016, the FSE&CC wrote to the trade union above on the above mentioned conduct of apparent unfair collective bargaining and its failure to condemn the arson attacks that take place during its

In conclusion, it should be noted that other issues not specifically addressed herein, remain vehemently denied as incorrect and in need of further substantiation. FSE&CC and its members, particularly those in the sugar industry, are very disturbed and shocked by the above report which is characterised by many half-truths and manipulative reporting. It is the position of the FSE&CC, that such unfair advocacy based on unsubstantiated facts against Swaziland must come to a stop.

LETHUMUSA SIMELANE

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here is an adage that goes: it is the little foxes that actually spoil your grain. We have over looked some nitty-gritties that are an integral part of our lives.

As a nation we have come a long way, we endeavor to make our country a better place, we do this in concert. Ironically, we are losing ourselves, our identity, integrity as a nation. We have managed to make our forefathers strangers in their own land, the land that they exerted their selves continuously, vigorously and obtrusively to gain. We are not fair to them and also to ourselves. Some people may contend that, I am a traditionalist, of which I am and that I don't want civilisation and development of our country. However, I certainly desire that as we embark to our promised land, we also take ourselves to the future.

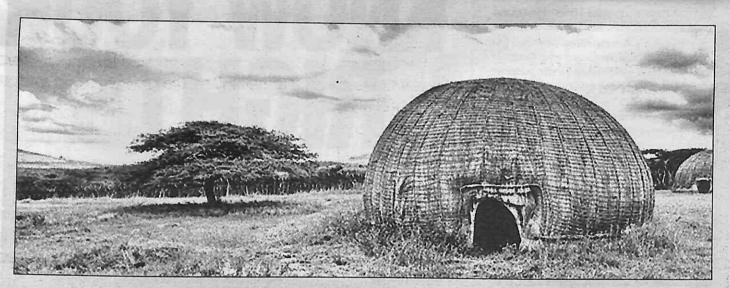
I am not being political as critics will say but has anyone noticed that we so much want to be like our oppressors, we speak their language, dress like them, walk like them and even eat their food. Many will node their heads as they read this, tell a person to eat *inkakha*, *umgcushu*, *lukhotse*, *tinkhobe*, *santjangabomu* they will look at you like you are a lunatic. Once you are seen in your traditional gear, you are quickly labelled 'Ngwane' if not licaba.

Many will differ on this but I don't blame the whites for the situation that we are in. I am of the view that we are to blame, we are responsible for our downfall.

Admittedly, they did not treat us very well but we are treating ourselves worse than they ever did. It is a disgrace that we treat our own African brothers with disdain but are more welcoming to the whites. We call our African brothers' emakwerekwere" and forget that with them, we share the same history.

We might want to be like the whites but the sad thing is that we will always want to be like them but we will never be them, you can simulate them all you can but you will remain black. I strongly discredit the ignominy that we are the only continent that imports human hair. Now ask yourself if the introduction of education was for our own good or it was just another tool to oppress us? I am of the view that it could be hard or almost impossible to rule people if they don't understand your language so the best alternative is to teach them your language. It is meant to control your thinking because in actual fact, we are programmed what to think and not how to think. it is a grave mistake to think that a cat will teach a mouse how to run fast and if we believe that it is possible then we are so naive and short sighted than I have ever imagined before. So are you who you

YEKA SIKHUMBA KUDLIWA YINONDVO!



think you are? Because quite frankly, you don't know who you are because you were told you are who you are. Over the years a lot has changed, our children are obliviously suffering.

There is a proverb that goes, it takes a village to raise a child. Gone are the days when a child was raised from home to the community and at national level. When an elder sees a child engaging in wayward behaviour, he will take measures to correct that, and if the child runs to his parents, he is likely to face another punishment. However, in our days that is not the case since children have rights and they know their rights. Funny enough they don't know that rights goes with responsibilities. Often times they will tell you about their rights but never their responsibilities. Emaswati atsi umtsentse uhlaba usamila, aphindze atsi ligotjwa lusemanti. Gone are the days when boys were sent in the veld to look after cattle and there they will learn survival skills and what it means to be a man. Today kwelusa sekwaba yi child labour. Interestingly, the boys impregnate girls like they are mad and they need cattle to pay damages to the girl's family. So how do you give your son cattle to pay damages when looking after them is wrong and impregnating girls is not? ngabe setashonaphi tintfombi letatiko kutsi sibaya seyise asivulwa? It is all mediocre! Umonakalo sewugcwele kulo lonkhe live. People

no longer value the purpose of *kukhonta*, land is illegally sold and money is the most favoured object to use *nawukhonta*. Let me remind the subscribers of modernity that *kukhonta* is not just a formality but it helps as far as background check. Originally, *umuntfu lokhontako uyavalelisa lapho asuka khona*, this is done with the intention to assure that the person is a formidable member of the society. *Bantfu emphakatsi bayetfula*.

It is deplorable to imagine that lisiko lekwetfula has succefully died out, lapho bantfu betfula emiphakatsi yabo.

This set up on its own, fostered respect amoung the Swazi people. People understood that umphakatsi was not just a charity case but a place of refuge because even when natural disasters occur and spoil your stored food, you can always seek refuge emphakatsi and they can give you some food for to survive. In fact, ujika sinkhwa ngenhla usitfole ngentasi nawetfula. However, I cannot act surprised. Charity begins at home. kwakhona emakhaya bantfu abasati kutsi bayetfula kuyo inkhosana who in turn eftule kuyise n uyise will pass it on etfule emphakatsi. As a nation we have lost many precious things to us, things that define us, things that characterises us as the Swazi nation. Another thing that we no longer practise many lisiko lekuhlehla. These were the few practises

that brought people together and staggeringly united them, a united community is a healthy country. Awu ngabe namuhla ungake umeme lilima? Nakatsi emaSwati live liyengcayelwa, they are emphasising on the importance of respect. Respect is an umbrella word, in it there is a lot to unpack.

It is really disturbing to witness the conduct of widows this days, they no longer respect the death of their husbands. It is even more shameful as some even refuse to mourn their husbands, mainly because they have religions and rights. Religions that they don't understand themselves.

Many tell the story of Jesus, what about the story of their grandfathers? You need not to second guess to this as their grandfathers are "evil".

The one thing I like about the story of my grandfathers is that I do not need to be a believer because believing is the cognitive process that leads to convictions. So you may not be sure of what you believe in, if it is there or not, you just have to believe it is there, yet with my grandfathers, I am certain there are there. You might just want to reconsider your story. Another thing that we take very lightly is naming our children.

A name of a person must tell a story. Long ago, it was easy to recognise a person just by

NOKWANDA DLAMINI-MASUKU ON THE GRAIN EMAIL: MARKETING @NMC.CO. SZ WWW.NMC. CO.SZ

WHY MAIZE IS A SOLUTION TO SWAZILAND'S FOOD SECURITY CHALLENGE

aize is a staple food for most countries in the SADC Region and it remains important for achieving food security in Southern Africa. In the agricultural economy, maize is one of the most important cereal crops in the world for human consumption, animal feed and other industrial raw material requirements.

It is, in fact, one of the world's leading crops with an estimated 637 million tonnes produced annually. In Swaziland, it is the staple food of the Swazi nation and is the most

ajor opportunities lie in using NMC as a maize market for the nation because this is the one organisation that has the muscle and technical know-how to circulate and spin our maize industry thereby turning maize production into a highly profitable grain.

widely produced agricultural product in the country. Even subsistence farmers grow maize more than any other crop; so much so, that agricultural marketing is dominated by maize marketing amongst small scale farm holders.

It accounts for an average of 36% of all caloric intake in the region and the predominance of the crop in farming systems basically suggests yield gains have the potential

to kick-start a major improvement in nutritional value.

As a result of the continuing and drastic effects of global warming, the SADC Region continues to experience high levels of volatility in annual production, and though the levels of production have been varying from one season to another, the general rate of production has hit an all time; something the region hadn't experienced in over 30 years. This made the success of the production of the crop particularly vulnerable, especially because maize is mostly grown under rain-fed conditions.

However, through the introduction of the Farmer Development Officers, NMC aims to increase production. The primary function of the Farmer Development Officers

the name, you will be able to tell which family is from because a name would carry a family history. A child was named after certain incidents or kube kutsi uvuse umuntfu tsite emndenini, utawubese unikwa ligama lalowo muntfu.

For example, the name Sentelweyinkhosi is more meaningful than the name Kimberly. Sentelweyinkhosi tells a story and yet Kimberly is just a name. The birth order in the family is also very essential but somehow we tend to overlook it.

In a Swazi set-up, there are two family members that sustain or retain the family. Most disputes occur because we neglect this. Indlu, nelidlala are two different things. People who come from lidladla lendvodza now claim kutsi sebaphuma endlini yendvodza. Lisokanchanti, who is the first born in the family, plays a significant and crucial role in the family.

He is the right hand man of umnumzane ekhaya, he works closely to him and learn many things from him. This is because when Umnuzane passes on, lisokanchanti takes on from where he left and leads the family.

He is then considered to be the head of the family. Matters of the family are discussed with him and he takes the final decision. However, tfunjana yena nguyeloba yindla lifa yasekhaya. Moreover, lisokanchanti Kanye natfunjana bona abaphumi ekhaya. The other boys bayaphuma bayewukhonta. Kutsiwa bandzisa titja. We no longer value the most important things to us, forsaking such things has led us to where we are and we are busy searching for answers, searching for solutions yet they are lying with us. Rise Swaziland rise for this is your time to take the initiative and do what is right. Or have you forgotten that you are Africa's new promise?

In respect of the above, change is inevitable but it is within us to go back to where we come from. Trace back our footsteps. It is my greatest belief that it is the past that determine the future, in order for us to have a future we have to connect to the past. A nation without its past is a nation without a future and a nation without a future is a nation in darkness. Swaziland as small as it is, can make things happen. The chairperson of SADC is from this very small landlocked country.

Now ass yourself, what else can Swaziland do? Your guess is as good as mine. Those who came before us did their part and the ball is in our court. I am very certain that they would not be impressed with us because this is not what they had hoped. If they were to be risen from the dead, they will not even recognise their land. Some may even opt to go back to the land of the dead. Awu YEKASIKHUMBA KUDLIWA YINOND-



arcus is a Swedish travel

writer who, in the last

decade, has traversed all

seven continents of Mother Earth.

Last year, Marcus was in Swaziland,

independently, and he took with

him memories that he says he will

cherish till the day he dies. Marcus

runs his own website www.earth-

seeing.com, which attracts about

23 000 visitors per month. Marcus

spent a day and night at Mbuluzi

Game Reserve and these excerpts

are from his diary, which he shared

"I'm at a cabin in the woods, a lone-

ly cottage, somewhere in the forests

of Swaziland. It is silent. It is empty.

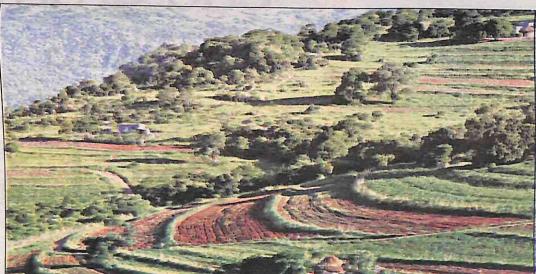
Only the sound of the animals, the

on his website.



TOURISM & TRAVEL BY BONGANI DLAMINI STA Marketing Manager Email: mm@tourismauthority.org.sz

'AT NIGHT, I LISTEN TO THE SOUND OF ANIMALS'



trees and a river can be heard. I feel alive. I feel peaceful. I have never been more relaxed in my entire life. Peaceful, even though I know there are crocodiles, hiding in the bushes by the river, poisonous black mambas and puff adders lurking under the leaves and dry branches on the ground. Death is biding his time, but I won't let him near. Not this time. Not here. Not in paradise. Not in Swaziland. No more fear. No more anxiety.

Forgotten phobias.

Nightmares gone. Just peacefulness. My mind at ease.

The river is brown, greenish. It reminds me of the ones I've seen in Southeast Asia; the ones I've seen on TV, from South America. Palm trees grow along the edges. A mountain in the background. A waterfall can be heard nearby. It is exotic. It is green. It is natural. It is calming. It is peaceful

During daylight, I can see the river from the porch of our cabin. But at night it is pitch black, and then, only the moonlight provides comfort. It feels mystical and exciting. I could stay forever. I would like to stay forever. I'm living the dream. No restaurants, no Wi-Fi, no nothing. Only the cabin, the forest, the animals and a new good friend as company. It is peaceful.

I'm at a game reserve, in the northeast of beautiful Swaziland. The cabin is not expensive, as long as you share it with someone. The next door neighbour is far away. We have our

privacy. They have theirs. It really is peaceful. Maybe too much. Hadn't it been for the sudden noises of dried leaves scraping the surface of a tree or an eagle's desperate cry or a splash in the river, I might not have liked it as much as I do now. This is truly one of the best experiences of my travels so far. Just what I needed. Just what I wanted.

I feel immortal. I feel spiritual, natural, perfect.

We wake up early. We go out to the pit. We make a fire. We make some coffee. We sit down. Relaxing. Freezing. Enjoying. We warm ourselves by getting as close to the burning flames as possible, while listening to the vervet monkeys making noises in the trees. A kudu is chewing on some grass, a few metres away. It is peaceful.

A little later we make breakfast. We eat eggs and fried rice. We toast our bread on the fire. We are enjoying every moment of being alone in the forest. We feel great. We feel free. We are free. I met four giraffes today. They were standing on a path in the desolate and dry forest. Eating what was left of green leaves on some trees. They stared at me. They didn't run away. They just stood there. All four of them, having a staring contest

with this strange looking creature. A human. I watched them for almost 30 minutes before I continued on, leaving them to finish their breakfast. Another moment of peacefulness. Maybe there is still hope? One with nature. One with the world. Humans and animals. Harmony.

When I walked back they were still there. I stopped, so I wouldn't scare them. They also stopped. Stopped eating.

Turning their long necks towards me. Just like they were afraid of frightening me. They stood still, watching and observing. Wonderful, beautiful creations. An interaction I've never experienced before. A moment stuck forever in my heart.

I'm lying on the grass next to the river. My friend is asleep next to me. The sun is hot. It burns my skin. I feel like I'm caught in a dream. A dream about to end. The pouring water and the noises from the other side of the river calms my nerves. This is real life. This is not a dream. I am really here. Now. In Africa. In Swaziland. A dream come true! A life worth living! Soon, this real life illusion will fade away, as we have to leave, but the memory will be etched into my mind until the day I die. Happiness. Love. The meaning of life!

The sky turns crimson as the sun sets. Soon it gets cold and the surrounding forest wakes up. Red eyes in the distant, watching our every move. Perhaps a Bok or an Impala; a crocodile or a snake? Nature's surprise. Earthseeing and animalseeing. A mind's trick? A real threat? No, just a curious, furry, friend of the forest, trying to figure out who and what we are.

Now the braai fire is burning. The cold winds of the evening are swept away by the heat from the glowing fire. It is cozy. Even the birds seem to like it. They sing their songs as loud as ever.

It is like a soundtrack to our escape. A temporary escape. A few days of tranquillity, before it is time to go back to reality again. I don't want to. I think I'll stay here until the end of my days. The end of earth. The end of time.

After dinner we put on some music. When the music stops we continue to listen to the sound of the animals. We understand now that there is still hope. All of you are not ugly. Vanity is not in everyone. There is still hope for a better world. Hope for mankind? Hope for our beloved friends..."

is to aid maize farmers and arm them with the latest techniques and information related to maize production with a view to help them achieve their maximum potential aimed at making the country food secured.

In order to stimulate changes in maize productivity and increase benefits for farmers, they must be alerted about the availability of formal marketing bodies such as NMC, who, through their different stakeholder management activities and communication platforms will awaken their interest in commercial farming.

For Swaziland, it is not so much that there isn't enough land for farming than it is that we are not going about our farming activities the correct way. Farmers alike need to adopt a culture of reflecting on what commonalities lie in their farming methods, look at

the general characteristics of smallholdings in terms of farming, identify them (low yields, poor harvests, etc) and then look into ways of improving in those areas, with a view to start making lucrative revenues from the farming activities.

The days of looking at farming purely for subsistence purposes must come to an end, the sooner, the better for us

Major opportunities lie in using NMC as a maize market for the nation because this is the one organisation that has the muscle and technical knowhow to circulate and spin our maize industry thereby turning maize production into a highly profitable grain. For a small country like Swaziland,

at just over 17 000 square kilometres, it is estimated that we need to have maize yields of 140 000 metric tonnes (MT) a year in order to consider ourselves food secure, this would take about 14 000

hectares of land to produce an average of 10 tonnes per hectare; and now, considering that we have what is termed winter maize, which is maize grown under irrigation during the winter season, thereby giving us two farming seasons, the country is estimated to be able to 'get by with ease' with just

8 000 hectares of land. But Swaziland has endless arable land, this is indeed

And with support from the National Maize Corporation who will provide a guaranteed market to farmers and the Swazi Nation, farmers can be able to benefit through the different levels of the maize value chain.

In neighbouring RSA for example, agriculture contributes to approximately 10% of formal employment, contributing about 2.6% of that coun-

Maize is also their most important crop; is a dietary staple, a source of livestock feed and an export crop. Government programmes including generous loans and extension services have been crucial to that country's business enterprises.

This, too, is the vision of NMC's

CEO, Sabelo Msibi, who sees a food secure Swaziland through the continued development of strategic alliances with entities that can produce maize for NMC and ultimately the country on a commercial scale as well as through developing and upholding healthy stakeholder relations.

NMC's CEO insists that food security is not in the supermarket, nor does it lie with government.

True food security lies with man and his hands.

Food security lies in our ability to produce enough for our families and surplus to sell to others, thereby achieving a difficult feat of attaining access to food for all. Food security lies in good agricultural practices and this, for him, is one of the noblest forms of employment for man. Will you be producing maize this season?

MIND THAT ERROR

ADIDI UYO



he answer to that question is quite simple, once we decipher the last word in it, that is, SIC. This is an acronym which stands for Shift In Construction.

Of course, SIC sounds like sick. And, granted that errors are like diseases, that is more than a sheer coincidence, for SIC is a grammatical disease that afflicts sentences.

As you must know, a sentence, the basic unit of language, is a construction. In grammar, construction refers to the process of combining words or to the product of such a process: a group of combined words. So, besides sentences, phrases and clauses are also constructions.

A group of combined words may be correct or incorrect, depending on the kind of words it comprises and how they are joined together. Take these two groups of combined words, for example: "once upon a time" and "once upon a table."

Ah ha, I can hear you holler! And that is because your sentence sense – something which we all have in varying degrees - has immediately told you that there is something wrong with the second group of combined words: "once upon a table." That's relatively easy to feel, because the word, "table," does not combine with "once upon," since table is not a member of the family of words that pertain to time.

That construction is in error because it mixes two different elements. A sentence usually comprises more than one construction, and when such constructions are mixed, it leads to a mixed sentence structure, which is an alternative name for shift in construction, whose acronym, we have said, is SIC.

Look carefully at the following sentence and try to determine whether it features a shift in construction or not.

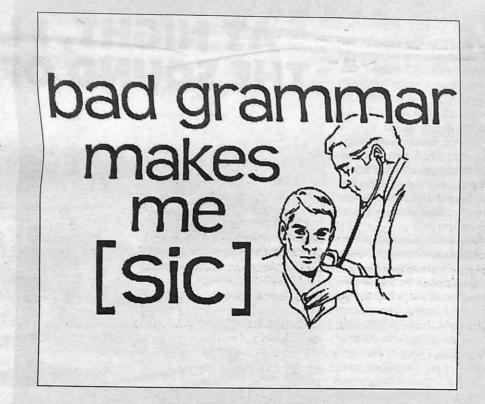
I am sure you can tell the exact point where the shift occurs, because of a particular word that signalises the shift. The sentence reads: "Nxumalo was appointed the Minister of Public Service where he replaced Sithobelweni Constituency MP Patrick Magobetana Mamba while Gamedze replaced Pigg's Peak MP Jabulane Mabuza who was redeployed to the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Trade where he replaced Mkhiweni Constituency MP Gideon Dlamini."

The sentence is the fourth paragraph of a news story in the Times of Swaziland, October 24, 2016, with the headline: "We will enjoy new perks without guilt – new ministers." I am sure you can tell the spot where the shift occurs in the sentence? But if you cannot spot it, let me point it out for you.

In the sentence, we find the word, "where," appearing in two places. The second instance poses no problem, at all. But the first one does. As you know, "where," is an adverb of place. But if you look at the construction that precedes it at the beginning of the sentence, it has nothing to do with place. Rather, it is about a person and the position to which he has been appointed, that is, Nxumalo being appointed as Minister of Public Service.

This is why the word, "where," causes a shift in construction. That part of the sentence may be revised, thus, to remove the cause of the shift in construction: "Nxumalo was appointed the Minister of Public Service, replacing Sithobelweni Constituency MP Patrick Magobetana Mamba..." We find a similar shift in construction in the second sentence of the paragraph that follows: "Taxation remains very punitive. It is no longer where only the poor are getting poorer but the middle class is diminishing and big business going down." This is the sixth paragraph of an opinion piece in the

WHAT MAKES A SENTENCE SIC?



group of combined words may be correct or incorrect, depending on the kind of words it comprises and how they are joined together. Take these two groups of combined words, for example: "once upon a time" and "once upon a table."

Times of Swaziland SUNDAY, August 23, 2015, titled, THE OVERZEALOUS SRA.

What makes the sentence SIC, as you can see, is the adverb, "where." It causes a shift because taxation is not a place, and cannot be mixed with the temporal adverb, "where."

If taxation remains punitive, then, a situation is emerging. And it is this situation that the second sentence is actually presuming by using the word, "where."

Accordingly, the shift in construction may be removed by correcting the sentence, thus: "The situation is no longer one of the poor getting poorer, but also of the middle class diminishing, and big business going down."

Here is a third case in which "where" makes a sentence SIC: "During this event, Muslims across the world slaughter animals where they keep one third for themselves, another one third given to their friends and neighbours and the last third given to the needy." This sentence is the second para-

graph of a news story in the Times of Swaziland, September 13, 2016, with the headline: "Christians join queue as Muslims celebrate Eid-ul-Adah." If we remove the adverb, "where," from the sentence, and reconstruct it, as follows, it will be cured of its SIC-ness: "During this event, Muslims across the world slaughter animals, and keep

one third for themselves, another one third given to their friends and neighbours, and the last third given to the needy."

ASHRAFF DECRIES
ASIANS MAD RUSH FOR
SWAZI OWNED LAND is
the headline of a news story
in the Observer On Saturday,
October 15, 2016. The first
sentence of the story reads,
thus: "Following the continued influx of foreigners mostly of Asian origin who in turn
take over Swazi owned businesses in the form of grocers,
supermarkets and other small
businesses, serious concerns
have been raised."

The shift in the foregoing sentence comes after participial phrase which ends with "small businesses."

The error here definitely resembles another syntactic error known as dangling modifier

However, a closer look at it reveals that the error is more of a shift in construction than of a dangling modifier.

We can align the sentence by revising the last construction in the sentence, thus: "...many people have raised serious concerns about the development."

But a better option might be to shift the closing construction of the sentence to the beginning, and then modify it, thus: "Many people have raised serious concerns about the continued influx of foreigners, mostly of Asian origin, who in turn take over Swazi-owned businesses in the form of groceries, supermarkets and other small businesses."

WHEN TAXI MATHE-MATICS JUST DOES NOT ADD UP was the title of an opinion piece in the Sowetan of August 10, 2010. The introduction reads, thus: "To anyone who has had to use a taxi as a mode of public transport, you are all familiar with the scenario of taxi mathematics gone wrong when the taxi fare of all passengers just doesn't add up and brings out the horns of the taxi driver."

Can you place your finger on the spot where the shift in that sentence occurs? Yes, you can: After the opening clause, that is, the construction which ends with "transport," the word, "you," marks a shift.

The sentence may be revised, thus: "To anyone who has had to use a taxi as a mode of public transport, the scenario of taxi mathematics gone wrong is a familiar affair: It occurs when the taxi fare of all passengers just doesn't add up, a situation that brings out the horns of the taxi driver."

Detecting a shift in construction requires an acute awareness of the kinds of sentence structure, for SIC occurs when, as one grammarian aptly puts it, "a writer starts a sentence with one kind of structure and then shifts in the middle to another kind."



JOY NDWANDWE'S ZONE LEADERSHIP

ountain Inn, my festival of ideas and concepts, like all festivals, there are exciting moments. And there are asbestos moments with toxins and sawdust moments, which leaves one dumbfounded, wondering why listen to this conversation.

The exciting moments always raise my antenna, I listen deeply indicating am suitably impressed. By this time, am considering whether this is something I can share with our readers. As being a researcher is a full time job, always looking for new ideas and concepts to share on this column. In the spirit of knowledge and information sharing and disseminating, my vocation and passion, today I share on the works of Econ Swaziland. May I publicly declare that I was not paid for this article, but this was a compelling concept I could not resist sharing and disseminating.

Technology in Construction

This concept on light weight steel-the new green building material for me resonates with vision 2022, which states: 'By the year 2022, the Kingdom of Swaziland will be in the top 10% of the medium human development group of countries founded on sustainable economic development, social justice and political stability.' Econ Swaziland raised my curiosity during an informal discussion as a former knowledge worker in urban development, housing and infrastructure development remain close to my heart. Therefore I saw this technology in construction as a critical intervention, towards attainment of vision 2022.

The light weight steel concept speaks to recycling materials, more specifically steel frame recycling. For example six recycled cars can build a 200 square metre house, that is a, three bedroom house. This technologically based construction takes a building plan whether computer assisted design or handmade, imports it into a software, which designs the structure. A light weight steel structure with all disaster and environmental management features, including weather insulation. The computer assisted design or handmade plan through computer assisted manufacturing is transformed through a processing machine into light weight steel.

The frame is assembled within the factory, whilst the team on site are preparing a light building foundation, as this light weight steel does not require a deep foundation. The computer assisted manufactured frame is taken on site, and construction takes almost half a day. The steel frame is supported by fibre cement board, with no asbestos, for internal and external closure of the building. This structure is constructed with all its incisions and outlets for pipes and other fittings designed during the computer assisted manufacturing.

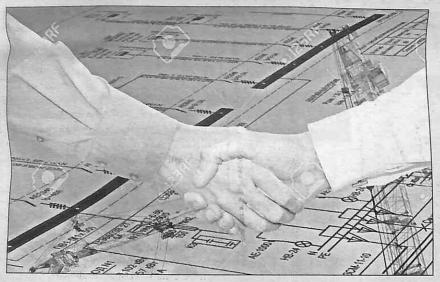
Technology in construction contributes to the reduction of carbon footprint due to its light weight, there are less loads transported to site. This new green house also provides appropriate insulation for both heating and cooling, which reduces energy consumption. The foam concrete which fills the walls, between the two boards has bubbles that insulate the house during both summer and winter. This technology in construction also provides solar, water and energy savings, including water harvesting and a gas cooker. This new greenhouse can be a multi floor structure, it is appropriate for schools and residential purposes. This model was used when constructing the Pan-Africa games village for 48 athletes in Maputo, Mozambique.

Technology Applied in Agriculture

This intervention is also applicable in agricultural production not only does it offer construction efficiency but it is well earthed for lighting and thunderstorms, it is protected and secure. It also provides opportunity for re-training existing construction labour and also on site they train local labour. This new green house for agriculture built through computer assisted manufacturing, was music to my ears as we advance to vision 2022. Food security is a critical challenge that requires

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SUSTAINABLE FUTURES, AN INTERVENTION



• Evidently technology in construction as a holistic intervention towards contributing to sustainable futures, connecting technology, housing, agriculture and education.

technologically assisted manufacturing, as this new green house. Due to its structure, this green house is designed for water and energy saving, as it recycles water for planting.

This planting is on shelves within the green house, and most significantly this is organic farming as no artificial pesticides are added. The main agricultural products that this greenhouse produces are vegetables and animal feed. This process takes approximately seven days, and its target is seasonal vegetables, which through this technology can be planted and harvested throughout the year. In a 6X3 metre green house, with no fertilizer, no intensive labour and most significantly with recycled water. This part of the application of this computer assisted manufactured light steel green house had my antenna on high signal.

As at this point I was imagining vision 2022 with no food insecurity as there would be community projects that are able to produce vegetables throughout there year. I was also imagining cooperatives that are investing in this agricultural production, hence they are able to sell their vegetables to communities. We have child headed households that require vegetables, and can be helped by this greenhouse because it does not depend on environmental conditions. Swaziland is recovering from drought that has resulted in loss of Swazi's capital, that is, cows, and this greenhouse produces animal feed. This intervention calls for the cooperatives in all four regions to experience the rising of their antennas as they read this article.

Implications for Education

This technology in construction has already taken my imaginative mind to vision 2022, however there are implications for the education system. Fortunately, the Swaziland National Curriculum Framework has laid the foundation, through its promoting competency based education. The framework advocates that Swaziland be a knowledge based, productive and entrepreneurial, connected, gender-equitable, principles and culture-conscious, healthy and environmental sustainable society.

These elements in the national curriculum framework, are critical for Econ company intervention towards sustainable futures. And the competency based education will provide the

learners that will connect with this technology in construction.

In conclusion, the secondary and high school learners that are dropping out or not entering college, are provided with a window of opportunity through this intervention. As it allows for practical and technological career development to coexist, for example the agricultural greenhouse is monitored through cell phone sim cards.

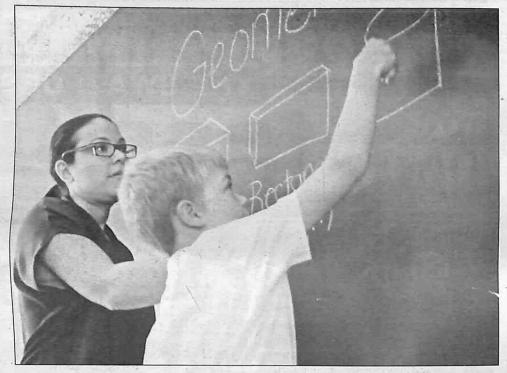
The existing institutions such as Swaziland College of Technology must also come on board in ensuring that students are trained for the practical aspects of this intervention. Whilst the upcoming SADC University will also provide opportunities for technological career development for many students, particularly those who drop out of high school or are not absorbed by existing universities.

This challenges the ministry of education and training to also have a database of leaners who drop out or are not absorbed by universities and colleges.

The most important intrigue for me about the Econ Company intervention is that it provides opportunity to create an agricultural revolution, which does not require irrigation. Whilst it offers opportunity for ensuring that the unemployed youth can turn into agriculture as entrepreneurs, community development officers or employed by cooperatives.

I am certain the same rule applies in Swaziland, that cooperatives are the best resource mobilisation organisations. And they are always hungry for investment opportunities, and the agricultural production for me has their names on it

Lastly this intervention towards sustainable futures as we advance to vision 2022 whilst achieving the overall goal of general education: 'To develop individuals for the realisation of a knowledge based society which contributed to the eradication of poverty through promoting self-reliance, gender equity and improved health so as to foster global competitiveness and accelerated socioeconomic growth with environmental sustainability while instilling responsible citizenship and maintaining moral and cultural values.' Evidently technology in construction as a holistic intervention towards contributing to sustainable futures, connecting technology, housing, agriculture and education.'



Autistic children don't only need their family behind them they also need every member in society to understand and motivate them through their difficulties. They are not really in touch with their emotions, but when you show your cruel side, they feel it. When you show love, they feel that too, and God sees it all and will reward you accordingly.





CHARLOTTE CHIPANGURA

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here are many challenges that come with raising a child with special needs, and it only takes one close to the situation to understand how harrowing it can be.

As a parent of such a child, you worry about educational opportunities, recreational opportunities, what's your child's future going to be like, what if you die before that child and no one understands him or can take good care of him... The list is endless.

Then there are manmade challenges, those that come from people around us, strangers, neighbours, and families alike. Having a child with intellectual disabilities makes you a target for dart of all shapes and sizes getting thrown at you. Whether it is because the disability is not visible to the naked eye, or other factors, nobody really knows. Today I just thought I would highlight only a handful of challenges faced by parents whose children have autism. I hope that it helps raise more awareness to what characterises autism, and hopefully results in people being more understanding and helpful, instead of antagonistic when they come across people with autism.

Autism is a developmental condition that makes it difficult for individuals that have it to communicate effectively and understand certain aspects of life. For that reason, they may come across as rude, spoilt, or stupid. They are not any of that. Their brain function does not allow them to see life the same way as everybody else, and they should not be judged for being created that way. Their parents should not be accused of bad parenting. You only need to be in their shoes and walk a mile in them before you can accuse them of that. Just because you can't see the challenge doesn't mean it's not there, and it also doesn't mean you are free to judge and (mis) diagnose.

It is very hard to take an autistic child to fam-

The Hard Road Autism Parents Travel

ily or work functions, so parents just end up boycotting such events or leaving the child at home. Crowded or busy places, like shopping malls, music festivals, parties, among others, can overwhelm or confuse such a child and make them have a bad reaction characterised by crying, noise or what might be deemed inappropriate behaviour. Please be patient when you meet a child like that. The urge might be strong, but please don't stop in your tracks to stare, or worse, start recording with your phone so that you can circulate on social media. Not all children displaying a spectacular meltdown in public are spoilt. Some are just autistic and cannot help how they act.

Our continent is still a long way from accepting an autism diagnosis, even when so many individuals are affected. Church mates will think the child is possessed by demons if he acts out, relatives will believe he was bewitched. A person with autism is neither demonic nor bewitched. He/she has autism, a condition which affects one in every four people in the world. Many parents have a torrid time with families shoving solutions to the condition down their throats. Most in-laws are notorious for this behaviour. Parents of the affected child would be doing their best to cope with their child's condition and the challenges it comes with, but there is always someone who will come out of the woodwork accusing them of not trying hard enough to find a cure. Parents of autistic children are dragged by the teeth to prophets and traditional healers.

Autistic children don't only need their family behind them they also need every member in society to understand and motivate them through their difficulties. They are not really in touch with their emotions, but when you show your cruel side, they feel it. When you show love, they feel that too, and God sees it all and will reward you accordingly.

If you have any comments on this article or any disability issues you would like explored, please get in touch on 7810 3501 or *charlony-atanga@gmail.com*.



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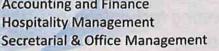
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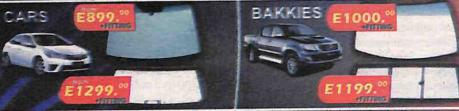
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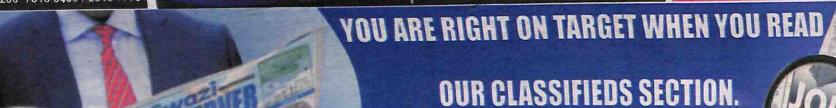
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BARCELONA DON'T WANT COUTINHO

interest in making a move for Philippe Coutinho, despite having a strong admiration for the Brazil star, according to a leading observer of La Liga foot-

Spanish football expert Guillem Balague reckons Barca coach Luis Enrique would rather spend money on a different area of the squad even though he 'loves' the Liverpool

Coutinho has been heavily linked with Barcelona over the past month, with Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp reacting to the rumours

on Thursday.

However, Balague reckons the Brazil international would only play second fiddle to the likes of Lionel Messi if he joined Barca.

And the pundit is convinced the Spanish champions aren't interested anyway, telling Sky Sports: "Barcelona love Coutinho but they have no strategy to sign him at the moment.

"Neymar would like them to sign him and Coutinho himself is Philippe Coutinho.

ADRID - Barcelona have no interested in the fact that Barcelona have followed him.

That's because he's a forward and he can play where Lionel Messi and Neymar play but they are both there.

Coutinho can't be a substitute

those. also going cost around 70 million euros (£60m) and there is no buyout clause. This would mean a lot

of negotiating with Liverpool. I don't see it happening. Barcelona will spend their money some-

where else." Klopp was asked for his thoughts on Coutinho's future at his press conference at Melwood on Thursday and the Reds boss was confident the player would stay at Anfield.

"The club is not a problem, our owners are not a problem," said the German.

"It is creating the perspective that noone wants to leave. That is all it is about.

"If there is a club that can pay double what we pay then I will bring the player there because who am I to say 'No, no no, please don't think about the family and the kids and the grandkids and their kids but I don't know a lot of clubs in the world who are able to do this.

"First of all before we talk about money we have to create an atmosphere in and around the club where no-one wants to leave.

'At this moment I am not worried about anything. The players like to be here and it is our job to make sure it

"My opinion is that he feels really well here. We all hope and think that his future is here at Liverpool.

"But everyone forgets when you think about Phil is he is still very young. He is 24 so he is still young and has a long way to go and a lot of space for improvement and development.

"He is now at an age where the skills, in a mixture with his experience, gives you more consistency.

"With the team-mates he has around him it is getting better and better.

"I am sure he has only started and that is all good."

Teamtalk

Inter are on Juventus' level - Montella

OME - AC Milan coach Vincenzo Montella believes Inter are on the same level as Serie A champions Juventus in terms of the quality of their individual talent.

A turbulent start to Inter's season led to the dismissal of Frank de Boer after just 85 days at the helm despite a summer market that saw them strengthen with the signings of Joao Mario, Antonio Candreva and Gabriel Barbosa. Stefano Pioli has since taken charge and will take on high-flying rivals Milan, who sit third and just five points adrift of leaders Juve, at San Siro in his first game at the helm today.

And Montella believes Inter have the capacity to challenge in the upper echelons of the table and claimed his own side are not the favourites despite their local

rivals' struggles.

Confidence "Pioli will have worked on their attention and concentration. In individual terms, Inter are on Juventus' level - you cannot underestimate this match," the Milan boss said

'We must try to express ourselves better, with anger and even a bit of fear, as we did at home against Juventus [a 1-0 win on October 22]

"I do not think that we are favourites, but, at the same time, I do not mind that we are given this label. It's not a decisive match, but it is important for us and our

"We are ready. There is a lot of anticipation from our side and I think we will face the challenge with confidence.

Goal

I'm waiting for the right club - Giggs

APETOWN - Manchester United legend Ryan Giggs is waiting for the right club to make his managerial debut after missing out on the Swansea job earlier this season.

Giggs left Old Trafford during the summer after a spell as assistant to Louis van Gaal, and outlined his intention to step into management.

Expirience

The 42-year-old was interviewed for the Swansea job prior to Bob Bradley's appointment in October, but the former Wales international insists he is staying patient over the next step in his coaching

"You know what it is like in football, jobs come and go really quickly, so if it has to be next year, then so be it," said Giggs.

"I spoke to them [Swansea] so I was pretty close! It was a good experience for me to speak to them, but like I said before, it just was not to be.

"But I also said that if there were teams that matched my ambitions, and the same philosophy and way of working - working with the youth system - realistic ambitions, a well-run club, then I would speak to them.

Licence

"I do not think that a club should just interview you, you should also interview them, and if they are not right for you, then you should have the right to turn them down.

"Sometimes it is just a casual chat and then it moves on a step and you will speak again. And then it can be a presentation, power point presentations that you have learned in your coaching badges and your pro licence.

"It is quite relaxed at first, but if that goes well then you take it on to the next level. And that is something from the Swansea interview I learned a lot and I think like anything, the more you do things, the better you get."

Goal

Managing Manchester City is my fairytale story - Viera

EW YORK - Patrick Vieira has described the prospect of one day managing Manchester City as a "fairytale".

The 40-year-old, who spent one season playing for the Premier League club before moving into coaching roles with the development squad and then their reserve side, just concluded his first season in charge of New York City FC.

The MLS outfit reached their first ever playoff under Vieira and the former Arsenal midfield enforcer revealed he is in no rush to move on.

However, the former Arsenal captain reveals his career aim is to head back to Manchester, rather than north London, for the main Eithad Stadium job.

When asked about managing City in the future, Vieira told The Telegraph: "This is the fairytale story.

"It doesn't often happen like that. I don't look further than next year because in our world anything can happen. I am really pleased that people in this club think one day I can manage here.

"That makes me proud but at the same time we never know what's going to happen. I am happy to be part of the group because I love the people. They have given me the opportunity to do something I wasn't sure I was capable of doing." "Maybe tomorrow, two, three years from now, I have an opportunity somewhere else. I'd sit down with Ferran [Soriano, chief executive] and Brian [Marwood, senior executive] and talk about it."

Goal

Atletico chief gives emphatic response to Griezmann transfer talk

"I don't believe

there is any

possibility that

[Real] Madrid or

any other team

will sign

Griezmann

because the player

doesn't want to

leave this team.

president Enrique Cerezo is Convinced Antoine Griezmann will stay at the club next summer.

The France striker is set to become the transfer story of the 2017 summer trans-

fer window, with reports suggesting he could become the world's first £100million footballer.

Griezmann has been linked with moves to Europe's top clubs with Real Madrid, Barcelona, Manchester United,

Manchester City, Chelsea and Arsenal all linked with the player.

United are said to be leading the chase, with the player's close friendship with

ADRID - Atletico Madrid Paul Pogba possibly swaying the player towards a move to Old Trafford with the player also dropping this huge

> The player currently has a £85.5million release clause in his Atletico con-

> > were ready to activate it. However, Cerezo is confident Griezmann will stay put at the Vicente Calderon

tract, leading to claims Real

and insists there's no way a deal could be struck with Zinedine Zidane. He told radio station Onda

> Cero: "I don't believe there is any possibility that [Real] Madrid or any other team will sign Griezmann because the player doesn't want to leave this team.

"Beside the sporting rivalry that exists between the two clubs, there is a magnificent relationship with them.

Teamtalk



ia still a great player' Di Mana

ARIS - Javier Saviola has backed Angel Di Maria to shake off his current patch of bad form and get back to his best for Paris Saint-Germain and Argentina, calling the midfielder a "great player". Di Maria has struggled for PSG this season, scoring just once in 16 appearances, and has been linked with a January move to Inter.

His struggles in front of goal reflect a wider malaise at Parc des Princes, where PSG have failed to replicate their recent dominance over Ligue 1 under Unai Emery and lie third after 12 games. However, Saviola believes his former team-mate at club and international level has the enduring talent to turn around his and PSG's fortunes. "I was with Angel in Benfica. I know his potential, he is a great player," Saviola told Omnisport. "Maybe he is not going through his best moment, but this is fine, it is something that each player lives at some point. "In terms

of football, I have seen him doing very good things. His speed and his way of facing the opponent, he always goes forward. "Hopefully he can come back to his level. And hopefully he can also demonstrate in the national team everything that he is." Di Maria featured for Argentina as they responded to a 3-0 thrashing at the hands of Brazil to beat Colombia by the same scoreline and breathe new life into their bid to qualify for the 2018 World Cup.

COSTA ONE OF THE BEST STRIKERS IN THE WO

ONDON - Chelsea head coach Antonio Conte believes Diego Costa has reined in his famously fiery temperament to the benefit of his Premier League high fliers, making him one of the best strikers in world football.

Conte's side travel to Middlesbrough today aiming to chalk up a sixth consecutive top-flight victory and Costa's resurgence has been key to their superb

The Spain international cut a frustrated figure for much of Chelsea's shambolic title defence last time around, as his on-field spats with opponents and officials often took more limelight than his efforts in the penalty

He has nine goals in 11 Premier League matches as Conte's attacking spearhead this term and the Italian is delighted by what he identifies as a new-found composure.

"Diego is showing he can control himself. It's fantastic, and I think that he's improving a lot in all aspects," he said,

after confirming the former Atletico Madrid star had recovered from a groin prob-

lem that sidelined him for Spain's games against Macedonia "For me now, Diego is one of the best strikers in the world.

"He must continue that, working in this way, with his commitment and work-rate.

"It's fantastic to see his work during the games, but also in training.

Conte was also keen to underline the impressive nature of Costa's all-round work for the team, with Chelsea revelling under the coach's 3-4-3 system.

"Diego works a lot with the ball and without the ball. He's an example for all. And I want to continue this way,

"If he continues to score, I'll be very happy. But I'll be happier to see this commitment, this work-rate during training and in games, to work with the team with and without the ball.

Bale deserves to win the Ballon d'Or - Southall

among the candidates for the 2016 Ballon d'Or, and while the general consensus is that the top prize will head elsewhere, former Wales international Neville Southall believes it is only a matter of time before the Real Madrid forward is recognised as the world's best.

Cristiano Ronaldo's efforts for club and country make him a clear favourite this time around, with Champions League success with Real Madrid complemented by a Euro 2016 triumph with Portugal.

Eternal rival Lionel Messi is also a serious contender, having starred again for Barcelona, while his Camp Nou colleague Luis Suarez has enjoyed a memorable year and cemented his standing as the world's premier 'number nine'.

Bale's time will

come, though, of that there

is little doubt. He has become an integral part of Real's present and future having committed to a new six-year contract - and remains a talismanic presence for Wales with few equals.

At 27 years of age he is very much part of the global elite, with countryman Southall admitting that he has developed that matchaltering X-factor which separates the cream of the crop & from mere mortals.

He told Goal: "I think he's right up there. Gareth is one of those players that you can look at and go: 'Has he been fantastic for 90 minutes? No, but he's scored three goals'. You can analyse him as much as you want, but he's got something that you just

ADRID - Gareth Bale is can't buy. He's got that extra bit about him that you can't put a price on. He just does something that can change a whole game.

"At the moment, when I look at him and think he's not doing so well, then it doesn't matter. If he's having a great game then that's a bonus, but his work rate and effort are fantastic, his attitude is brilliant and he's got that something with an X in it that money can't buy. That's brilliant for Wales and it's brilliant for Real Madrid.

You are getting the X-factor with him - he's certainly got that. Messi, Ronaldo, they have all got it and Gareth is one of the world's best players. I think if

you give him another three years, he will be on a par with Messi and Ronaldo.

"At the moment, between him and them is t h e length of time they have played and

the consistency they have shown. Gareth can only show that consistency over a period of time. He can do it on a daily basis, but they have done it for longer so therefore, in my eyes, that makes them better players at the moment."

Goal



It is hard to motivate myself - Bolt

-INGSTON - He may have won three Olympic golds at the Rio Games but Usain Bolt has revealed he came close to not even competing in any of the events.

The 30-year-old ended his Olympic career by claiming an unprecedented 'triple triple' in Brazil in August.

However, the Jamaican sprint king

has admitted months prior to making history he thought about quitting the sport all together.

It has emerged that in April, Bolt thought about packing it all in as he battled injury, self doubt and a desperate lack of motivation.

"Do I really need this?' Bolt questions himself at the time in a soon to be released

cinema documentary I Am Bolt. 'It is hard to motivate myself. When I

won the World Championships last year I was like, 'Yeah, OK.

But it's not the Olympics'. I'm not moti-

"It's hard to stay hungry. I've been going through this for years." Daily Mail

Kane dreams of leading England, Spurs

ONDON - Prolific striker Harry Kane is proud of his leadership ■skills and dreams one day of captaining both boyhood club Tottenham Hotspur and England.

Kane, who came through the ranks at the north London club, has become a key figure for Mauricio Pochettino's side after scoring 49 Premier League goals since his breakthrough 2014-15

The 23-year-old remains an influential figure for England, despite failing to live up to expectations during the country's woeful Euro 2016 campaign.

"It's my personality. I've always been a leader, on and off the pitch. I don't think a captain is just having the ability to shout on the pitch, or moan at someone," Kane said in an interview with The Times.

"It comes with a whole package... meeting with the fans and having that aura in the dressing room. I've managed to captain Spurs a couple of times. It would be a dream to captain Spurs fulltime and captain England. Who wouldn't want to do that?"

Kane also lauded Pochettino's bravery for giving youth a chance rather than taking the easy route of buying experienced players.

Spurs give young players a chance. A lot of that is down to the manager. It takes a brave manager to go and do it," Kane added.

"It is easy nowadays with the money. There are a lot of players you can buy, so you can just get experienced players you know can do a job, who might not even be as good as the young players coming through but it's less of a risk."

South Africa beaten in test warm-up game

DELAIDE - South Africa were beaten by 53 runs by a Victorian XI in their 50-over day-night tour warm-up game yesterday as their final preparation for next week's third test against Australia in Adelaide. Hashim Amla scored an unbeaten 81 and Dean Elgar 40 retired out in the tourists 205 for four, chasing Victoria's 258 all out. The Proteas originally had a two-day planned against the Victorian team at the Melbourne Cricket Ground but opted for a one-dayer under test rather than one-day rules to enable them to get to Adelaide earlier. Captain Faf du Plessis, facing an ICC hearing for alleged ball tampering during the second Hobart test against Australia, won the toss and elected to bowl first and then spend time in the middle under lights to adapt to match conditions with the pink ball ahead of the third test. Left-arm spinner Tabraiz Shamsi boosted his chances of a test debut by capturing four for 72 from 12 overs, while young gun fast bowler Kagiso Rababa claimed the pink ball and were happy ahead of eight 8. News24



South African cricket team.

three for three for 37 off four overs. Shamsi took three for 36 at home in a one-dayer against Australia last October and is delighted with talk the Australians have struggled to pick some of his deliveries. "That's a theory going around - you can't necessarily say it's a given thing, it's not a proven thing," he said."I'm really happy with the way I've gone personally against them. Hopefully it continues." Shamsi said the tourists had adapted well to

Adelaide. "Some people say there are difficulties seeing it, but I think the guys have done enough practice with it, just to pick it up," Shamsi said. "So it's not too bad. "We've had enough practice with it and we're happy to move forward." Young Victorian batsmen Seb Gotch (53) and Matthew Short (52) provided the backbone of the Victorian innings before allrounder Evan Gulbis smashed 53 from 28 balls at Number

'Clinical' Boks to avoid Italy ignominy - Strauss

LORENCE - Springboks deptain Adriaan Strauss believes only a clinical performance with improvement in all areas of the field can help South Africa avoid the ignominy of an historic defeat to

South Africa face Italy in Florence looking to make amends after morale-crushing defeats to New Zealand (57-15) and England (37-21) made it five test losses in their last six outings. Defeat to England at Twickenham last week was the Boks' first in a decade and left many fans fearing a first defeat to Italy could come less than a year after an historic defeat to Japan in the 2015 World Cup.

A poll on the South African sports website sport24.co.za on Friday suggested 44 per cent of fans believed the Boks would

suffer "some anxious moments, but win by 10 (points) or less".

But he said: "It's been a season of frustration. We've been working hard and hopefully it will come together. I would like to have a very successful day.

"Hopefully we can take a step closer to becoming the team we want to be tomorrow. It will be a physical battle, but first and foremost we have to be clinical. We haven't done that for 80 minutes this season.

"Coach Allister (Coetzee) has said we had to take a step up in everything we do, which includes the training sessions.

"On match day our processes lineouts, scrums, breakdown, finishing and defence all have to improve. "Winning is massively important, and even though our focus is not on the end result in itself, we need a win." News





ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



Giggs: I'm waiting for the right club

ONDON - Manchester United legend Ryan Giggs is waiting for the right club to make his managerial debut for after missing out on the Swansea job earlier this

Giggs left Old Trafford during the summer after a spell as assistant to Louis van Gaal, and outlined his intention to step into manage-

The 42-year-old was interviewed for the Swansea job prior to Bob Bradley's appointment in October, but the former Wales international insists he is staying patient over the next step in his coaching career.

"You know what it is like in football, jobs come and go really quickly, so if it has to be next year, then so be it," said Giggs.

"I spoke to them [Swansea] so I was pretty close! It was a good experience for me to speak to them, but like I said before, it just was not to be.

"But I also said that if there were teams that matched my ambitions, and the same philosophy and way of working - working with the youth system - realistic ambitions, a wellrun club, then I would speak to them.

"I do not think that a club should just interview you, you should also interview them, and if they are not right for you, then you should have the right to turn them down.

"Sometimes it is just a casual chat and then it moves on a step and you speak again. And then it can be a presentation, power point presentations that you have learned in your coaching badges and your pro licence.

"It is quite relaxed at first, but if that goes well then you take it on to the next level. And that is something from the Swansea interview I learned a lot and I think like anything, the more you do things, the better you get." AFP

Walcott: Arsenal need more to win the title

ONDON - Theo Walcott believes Arsenal deserved the point they claimed against Manchester United but admitted they must do better in order to challenge for the title.

The Gunners were lacklustre throughout at Old Trafford but substitute Olivier Giroud was on hand in the 89th minute to cancel out Juan Mata's opener and salvage a share of the spoils. The result keeps Arsenal in touch with their rivals at the top and Walcott, though unsatisfied, saw the positives of avoiding defeat at a stadium they have struggled at in recent years.

"A point at Old Trafford is good, and it's probably a fair result, but obviously we want more if we want to challenge for the tit'e," the England winger told Sky Sports.

"We managed to snatch it in the end and worked hard. We started the season well, had a bit of a blip but still managed to get points, and maybe in years

gone by we've lost this game. "I'm disappointed for my position in their goal, so personally I'm very disappointed. But we man-

aged to get the point we deserved. There's lot of tough games coming up. The league this year is so difficult, and you can't call it, but in years gone by we haven't got anything from this game.'

Despite a plethora of stars on show, the game lacked quality until Mata's 68th-minute strike and the Spaniard could not hide his disappointment at the result.

"It's very frustrating to be honest. We were so close to winning the game, but this is the Premier League," Mata said. Goal

GIROUD HEADER HELPS ARSEN SNATCH DRAW AT MAN UT

ANCHESTER - Olivier Giroud scored an 89thminute equaliser as Arsenal snatched an unlikely late point with a 1-1 Premier League draw against Manchester United at Old Trafford. United looked a good bet to clinch a morale-boosting victory thanks to Juan Mata's 69th-minute strike - but Giroud combined with fellow substitute Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain to earn the Gunners a scarcely-deserved point which preserves their unbeaten run since

Liverpool. The Gunners started the game better and exerted some early pressure on the Manchester United goal. But it was United who had the first meaningful effort at goal with Juan

the opening day defeat at home to



Olivier Giroud headed a thumping finish to pull his side out of trouble at Old Trafford and earn Arsenal a draw.

while Petr Cech was forced into a as well as Anthony Martial.

Mata's free-kick drifting just wide, good save to keep out the Spaniard,

United finished the first half stronger and Jose Mourinho was incensed when his side were denied a penalty after Antonio Valencia went down in the area under a challenge from Nacho Monreal.

A slow start to the second period, eventually saw United begin to assert their authority and as they grew into the game, so too did their threat.

The breakthrough eventually came in the 69th minute when Paul Pogba fed Ander Herrera and his excellent cutback was drilled low into the corner of the net by Mata.

The Gunners rarely threatened, but they looked more threatening after the late introductions of Giroud and Chamberlain and duly got their reward in the dying minutes.

TEAMTALK

Koeman demands more from Lukaku

ONDON - Ronald Koeman has demanded ■a higher workrate from Everton striker Romelu Lukaku. The 23-year-old has scored seven goals and has four assists in 11 appearances so far this

season, but Koeman is sure he can improve the former Chelsea man and has identified his sprinting as below the level he requires. A glance at the stats from the

game between Chelsea and Everton before the international break speaks volumes.

Everton were crushed 5-0 at Stamford Bridge by Chelsea on Bonfire Night and Diego Costa, 28, who scored the third goal, performed 77 sprints, while Belgium frontman Lukaku managed just 24. And Koeman wants to see an improvement from Lukaku, who did not manage a single touch inside the penalty area against his old club.

"I understand it is difficult because we need to press more and they need to change their attitude.

"Like Romelu. I can't advise him on finishing in the box because I was not a striker and he is one of the best finishers I have ever seen in football.

"But I can teach him how he needs to press, how he needs



Ronald Koeman and Romelu Lukaku.

to run, and how he can make it difficult for the defenders of our opponents. If he wants to be that top striker, he needs to improve that aspect," said Koeman. Last month Everton Owner Farhad Moshiri insisted Koeman's suggestion that Lukaku should join Barcelona had been taken out of context.

The Dutch manager somewhat bizarrely suggested Lukaku needed to play at a bigger club to fulfil his potential.

But British-Iranian businessman Moshiri, who bought an almost 50-per-cent stake in Everton in February, has since moved to reassure supporters about the top scorer's future at

Goodison Park.

"It has been taken out of context," he told talkSPORT. "Koeman said he believes Romelu will develop into one of the best strikers in the world in the next two to three years and wouldn't be out of place at his old club Barcelona. It is just player-coach talk."

Koeman had told Belgian newspaper HLN: "I gave him confidence and he has himself recognised that it was good for his development to play another year at Everton. There is a very good contact and appreciation between us. What after this season comes, no one knows.

TEAMTALK

'I feared Klopp would boot me out at Liverpool'

ONDON - James Milner admits he feared Jurgen Klopp was sent to tell him he was unwanted at Liverpool when called into the manager's office over the summer.

Milner has emerged as a key figure for the Reds this season, but Milner feared the worst when Klopp asked for a chat one day after preseason training.

But instead of telling him he was free to leave, Milner revealed the German was asking if he would play left-back this season.

Having decided that Alberto Moreno was not fit for purpose and drawing a blank on possible replacements, Klopp turned to Milner.

"It was pre-season, the manager has not been there too long... there were a million and one things in my head," Milner admitted to The

"You think about everything and, "Does he not want me?" was one.

"I am not going to turn around and lie and say, "I love playing there." But if that is me being part of a successful team and contributing then I will do anything I can for Liverpool.

"Ultimately, the team comes first. If that is what is best for the team then you do it. From that moment on, I was training left back in preseason and learning the position.

"Full-back is a position which changes massively depending on who the manager is.

"A left back now is different to a left back 10 vears ago and that is why I have not studied anyone. It would be pointless. And a left back for Jurgen Klopp is going to be playing a lot different to a left back for another manager.

TEAMTALK

Man City captain Kompany forced off again

ONDON - Vincent Kompany has suffered yet another injury setback during Manchester City's game at Crystal Palace.

Kompany was a somewhat surprise inclusion in Pep Guardiola's starting lineup given his ongoing injury problems, the latest of which came when he pulled out of Belgium's friendly against the Netherlands just over a week before.

But his afternoon lasted just 37 minutes as he limped from the field

10 minutes after a nasty collision with City goalkeeper Claudio Bravo. Kompany was kicked in the face but also landed awkwardly, with his knee bent under his body.

After receiving treatment for several minutes, he initially appeared able to carry on but, after disputing a number of aerial duels, he slumped to the ground and was eventually replaced by Pablo Zabaleta.

City medical staff appeared to check Kompany's vision, suggesting that he may have been suffering more from the initial collision than the landing.

It is the latest in a long line of problems for Kompany, who has missed the best part of the last 14 months through various muscle injuries.

Guardiola hinted on Friday that the Belgian's most serious problem was more mental than physical, given that he had pulled out of the game at Barcelona's Camp Nou in October, as well as his country's

recent friendly.

"I spoke to Roberto Martinez, the Belgium national coach, on that," Guardiola told reporters. "Vincent was ready to play the first game but he did not feel so comfortable so that is why Vincent decided not to play that game.

"He came back. He is training good. We are working on him being free in his mind; the muscular issue is much better.

He is close to helping us and we are working on recovering the best Vincent as possible.

Goal



Mamelodi Sundowns Coach Pitso Mosimane.

Pitso singles out 'unbelievable' star

RETORIA - Mamelodi Sundowns head coach, Pitso Mosimane, singled out one 'unbelievable player' for praise, following their 2-1 win over Kaizer Chiefs yesterday.

The Brazilians head coach reserved special praise for midfielder, Percy Tau, who was named Man of the Match in the win over AmaKhosi. "First I must speak about Percy Tau, unbelievable energy, unbelievable confidence, very good technique, good balance, so much passion, so much bravery in his game," Mosimane said after the

Better

"Last week (before the FIFA break), Yeye got the Man of the Match, I don't have nothing against Yeye, but Percy could have got it. "We only have to fix his finishing, his finishing can be better. I'm telling you, he is going to show the world something." Soccerladuma

CER CAPE TOWN CITY GO TOP OF PSL

> The home side were under some intense pressure in the early stages of the game from a lively City attack. However, Chippa's Nigerian goalkeeper Daniel Akpeyi pulled off a brilliant double save to ensure that City didn't take an early lead.

ORT ELIZABETH - Cape Town City beat Chippa United 2-1 in an Absa Premiership game played at the Nelson Mandela Stadium in Port Elizabeth yesterday afternoon.

The victory took City to the top of the league standings, while Chippa remain ninth on the table.

The home side were under some intense pressure in the early stages of the game from a lively City attack.

However, Chippa's Nigerian goalkeeper Daniel Akpeyi pulled off a brilliant double save to ensure that City didn't take an early lead.

In the 18th minute, Chippa defender James Okwuosa fouled City midfielder Ronald Putsche in the box and the visitors were awarded a penalty.

Lebogang Manyama, the City captain, then stepped and beat Chippa shot-

stopper Akpeyi from the spotkick to make it 1-0 to the visitors.

With his side trailing, Chippa head coach Dan Malesela decided to introduce Sandile Zuke for Sizwe Mdlinzo in the 34th minute.

Nevertheless, the Cape Town side were leading 1-0 during the halftime thanks to Manyama's 19th minute goal - his fourth league goal of the season.

Action

Akpeyi was called into action nine minutes into the second-half when he parried away Aubrey Ngoma's shot as City looked to double their

In the 65th minute, Chippa were awarded a free-kick on a promising area and Katlego Mashego placed his effort from the set-piece over the crossbar.

Second-half substitute Judas Moseamedi doubled City's lead eight minutes later when he beat Akpeyi with a good right-footed shot.

> The home side were awarded a late penalty in the 83rd minute and Mashego grabbed a consolation goal for Chippa as City held on to win 2-1. Backpage TXT



Lebogang Manyama of Cape Town City FC.



BAROKA DENY SUPERSPORT VICTORY

OLOKWANE SuperSport United were denied a fourth straight league win, after they drew 1-1 with Baroka FC at the Peter Mokaba Stadium.

Baroka were lively in the early stages of the game, knocking the ball neatly and looking for spaces in the middle of the park.

The first chance fell to SuperSport however in the 21st minute. Reneilwe Letsholonyane hit a diagonal pass looking for Jeremy Brockie in the box. Brockie's positioning was brilliant and he connected with the swing cross but his header was parried away. In the 34th minute Baroka nearly opened the scoring as they executed brilliantly a free-kick just outside the box of Chippa United. Lietsisa swung the ball neatly and found Geoffrey Massa in a good position but the striker blasted his shot over the bar. In the 37th minute SuperSport grabbed the lead through Thabo Mnyamane. Masuluke failed to collect the ball for Baroka in the box and paid the price as Mnyamane



pounced and hit a half-volley to give SuperSport the lead, 1-

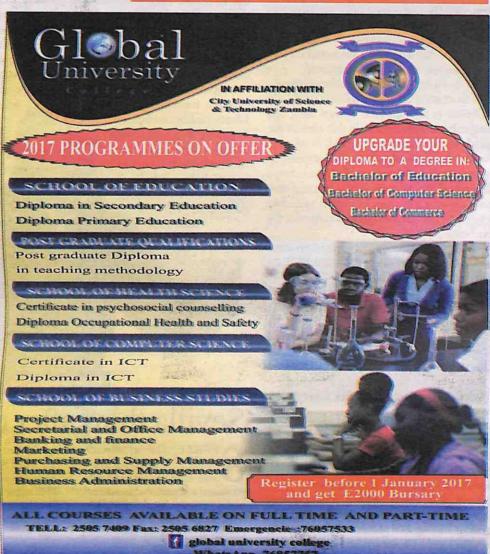
Goal

The match went into the halftime break with Matsatsantsa a Pitori one goal up to Baroka's none. In the 63rd minute Baroka found the back of the net but the assistant referee made the joy short-lived as he flagged for

However in the 67th minute

Richard Matloga equalised for Baroka to make it 1-1 from the penalty spot.

In the 83rd minute Ronwen Williams was well beaten as Baroka thought they had the lead by Simandla but Morgan Gould brilliantly cleared off the line. Both sides pushed for a winner in the closing stages, but neither could find a second goal as the score remained 1-1. Succerladuma



LORENCE - It's official. Springbok rugby may have been trolling the bottom of the barrel but yesterday it hit rock bottom with a mighty thud as the once mighty double World Champions lost for the first time in history to lowly Italy - going down 20-18 in Florence in the third game of their European tour.

For the first time in 13 outings, the Springbok was humbled in the most frustrating and disappointing fashion in Italy, adding another unwanted record for the Springboks after a record loss against the All Blacks and the first overseas loss in Argentina. And while some may point to the World Cup loss against Japan as the darkest day in Springbok history last year, this one looks, feels and is worse, as the Boks this year slumped to just four wins out of 11 test matches. There is no other way to say it, and to try and sugar-coat it would be the worst thing any self-respecting rugby lover could do. The Boks have hit rock bottom as it is bad and ugly.

Considering Italy took 60 points at the hands of an All Blacks B side last week makes this result even more worrying and underlines the manner the Boks have plunged the depths this year, regressing from third place in the World Cup and only two points shy of the World Champions to a side that has no clear vision, no purposeful play and a game plan that is so predictable it would not concern any opponent at the moment. Heading into the match as a side devoid of confidence, and unsure of its own playing style, with by all accounts different voices dominating the build-up, the Springboks were their own worst enemies on this dark day. It started with the selection, with the ongoing belief that you could dominate a game without winning the breakdown, without selecting a specialist opensider, and without a flyhalf who could achieve real distance with his kicks or win an aerial battle. Super-

PSG face struggle to sign Ginter

ERLIN - Paris Saint-Germain have targeted Borussia Dortmund's Mathias Ginter as a solution to their void in central defence, but Borussia Dortmund do not want to sell the Germany international.

Ligue 1 champions PSG have found themselves short at the back since selling David Luiz to Chelsea in the summer. Thiago Silva and Marquinhos are the regulars in that area for the capital side but they otherwise lack depth.

And while Presnel Kimpembe has stepped up impressively from the youth ranks, Unai Emery's side want additional cover in that area and have been following a number of players including Ginter, who is their most serious target for the time being.

Arsenal, Tottenham, Wolfsburg and Juventus are also tracking the centre-back but BVB are adamant that they will not sell the 22-year-old, with coach Thomas Tuchel wishing to construct his side around the defender having seen Mats Hummels return to Bayern Munich in the sum-

PSG first took an interest in Giner at the end of the summer transfer market but did not elect to make a bid for the promising youngster.

With January looming, however, Emery's men are set to go back in for the Dortmund star, though whether they will be able to prise him away from the Bundesliga remains to be seen.

Currently, the Parc des Princes side have the best defensive record in Ligue 1, having conceded only seven goals in 12 matches.

Nonetheless, Emery remains under pressure since moving to the club from Valencia in the summer, having seen Monaco and Nice set the early pace in Le Championnat.

SUNDOWNS TOO STRONG FOR CHIEFS

RETORIA - Mamelodi Sundowns served notice that they will not give up their Absa Premiership title without a fight after they beat Kaizer Chiefs 2-1 at Loftus Stadium yesterday

The Brazilians - who are well behind in their domestic schedule due to winning the CAF Champions League - put in a classy and dominant performance to come from a goal down and defeat the Amakhosi.

The kick-off was delayed 15 minutes as a security measure due to the large number of spectators still making their way into the stadium as the 3:30pm start approached.

Sundowns enjoyed the better chances in the first half and only some heroic defending from Sibusiso Khumalo and Lorenzo Gordinho prevented Anthony Laffor from opening the scoring in the 25th

Chiefs generally played on the counter attack and they claimed the



Chiefs George Maluleka and Sundowns Hlompho Kekana.

lead somewhat against the run of play in the 39th minute, with Ramahlwe Mphahlele's cross-shot from the right of the box drifting over Denis Onyango to find the

back of the net.

However, the Brazilians hit back just two minutes later with a sweeping move ending with Keagan Dolly teeing up Tebogo Langerman to fire a left-footed shot past Itumeleng Khune's left hand to make it 1-1.

Sundowns started the second half brightly and claimed the lead eight minutes after the restart, with Percy Tau doing some fine work in the box before seeing his effort blocked on the line by a defender, only for Sibusiso Vilakazi to easily score from the rebound.

The hosts should have been awarded a penalty just under 20 minutes later when Tau showed a great piece of skill in the box, only to be thwarted by a combination of Mphahlele and Willard Katsande.

Yet referee Daniel Bennett ignored the pleas for a blatant penalty before booking Tau for his remonstrations.

The Brazilians continued to pile on the pressure and Chiefs needed Khune to make an excellent save to keep out a goal-bound header from Anthony Laffor in the 78th minute and a fine long-range effort from Dolly in injury time.

Backpage TXT

Man Utd not special yet - Mourinho

•ANCHESTER - Jose Mourinho had in mind when arriv-Mourinho was barely two minutes away from placing yet another slap in Arsene Wenger's face, but it took the man who should have started to rescue a point for Arsenal at Old Trafford and extend the Portuguese's difficult start to life as Manchester United

Mourinho headed into his latest clash with his managerial arch-rival with the eyes of the world on him due to United's poor start to the season, yet Wenger failed to capitalise once more as Arsenal turned in a poor display in a 1-1 draw which could have been so much better had game-saver Olivier Giroud been

employed from the start. Despite winning 3-1 at the Liberty Stadium last time out, United had shown just enough defensive weakness to keep Swansea in with a hope of a second-half comeback. Phil Jones and Marcos Rojo is far from the preferred centre-back

pairing



ing at Old Trafford in the summer, and Wenger should have been licking his lips at the prospect of occupying the makeshift pairing yes-

But the Frenchman decided not to start with Giroud up against the centre-backs, instead using Alexis Sanchez as a false nine. What followed was nothing short of an afternoon off for Jones and Rojo as they went for long spells without being asked serious questions until the substitute striker was thrown on 17 minutes from time with Arsenal 1-0 down and chasing the game.

Looking at the make-up of the two managers' styles it is clear that

a free-flowing game of football will generally favour Wenger, while the Portuguese will almost always come out on top in a tight tactical

Messi-less Barca drop points against nine- man Malaga

ARCELONA - FC Barcelona were forced to settle for a point, after they drew 0-0 with nine-man Malaga at the Camp Nou yesterday evening.

Luis Enrique's charges were dealt a blow before the clash as Lionel Messi was ruled out after falling ill. The home side had the ball in the back of the net after three minutes, but Paco Alcacer was flagged off-

Malaga had a chance to break the deadlock after 24 minutes, but Marc-Andre Ter Stegen pulled off a superb save to keep out Sandro's effort from 25-yards out.

Barcelona were left frustrated by Malaga goalkeeper, Carlos Kameni, as the Cameroonian produced a stunning save to keep out Rafinha's deflected effort.

The score remained goalless as the sides entered the halftime break.

The hosts struggled to break down Malaga's defence, which prompted Enrique to introduce Jordi Alba and Andre Gomes after the hour-mark.

However, Malaga were reduced to 10 men in the 69th minute when Diego Llorente was shown a straight red card for bringing down Neymar, who was through on goal.

Enrique opted for another change for the final 10 minutes as Ivan Rakitic replaced Rafinha.

Barcelona pushed for a winner in the closing stages, but Kameni was at his best, as he pulled off another fine save to keep out Neymar's header in stoppage time.



FC Barcelona's Neymar, right, juggles with the ball against Malaga's Roberto Rosales during the Spanish La Liga soccer match between FC Barcelona and Malaga at the Camp Nou in Barcelona, Spain, yester-

Sevilla third after dramatic I Deportivo win

Jose Mourinho.

EVILLE - Gabriel Mercado scored a controversial stoppage-time winner as Sevilla produced a sensational late turnaround to come from two goals down to win 3-2 at Deportivo La Coruna and provisionally go third in La Liga yesterday.

Deportivo were denied a penalty

late in the second half while leading 2-1 when Argentina international Mercado pushed Florin Andone over in the area. Mercado escaped a possible red card and netted from close range in the 92nd minute after Vitolo had levelled in the 87th.

Former Liverpool forward Ryan Babel headed Deportivo in front in

the first minute and Andone finished off a brilliant individual run to double the home side's advantage in the 42nd, only for Steven Nzonzi to pull one back for Sevilla in the 44th. Deportivo were left fuming after Mercado's push on Andone, who remained on the floor for several minutes after the

challenge, and Sevilla took full advantage of referee Antonio Mateu Lahoz's leniency.

Vitolo turned in a loose ball from inside the area and five minutes later Mercado pounced around the goalmouth following a corner, sparking jubilant celebrations from coach Jorge Sampaoli and a cacophony of boos and whistles from the home supporters. Reuters

REDS FRUSTRATED IN T. MARY'S STALEMAT

remain top of the Premier League, but missed a chance to extend their advantage after being held to a frustrating 0-0 draw by Southampton at St Mary's Stadium. With Arsenal drawing against Manchester United and Manchester City overcoming Crystal Palace 2-1 in south London, Liverpool failed to extend a lead at the summit that stood at one point prior to this weekend's games, though they stay ahead of Pep Guardiola's side by virtue of scoring more goals.

Expectations were high with Liverpool scoring 12 goals in their past three games, but they were unable to continue that form against the resilient

Sadio Mane, returning to St Mary's for the first time since joining a long list of players to swap the south coast for Anfield in June, was bright in an otherwise uneventful first half, forcing an impressive save from Fraser Forster in the 28th minute.

Liverpool upped their efforts to break the deadlock, Roberto Firmino and Nathaniel Clyne coming close to the opener in the second half.



Southampton's Oriol Romeu, left, and Liverpool's Georginio Wijnaldum battle for the ball during the English Premier League soccer match at St Mary's Stadium, Southampton, England, yesterday. (AP)

Jurgen Klopp sent Daniel Sturridge on with 12 minutes remaining to try and swing the match in their favour, but they failed to get the goal, leaving the door open for Chelsea to displace them with a win away at Middlesbrough today.

There was more interest in the

stands than on the pitch during the early exchanges, with former Southampton defender Dejan Lovren roundly booed by the home faithful with every touch.

Clyne and Mane received much gentler treatment, but the Liverpool fans backed their Croatian centrehe's top of the league."

Liverpool enjoyed the lion's share of possession and were the first side to hit the target. Georginio Wijnaldum -brought into the starting XI in place of the injured Adam Lallana - slid a pass to Mane on the left-hand side of the box, but his attempt to curl a shot inside the far post was punched behind by the diving Forster.

A 25-yard strike from Philippe Coutinho trickled wide of the upright before Virgil van Dijk matched Mane's pace and made an excellent sliding block to stop him testing Forster again. Van Dijk was lucky to escape unpunished after pulling Firmino's shirt on the edge of the box two minutes after the restart, the Brazilian's exaggerated fall perhaps influencing referee Mark Clattenburg's decision to allow play to continue.

Coutinho was unable to punish a misplaced pass from Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg when he sliced wide under pressure from Jose Fonte, while Charlie Austin, starved of support in the first half, missed the target with a header from Cedric's excellent delivery. Goal



Tendai Ndoro.

Pirates fire past Stars

OHANNESBURG - Tendai Ndoro's strike earned Orlando Pirates a 1-0 win over Free State Stars in an Absa Premiership game played at the Orlando Stadium last night.

Despite the victory, Bucs remain sixth on the league standings, while Ea Lla Koto also stay 15th on the table.

Stars threatened first through Thokozani Sekotlong and Moeketsi Sekola within the first five minutes of the game, but their two shots missed the target.

The Buccaneers then pushed forward and they managed to grab the lead in the 22nd minute after the Ea Lla Koto defence were caught nap-

Mpho Makola set-up Tendai Ndoro, who beat Stars goalkeeper Thela Ngobeni to make it 1-0 to Pirates. The Zimbabwean netting his eighth league goal of the season.

Ten minutes later, Bokang Thlone played a decent cross into the Pirates box, but keeper Jackson Mabokgwane gathered the ball with

Mabokgwane then denied Stars defender David Booysen in the 41st minute to ensure that the first-half ended with the home side leading 1-0. Bucs winger Luvuyo Memela had a chance to doubled Pirates' lead from a free-kick ten minutes after the restart, but he missed the tar-

In the 65th minute, Ndoro tried to score with an acrobatic effort, but the hard-working forward's attempt missed the target without troubling Ngobeni. Backpage TXT

Everton deny Swansea crucial win ONDON - Swansea were

to secure vital win ONDON - Jermain Defoe's 150th Premier League goal and a Victor Anichebe brace Ascured a 3-0 victory for 10-man Sunderland over fellow strugglers Hull City as the hosts moved off the bottom of the table

Anichebe at the double

While both teams had come from behind to win their previous fixture after miserable runs of form, goals from captain Defoe and Anichebe, twice, saw the points go Sunderland's way yes-

The Black Cats had not won any of their previous five meetings with Hull in all competitions, but David Moyes' men brought that streak to an end despite a second-half power cut causing a temporary floodlight failure on Wearside, as well as a late red card for Papy Djilobodji.

It was a painful afternoon for Mike Phelan who was sacked as assistant manager at Manchester United when Moyes succeeded Alex Ferguson in 2013 - with his side failing to take their chances before the break as Sunderland's Jordan Pickford excelled in goal.

Defoe's clinical finish put the hosts ahead 11 minutes before half-time, and from that point onwards, there only looked to be one winner.

Anichebe grabbed the second just after the hour mark and the third with six minutes to go in normal time, handing Sunderland a vital first home league win of the season.

After a strong start from Hull, it was the hosts who opened the scoring in some style after 34 minutes through their stand-in skipper.

Defoe took Duncan Watmore's flick under ontrol and shifted away from Ahmed Elmohamady, Curtis Davies and Michael Dawson to rifle left-footed into the bottom corner from inside the area.

Sunderland took encouragement from their advantage, with Anichebe quickly poking wide, before Watmore and Billy Jones both failed to get a shot away in promising positions.

Another opening followed shortly after halftime as David Marshall stood up to block Watmore's prod from a Defoe header, but the Stadium of Light was then, ironically, plunged into darkness due to a power cut.

denied a valuable Premier League win as Everton snatched a late equaliser to earn a 1-1 draw at Goodison Park yesterday.

The Swans broke the deadlock just before half-time with a penalty from Gylfi Sigurdsson, but Ronald Koeman's side had the better chances on Merseyside and really upped the ante in the second half.

Their constant pressure finally paid off in the final minute when Seamus Coleman headed home from a half-clearance to snatch a share of the spoils.

Both teams were looking to bounce back from defeats last time out, and the hosts made the brighter start with Romelu Lukaku forcing a save out of Lukasz Fabianski after just four minutes with his low strike from



Swansea City's Gylfi Sigurdsson, left, and Everton's Ashley Williams battle for the ball in the air during the English Premier League soccer match against Swansea City at Goodison Park, Liverpool, England, yesterday. (AP)

an acute angle on the left. Bob Bradley's men created their first chance on 14 minutes when Mo Barrow picked out Leroy Fer just outside the area from the right, but the midfielder's shot was poor as it flew high and wide.

Maarten Stekelenburg was tested eight minutes later from Sigurdsson's free-kick, which took a touch off the wall and had to be tipped over the crossbar by the keeper, while Jordi Amat headed the resulting corner inches over. AFP

Champions' woes increase with another defeat

TATFORD - Firsthalf goals from Etienne Capoue and Roberto Pereyra proved enough to secure a fifth Premier League as they downed struggling champions Leicester City 2-1 at Vicarage Road.

Capoue volleyed Walter Mazzarri's men in front after just 33 seconds yesterday before Pereyra's curling effort made it 2-0 in the 12th minute.

And although Riyad Mahrez swiftly pulled one back for Leicester from the spot after Miguel Britos had brought down Jamie Vardy, the visitors were ultimately unable to add to their tally of just one league point on the road this term.

The win marked an impressive response from Watford, who were thumped 6-1 by win of the season for Watford Liverpool in their final game ahead of the international break and extended an unbeaten home run which stretches back to August.

And the margin of victory would have been greater had Nordin Amrabat and Pereyra not been guilty of wasting closerange opportunities.

Leicester, meanwhile, remain perilously close to the relegation zone, having now won just one of their last seven league outings.

Many fans were still settling into their seats when the home side hit the front, Pereyra's cross from the left finding Troy Deeney, whose cushioned, downward header down was volleyed home by Capoue from just inside the box.

The rattled visitors were stunned again on 12 minutes, this time Pereyra cutting in from the left and curling a superb, right-foot shot past Ron-Robert Zieler into the far corner of the net.

Watford's two-goal advantage was halved almost immediately, however, as they conceded a needless penalty to present Leicester with a foothold in the game. Goal

Ake header brings Stoke's unbeaten run to grinding halt

TOKE - Bournemouth brought a halt to Stoke's recent revival as a 1-0 win at the Bet365 Stadium gave Eddie Howe's team a first away victory of the season in the Premier

Cherries boss Howe wanted his players to show they were a better side than the one which slumped to successive defeats to Middlesbrough and Sunderland prior to the international break and they did just that with a solid and welldrilled performance in the Potteries.

Nathan Ake's 26th-minute header was enough for all three points as Stoke looked off the pace in the first half.

They improved after the break but blew the chance to extend their unbeaten run to seven league matches for the first time since December 2012 when Bojan Krkic crashed a penalty against the crossbar at the start of the second half. Bournemouth began brightly, Stoke sluggishly, and the hosts were fortunate they did not pay a hefty price for their start after 10 minutes when Jack Wilshere's beautifully-weighted pass sent Callum Wilson through on goal with Ryan Shawcross in tow.

The Stoke defender felled Wilson with a sliding challenge from behind inside the penalty area but referee Roger East, to the astonishment of Howe and the majority of the rest of the 27,815 inside the bet365 Stadium, did not award the spot-kick and waved away the appeals.

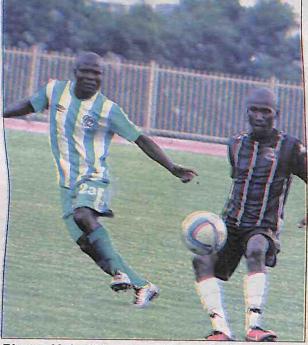
Teamtalk



MTN Premier League 2016/17



Moneni Pirates' Mfanfikile Ndzimandze controlling the ball while Green Mamba's Siyabonga Mdluli closes him down. Pirates won the match 2-1 at Mavuso Sports Centre yesterday. (Pics: Sabelo Majola)



Pirates Xolani Ngwenya disseminating the ball while Phinda Ginindza tries to close him down.



Green Mamba's Civil Matsebula helping Pirates' Sihle Ndaba up.



Ndaba controlling the ball while Ginindza puts pressure on him.



Moneni Pirates fans packed at Mavuso Sports Centre.



Pirates players celebrating their goal.



Ndaba paving his way past Green Mamba's Lawrence Mncina and Ngwenya.



Green Mamba coach Hebert Maruwa giving instructions to Phumlane Ngwenya.



Green Mamba's Samkelo Gumbi heading the ball away from Fanelo Mamba.



Green Mamba goalkeeper Japter Merese making a save.



MTN Premier League 2016/17





Mbabane Swallows' Sandile Hlatshwako and Royal Leopard's Xolani Sikhondze in a heading duel during the MTN Premier League second round match at Mavuso Sports Centre yesterday. Swallows won 2-1. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



Royal Leopard doctor Gcina Hleta and coach Sifiso Ntibane complaining to the referees after the game.



Royal Leopard players lodging a complaint to assistant referee after Swallows scored their sec-



Swallows technical bench celebrating their sec-



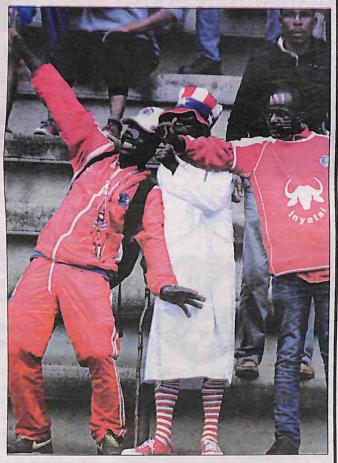
MTN Premier League top goal scorer Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa of Mbabane Swallows running with the ball after scoring his 12th goal during their game against Royal Leopard.



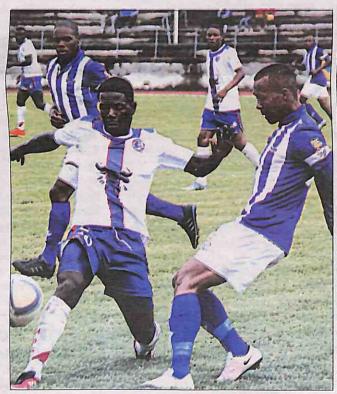
Swallows officials and substitutes celebrating their first goal against Royal Leopard.



Mababane Swallows supporters celebrating their first goal.



Langa Magagula, Sithawula Tsela and Mapendane Malambe having fun.



Wonder Nhleko controls the ball while Juries Gama closes in.



Machawe Diamini and Sandile Hlatshwako battling for the ball.

'Buffs' earn valuable points against Red lions

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

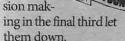
Young Buffaloes.....(1)2 Red Lions..... (0)0

OCCER - A first half goal by Young Buffaloes bulky striker Phiwayinkhosi Dlamini and an own goal by Red lions defender gave the army side Three valuable points in their first game of the MTN Premier League second round.

The game started slowly with both teams struggling to adapt to the

wet pitch conditions as the pitch was

slippery. Red lions were match-'Buffs' ing pound for pound in the middle of the park but poor deci-



Emathole ezinyathi got their first goal after striker Phiwayinkhosi Dlamini's low volley went past Red Lions goal keeper Banele Dlamini.

The match continued with Buffaloes enjoying a bigger share of ball possession.

Phiwayinkhosi could have scored his second goal in the 37th minute when he took on the Red Lions defenders on a solo run after a good build up.

He tried to beat the keeper but his shot was poor as it went straight to the keeper.

The match went to recess with 'Buffs' on the driver's seat.

Red Lions tried to up the tempo in the second stanza as they introduced Nduduzo Lukhele for Enzo Motsa.

They pushed for an equaliser but keeper Nhlanhla Gwebu made a number of great saves. A good build up and good interchange of passes by Young Buffaloes in the box resulted in Red Lions defender scoring an own goal.

Soon after the goal, the army side made a couple of changes, introducing Dlamini Ndumiso and after that they kept the ball and dominated possession whilst Red Lions tried to catch them on a counter until the referee blew the final whistle.



PIRATES BEGIN SECOND ROUND ON A HIGH

BY SABELO MAJOLA

Green Mamba.....(1)1

OCCER - MONENI Pirates came from a goal down to record their fourth victory of the season, beating Correctional Services side Green Mamba 2-1.

This was during an MTN Premier League match played at Mavuso Sports Centre yesterday.

The Correctional Services side started the match on a high and even took the lead as early as two minutes into the game through Banele Dlamini, who netted after a scramble inside the box.

Ensemble

The green and white ensemble continued to press for a second goal but Pirates tried to absorb the pressure.

The Buccaneers were quick to respond, cancelling Green Mamba's lead 11 minutes later as Fanelo 'Order' Mamba finished off with a fine shot after receiving a cross from Sihle Ndaba's cross to make the score 1-1.

Pirates gained momentum after their goal and suddenly they were all over the opposition, dominating possession and quick to the ball.



Moneni Pirates Mfanfikile 'Fash' Ndzimandze controlling the ball while Green Mamba skipper Siyabonga Mdluli closes in. The game was played at Mavuso Sports Centre yesterday and Piaretes won 2-1. (Pic: Sabelo Majola)

Green Mamba tried to contain them and the score remained level as the match went for the breather.

Instructions

Whatever instructions coach Zenzele 'Ace' Dlamini gave to the players seemed to work for the team in the second half. Pirates continued their dominance in the second stanza with Green Mamba showing sign of fatigue. Scored

They pilled pressure and eventually scored the second goal.

It came as a 'manna from heaven' with the ball falling on the team's top goal scorer Mfanfikile 'Fash' Ndzimandze's feet after the defence failed to clear what was initially Sihle Ndaba shot nine minutes from full time. The striker blasted past the keeper to ensure his team collects maximum points.

Green Mamba's goalkeeper Japter Merese was the busier of the two especially in the second half, making good saves that could have seen Pirates score more goal.

Ace' not carried away

BY SABELO MAJOLA

¬ OCCER - Despite second straight victory, Moneni Pirates head coach Zenzele 'Ace' Dlamini is targeting 25 points before he can be at ease.

Pirates beat Green Mamba 2-1 at Mavuso Sports Centre yesterday.

Dlamini said there is a need for his side to reach the relegation mark of 25 points and climb the log table to a better position and until then, he won't be carried away by the positive results his side is accumulat-

"The players showed a lot of determination and the cohesion was impressive. They were disciplined technically and tactically and they played as a unit. I'm also impressed with the physical aspect in the team, we dictated the game and showed a lot of aggression but I can't heap praises for now until the team meets the objective," he said.

This was Dlamini's third victory since taking over from Mlamuli 'Sputla' Zwane and the team's points tally now stands at 16.

Meanwhile, Green Mamba head coach Hebert Maruwa said they lost to a better team. He said that they needed to win the game but it was defensive blunders that cost them the match as they took the lead early in the game.

"We need to recruit and beef up the squad, especially upfront, otherwise we played well but a few blunders at the back cost us the game,"

This was the fifth loss for the Correctional Services side this sea-

Moneni Pirates head coach Zenzele 'Ace' Dlamini watching his charges against Green Mamba at Mavuso Sports Centre yesterday.

Sitsebe, Lesotho match ends in 1-1 draw BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

Sitsebe.....(0)1 Lesotho.....(1)1

OCCER - WOMEN national team Sitsebe Samhlekazi came from a goal down to force a draw against Lesotho during an international friendly at the Somhlolo National Stadium yes-

It was second substitute Nobuhle

Mdluli, who salvaged national pride with a 85th minute strike.

Mdluli replaced Phumzile Dlamini in the second that cancelled and out a Boitumelo Rabale first half strike that came out just before half-

The visitors dominated the proceedings in the first with their good processional play as the local players struggling to express themselves in the match. Local goalkeeper Nokwanda Mamba rescued the

local team twice in the match in the 33th and 62th minute when he denied Senate Letsie a one on one situation.

The match went for a breather with Lesotho leading 1-0.

Bringing

Sitsebe coach Mduduzi Nxumalo made four changes in the second stanza bringing in the goal scorer Nobuhle, Lomagugu Mamba, Nombuso Mamba and Cebile Shongwe, who all brought some ense of urgency into the

Nobuhle dribbles past two defend-

ers before scoring the equaliser.

The match continued with both teams trying to get the winning goal in the last five minutes but it was not to be as the match ended in a 1-1 draw.

The two countries will face each other this morning in the second friendly slated for the Prince of Wales Ground.

Sitsebe is expected to take part in COSAFA Women Championships to be held in March ext year at a venue still to be con firmed.

Wasteful 'Downs held by Tambuti

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

Manzini Sundowns.....(0)0 Tambuti.....(0)0

OCCER - MANZINI Sundowns had the better scoring chances during a 0-0 draw with Tambuti during an MTN Premier League match played at Manzini Club yesterday.

May 16 Miles Torons of

Sundowns' Darren 'Dazza' Christie was let down by his poor finishing as he would now and again come face to face with the opposition keeper.

The experienced winger missed the first chance two minutes into the match after coming face to face with the goalkeeper but failed to put the ball into the

A superb pass from Mlamuli 'Mlaba'

Nkambule set up the winger in front of goal, but his poor control allowed Chiefs goalkeeper Thokozani Mkhulisi to rush forward and snatch the ball.

After the missed chance, Sundowns lacked rhythm in their play and the wet pitch did not help either as the players kept on losing balance.

Sundowns had an even better chance to break the deadlock in the 39th minute as the keeper parried the ball over the bar.

The first stanza ended with both teams

struggling to even string five decent passes. Sundowns came back a better in the second half as they threw everything at Tambuti but the sugar belt side defenders kept things tight at the back.

The 'Kappa Boys' made their first change of the match in the 67th minute when Siyabonga Nkhambule came in for Mzwandile'Navara' Ndzimandze.

Almost immediately, 'Downs substitute Siyabonga saw his low shot that seemed destined for the corner of the net pushed away by the impressive keep-

The next Sundowns' chance fell on 'Dazza', who missed when scoring seemed to be easier.

However, in keeping with the poor standard of set-pieces throughout the game, none seriously threatened to create a last-gasp winning goal.

The result enabled Tambuti to be level with Mbabane Highlanders, who lost to Mids City.

Sundowns remained fifth on the 12club standings.

'BIRDS' COMPLETE DOUBLE OVER LEOPARD

BY SABELO MAJOLA

Leopard.....(1)1 Swallows.....(0)2

Signates and log leaders Mbabane Swallows continued with their brilliance and recorded their 12th straight victory of the season at the expense of MTN Premier League defending champions Royal Leopard at Mavuso Sports Centre yesterday.

Swallows came from a goal down and claimed victory in what was a game of two halves as Leopard dominated the first stanza but gave the game to Swallows in the sec-

Challenge

Swallows could have taken the lead in the first minute of the game but were denied what appeared to be a clear penalty following a nasty challenge on striker Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa in the box but referee



Machawe Diamini and Sandile Hlatshwako battling for the ball.

Mbongiseni Fakudze waved play on.

Leopard took the lead in the 22nd minute through Muzi 'Mzoro' Dlamini, who capitalised on a loose ball that was initially a shot from Bonginkosi Dlamini. Swallows goalkeeper Sandile Ginindza blocked it and it fell on 'Mzoro's feet and he finished off a fine shot.

Leopard were the better side and it seemed as though Swallows would drop points for the first time this season as they were chasing shadows for the better part of the first half

The match went to break with Leopard leading 1-0.

Swallows came back revamped in the second half and it was the

league's current leading goal scorer 'Skhali', who pulled one back for the undefeated 'Birds' in the 66th minute.

The striker connected Sanele Mkhweli's cross with a fine header to beat Phephisani Msibi hands down. Three minutes later a well positioned Sandile Hlatjwako put Swallows ahead, finishing off a cross from Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko.

It was a clinical finish that Msibi could do nothing about.

Juries Gama almost leveled in the 72nd minute but his shot was saved by 'Nkomishi' between the poles.

Teams:

Leopards - Phephisani, Sizwe, Sikhumbuzo, Machawe, Sifiso, Ncamiso, Muzi, Mcolisi (Mathokoza), Bonginkosi (Juries), Lungelo, Zweli Swallows - Sandile, Sifiso, Sanele, Mandla, Siphamandla, Njabulo, Wonder (Mike), Kabamba, Sabelo, Sandile, Tony

Wanderers crush Sea Birds BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

Manzini Wanderers......(2)5 Manzini Sea Birds......(0)1

Scrushed neighbours Sea Birds 5-1 to reclaim the third spot in the MTN Premier League log standings.

This was during a match played at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

The maroon and white outfit showed no mercy for their cross town rivals as they displayed a five-star performance to complete a double over the basement side they beat by 4-0 in their first round outing.

Weslians strikers Mfanafuthi 'Taribo 'Bhembe and Allie Matse both scored braces and the other goal was scored by skipper Lwazi 'Shana' Maziya. The result added to Sea Birds' relegation woes. Veteran striker 'Taribo' showed some class in the match when he gave the crowd pullers the lead five minutes into the match with a perfect header, connecting a cross from Frank Makarati to fire past Bafana Ngwenya between the opposition goals.

The dreadlocked striker completed his brace 10 minutes later with another glancing header. This time the cross came from his strike partner Kola Aladeon.

Sea Birds then tried to retaliate towards the dying minutes of the first half through their striker Nkosingiphile Mavimbela, who was denied by Wanderers keeper Mbongeni Motsa in the 43rd minute in what was their best chance of the stanza. The match went to the breather with the home side enjoying a two goal cushion. Skipper 'Shana' provoked wild celebrations from the home crowd in the 48th minute when he headed from close range to make it 3-0. Youngster Allie Matse extended their Weslians lead three minutes later with a stunning free kick taken from the edge of the box which left the keeper sprawling on the turf.

The Duze High School pupil then put the final nail on the Sea Birds coffin in the hour mark when he completed his brace.

Sea Birds lanky midfielder Gcinizwi Dlamini scored a consolation in the 82nd minute with powerful shot that went past substitute goal-keeper Gugulethu Dlamini, who was handed his debut after replacing Mbongeni Motsa in the second half.

Koki says Swallows can win anywhere, not just at Somhlolo

BY SABELO MAJOLA

Swallows head coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati rubbished rumours that Swallows struggle when playing outside of Somhlolo, saying the team can win in any venue.

There is talk in town that Swallows are dangerous only when playing at the country's Mecca Somhlolo but Vilakati disagreed and his argument was supported by the team's 2-1 win over Royal Leopard at Mavuso Sports Centre yesterday.

Vilakati said Leopard were motivated coming into the game, carrying the same mentality that Swallows would struggle but that was not the case.

"Leopard were bringing in their wingers in the first half and our defenders stayed firm. This approach worked perfectly for them in the first half but our transition was better in the sec-



Swallows goalkeeper Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza celebrating their first goal with fitness coach Siyabonga Mdluli.

ond half. We congested the middle and spread them on the wings, bringing in crosses hence we scored two goals and buried them. Every game is a tough one for us but we will keep on grinding the results," he said.

Vilakati complained about a denied penalty in the first minute of the game after Sabelo Ndzinisa was brought down in the box.

He said to him it was a clear penalty but it was now water under the bridge. On the other hand, Leopard coach Sifiso 'Nuro' Ntibane thanked his players for the fighting spirit.

He praised them for always giving out their best in every game and showing the hunger to win

"We lost concentration at the crucial stage of the game hence the results did not go our way. Credit should go to the players, they gave it their all in the field of play," he said.

Terisayi now feeling pressure after City loss

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

OCCER - MBABANE Highlanders head coach Terisayi Changara is now feeling the heat following his team's 4-3 loss to Midas City at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

The Zimbabwean mentor said things were not going their way following their sixth loss at the expense of their city rivals.

"We are already feeling the pressure due to our losing streak but we have to soldier on and

continue fighting until we turn the corner. We started the match well but the players became complacent after taking an early lead and allowed the opposition to come at us. We committed a lot of mistakes in the middle of the park."

Aggression

He said the team lacked coordination and aggression in the match which killed off their attacking momentum.

"We have to correct our mistakes and continue fighting in scoring record in the upcomthe next matches," he said.

power in order to improve our scoring record in the upcoming matches," he said.

continue fighting until we turn

Meanwhile, winning Coach
the corner. We started the match
well but the players became
complacent after taking an early

Meanwhile, winning Coach
Caleb Ngwenya commended
his players following their hardfought win.

"We played well especially in the first half.

Dying

However, we almost gave the match away in the dying minutes where we allowed the opponents to come at us as we eventually conceded three goals. We still need to work on our fire-power in order to improve our scoring record in the upcoming matches," he said.

City beat 'Bull' in 7-goal thriller

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

Mbabane Highlanders.....(1)3 Midas City.....(4)4

OCCER - MIDAS City displayed a spirited first half performance to beat struggling giants Mbabane Highlanders 4-3 during an MTN Premier League match played at the Somholo National Stadium yesterday.

The Caleb Ngwenya-led charges erased their midweek loss at the hands of Red Lions as they came from a goal down to beat the 'Black Bull'.

Playing before their worst crowd ever of about 100 fans, Highlanders started the match brightly as they took the lead with only seven into the match through midfielder Menzi Sithole, who scored from the spot kick.

This was after City defensive midfielder Buhle Msibi handled the ball inside the box.

South African winger Thokozani Khanyile should have done better in the 20th minute when he blasted his shot wide with only the keeper to beat.

Midas City's enterprising winger Mncedisi Kunene levelled matters five minutes later with a low shot after combining well with Simanga Shongwe.

Skipper Linda Msibi made it 2-1 in favour of City just before the half-hour mark when he headed home a Frank Dlamini floated free kick to put his side on the driving seat.

Trusted striker Simanga Shongwe scored City's goal in the 31st minute after benefiting from the opposition backline's poor lapse of concentration to beat Highlanders keeper Sidumo Vilakati with ease.

Soon after that it became a one-way traffic for *Midas City while* it looked like horror movie for the home side as Njabulo Magagula made it 4-1 at the stroke of halftime.

Highlanders tried to retaliate in the second half following the introduction of Sabbela Mohammed, who came in the place of the ineffective Celani Shongwe.

Former Royal Leopard player Menzi Sithole reduced the deficit in the 52nd minute and further completed his brace with a volley taken at the edge of the box.

Sabbela then scored the third goal for Highlanders in the 85th minutes but it was too late as City desperately defended until the final whistle to get their derby win.

Teams:

Highlanders - Sidumo, Junior, Celani (Sabbela), Takawira, Sibusiso, Kamara, Khanyile, Menzi, Mphucuko,Chocco,Sibusiso Tfwala(Sibusiso Mkhonta) City - Qiniso, Simphiwe, Khetho, Frank, Ndaba, Mncedisi, Masotja, Buhle (Themba), Njabulo (Spider), Linda, Simanga



Midas City coach Caleb Ngwenya.

RESULTS

Premier League

- Everton
- Crystal Palace
- Absa Premiership
- Platinum Stars ax Cape Town Orlando Pirates
- Baroka FC Chippa U...ted Mamelodi Sundowns
- C 1 Bidvest Wits 1 2 Maritzburg United 1 0 Free State Stars

3 - 2 West Ham United 0 - 1 AFC Bournemouth

Swansea City

1 - 2 Manchester City 0 - 0 Liverpool

- 1 1 Supersport United Cape Town City FC
- 2 1 Kaizer Chiefs







MTN Premier League log

Position	P	W	D	L	G	GA	GD	Pts	
Mbabane Swallows	12	12	0	0	34	5	29	36	
Young Buffaloes	12	5	6	1	13	6	7	21	
Manzini Wanderers	12	5	5	2	20	10	10	20	
Royal Leopard	12	5	3	4	16	13	3	18	
Manzini Sundowns	12	4	5	3	13	15	-2	17	
Moneni Pirates	12	4	4	4	15	18	-3	16	
Midas City	12	3	5	4	14	17	-3	14	
Green Mamba	11	3	3	5	11	9	2	12	
Red Lions	12	3	3	6	13	27	-14	12	
MbbneHighlanders	12	2	4	6	14	20	-6	10	
Tambuti	11	3	1	7	8	18	-10	10	
Sea Birds	12	1	3	8	8	21	-13	6	



Results

1	Manzini Sundowns
1	Young Buffaloes
1	Moneni Pirates
F	Royal Leopard
	Ababane Highlander
	Manzini Wanderers

- Tambuti Red Lions Green Mamba Mbabane Swallows
 - Midas City

Triumphant Toure return delights Guardiola on return to squad

ONDON - Yaya Toure demonstrated that it is never too late to say sorry as he made such a triumphant return to the Manchester City fold yesterday which made his manager Pep Guardiola feel as if he had almost signed a brand new play-

Toure, left out of the team for three months in an unseemly stand-off between him, Guardiola and the player's agent Dimitri Seluk, was welcomed back from exile and celebrated his shock recall with both goals in City's 2-1 win at Crystal Palace.

It was an emotional return for the Ivorian, a huge favourite with City fans, as he was applauded back into the dressing room by his teammates after scoring the winner in the 83rd

> They have always been brilliant with me, always supportive. I always want to be there to help them. I am professional, I always want to improve my game," Toure told the BBC after making his first Premier League start since April.



Manchester City midfielder Yaya Toure celebrating with his teammate Kevin De Bruyne.

"I was prepared mentally and I knew that one day my manager would need me. You must always stay professional."

Toure's return was a reward for his

magnanimity in making a public apology to Guardiola after the Spaniard had explained he would not be considered for selection until Seluk had said sorry for comments about Toure

being "humiliated" by the club. Even though his agent refused to oblige, Toure apologised fully at the start of the month for "misunderstandings of the past" and his committed attitude in training to be in his best shape was evidently enough for Guardiola to recall him.

It was a luxury, enabling Guardiola to rest midfielder Ilkay Gundogan ahead of the key Champions League against Borussia Moenchengladbach.

But the Spaniard was left thrilled with the contribution of the player he also once coached at Barcelona. We have a new player now," he beamed after watching Toure's teammates give him a hero's reception. "It's a gift to have another player to compete (for a place).

"He's part of the history of this club He's a huge personality and his teammates appreciate him a lot."

While City went to the top of the table alongside leaders Liverpool on 27 points, the joy was tempered by another injury to captain Vincent Kompany who made his first Premier League start for seven months.

He lasted just 37 minutes before having to be taken off following a collision with his own goalkeeper Claudio Bravo. Reuters