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HLOBI'S HAPPY DAY AT BUGANU FESTIVAL

JOVIAL: Senator Bonsile Mngomezulu, Minister of Health Sibongile Ndlela-Simelane and Hlobsile Ndlovu dancing up a storm with Lutsango from the health ministry during the last day of the Buganu Ceremony at Buhleni Royal Residence yesterday. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)

SEE MORE PICS ON PAGE 4



PAGE 3

KNAPSACK

after discovering she was once married before marrying

STORY ON PAGE 3

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SWAZIPOST

LAWYER'S WIFE TANELE, SEVEN OTHERS ARREST

By Eddie Abner Mbabane

HUMAN Rights Lawyer Thulani Maseko's wife Tanele and seven others were arrested and charged with public indecency.

This follows their action on Saturday morning, wherein they stripped naked and showed their buttocks to Inkhosikati LaMakhungu of KaLuhleko chiefdom.

The eight were taken to Bhunya Police Station where they were first lectured by the station commander and later recorded statements.

Later in the afternoon, they were taken to the Manzini Magistrates Court only to find that there was no magistrate to attend to them.

They were then released and ordered to return today.

Police Information Communications Officer Khulani Mamba confirmed the arrests and stated that the eight were expected to appear in court today.

Buttocks

The eight on Saturday brought back the memories of women of Macetjeni, who also showed their buttocks in protests of Prince Maguga being the chief of the area.

The group of women converged at the gate of the chief's residence and upon seeing Inkhosikati LaMakhungu moving around the yard, they stripped naked and showed their buttocks.

The incident saw police officers shooting in the air in a bid to disperse

The inkhosikati is the mother of the reigning Chief Zulwelihle Maseko, who was blessed by His Majesty



ARRESTED: Human Rights Lawyers Thulani Maseko's wife Tanele (Fourth from right with the other woman she was arrested with.

King Mswati III.

The women came to this decision following their claims that Inkhosikati LaMakhungu, the wife to the Luhleko Chief Mfanawenkhosi, was abusing them as she ruled the area with an iron fist.

Meanwhile, the chieftancy dispute at KaLuhleko has been ongoing for a while with a certain faction of the Maseko family claiming Chief Zulwelihle was not the rightful chief of the area.

Recently, the dispute saw a group of about 20 unarmed members of the youth from the opposing faction in the dispute being stopped by armed police officers as they intended to deliver a petition to the chief and inkhosatana.

The group shared that they had had enough of the stress their parents had been subjected to since the appointment of the latter hence they had decided to take it upon themselves to solve the matter.

Since the dispute started, acts of violence have been rife with houses belonging to the incumbent's relatives burnt down, allegedly by the opposing faction Inkhosikati LaMakhungu was shot at by unknown people.

Also, the dispute has seen an order of silence by His Majesty King Mswati III through Ludzidzini Governor TV Mtetwa being publicly defied, as some still well as refused to acknowledge Zulwelihle as the chief.

Kombi driver fined E2 000 for drinking buganu

By Mbono Mdluli Magistrates' Court

A kombi driver has been nabbed for driving under the influence of alcohol after imbibing in the traditional buganu brew on Saturday.

Sithembiso Comfort Mkhatshwa (35) of Mahwalala in Mbabane appeared yesterday before Principal Magistrate Fikile Nhlabatsi.

He was charged with contravening Section 91 (1) of the Road Traffic Act of 2007 (as read with Section 122 (2) of the same Act).

The amount of alcohol found in his body was 1.12 milligrams per litre. This incident is said to have happened on Saturday.

Nabbed

He was nabbed near the head quarters of Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC) in Mbabane along the MR 19 road.

Mkhatshwa is said to have been driving a Toyota kombi registered NSD 592

Mkhatshwa was notified in court that he had a right to represent himself or acquire the services of a lawyer. He chose to conduct his own defence.

He pleaded guilty to the offence and was accordingly found guilty as charged.

He stated explained that he did not expect the breath test to give him the results that were written on the charge sheet .

"I was surprised by the results of the breath test, I think the buganu I was drinking was too strong because I had taken just a few" Mkhatshwa said.

He said he was driving the kombi from Buhleni when his friend offered him a few sips.

Wrong

He said he did so, but did not drink much of it because he did not want to be on the wrong side of the law as he was driving. He asked the court to be lenient with him as he did not have much money to pay the fine.

He said he was responsible for the education of his child hence he was cash strapped.

Nhlabatsi sentenced Mkhatshwa to two years in prison or with a fine option of E2 000.

Possible

Mkhatshwa then asked if it was possible for him to pay the fine in instalments, but Nhlabatsi told him that he was supposed to pay in cash.

"If you pay it in instalments you will then spend the remaining period in prison," Nhlabatsi said.

Marula festival weekend recorded low DD cases

By Nozipho Sibiya Mbabane

THE Buganu festival weekend saw 56 booze lovers arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol.

The figure was released yesterday by Royal Swaziland Police (RSP) Chief Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba, who said the number showed a nebw decrease from last week's reported cases.

"There were 56 drink-driving cases reported over the past weekend while the previous weekend recorded 64 cases," he said.

Those arrested have either appeared in court for their sins or will be greeting the magistrates this morning.

However, Mamba said it was difficult to see people who had taken marula and other kinds of alcohol.



DRUNK RESPONSIBLY: Emaganu brew.

"Most people were well behaved during the Maganu Festival at Buhleni and there were less cases of misbehaviour reported."

Meanwhile, Sidvokodvo police, arrested and charged a 48 year old man of Mnyokane for cultivating dagga plants without a licence or permit while at Bulunga.

"The suspect will appear before Manzini Magistrate's Court

today."

Also, a 25-year-old woman of Manjengeni reported that her four-year-old son drowned at Vuvulane Canal.

"The body of the deceased was retrieved and rushed to Good Shepherd Hospital where he was certified dead."

There were no fatal road traffic accidents reported over the week-

Cool, sunny week expected

By Nozipho Sibiya Mbabane

EXPECT a cool sunny week ahead with a few afternoon thunderstorms between Wednesday and Thursday. Swaziland Meteorology forecasters said the intensity of

thunderstorms should be

expected on Wednesday and Thursday, mainly in the western part of the country.

"We should expect isolated thunderstorms later in the week otherwise it will be cool week ahead."

Today there will be drizzle and fog at places, otherwise partly cloudy with sunny intervals and cool but warm in the Lowveld.

Four day weather forecast

Mbabane Mankayane Manzini Siteki Mhlume Big Bend 16/22 17/23 18/25 21/27 20/26 22/28

Tomorrow there will morning fog at places, otherwise cloudy with partly cloudy intervals and cool but warm to hot in the low yeld. 19/25 22/28 20/27 23/29 On Wednesday, there will be fog at places, otherwise cloudy becoming partly cloudy and warm but hot in the Lowveld with a few thunderstorms in the afternoon. 19/27

20/28 23/31 21/30 24/32 25/33 While on Thursday, there will be morning fog patches, otherwisep artly cloudy and warm but hot in the Lowveld with a few thunderstorms in the afternoon.

19/28 20/29 23/32 21/31 24/33

LECTURER DEMANDS LOBOLA BACK FOR ONCE MARRIED WIFE

COVER STORY

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi Pigg's Peak

A lecturer wants his (lobola) dowry back from the family of his wife who is a police officer after discovering that she was once married before she got married to him.

Jabulani Mndzebele got married to Goodness Betfusile Maseko through the customary marriage known as kuteka and further paid 12 cattle for Maseko as dowry (lobola).

This happened in January 2010 after the two had spent some time together and decided to be officially united. However, now a new problem has riddled the relationship which according to Mndzebele's in-laws was a match made in Heaven, Mndzebele has taken the Mavuso family which hails from Nsangwini to court for not telling him that LaMaseko was in fact another man's wife.

Performed

Mndzebele narrating his story at the Swazi National Court stated that he paid lobola and performed the smearing of red ochre (libovu) on LaMaseko without knowing that she had been smeared with red ochre before by a Ginindza family but unfortunately that marriage didn't work out and LaMaseko went back home, where she stayed with two of the children she had with Ginindza.

Even though the Mavuso family told the court that Mndzebele, who is employed as a lecturer in one of the institutions in the country was aware of the situation and he persisted with the marriage.

Gogo Mndzebele making her testimony in court stated that if she knew that the police officer (LaMaseko) was once smeared with red ochre by the Ginindza family she wouldn't have done it again because according to Swazi custom a woman is not smeared with red ochre twice.

Uncle distances himself from matter

GOODNESS' uncle, Eric Maswazi Mavuso who was the main man during the lobola negotiations was also taken to court by Mndzebele, who accused him of keeping LaMaseko's past marriage a

To prove that he didn't know anything about the marriage Mndzebele even produced a certificate of LaMaseko before she got married to him. The certificate clearly states that LaMaseko was a police officer and she was single at that time.

Mavuso stated that she was also not aware that LaMaseko was married as he only got to know about that during the lobola negotiations.

Mavuso stated that during the negotiations Mndzebele was told about the matter but said he was fine with

smeared with red ochre twice, that is

why she was acting the way she was.

for Nsangwini Indlunkulu stated that

Mndzebele did come to him to report

He said Mndzebele told him that he

asked them to pay a cow in order to

cleanse LaMaseko of the red ochre

because according to him if someone

is smeared with libovu she will forev-

Mdluli stated that Mndzebele told

him that if the Mavuso family fails to

Mndzebele's request he changed tune

and told them that he will not take

do that he wanted his lobola back.

Mdluli stated that, however, just

when the Mavuso agreed to

someone else's wife.

that the Mavuso family who raised

LaMaseko are avoiding him.

er be the wife of that person.

Bonginkosi Mdluli, who is secretary

Mayuso stated that he didn't understand how he was involved in the matter because all that he was doing was just following orders.

Mavuso stated that two of his brothers who are also police officers told him to be in charge of the whole lobola and kuhlambisa ceremony and he did. He further stated that he didn't know anything about cows and he never even saw those cows. It is said Mndzebele even started getting abusive after he heard rumours that the officer was having an affair and when she confronted her about it the officer came to their place of abode and took all her belongings including her bed. It is alleged that upon realising this Mndzebele saw that he was losing a wife whom he had paid lobola for hence wanted his cattle back

Gogo Mndzebele stated that if she knew she would have used vaseline. Mndzebele alleged that his wife startwho was someone's wife. Confirmed ed getting mischivieous hence he went to the Mavuso family to confront them and told them that he suspect that it was because she was

Mariah Mavuso told the court that LaMaseko and even confirmed that he knew everything about his wife because he had stayed with her for some time before reaching the decision to marry her.

Gcinaphi stated that Mndzebele told them to keep it a secret that ing a woman who has had children

Gcinaphi stated that they even decided to cut down the number of cattle to be paid by Mndzebele tracted three cattle because It is said Mndzebele agreed to that hence he paid 12 cows to the Mavusos.

Mndzebele said the Mavuso tricked him into paying lobola for a person

LaMaseko's mother Gcinaphi Mndzebele was told everything about

LaMaseko has children from another marriage because his father would be against the idea of Mndzebele marrysomewhere else.

because they told him that they sub-LaMaseko had two children already.

SNAT meets Muir over 'questionable' officer

By Sabatha Dlamini Mbabane

THE Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) says the organisation has difficulty weeding out corrupt elements at the ministry of education.

SNAT General Secretary Muzi Mhlanga said the National Executive Committee had met three times with Secretary Pat Muir over the alleged questionable qualifications of his officer, Knowledge Ngwenya, without them getting a clear response.

Mhlanga said the unsatisfactory responses they got from Muir left them with no option but to inform the general SNAT membership of the difficulty they were facing with regards to Ngwenya's role and qualifications. Mhlanga said this matter concerned them because this officer terrorised teachers under the disguise that he was investigating them for any acts of corruption yet he was not entirely clean himself. Ngwenya is being investigated by the Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) for allegedly having questionable qualifications. Although the ACC has not concluded its investigation on Ngwenya, he recently declared that he was fully at work. "There is no doubt that I am at work, as you can see I'm here in the office, wearing my necktie," he said with pride. Ngwenya briefly disappeared from action at the height of the Swazi Observer expose about his questionable qualifications and promotion to a Degree position, when he doesn't even have a formal qualification.

Mhlanga said all civil servants were employed on the basis of their qualifications.

He said currently there were teachers refunding government of money they obtained from the public purse undeservedly because they had submitted fraudulent certificates thus get-

ting the money fraudulently. Mhlanga said in all the meetings they had with Muir on the matter of Ngwenya, they had tried unsuccessfully to establish what exactly his job description entailed. He said the man was said to be an investigator yet no such position existed with the ministry but instead he was allegedly paid as a career guidance officer. He said they expected that the investigation would be done and completed urgently so that in the event Ngwenya was found to have committed fraud, he should either be demoted to his original position or charged with fraud and be made to face criminal charges.

Ngwenya, according to information in our possession, has two Form V certificates in his file, both taken in the same year and same month, November 1997, with two different schools; St. Mark's High and Londunduma. In an interview recently, Ngwenya said he could not comment on the reasons why he was not suspended, arguing that the right person to shed light on the matter was the principal secretary. In a previous interview, he had with this publication, Ngwenya acknowledged the Londunduma certificate as his, but surprisingly when his promotion issue came up, used the 'forged' or cooked St. Mark's certificate with embellished symbols as his true record. Minister of Education Phineas Magagula asked why Ngwenya was still in office despite the damning allegations against him, stated that the matter was handed over to the police who also referred it to the ACC. He said he was expecting the ACC to handle the matter as a competent body tasked with handling such issues. ACC Public Relations Officer Jabu Phakathi said her office did not discuss

matters that were under investi-

gation with the media.

One killed in three-car pile-up at Moneni

By Sibusiso Masilela Mbabane

ONE person died when three cars were involved in a head on comsion at Moneni in Manzini yesterday evening.

According to police, the driver of a BMW was killed during the accident.

He is said to have failed to control his car thus resulting in the accident.

Police Chief Information Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba confirmed the accident yesterday, saying there was one casualty.

We are told that the driver of



FATAL: A three car pile-up at Moneni claimed one life.

the BMW was the one killed after he failed to control his vehicle, which veered to the other lane thus causing the accident," he said.

He confirmed that three cars were involved in the accident and added that the occupants from the other cars were rushed to hospital.

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BAYETHE: His Majesty joined by his guest King Langalibalele II of amaHlubi in South Africa. Emazinyane also joined the King and throngs of people during the last day of the Buganu Ceremony at Buhleni Royal Residence. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



ARRIVAL: His Majesty King Mswati III on arrival for the ceremony.



MHLEKAZI: Her Majesty watching Lutsango do what they know best.



PRESENT: Inkhosatana Sikhanyiso and Princess Sphiwayena also came through to witness the event.



SIGODLO: Emakhosikati dancing up a storm with the rest of Lutsango.



GUESTS: Emalangeni and guests watching Lutsango as they showcase the dances.



RELAX: Emalangeni following proceedings.



DANCING: Ministers and Senators dancing with Lutsango from the RSP.



GOOD TIME: Lutsango from Mayiwane displaying some of the goodies they received from Their Majesties before their departure.



IN FULL SWING: Lutsango from the USDF in full swing as they pass through Their Majesties.





BAYETHE: His Majesty King Mswati III addressing Lutsango after the day's activities while Her Majesty the Indlovukazi and King Langalibalele II of AmaHlubi look



WATCHING: Legislators, members of different emabandla and dignitaries following the proceeding.



Diplomats also joined the nation in the singing of Incangosi.



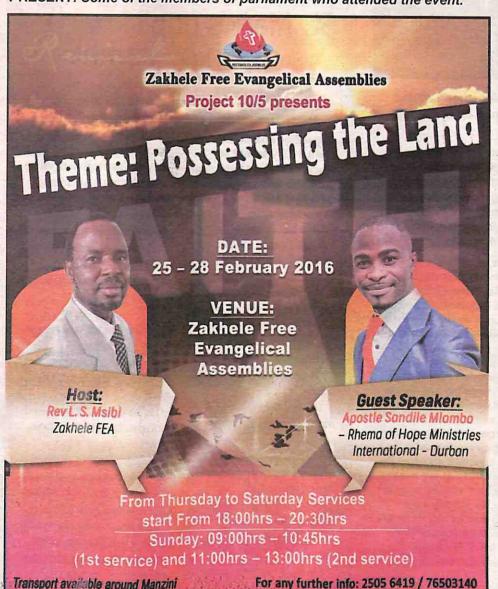
DANCING: Lutsango from the ministry of health entering the arena.



THE ROSE: Lindiwe Mavuso aka Yellow Rose from SBIS reporting live from the Buganu Ceremony.



PRESENT: Some of the members of parliament who attended the event.



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Energy for the Future

PUBLIC NOTICE

SWAZILAND ELECTRICITY COMPANY PENSION FUND (SECPF) PENSIONERS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

The Swaziland Electricity Company Pension Fund (SECPF) wishes to notify all pensioners receiving their monthly pension from the Company and the Pension Fund, of their annual general meeting scheduled to be held on the 26th February 2016 at The George Hotel, Manzini at 09:00 a.m.

Pensioners are reminded to bring certified copies of IDs to the meeting and be prepared to complete certificates of existence.

SIMEMETELO SESIVE

NGALABAHOLA IMPENISHELI KA SEC PENSION FUND

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GRATEFUL LUTSANGO GET GIFTS FROM THEIR MAJESTIES

By Thembeka Dlamini Buhleni

SCORES of women left Buhleni Royal Residence in a grateful mood laden with gifts from Their Majesties which comprised meat, drinks and

"We have been blessed because despite having been away from our homes for a short time, we return with blessings as Their Majesties have given us something to take home," Lutsango regiment member Mayina Tsabedze said. The middle aged woman said she was excited about having been part of the Buhleni Buganu Ceremony.

"We also brought some of our harvests to present them before Her Majesty and it is a blessing to have been here as we know that we have been bestowed with blessings which will ensure that our children and homes will prosper," she

According to official reports, 10 000 women registered for the festival. Even though scores left yesterday afternoon, the evening brightened up with some thousands of the regiments going through their well-choreographed



ALL SMILES: Lutsango from Mayiwane displaying some of the goodies they received from Their Majesties before their departure.

With Her Majesty the Queen Mother making her way to the lawn within the residence at about 6pm, dancing within the half-moon formation had been going on for some time.

Watched

His Majesty King Mswati III was to later join the gathering and watched Lutsango dance with Emakhosikati

LaMotsa, LaMbikiza, LaMagongo, LaMahlangu as well as LaFogiyane. Spirited dancing took place well into 8pm when an announcement of food from His Majesty was made. Despite the announcement singing continued as Lutsango seemed reluctant to leave having sung every song to their wish-

King Langalibalele II attends Buganu Ceremony

Stories by Sifiso Nhlabatsi Buhleni

KING of Amahlubi tribe in South Africa, Langalibalele II was one of the important guests to His Majesty King Mswati III during the Buganu Ceremony held at Buhleni Royal Residence over the weekend.

King Langalibalele arrived at the arena at Buhleni on Saturday and watched the Lutsango regiment displaying their dancing skills.

He has a very strong bond with the Swazi nation.

The king was having a good time as he was seen following the proceedings while in the company of His Majesty King Mswati III and Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini.

Meanwhile, King Langalibalele's



GUEST APPEARANCE: King Langalibalele II arriving at the Buganu Ceremony at Buhleni Royal residence on Saturday. (Pic Sifiso Nhlabatsi)

visit to the country coincided with the hosting of the Limpompo marula festival over the weekend. According to the Limpopo Marula Festival website, "The Festival of the First Fruit, the Marula Festival - 'Ku

LumaNguva'/ 'Go Loma Morula'- is

a heritage phenomenon which is performed by traditional leaders at the beginning of the Marula Season".

It is a heritage practice that precludes any drinking of the marula beverage before traditional leaders have blessed the season.

Fruits, vegetables galore at Buhleni

DESPITE the prevalent drought situation facing the country throngs of Lutsango members came out in full force to deliver fresh fruits to Their Majesties at the Buhleni Royal Residence.

Every year the event attracts more and more people from various corners of the country and the southern Africa 6 region. Adding to this marvel heritage festival is the fact that Buhleni Royal Residence offered tourists with the opportunity to buy Swazi artefacts and other locally made items such as traditional regalia and sandals.

During the festival, the country's favourite tourist destinations were also promoted. Stalls from the ministry of tourism were there to showcase places such as Malolotja, Mantenga Cultural ASSESSED CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER

Village and others places abound with tourist facilities and attractions.

The ceremony was once again a success even this year as one would have expected the fruits and vegetables delivered to be less than the previous years because of the drought that has been finally declared a national disaster. However, this was not the case as more fruits and vegetables were delivered by Swazis. Lutsango over the weekend, delivered not only Buganu brew, but vegetables such as pumpkins and cabbages. Lutsango braved the scorching heat and displayed their dancing skills in front of Their Majesties together with the diplomats who were in the arena. The event proceeded peacefully as people respected the police warnings not play radios in

their cars at the arena park. Lutsango came in numbers to show support for the lovely culture. Sibonakaliso Mbambo from Ngwane College stated that even though it was hot they made it to Buhleni because they would not miss such an event. Mbambo stated that they travelled from Shiselweni and arrived at Buhleni on Friday evening. "We just love our culture and always make sure that we attend such events, now we can't wait to proceed to Hlane," the excited Mbambo stated.

Londiwe Dlamini of Nyakatfo stated that it was her sixth time attending the event Dlamini stated that as a resident of Nyakatfo, what was more important to her was that His Majesty King Mswati III had paid the area a visit and as residents, they got a chance to see him. She said seeing His Majesty in person was more than enough for them as residents.

Bad weather fails to hinder vibrant mood

By Thembeka Dlamini Buhleni

THREATENING bad weather failed to stop festivities of the second day of the Buganu Festival on Saturday as despite the wind and lightning, the Lutsango regiment continued dancing up a storm.

This was noted even when Inkhosikati LaFogiyane was dancing, she at times, was 'blanketed' by a cloud of dust from which she would emerge still in step with her choice song that was about her rod.

Mesmerised

By that time, the Lutsango members were mostly on their feet, as they were mesmerised by her solo rendition. Several women entered the arena in appreciation of her skills.

Worsened

When compeer Olga Malinga stopped performances as the weather worsened, His Majesty's Correctional Services Lutsango were getting ready to showcase their well-rehearsed moves.

This was after Royal Swaziland Police Services Lutsango member Ngabisa Dlamini's riveting rendition which she performed without a hitch. Malinga had, prior to Dlamini's solo, called three groups in succession to showcase their dances with the Umbutfo Swaziland Defence Force (USDF) to appear last such that the halting of further performances was met with good natured disappointment as they whispered that they had another day within which to show-off.

Even though it was never spoken about officially, it is no secret that the three disciplined forces try to outdo each other in showmanship at such occasions.

Thereafter the whole arena resonated with the song Njilonji as the background skies illuminated by the random lightening which seemed to be in response to the, singing regiments.

His Majesty King Mswati III. who took to the podium as a cloud of dust covered the area, stated that proceedings had to be rushed as there would be confusion if the weather worsened with a possibility of people scampering away for safety.

St. Mark's pupil knocked down by kombi

By Nozipho Sibiya Mbabane

A speeding kombi knocked down a 12-year-old St Mark's Primary pupil near the traffic lights situated at the Swaziland Broadcasting and Information Services (SBIS) last Friday.

According to an eye witness, the pupil was crossing the traffic lights heading to school when the reckless driver knocked him down. He was severely injured.

Cross

The driver was allegedly trying to cross a red traffic light.

"He fell down some metres away from the scene of the accident. Fortunately, traffic police officers were around doing their daily patrol.

"The boy was immediately rushed to hospital as he we bleeding severely in the head."

It is said the boy sustained

severe injuries and was admitted to Mbabane Government Hospital.

People who witnessed the accident said the kombi driver was negligent as he was playing loud music and driving at an excessive speed.

Police Chief Information and Communication Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba confirmed the matter.

Severe

"The matter was reported to the police.

The boy sustained severe injuries in the head," he said.

He said he was admitted and discharged the same day.

Mamba further warned drivers to respect all road signs and stop over-speeding especially in town. "Drivers should always be alert when driving in the morning as many children are rushing to school."

Ex-bus rank tenants now want vacant land in town

By Sizwe Dlamini Mbabane

FORMER Old Bus
Rank tenants, who were
recently evicted by business mogul Moses
Motsa, now want to
occupy an unused piece
of land reportedly owned
by Dups Group
Holdings.

The tenants claim that the land has been unused for a long time and they could make good use of it.

They wondered why the Municipal Council of Mbabane had allowed the land to be undeveloped for such a long time.

"If we could jsut move in and start using this place what would happen?" asked an unnamed former old bus rank vendor.

Sandile Mkhonta, who was a barber at the old bus rank and some of his friends were recently seen viewing the prime piece of land situated in the capital city, along Msakato road and near A1 Supermarket.

"This place will be perfect for business I do not know why this land is not being used," said Mkhonta.

He added: "The city council allowed (Moses) Motsa to chase us away from the old bus rank like dogs claiming that our containers where making the city dirty. We have no place to do our business now he continued.

"This land is right in town but not in the centre, the Mbabane city council should help us secure this place so that we can continue to earn our living through the small businesses we were doing at old bus rank."

Another angry vendor Sibusiso Simelane, who was a salon owner at the old bus rank, added that they did not understand what the city council was thinking when they allowed Motsa to chase them away.

"How do they think we are living. I was a tenant at the old bus rank since 2009, now I am looking for a place to rent and restart my salon but rent is so expensive around Mbabane," said Simelane.



TARGETED: Former tenants of the Old Bus Rank have targeted an unused piece of land owned by Dups Group Holdings.



VACANT: The idle piece of land.

"The city council said they would allocate a place for us to do business but they still have not said anything. I do not know what these people at the city council expect from us. Will they take us seriously once we start stealing and breaking into houses?" continued Simelane.

He said they had waited for a long time for the city council to give them feedback but nothing had been said so far.

"They keep telling us to wait but you cannot tell your stomach to wait, you cannot tell your children to wait, you cannot tell hunger to wait, it is extremely frustrating.

We are not asking for jobs because they will not give us that chance, so we make money by opening businesses now they take that away from us. I really do not know what the city council wants from us," said a teary Simelane.

Junior, who owned a container that sold sneakers and second hand clothing at the old bus rank, said the piece of land was small but they could utilise it. "I was a tenant at the old

bus rank since 2005. I had good business because of my location. I was right at the gate," said junior.

"The old bus rank was good for business but this place will also be good because it is also in town, we can work.

This land has been undeveloped for a long time it was once a car wash in 2010 but since then it has been empty," continued Junior.

Two phone numbers placed on the land which is said to be reserved for development were not available when contacted by this reporter.

However, the interview got tense when this reporter informed the vendors that the land belonged to Dups and not the city council. "Why doesn't the city council buy or rent the land?" screamed one of the vendor.

The Municipal Council of Mbabane was contacted for comment but they instead requested a questionnaire. Dups Group Holdings could not be drawn for comment at the time of compiling the report.

950 000 Swazis now MTN users

By Eddie Abner Mbabane

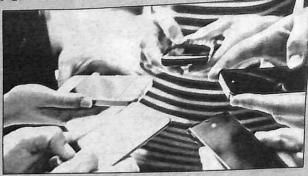
SWAZI MTN users are now estimated to be around 950 000, with the country's population at slightly over a million.

This is according to the Company's Corporate Affairs Manager Mandla Luphondvo.

The company has lined up a number of promotions for their customers which amongst others include calling for free after midnight.

Luphondvo mentioned that this was part of the company's commitment to make improve services offered to their customers.

He added that they had realised as a company that most of their customers were now more into data than the use of voice and were trying to strike a balance between the usage of the



GROWING: MTN Swaziland has reported an estimated 950 000 mobile users in the country.

two.

"The promotions are meant to promote use of data, seeing that increasingly, our customers interact with data-related applications.

anticipate

We anticipate that a huge number of our over 950 000 valued customers would have an increased appetite for data.

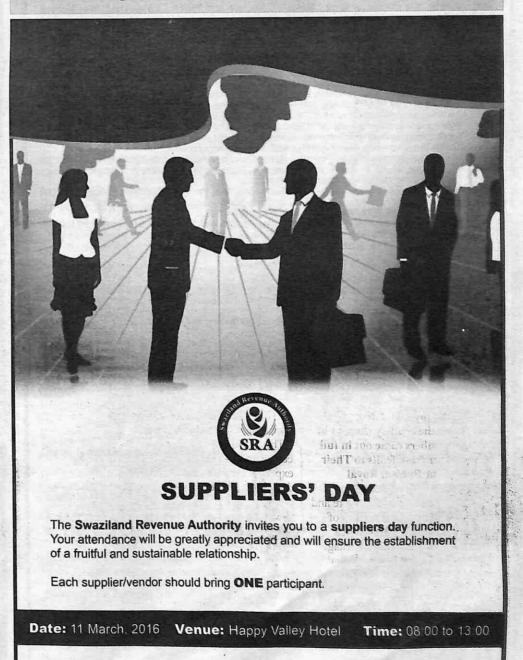
In fact, most of them are already more into data than voice.

Stimulate

However, we would also like to strike a balance, and stimulate the use of voice, hence the incentive for them to make voice calls. Because there are instances where one needs to make a call to immediately get certain things done.

Additionally, Swazi MTN has lined up mobile phone promotions because they are the infrastructure used to communicate using voice or data.

Whilst airtime is our primary product, it becomes important that we promote the sale of accessories which are a basic vehicle for the uptake of our primary product," he said.



RSVP: Hlengiwe at 2406 4330 or Bongani at 2406 4215





UNIFORMITY AND RYHTHM: Lutsango doing it for Their Majesties.



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FROM INTERESTED AND EXPERIENCED COMPANIES AND INVESTORS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CAR WASH AND SHISANYAMA NODE IN MATSAPHA THROUGH A PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (PPP) ARRANGEMENT

TENDER NO: 001/2016

Matsapha Town Council wishes to invite Expression of Interest (EOI) from reputable and Matsapha Town Councit wisnes to invite Expression of Interest (EOI) from reputable and experienced companies or investors either as individual firm or consortium with the requisite capabilities to submit an EOI to participate in the competitive tender for the development of a Car Wash and Shisanyama Node in the Matsapha Small Business Enterprise Zones (Informal Trading Site), namely: the Corner of King Sobhuza II Avenue and Police College road near Mobeni vending site and along King Mswati III East Avenue next to Steel and Wire International vending site. The envisioned private public partnership procurement is a Concession model to be fully financed by the investor and remunerated by user charges.

Project Scope

Project Scope
 The requirements for the execution of the project will include but not limited to the following:

 Conduct a situational analysis of the identified area of choice within the Matsapha Business Enterprise zones, and potential surrounding community pools to determine the population types and quantities that will benefit from the development; The assessment should also be able to identify possible needs of the community around the Business Enterprise Zones;
 Present an ideal integrated Car Wash and Shisanyama plan that will address issues of public health and planning requirements: Surfacing / Paving, Drainage, Water Treatment System, Office Requirements, Personnel Protective Equipment, Fencing.
 Undertake the requisite engineering designs for the development. It should be noted that all designs would be carried out based on acceptable cost-effective technical design principles and performance criteria/standards;
 Build, finance and operate a full Shisanyama and Car Wash facility to handle all the activities within the Small Business Enterprise Zone.

activities within the Small Business Enterprise Zone.

Prepare a schedule of project costs and Bill of Quantities;

Operation and maintenance of the facility in conformity with the best practices against mutually established benchmarks of performance during the envisaged concession period;

Ensure compliance with all statutory requirements and relevant procedures of the Matsanha Town Council Matsapha Town Council.

Requirements from Interested Parties

In order to qualify, the prospective individual/firms or consortia must possess the relevant experience in Project Development and Management. They are required to submit comprehensive information as follows:

rull name and nationality (country of registration) of the company and contact person, postal address, telephone, and e-mail address;

Ownership structure including name(s) of shareholders and percentage shareholdings;

Company Registration including Certificate of Incorporation, certified true copies of Memorandum and Articles of Association;

Evidence of previous experience in carrying out similar works in the development and operation of such public facilities, including the following details:

Name of Project, Brief Description and Client

Scope of Work

Contract Value

Contract Value Contract Period

Nature of Contract (PPP Lump sum, etc.),

posal should indicate benefits to local authority and community at large, duration of the project, contract of engagement conditions, agreements with SRA.

Interested Companies may obtain documented information about the project from the Matsapha Town Council Offices, and any further information can be obtained from the address below during office hours between 08:00 a.m. to 4:30 pm or by electronic mail to the nxumalot@matsapha.co.sz/radebez@matsapha.co.sz. A Site Inspection can be arranged on

The EOI submission should include:

One (1) original copy and five (5) other copies of EOI to be delivered in a sealed envelope marked Tender No: 001/2016: Car Wash and Shisanyama and must be addressed to the Town Clerk, P. O. Box 1790, MATSAPHA and delivered at Matsapha Civic Centre, Cnr. Police College Rd. & Airport Rd., not later than 12:00 hours on Monday the 1st March 2016.

MS GCINIWE FAKUDZE

THE KINCDOM'S INVESTMENT HUB







TAKEN: Her Majesty Indlovukazi addressing Lutsango at the Buganu Ceremony at Buhleni Royal Residence on Saturday. His Majesty King Mswati and his guest King Langalibalele II of AmaHlubi seated next to Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini listening attentively. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



ROYAL FLAIR: Emakhosikati LaMotsa, LaMagongo and LaMahlangu among Lutsango as they entered the arena.

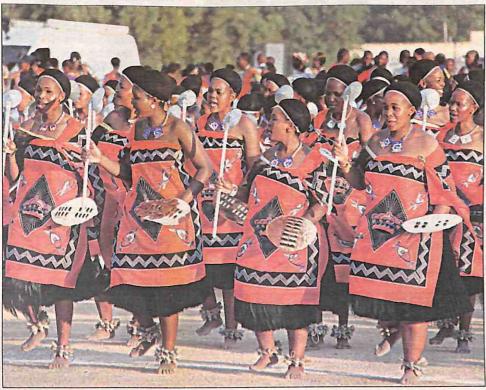


AERIAL VIEW: Lutsango from the USDF doing what they know best before



LOOK AT US: Lutsango showcasing their dancing skills before Their Majesties.







BEAUTIES: Lutsango from the RSP in full swing. RIGHT - Lacwebetelako watching Lutsango in action.

Nu Notes Jazz Ensemble The Nu Notes & Into Mucic Society invite music artists and the public to music workshops and a concert. **ADULT WORKSHOP** Thursday 03 March | 2 - 5 pm Swaziland Theatre Club

STUDENT WORKSHOP

Friday 04 March | 2 - 4 pm Swaziland Theatre Club

CONCERT

Saturday 05 March | 7 pm Swaziland Theatre Club

Free entrance

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

Nelisa 7603 2897 or email: legendary@ swazi.net



music







DECLARED DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENT OF SWAZI EMPOWERMENT LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an interim dividend of E30,155,000 (thirty million one hundred and fifty five thousand Emalangeni) comprising 163 (one hundred and sixty three) cents per share, has been declared to ordinary shareholders registered as such in the Company's share register at the close of business on or before 09th March 2016.

Payment of dividend is expected to be no later than the 18th March 2016. Normal and withholding tax will be deducted from dividends paid to local shareholders and non-resident shareholder respectively where applicable.

By order of the Board

04th February 2016

COMPANY SECRETARY



PricewaterhouseCoopers Services (Pty)Ltd Kal Grant Street P.O Box 569 Mbabane

SPONSORING BROKERS

AFRICAN ALLIANCE

African Alliance Swaziland Securities 2nd Floor, Nedbank Centre Cnr Sishayi and Sozisa Roads P.O Box 5727 Mbabane H100

AUDITORS

Umkhiwa House Lot 195 Kal Grant Street Mbabane

NATIONAL COMMISSIONER REVEALS HIS STRATEGY

NATIONAL COMMISSIONER SHOUTS BAYETHE

By Sabatha Dlamini Mbabane

FOLLOWING the three year contractual appointment extension by His Majesty King Mswati III, **National Commissioner Isaac** Magagula has expressed profound humility for the honour bestowed upon him.

In a special media briefing to express his appreciation and gratitude for the trust and confidence bestowed upon him by the King, Magagula pledged to continue working with dedication and commitment towards ensuring that the Royal Swaziland Police Service fulfilled its mandate to the Swazi nation.

"I pay homage to His Majesty and

exclaim "Bayethe Wena WaPhakathi," Magagula said.

The contract of the national commissioner has been extended for a further three years to remain at the helm of the Police Service. During the media briefing Magagula outlined his experiences from the previous tenure, whilst also detailing his plans for the next three years.

Career

Magagula, a career police officer, joined the Police Service in 1972 and has so far served loyally for 44 years, distinguishing himself in the Royal Swaziland Police Service.

He is described as a man of high intellect with a voracious appetite for learning as epitomised by the fact that he was awarded the prize of Best All Round Recruit by former Prime

Minister Prince Makhosini, when passing out from Police College in 1972. Magagula also epitomised his above average acumen for learning when during an International Criminal Investigation Course held in the United Kingdom in 1983, he won the prize for best student from the international cohort of students from Europe, African and Caribbean countries, who were partaking.

The sixth Swazi commissioner, is the first to hold an academic Degree since he obtained an Executive Masters Degree in Business Administration.

He also holds a Diploma in Law from the University of Botswana Lesotho and Swaziland as well as another Diploma in Accounting and Business Studies from the University



SIVUTSA BHE: National Commissioner Isaac Magagula.

of Swaziland.

On account of his loyalty and distinguished service, he has been decorated and honoured with Royal

Awards and Honours that include:-

- King's Police Medal for Meritorious Service
- King's Police Medal for

Distinguished Service

- Commander of the Royal Order of Eswatini
- Royal Order of the Crown
- Grand Commander of the Order of Eswatini
- His Majesty's 45th Birthday Order of Merit.

Magagula is also widely travelled and extensively exposed to high level professional overseas courses such as the International Criminal Investigation Course and Overseas Command Course, the Senior Strategic Command Course all held in the United Kingdom.

He has also attended a Specialisation Training in Italy and a litany of other high profile specialist courses.

He was appointed as commissioner of police by His Majesty in October 2009 and elevated to the newly estab. lished rank of national commissioner in 2013, making him the first commissioner to be appointed to this

Upon reaching retirement age in February 2011, His Majesty extended Magagula' service with a five year contract which elapsed on February 14, 2016 only to be further extended by three more years.

ROBUST TRANSFORMATI NATCOM'S FIVE YEARS

DURING the first five years of his contractual period, Magagula's vision has been to transform the Royal Swaziland Police Service into a robust, dynamic and professional organisation.

In a media briefing last Thursday, Magagula said his priority was to make the police organisation deal decisively with crime, whilst staying true and cemented on the core values that underpin the service.

These values, he said, included honesty, courtesy, civility and empathy among others.

Magagula said the strategy unveiled for the implementation

of the vision was inward-out looking, entailing critical analysis of the internal organisational capacity to carry out its mandate, with the expected efficiency and what is obtained in the external environment as informed by a process of audit and environmental scanning.

Ensuring

"It was all about ensuring that the human capital was well motivated and positioned to stay the course, whilst also touting assertiveness, the efficient use of available resources and creation of strategic partnerships with all stakeholders in fighting crime," he said.

He said the major thrust of the strategy was the 'Lunyazi' method of operating which emphasised on speed and urgency in the Police Service's crime response mechanisms, whilst embodying the qualities of professionalism, empathy and civil-

He said the strategy was aimed at encouraging police officers to be conscientious on the absolute need to respond with speed to reported incidents, whilst also emphasising teamwork, creativity, open mindedness and the trite integrated approach to policing.

He said Lunyazi was complemented by "Siyavutsa Bhe" operational philosophy which he said meant "we are blazing hot and zero tolerant

to crime and wayward behaviour on the roads". This came to the fore during the year 2014. Magagula detailed various achievements that they obtained in the first five year contractual period as follows; Performance in the Core Policing Mandate of Crime and road accident management and crime manage-

Service

ment.

"Over the five-year period and in line with government wide performance targets the police service had set itself a target of attaining at least a 3% per annum reduction in prioritised crime whilst at the same time increasing the detection rate by 10%.

Whilst there may be variations between the years, per-

formance in controlling prioritised crime as well as general and volume crime reflects that it has always been contained within the projected percentage decimal," Magagula said.

During the same period, he said, successes were manifested with the consistent busting of organised crime syndicates during each and every year.

He said this illustrated that whilst criminal elements may undertake their nefarious activities, the long arm of the law always catches up with them.

With regard to road traffic accidents over the five year period, he said the overriding target has been to reduce traffic accidents by 8% per annum whilst at the same

time ensuring prompt post crash response in the event an accident occurred.

He said whilst variations had been the norm during the years, analysis of the road accident scene revealed that serious accidents, especially fatalities, had been in constant decline over the years.

Magagula said with a motivated team, they were able to cement strong ties of partnerships with all stakeholders in fighting crime and road accidents.

He said this was in line with the philosophy of policing with the consent and mandate of the public that meant that each and every policing decision they took reflected the will and took into careful account the needs of the public they we served.

'This was illuminated through the staging of numerous crime and road accident prevention campaigns, creation of business against crime forums, meetings with traditional leadership and members of their communities and a wide range of other partnership forging initiatives," he said.

PUBLIC NOTICE IN TERMS OF CLAUSE 4.4 OF 1988 MBABANE

TOWN PLANNING SCHEME

I Mcebo Maziya the owner/tenant of the property in question, hereby make a public notice in terms of clause 4.4 of the 1998 Mbabane Town Planning Scheme that wish to apply for the Council's special consent to use/develop Plot No. 1176 Msunduza Township, Extension No. 4 of Farm Msunduza for construction of 10 No. Double storey residential flats.

Anyone having an objection to this application may lodge their objections in writing with me at P. O. Box 6789 Mbabane and the City council of Mbabane, P. O. Box 1, Mbabane by no later than 21 days from today to 07 March 2016.

LIQUOR NOTICE It is hereby notified for general information

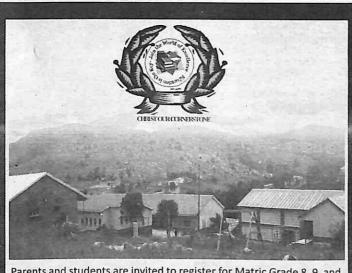
that the Liquor Licensing Board will hold its sitting to hear the following applications at the Ministry of Justice Conference Room on the 11 March 2016 starting at 09.00hrs.

Region Hhohho

1. Desiree Sousa Neves P.O. Box 5482 Mbabane, grant_of a Restaurant Liquor Licence situated at Plot 384, LM Building Mbabane known as Soul and Blues Restaurant & Pub.

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

SECRETARY LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD P.O. BOX 451 MBABANE



Parents and students are invited to register for Matric Grade 8, 9, and 10. We also offer Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) Form 1-5. Enrolment are ongoing for 2016. Full / weekly boarding available for all Grades with very affordable fees.

School is located at Mpolonjeni-Mbabane via Nkoyoyo behind Mphakatsi. Please call 7605-6353 for appointment and registration.



Association of Christian Schools International

13 3121111

NATIONAL COMMISSIONER REVEALS HIS STRATEGY

Magagula to continue cracking the whip



NATIONAL Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula says he will continue to crack the whip on all errant officers so that all criminal elements are sifted out of the police service.

În a media briefing, Magagula said the issue of attitude and discipline among members of the police service would be another critical area of focus during his extended period as national commissioner.

Magagula said he was concerned with the cases of misconduct by

police officers as illustrated by the recurring reports of drink-driving and involvement in criminal activi-

"Discipline remains the cornerstone of the police service and any form of wayward behaviour cannot under any circumstances be tolerated," he said. He said one challenge proving to be a thorn to the police service and undercutting the noble efforts to rigorously maintain high standards of discipline in the organisation, was the backlog of criminal cases against

police officers pending finalisation by courts. He said there 65 police cases that were pending in courts.

"Suffice that this matter has been discussed with the relevant authorities in the criminal justice system for assistance and support in having it remedied." Magagula said they were also looking forward to the passing of the Police Bill into law, adding that it had stiffer sentences regimen for disciplinary violations. He stated that the same applied to the Crime Prevention Bill which he said had various deterrence mechanisms on general crime

> Recruitment and Selection Policy to ensure that only the best possible candidates who were truly 'called' to the policing profession were selected and enlisted from the always flooded job market. Magagula said this would be in line with a Promotion Policy, that would ensure that only suitably qualified candidates with all the requisite attributes and competencies were promoted.

MEANWHILE, Magagula says expenditure control will continue to be his priority focus in accordance with His Majesty's call for belt-tightening during the State Opening of Parliament.

The national commissioner said

strategies to curb expenditure on utility services and telephone usage were presented before parliament and were already being implemented. As part of the cost saving measures, he said, on energy usage the police service was looking into alternative energy arrangements such as installation of solar power systems as well as metering of houses for individual police officers.

He said the same strategy would apply to the transport management and control strategy. He said this strategy was being rigorously implemented to curb abuse of official vehicles, notwithstanding the prevailing transport shortage problem.

"All these cost saving initiatives illustrate our desire to respond to the message from His Majesty he delivered from the Throne, which was loud and clear on careful use of scare resources.'

Magagula said they will also review key organisational policies to be in line with the demands of the modern policing environment. He said these would include a

Police accommodation a huge challenge

DESPITE the positive strides that have been made by National Commissioner of Isaac Magagula, shortage of accommodation continues to be a huge challenge.

He said the police service was doing all it could to manage the situation in the best manner possible.

Magagula said he trusted that the project commissioned by government to construct hous-

ing units through the Swaziland National Housing Board would be on an ongoing basis to alleviate this challenge.

On another note; Magagula said they were aligning the police service with the adopted e-Government policy to improve administrative and operational frameworks.

dockets to ensure that dockets were never lost until cases were finalised.

He said the system had already been piloted in some of the major police stations of the country and impetus would be given to ensure full decentralisation within his three-year extended term in office.

He said the same applied with the aspect of enhanced

dent hotspots through installation of CCTV cameras. This system, he said, had been introduced in various strategic areas with the view of rolling them out to all notorious areas covering and connected to the main roads linking the cities and towns of the four administrative regions of the country.

In an attempt to improve national security, Magagula said the '999' Emergency Response System would be decentralised during his

three-year contractual period. He stated that this was one of his key targets, which he said would further increase its accessibility and enhance service delivery.

He said this was part of a broader plan to ensure that the recommendations made during the regional 'Turn Back Crime' dialogues and those anticipated to be raised in the National Crime Symposium yet to be held were fully implemented.

He said this approach included introduction of electronic surveillance of crime and acci-ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEDICATED GENDER UNIT

TO incorporate gender issues in both management and operational frameworks, Magagula said a dedicated gender unit would be created to oversee programmes pertinent to gender main-streaming and equity in the police organi-

To upgrade the in-service programmes offered by the Command Training Wing at the Matsapha Police College, Magagula said they had since partnered with the University of Swaziland.

He said the range of specialised courses being offered at the police college should be upgraded to degree courses and be certificated by the University of Swaziland.

Issues

Other issues that needed urgent attention, Magagula said, was the police scheme of service, which he stated was a mechanism outlining competencies for each rank

category to serve as a tool for performance monitoring and evaluation.

Other challenges affecting the force were the shortage of transport, which he said remained a crippling challenge in the operations of the

He said he trusted that relevant government departments responsible for such issues would assist them overcome this matter as it had completely derailed service delivery.

police service.

Tingculungculu to deal with livestock, drug smugglers

MAGAGULA says the net is closing for cross-border drug pushers and livestock thieves.

Magagula said the Royal Swaziland Police aggressive crime reduction strategy has had a huge positive impact in the reduction of cross-border crimes through collaborations with neighbouring countries.

'This includes the signing of a Memorandum of understanding with the Mozambique Republic Police to tackle the problem of stock theft, joint operations with the South African Police Service to also deal with stock theft, car theft, drug cultivation and trafficking, among others," Magagula explained. He said such collaborative arrangements and the joint operations have had a positive impact in the reduction of cross border crimes that had proven to be quite a formidable challenge.

With crime growing in diversity and complexity, Magagula said the police service had to up its game and create specialised units to deal specifically with such forms of emerging criminality. For instance, he said, in light of the growing phenomenon of organised syndicated crime and terrorism, the dedicated "Tingculungculu" unit was

created to address this specific challenge.

With regards to the continued proliferation of cases relating to the sexual abuse of vulnerable categories, Magagula said, the Domestic Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences Unit was capacitated in terms of training and provision with modern equipment to be more professional in its approach. He said this included the setting up of friendly corner structures with the support of the international community. Magagula also stated that the upgrading of the '999' system counted as another significant achievement given the importance of this facility in the service delivery framework.



MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF MANZINI

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IN TERMS OF SECTION 32 (3) (a) OF THE RATING ACT 1995

Kindly note that the following under listed properties are indebted to the Municipal Council of Manzini in the sum as stated on category "amount owing". The amounts owing are in respect of arrear rates and charges for the financial year 2013/2014 and preceding years. The under listed property owners must take notice that they must make payments of these owing amounts together with accruing penalties within two (2) months of publication of this notice, failing which applications will be made to court that properties be sold by public auction in accordance with Section 32 (3) (a) of the Rating Act of 1995. The proceeds therefore will be utilised to satisfy the arrear rates, penalties, costs of collection and other legal costs involved. The rates defaulters and their properties are listed here under.

ACCOUNT	RATE PAYERS NAME	PROPERTY LOCATION	PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	MANZINI MAGISTRATES COURT CASE NO.	AMOUNT
1370001	MICHAEL SLOW MNDZEBELE	FAIRVIEW SOUTH MANZINI	LOT 652 FAIRVIEW SOUTH MANZINI	1152/2015	E21, 934.81
10599001	DLAMINI ISAAC MBINJANA SIZWE	FAIRVIEW NORTH	LOT 1026 FAIRVIEW NORTH	1116/2015	E24, 148.31
10797-002	MPHUMELELO TSHABALALA, THEMBEKILE TSHABALALA, AND YVONNE TSHABALALA	REMAINDER OF FARM 266 CARLISLE	REMAINDER OF FARM 266 CARLISLE	2053/2015	E309,031.76
11021001	SMITH RONNY J.	ESSER STREET MANZINI	LOT 139, ESSER STREET MANZINI	1119/2015	E23,183.73
13700001	DLAMINI PHINDILE PHILOMINA	NGWANE PARK, PAM STREET	LOT 642 NGWANE PARK MANZINI	1110/2015	E23, 605.95
12933001	DLAMINI EMMAH BUSISIWE	MANZINI TOWN MBHABHA STREET	LOT 1223 MBHABHA STREET MANZINI TOWN	1114/2015	E27, 501.74
12846001	DLUDLU ELIZABETH	FAIRVIEW NORTH KENDAL ROAD	LOT 07 KENDAL ROAD FAIRVIEW NORTH	1115/2015	E23, 775,88
20556001	AFROTECH (PTY) LIMITED	ADJACENT TRELAWNEY PARK MANZINI	LOT 1242 ADIACENT TRELAWNEY PARK MANZINI	1176/2015	E79, 957.27
13535001	NGWANE PARK TOWNSHIP (PTY) LTD	NGWANE PARK BARY ROAD	LOT 479 BARY ROAD NGWANE PARK	1111/2015	E53, 892.44

Fikile Gama Collector of Revenue/City Treasurer manzini news

website: www.mzcitycouncil.s

Women from KaNcesi fight over salt

A woman from KaNcesi area in the northern Hhohho has been arrested for assaulting and further stabbing her sister-in-law.

Gabsile Mnisi allegedly stabbed Pertunia Dlamini in front of her parents four times with a knife in the left arm and shoulder, causing her serious injuries.

The bone of contention between the two was that Mnisi sent children to Dlamini's place to borrow salt.

However, they came back empty handed and told Mnisi that her sister-in-law said she must go to the shop and buy hers. Mnisi then said she would take back the clothes she gave her in-laws to be used by their children.

Dlamini went to her siblings and told them about the incident and other allegations made by Mnisi.

Upon realising that Dlamini was going to report her to her in-laws, Mnisi followed her and found her sitting in the kitchen,

breastfeeding her baby.

An exchange of heated words ensued and the two exchanged blows.

During the fight, Mnisi is alleged to have produced a knife and stabbed Dlamini.

In court, Dlamini said she was not even aware that she had been stabbed but realised that when she was getting weaker.

Bleeding

She said when she looked at her left side, she discovered that she was bleeding.

Dlamini said her mother, who wit-

nessed the whole incident, came to her rescue and pushed Mnisi away.

After the incident, Dlamini was hospitalised for eight days.

When asked if she had fully recovered, Dlamini said she had not. Magistrate Simangele Mbatha, who was presiding over the matter, was informed by Dlamini that during cold days she felt like there was a hole in her shoulder where she was stabbed.

The matter continues in court.

SA MAN MAKES 100% PRO

Stories by Sifiso Nhlabatsi Pigg's Peak

A South African dagga pusher told the magistrate court that he buys four kilograms of dagga for E2 000 in Swaziland and sell it in South Africa for E4 000.

Sibusiso Nkhosi (29) of Schoemansdal appeared before Magistrate Simangele Mbatha for dagga possession without a licence. He was nabbed at Matsamo.

Nkhosi was not only charged with contravening the Opium and Habit Forming Drug Act, but he was also charged with contravening the Immigration Act in that he unlawfully entered and remained in the country without a per-

Defence

He conducted his own defence and pleaded guilty to both charges.

The accused told the court that he arrived in the country on Monday Morning and bought the dagga from a man identified as Sipho.

When asked as to how much he bought the dagga for and how much money he would make back home, he said he bought it E2 000 and he would sell it for E4 000.

Mitigation

In mitigation, the accused said he had children, he was looking after. One is aged 11 and the other is nine year old.

Nkhosi was sentenced to two years in a correctional facility should he fail to pay a fine of E2 000 for dagga possession.



PRESIDING: Magistrate Simangele Mbatha.

For entering the country illegally, he was sentenced to five months in a correctional facility with a fine option of E500. The sentences were set to run concurrently.

Inmates' assault case postponed again

THE case of 20 inmates who assaulted a correctional officer has been postponed once again as another accused failed to show up in court.

A warrant of arrest has since been issued for two accused Mfanawenkhosi Dlamini (accused number six) and Sanele Maduna who is accused number five in the matter.

Some of the accused persons in the matter are Bheki Dlamini, Banele Dlamini, Ayanda Mamba, Lwazi Dlamini, Sanele Maduna, Thembela Simelane, Ntokozo Thwala, Zakhele Dlamini, Ncamiso Tsabedze, Andile Nxumalo and others.

The inmates ganged up on the warder who had to be hospitalised after the incident.

Worth noting is that inmates at the correctional facility at Pigg's Peak had a tendency of being violent as at one point, one of them was charged with stabbing another inside the court room in front of a magistrate and prosecutor.

The accused came to court hoping that their case would be heard, but it was postponed.

Meanwhile, the accused persons pleaded

with the magistrate for a speedy trial because they could not cope inside the cells as it is infested with lice.

"Sicela siteke lelicala sicedze siyafa tintfwala lengekhatsi," one accused stated in vernacular.

Magistrate Simangele Mbatha, said she contemplated revoking the bail conditions for the accused persons. This she said was because the accused persons end up not showing in court, thus stalling the matter and again delaying the others who are inside. Some of the accused persons pleaded with the magistrate to consider separating their trials.

The accused were told that the matter would continue on March 5 at the correctional facilities. Since the accused are quite a handful, the case would take two

days starting on a Saturday and end on Sunday.

Magistrate not happy with lawyers who drop clients

PRINCIPAL Magistrate Joe Gumedze has lashed out at attorneys who drop their clients without informing the court for-

The principal magistrate voiced his concern during a court session, wherein one accused person showed up in court, but his attorney was nowhere to be seen.

The prosecutor informed Gumedze that in a turn of events the attorney decided not to represent his client for various reasons.

The prosecutor said he was notified of such over the phone by the attorney.

The principal magistrate said such behaviour by attorneys was more like treating him (the magistrate) as a young boy.

"I am not happy with the way the attorney has conducted himself, dropping clients without formally addressing the court," Gumedze stated. He said making a call to the prosecutor, informing him that a lawyer was unable to attend a client's case, was not a wise move at all.

Gamedze said lawyers dropped their clients without their (clients) knowledge.

"I am not happy with the way the attorney has conducted himself, dropping clients without formally addressing the court,"



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With Thandeka Ndlangamandla

EASE REPAIR

Residents say the road is in bad state thus put people's lives in danger

HLATIKULU folk have appealed to government to fix the Lohhala Road that has caused fatal accidents in the area.

The residents said the road was in a bad state. They claim that more than five fatal accidents have occurred in the same road over the years.

Recently, the road claimed four lives when a kombi driver lost control of the vehicle while driving to Mpompotha from Hlatikulu.

"Sicela hulumende asilungisele lomgwaco waku Lohhala losacedze bantfu, kungaze kwenteke tingoti letinengi," they said.

The residents claimed they had held several meetings with the area's bucopho, Jobe Kunene.

As a result of the meeting, some roads were fixed, but nothing was done or said about the 'killer' road.

The residents decried the bad state of the road, saying it was bumpy with rocks and would be muddy on rainy days



TRAGIC: This is what was left of this kombi from Hlatikulu to Mpompotha that was involved in an accident recently after its driver lost control, killing four people on the spot. Hlatikulu residents have appealed to government to fix this road.

resulting in it becoming slippery thus making it difficult for motorists to drive.

"The only person who used to maintain this road was the late Mtsambama

MP Bheki Mkhonta," they said. Meanwhile, Mtsambama MP Richard Mphaya Simelane said the fatal accidents at the Lohhala Road was a result of reckless driving.

"Bahamba kakhulu kantsi kuvewukela kodwa ulungisiwe muhle nyalo," he said.

He acknowledged that the road needed to be maintained constantly.



Mahamba Gorge hiking registration nears

THE organising team of the Mahamba Gorge hiking has encouraged interested people and companies to register so as to participate in the event this year.

The deadline for registration is March 14, 2016.

Event Manager Sharon Kunene said there would be no registration after March 14, 2016.

The event would be a 7km and a 4km hike for others.

It has been scheduled for April 3, 2016, unlike last year they would not be registering after the mentioned deadline.

She stated that they had other errands to attend to before the big day, so those who wanted to participate should make sure they register early so as to avoid inconveniencies.

Kunene said they had people as far as Johannesburg emailing and asking for registration forms, most of those would be registered at the end of this month.

Adding, she said they already had

Hlatikulu police need more cars

HLATIKULU residents have requested the National Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula to assist the area's police station with additional cars as there was a shortage.

The residents complained that the officers sometimes would attend to accidents and crime scenes late as a result of this shortage.

"Our people are dying because the police do not arrive on time at crime scenes as they cite shortage of cars," they said.

They also stated that they had

met with Hlatikulu Station Commander Sibongile Kunene on numerous occasions to discuss that matter.

"She is receptive to our needs, but she also has superiors who should put pressure on government so it can buy the new cars," they said.

Mtsambama MP Mphaya Simelane said he was also aware of the matter and in some cases he used his own

He said government had promised them new cars for the station, but had no idea when they would arrive.



Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula. Neighbourhood watch

schemes a working progress DESPITE the lack of police cars at Hlatikulu Police Station, the neighbourhood watch schemes are helping the area alleviate crime.

The schemes patrol everyday on the wards and localities under the Hlatikulu municipality.

This intiative was launched last year in December during an event graced by National Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula.

During the launch, the commissioner said such an initiative was a manifest of the growing partnership and collaboration between the police and various categories in society that are central in the

corporates that had committed to the event like MVA, Swaziland Building Society and others. She said some companies from last year had confirmed that they would be participating, adding that for now they have closed a deal with Mbondzela, who would be one of the sponsors of the event.

crime fighting value chain. Hlatikulu Station Commander Sibongile Kunene said the neighbourhood watch schemes were a working progress and police officers were still doing their

patrols everyday. Schemes

The watch schemes were launched in five places; Newtown, Sibetsamoya, White City, Eskom, Ka-Ntuli and Mangwaneni.

Kunene said no thief had been caught at the moment, but they were working closely with the community mem-

'Tigebengu atiti lapho tigadvwe khona," she said.

Meanwhile, Shiselweni Regional Administrator Themba Masuku said there were people who had already registered for the event.

He said other sponsors had responded, but was not sure of the figures. Those interested in the Mahamba Gorge hiking can contact 76113534.

DPM MUST SOLICIT DROUGHT FUNDS - PRIME MINISTER

By Sabatha Dlamini Mbabane

DEPUTY Prime Minister (DPM) Paul Dlamini has been tasked with urgently engaging the donor community to solicit funds to help in drought mitigation.

Dlamini has been tasked by Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini during the declaration of the current drought situation as a national emergency on Thursday at the cabinet offices at Hospital Hill.

Assisted

The premier said the DPM would be assisted by the ministry of economic planning and development, which is responsible for aid coordination.

The PM said an appeal for financial and other assistance was considerably more effective if donor agencies had evidence that the host country had made its own sacrifices to accompany the highly welcomed and appreciated donor support.

Furthermore, he said, appealing

for help and formalising that request with the declaration of a situation of emergency, was far more effective when accompanied by a plan which captured the necessary actions and accompanying costs.

The entire Swazi nation was affected by the prevailing drought resulting from the cynical dry weather phenomenon known as El Nino.

Drought

The prime minister said given the magnitude of the challenge presented by the drought and need to formally seek a substantial amount of external financial and technical assistance, it had been necessary to provide assurance that government plans were robust and, that the country had the capacity to utilise resource support properly and effectively.

Disaster

The DPM's office is responsible for the national disaster management agency currently distributing food rations to critically affected families in some parts of the country.

More than 300 000 Swazis are affected by the drought which has already seen farmers losing millions of Emalangeni worth of livestock. The drought is affecting the whole Southern African region and Swaziland is not the only country that has declared it an emergency. Botswana has also declared it a national disaster and allocated huge amounts of money to mitigate the situation.

Zimbabwe has done the same in some regions of the country as well as neighbouring South Africa.

Responsible

The drought is also directly responsible for the escalating food prices.

Even if the country could get good rains, the prime minister said there were no chances that the situation would be reversed and changed for the better.

He said the damage to crop production and livestock mortality already experienced, with such negative impact on the livelihoods of so many people, was unimagin-

Education Council to clean-up some colleges

By Gugu Simelane Mbabane

THE ministry of education and training will soon embark on an assessment programme of all colleges in the country.

This exercise is meant to ensure that all colleges comply with higher education regulations. Colleges that do not fully comply will be given a provisional licence to operate until the full requirements have been met. This comes after the Higher Education Council in the ministry of education and training announced that they would be embarking on a 'clean-up' operation on noncompliance higher institutions. Swaziland Higher Education Council Executive Secretary

Mboni Dlamini said the exercise was prompted by the mushrooming of colleges countrywide. "The aim is not to close down the operations of these colleges but engage with them and guard them so that they meet the stipulated requirements and standards. It will not be appropriate for us to close down these institutions as there are Swazi students already enrolled.

What we want is for these colleges to comply," he said. The draft higher education regulations document stated the provisions for the establishment of a higher education institution. Amongst the conditions and criteria was the site selected for the institution. It must be suitable from an academic point of view for instance availability of water, electricity, furniture. The site should be conducive for the learners with physical abilities. The draft regulations also indicate that the institution should display capacity to mobilise physical human and financial resources to establish a viable institution. Facilities such as a library, laboratory facilities are also requirement for efficient delivery of programmes.

"Importantly, the institutions should maintain necessary academic and support staff with appropriate academic or professional qualifications and experience to achieve the objectives of each programme. The financial resources of the institution should be sufficient to enable it to make due provision for its continued maintenance and efficient working," said Dlamini.





CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Health Research Training Program (HRTP)

The Swaziland Health Research Training Program (HRTP), a collaborative effort between ICAP, Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Ministry of Health (MOH), is offering qualified Swazi health professionals a one-year fellowship in order to build capacity in health research activities in Swaziland. Selected fellows will be provided the opportunity for exposure to research design and implementation, for development of a research practicum, and for mentorship and support from experienced researchers

During the training program, fellows will maintain their position and salary with their current employing institution. Each fellow will be expected to avail time periodically to work on HRTP-related activities including participating in ongoing research activities, in the development of new study protocols, as well as attending various activities aimed at developing fellows' research skills.

The training program is one year in duration, with the opportunity for a second year of additional mentorship subject to funding availability.

Eligible candidates are post graduate health and related sciences professionals interested in health research, with some training or experience in clinical and epidemiologic research, and who are dedicated to the public health in the Kingdom of Swaziland. Health professionals in government institutions who are in position to implement or utilise research are particularly encouraged to apply. Candidates with master's level training are preferred.

Interested candidates must submit a complete application that includes 1) a detailed CV; 2) an application letter detailing candidate suitability and how s/he plans to apply the training to implement or utilise research; and 3) a letter of support from the current supervisor. Partial applications will not be considered. Complete applications should be submitted by ${\bf 15th\,March\,2016}$ to:

Ministry Of Health / SNAP P.O. Box 1119, Mbabane Attention: Mrs Babazile Shongwe, Research Officer

ICAP in Swaziland LOT 192, Somhlolo Road, Injabulo House in Mbabane Office Tel: (+268) 2404-5797 Email address: icap-jobs-swaziland@columbia.edu Attention: Maswati Simelane, Research Officer

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

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The Swaziland Investment Promotion Authority (SIPA) is a Category A Public Enterprise and invites suitable Swazi registered companies to express their interest to be registered in the Authority's supplier's database for the supply of products and services in the following categories:

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Category C

C1 Office Fittings C2 Office Furniture

C3 Office Equipment and Air Conditioners Hardware Accessories

Category D

D1 Air Travel Agents

D2 Transport Hire- Sedans, Van, Kombi, Quantum, Mini Truck, etc.

Category E

DOC832

E1 Farm Chemicals

E2 Personal Protective Equipment

E3 Cleaning Chemicals and Material **E4 Toilet Paper**

E5 Consumables and Spares for brush cutters

E6 Plumbing materials

E7 Road marking paints E8 Tyres and Tubes

E9 Electrical Consumables

E10 Supply of Building Material E11 Servicing of firefighting, sports and

recreational facility equipment E12 Litter bins E13 Land scaping Tools and Material

The application for Expression of Interest should include the following:

1. Full names and contact details Directors and Shareholders.

Company Business Profile

Certified copy of Certificate of

Incorporation Certified copy of current Form J

Certified copy of Form C

Certified copy of current Trading License Certified copy of Department of Labour

Certificate of Compliance Certified copy of SNPF Employer's

compliance Clearance Certificate Current Tax Clearance Certificate

10. VAT Registration

Companies should submit the required Expression of Interest by close of business on the 29" February, 2016. To be delivered at our offices, 1" floor, Sibekelo Building 1, North Wing, Mbabane.

Submissions should be marked "Confidential" and state the Category. They should be addressed to:

The Human Resource and Administration Department. Swaziland Investment Promotion Authority P.O. BOX 4194 Mbabane

*Electronic submissions will not be

SCHOOLS TO SUSPEND PRACT CALS

By Gugu Simelane Mbabane

AS the drought crisis prevails and the country is marred by water shortages, the ministry of education and training has suspended agricultural practicals in some schools.

Minister of Education and Training Phineas Magagula said limited water in schools did not permit agriculture practicals since it more water.

"We have distributed water tanks in schools to help with consumption and sanitation water. The water we provide to the schools is limited to such usage and not any other. Therefore, schools cannot then use it for the respective agricultural projects," he said.

He said home economics and



NO LAUGHING MATTER: Minister of Education Phineas Magagula.

science would be spared as they did not require much water compared to agriculture.

"We will engage the Exam Council of Swaziland on how the external examination will be set since not all schools had agriculture practicals. The external agriculture examination will only cover the theoretic part this year," he said.

Good Shephard nursing students deserting campus

Sicelo Maziya Siteki

GOOD Shepherd College of Nursing students are shunning the campus' accommodation and prefer renting around the small town of Siteki.

The students are not happy with the E24 000 paid so that one resides on campus, saying this amount is too much for them.

College students often want to live off campus to enjoy more freedom

than on campus.

"There is no way I can be able to pay such a huge amount, compared to what I currently pay E450 per month and this means that for 10 months I will pay E4 500 as opposed to the E24 000. Economically that will not be viable for me so I opted for the out of campus option," said one of the nursing student interviewed on this matter.

However, the student preferred to remain anonymous.

As the students prefer staying off campus, they rent in remote areas like Mzilakazi, Mlindazwe as well as Lugongolweni and they commute daily to campus.

"Staying on campus is quite expensive. We actually have a variety of choices outside college including being able to provide ourselves with a preferred diet. We share the apartment and it is safe, although looking at the market prizes for our town apartments' it's a bit expensive but far better than what I could be paying at campus," said another student who is sharing a cozy apartment of E1 500 at Mzilikazi.

Drought-stricken Sithobeleni host monthly prprayers

By Wonderboy Dlamini Siteki

ONE of the constituencies which have been greatly affected by the prevailing drought, Sithobelweni has resorted to praying for rain.

Sithobelweni is also one of the constituencies where more than half of its populace now fully depends on hand outs from government and other non-governmental organisations.

It is an area where the sight of water has become very rare as most water sources have dried up.

Activities such as irrigating a garden, taking livestock to a dipping tank and even taking a bath has

somehow become 'taboo'.

Such activities are now viewed as a waste of water by residents of the constituency.

Despite the fact that many parts of the country have recently been receiving rainfall, Sithobelweni has seen none of these rains.

Prayers

Religious and traditional leaders of the area have, therefore, called for constant prayers and ceremonies to appease the 'gods of rain'.

Yesterday, residents of Eluhlanyeni umphakatsi were gathered at the chiefdom to conduct their monthly prayer service.

The residents who are

from different churches in the area would assembly at least once a month at each umphakatsi to conduct a similar service.

Constituency headman Vusi Mkhaliphi has reported that they have since called upon all residents to attend to such services.

Alarming

Mkhaliphi said the situation at the area had reached an alarming state to the extent that it would soon start resulting to death.

He said it was for this reason that they had since called upon the residents to come together to seek for spiritual intervention.

During such services, all church dominations in the area close down and attend to the community prayer service.

"Right now we are assembled at Eluhlanyeni umphakatsi for a prayer service, and we will be doing same to another umphakatsi next weekend," said Mkhaliphi when called yesterday.

Organisations

Meanwhile, three organisations namely; World Vision, Esicojeni Foundation and MTN Swaziland are currently providing food aid to Sithobelweni and Lubuli constituencies.

The food distribution exercise by these organisations started last November and is expected to come to a halt in April.





Farmers feel wrath of El Nino

Sicelo Maziya Siteki

HLANE Member of Parliament (MP) George Maseko foresees catastrophe in the Lowveld as the prevailing drought has affected farmers the most.

He said the heatwave by El nino has ravaged farmers' produce and there was no sign in the field that there were planted crops.

He said such was a sign of calamity that would linger on as drought had reached its peak.

The legislature said it was disheartening to see people trying to plough with the little they had but the reality was that crops perishing before their eyes.

The Hlane constituency just

like other surrounding Tinkhundla centres, there is water scarcity.

However, the MP said they had received three lifesaving boreholes by an organisation working with rural water supply.

The MP said with the boreholes they could save many lives as its (borehole) water is not dirty and contaminated thus needs no cleaning.

Since last year, the region had experienced the worst drought compared with that of recent years, a high number of cattle had killed.

If the current weather pattern continues it will be worse.

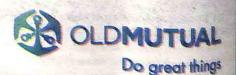
The heatwave currently being witnessed in the country is heating the Lubombo region harder than any region currently expertences.

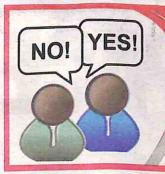
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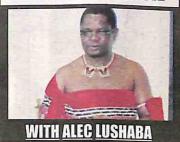


FEATURES & OPINION

REFRESH WHAT YOU THINK...

info@observer.org.sz

EDITOR IN COUNCIL



AFTER being away for about three months due to important national engagements, we are happy to state that emabandla are back in full swing.

We have taken two mandates from the Ingwenyama when he dispersed lamnyama and when he officially opened the 3rd session of the 10th Parliament.

Over the weekend we enjoyed the pleasure of being close to Their Majesties during the Marula Festival held at Buhleni Royal Residence, where again they emphasised on some important issues that seek to develop this country.

However, whilst we are back in full swing, it is important to also note that kumnemsidvo or kushwilitisana that has caught our attention.

At this time of the year, we are supposed to be busy unpacking the messages from the Throne and other messages relayed by Their Majesties.

Overzealous

But lo and behold, we are not doing that. Instead some overzealous individuals have made sure that they pollute the message from the Throne and many other similar words of wisdom by putting their issues forward to divert attention of the populace.

This is indeed unfortunate. We should be digesting and internalising the messages from the authorities, but instead we will be busy putting off fires started deliberately by individuals to ensure that they divert the country's attention from the main issues.

Why is it so important that when we should be discussing the message from the Throne, we are busy

WE ARE BACK, WORRIED!

...how do we get to set the agenda for the country when politicians are busy pushing their petty politics ahead of important national issues?



BAYETHE: His Majesty King Mswati III and Her Majesty the Indlovukazi at Buhleni.

talking about how the Senate President Gelane Zwane feels about Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini? Why!

If the Senate president had raised her issues about the constitution and the office of the prime minister outside Parliament or anywhere during their sittings, surely, her views wouldn't have taken so much newspaper space.

The reason it has been taken serious is because she said it in front of Their Majesties, and by so doing, ensured that they don't only get her point but also that the nation knows that she has said it.

That stunt meant that whateverthe King said on the day became secondary and her bombshell became the headlines and set the agenda for the New Year.

That's not the way to start a New

We expected the King to set the tone and we want to believe that he did. But because we don't control the agenda setters, it is clear that the King's message has gotten lost in

the noise of Gelanedom.

As Swazis we expect those who serve the King and country to be cautious of their actions and the things they do. Anything that diverts attention from the authorities and is not of natural cause must be considered an offence.

Working

We are still working on how many cattle should these officials pay for their error of judgment.

We are not just only looking at the fines, but further considering seriously if they are fit to hold office.

In the next few weeks, we shall communicate the best appropriate sanction. People in higher offices should worry about their public and private conduct.

The little squabbles we get to pick are worrisome and should be controlled so that our attention to the issues raised by Their Majesties is not diverted or divided.

Anyone who is busy trying to settle old personal scores must be worried of his/her action.

This is not the time for it. The

country is faced with a serious challenge of drought and over 300 000 citizens' lives are in danger.

Instead of discussing how one feels about another politician, can't we focus our attention on the things that would make our country better?

As Parliament meets today, we they will rebuke this now common behaviour amongst their peers, who seem to use this very important national platform to settle scores.

They should remind each other that such behaviour is foreign to us as Swazis and should be condemned at all costs, if need be deal decisively with the individuals concerned.

Surpass

No one single individual's interests can surpass the country's interests. Parliament is not acting on behest of an individual that when he/she is away, anything duly done could be considered illegal or unwise that it needs to be amended.

In our collective stupidity, we agreed that some laws would be crafted in the manner they are. No one should then consider him/herself smarter to disagree with our way of life.

This we say because we have heard from a grapevine that one of the sticking points about the conflict between the Executive and the Parliament presiding officers seem to have its basis on the Parliament Service Act of 2015.

Outside of Parliament, as Libandla, we further want to warn all those who are heading certain organisations to be also careful of their actions.

Libandla had to deal with one matter from one Maspala where hundreds of Swazis were faced with redundancy. Again, we feel we need to rebuke this disruptive spirit where individuals go against the counsel of the elders.

Approach

We told them how they should approach this sensitive issue, but they decided to ignore our wisdom and pursue their self-serving inter-

Who in his right mind would send hundreds of people at home when the country is faced with serious drought and high levels of unemployment?

If our own institutions can't absorb the very few Swazis in employment, what message are we sending to the private sector?

What message are we sending to the King?

The issue of retrenchments is similar to the evictions being pursued by one public institution. No matter how correct they maybe with their claims over land, but surely they can get a compromise that would suit both parties.

All in all, as libandla, our mandate is to pursue peace as directed by Ingwenyama and we will ensure that where it is threatened, we correct those responsible.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY: Everything that is done in the world is done by hope - Martin Luther

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If we breach our code, please lodge your complaint with our ombudsman:

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ON THIS DAY

...FEBRUARY 22

896 - Pope Formosa crowned king Arnulf of Karinthie/French emperor 1349 - Jews are expelled from Zurich,

Switzerland 1495 - French King Charles VIII enters

Naples to claim crown

1630 - Indians introduce pilgrims to

popcorn, at Thanksgiving 1774 - British House of Lords rules authors do not have perpetual copyright 1835 - HMS Beagle/Charles Darwin leave

Valdivia Chile

1836 - Dutch garrison evacuates fort Du **Bus New Guinea**

1860 - Shoe-making workers of Lynn, Ms, strike successfully for higher wages
1882 - The Serbian kingdom is refounded.

1889 - US President Cleveland signs bill to admit Dakotas, Montana & Washington state to the union

1900 - Battle at Wynne's Hill, South-Africa (Boers vs British army)

1900 -Hawaii became a US territory 1911 - The Canadian Parliament resolves to maintain union with the British Empire, while controlling domestic fiscal affairs 1923 - Transcontinental airmail service

begins 1939 - Netherlands recognizes Franco

regime in Spain 1941 - German assault on El Agheila Libya

1942 - World War II. President Franklin Roosevelt orders General Douglas MacArthur out of the Philippines as American defenses collapse

1945 - Arab League forms (Cairo) 1958 - Egypt & Syria form United Arab Republic (UAR) 1963 - Beatles begin their own music

publishing company (Northern Songs) 1972 - Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani becomes Amir & Prime Minister of Qatar 1972 - President Nixon, meets with Chinese Premier Chou En-Lai in Beijing 1974 - Ethiopian police shoot at

demonstrators 1979 - St Lucia gains independence from

Britain 1983 - Hindus kill 3000 Muslims in Assam,

India 1986 - Start of the People Power Revolution in the Philippines.

1989 - UK physicist Stephen Hawking calls Star Wars a "deliberate fraud" 1989 - US authors demonstrate against

Iranian death treats against Salman Rushdee, author of "The Satanic Verses" 1991 - Bush & US Gulf War allies give Iraq

24 hrs to begin Kuwait withdrawal 1997 - Dolly the Sheep, world's first cloned mammal (from an adult cell) is announced by the Roslin Institute in

2002 - Angolan political and rebel leader Jonas Savimbi is killed in a military ambush. 2010 Taiwan's economy exits from the recession with 9.22% growth in the last quarter of 2009 after increased demand from China and other key markets

in the region 2011 - An earthquake measuring 6.3 in magnitude strikes Christchurch, New Zealand, killing 181 people

2014 - Matteo Renzi becomes Prime we unwilling to

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

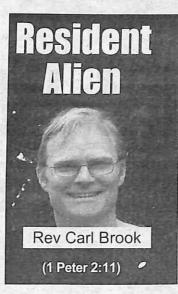


- Drew Barrymore, actress (ET, Firestarter, Poison Ivy), born in Los Angeles, California



1974 - Chris Moyles, English DJ

AFRICANS IN SPACE



I was so proud to hear of innovator Siyabulela Xuza's visit to Swaziland last week.

My son was present for the young man's address at Waterford and said he was moved by the pre-

Amid the doom and gloom of entrenched Afro-pessimism, it's thrilling to hear such stories of success.

Kudos to the Observer for featuring the article (19 February) but it's not the only one! Below are just a few home-grown talents that have lit up the global stage in the last decade.

Xuza lived in Mtata, capital of the former Transkei, one of the most impoverished regions of South Africa. I lived there for a few years and

recall the extreme deprivation of many communities; even the landscape is scarred by bad erosion. As a boy, Xuza experimented with rocket fuels in his mother's kitchen. This curiosity turned into a science project that actually produced a cheaper and safer variant



of the fuel and garnered international acclaim, to the extent even that a planet is named in his honour - 'Siyabulela' in an asteroid belt near Jupiter. Despite these accolades, Xuza reports his mother still urges him to remain 'down to earth.'

Shuttleworth retains the unique distinction of being the first African in space. This personally funded adventure was made possible by a fortune he amassed through internet entrepreneurship, most notably. Thawte Consulting' which was bought out by Verisign in late 1999. Shuttleworth is also renowned for forming Canonical Ltd, the distributors of the opensource 'Ubuntu' operating system. What is not so well-known is that he was one of the developers of Debian, another free operating system. During his space-flight, Shuttleworth had the opportunity of conversing with Nelson Mandela (and declining a marriage proposal), compliments of the Reach for a Dream Founda-



Elon Musk.



This person is hot news right now. Musk is famous for his breakthrough applications of established technology. In 1999 he cofounded an online financial services company called 'X.com,' which then merged with another company, PayPal - perhaps you heard of it. In 2002 Paypal was bought by eBay, leaving Musk a rich man.

Founded

That same year he founded SpaceX, a company that launches satellites into space. In 2008, he became CEO of Tesla Motors, a company famous for their electric cars and powertrains. Two years ago, he released his patents for this technology 'in good faith,' in a bid to speed up the development of electric cars. The list of other Musk-inspired innovations is extensive and worth Googling.

What saddens me is that Africa seems unable to hold onto its children. Musk and Shuttleworth live abroad, the former an unabashed

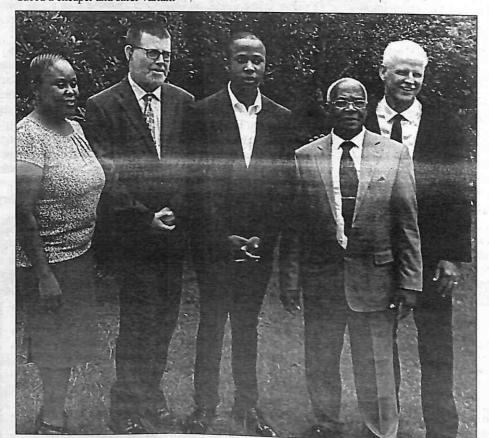
patriot of his adopted country. Xuzawent to Harvard and is being fêted as a UN ambassador abroad Listening to Swazi radio, I hear the common lament that Swazi musical talent is fleeing the motherland for the pastures of the Republic. South Africa, in turn, has a brain drain crisis of its own.

Why can't we keep our own kids?

The Statue of Liberty in New York has a poem inscribed on its base: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempesttossed, to me: I lift my lamp beside the golden door."

It is immigrants that made America a great nation, a place where free enterprise was rewarded. Let's face it: adverse economic, religious and political conditions make the grass greener elsewhere.

What does it take to keep it green in Swaziland?



POSE: Siyabulela flanked by Total Territory Manager Sindisille Horton, Managing Director Anthony Siebert, Education Minister Phineas Magagula and Wateford KaMhlaba Principal Steven Lowry.



HAND SHAKE: Xuza with the education minister.

SYALL, MEDUM ENTERREE PROFI "Small beginnings, Huge impact"



MOVING TECHNOLOGY

NAME OF COMPANY: Moving Technology SECTOR: Production/Multimedia

DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT: May 2015

NUMBER OF BRANCHES IN SWAZILAND: One

CONTACT DETAILS MAIN CONTACT PERSON: Siphesihle Mkhonta

EMAIL: smkhonta193@gmail.com - movingtechnologysv@gmail.com CELL (+268) 7664 7177 / (+268) 7662 7728 (+268) 7632 7035 / +2783 773 5541

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The company was registered in May, 2015. Before then, the company had been working as Izwile Productions since 2013. Offering services like music videos, weddings and other ceremonies. To date, the company had worked with a host of local artists from different genres of music.

We succeeded because of the integrity of our subcontractors and staff, our commitment to a solid work ethic, and our passion for staying current with the newest innovations in the industry.

GENERAL BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

Moving Technology (Pty) Ltd - is a general HD service provider. Our staff and crew bring years of experience to bear in residential and commercial services and high-end innovation and creativity.

Typical projects are structured with one of the principals as one of the project managers. A working technician or supervisor is on the job from start to finish and is responsible for the implementation of the project.

We've worked with our subcontractors since the establishment of the company because our relationships are built on trust and performances.

PRODUCT RANGE

The company offers a comprehensive package of services designed to allow the client to work with one of our managers and create a project in the company that can carry forward to completion.

The company offers:

Digital Advertising

We design digital billboards and logos (Digital Specialist), TV commercials and brand ambassador. We are a digital migration driven company that innovates better adverts for corporate industry players, and we create customer satisfaction adverts together with creativity.

· Graphic Design

We deal with website design and hosting, car branding, billboards designs, office branding and frosts, invitation cards, CD and DVD sleeves, logos, letter heads and



TOGETHER AS ONE: Peugeot Sales Manager Mlungisi Mthethwa, Executive Sales Manager Samuel Mthethwa, Mxolisi DJ Peace Mthethwa and Moving Technology Director Nkhosingivile Mngometulu. STANDING, Xolani Ndzinisa, Siphesihle Mkhonta, and Mfundo Myeni (Courtesy pic).



business cards and posters.

- Project management
- Sales and Marketing
- · Film Production: Ingongoni, The End Times,

COMPANY STRATEGY

Our pride and personal involvement in the work we perform result in superior quality and services. This attitude is also directly reflected in our employee's level of responsibility, professionalism and competency.

PURPOSE

To become a leader in motion picture technology and movie production in the country through investing in human capital and promoting the country's scenery through progressive motion picture production.

VISION

· Our vision is to strive and continue being one of the best HD service provider companies in Swaziland. To develop individuals' skills and nurturing their talent thorough movie production, promoting local artists through music video production and creating public image of corporation and SMEs through audio and video adverts.

MISSION STATEMENT

•To perform for our customers the highest level of HD technological services, digital advertising, marketing, film production and graphic designing at fair and market competitive price.

 To ensure the longevity of our company through repeat and referral business achieved by customer satisfaction in all areas, including timelines, attention to detail and service-minded attitudes.

• To maintain the highest levels of profesonalism, integrity, honest and fairness in our relationships with our suppliers, subcontractors, professional corporate guest and customers.

CORE VALUES

Our mission is driven by the following core values.

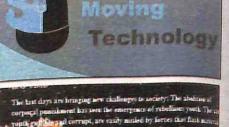
· Ambition

Our goals are set high and we actively seek challenges and opportunities to continuously grow.

Innovation

We are bold, imaginative and seek creative ways to overcome challenges and deliver breakthrough results.

· Agility





We embrace change and view it as a way to capitalise on new opportunities.

Collaboration

We eagerly seek out the experiences and insights of our team members; respect each other and work together to achieve our common goals.

Empowerment

We foster an environment where talent has a sense of ownership, confidence, responsibility and accountability to make informed decisions.

We have a long-term commitment to our employees, our customers, the communities we serve and our shareholders

MOTIVATION TO START A BUSINESS

We were motivated by our collective ambition of willing to try new things and as well as the will to explore creativity avenues.

ROLE ON VISION 2022

As a cyber generation, we anticipate that in 2022 we will be able to attain the First World status within the technology industry. We are continuously shaping ourselves to match the expectations in the industry so that we can be able to offer relative services.

POUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

E815.5 million drought relief towards agriculture and food security

By Manqoba Makhubu

GOVERNMENT has allocated about E815.5 million towards agriculture and food security between January 2016 and December 2017.

The total budget for agriculture is over E265.1 million and the total budget for food is E550.4 million, which sums up to about E815.5 million.

The National Emergency
Response Mitigation and
Adaptation Plan (NERMAD)
2016-2017 released last Thursday
said the overall objective for
investing in the sector was to
ensure national food security,
support affected households to
restore their agricultural productive capacity, and eventually
build resilience to future climatic
shocks.

Farmers

Over 38 000 cattle reportedly died by end of January 2016 and many subsistent farmers lost their livelihood due to the drought.

"No significant ploughing occurred due to the drought in the 2015/16 ploughing season before

December 2015 hence the need to intensify maize production and supplement local production with maize import," said the report.

The National Disaster
Management Agency (NDMA)
estimated that more than 300 000
people would need food assistance in April 2016 as a result of
the impact of the drought and
heatwayes.

Production

The main interventions of agriculture would include intensifying irrigated local maize production, intensifying hay production, training on adaptation and on climate smart agricultural training, and food and nutrition assistance.

"Recovery interventions are limited to support to farmers to strengthen their resilience and with water and hay for livestock and farm inputs for the next season," said the report.

More than 30 000 people and drought stricken farmers were envisaged to benefit.

The report said the ministry of agriculture would identify arable and irrigable land on which to produce maize throughout the year.



I DECLARED: Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini signing a declaration of Drought as a national disaster at Cabinet on Friday.

Report

"Two crops per year are targeted in 6 000 hectares, which should produce a minimum of 96 000 tonnes (8tons/ha×6000 ha × 2 crops/yr)," reads the report in part.

This strategy would reportedly reduce maize import and incentivise local maize production.

It would be implemented jointly

with the Swaziland Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (SWADE, Illovo, Royal Swaziland Sugar companies, and Africa Cooperative Action Trust (ACAT), which had so far jointly made 600 hectares available for planting maize.

Development

With regards to the implementation approach, the report said the Ministry of Agriculture would take a lead to identify land for intensified maize production and further engage stakeholders in irrigated maize production.

"The ministry will intensify current programs on climate smart agriculture to strengthen adaptation to climate change and variability. The ministry will, in collaboration with development partners mobilise resources for the sector response," said the report.

The ministry development partners includes amongst others the Food and Agricultural Programme (FAO), National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA), United Nations (UN) Agencies and the World Food Programme (WFP).

CONTACTS

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> (7844 2025) Tel: 2404 9600/1 Fax: 2404 5503 2404 6463

VITALS

Prime Rate First National bank

9.75%

Inflation Rate 4.9% Central Statistical Office

Mortgage Rate 8.75% Swaziland Building Society

Bank Rate Central Bank 6.25%

Petrol (u)
Replacement
Diesel
Paraffin

E11.30 per litre E11.35 per litre E11.25 per litre

Paraffin E 7.45 per litre Engen Garage

Medium term strategies to enhance agriculture food production

 Demarcate and dedicate land hectarage (at least 6 000 ha) for optimum of maize

•Incentivise farmers to grow maize for profit in order to increase local maize production and reduce imports

 Invest in and promote processing of drought tolerant crops through development of value chains

 Promote good range land management including destocking to carrying capacity of grazing land

● Produce hay locally for use during the dry season. Clear more land area, introduce irrigation of pasture and harvest periodically to produce large volumes of hay

 Drilling of boreholes and reticulation of water to strategic areas including in range land

Long term strategies

 Construction of grain reserves to be used when food production is low

Demarcate land for and promote irrigation of horticultural crops to ensure a balance in crop production and nutritional demand of the population.

Lufafa gold mine launch milestone in mining

MINISTER of Natural Resources and Energy Jabulile Mashwama says the official launch of Lufafa Gold Mine, will be a big milestone in the rebirth of the nation's mining activity.

The mine inauguration was announced to take place Friday by His Majesty King Mswati III.

Speaking to the Observer Business News Desk Mashwama said His Majesty, through His Speech from the Throne 2016, emphasised that there was a lot of work that lied ahead in developing the mining sector, and further emphasised the need to ensure that the nation got maximum benefits from its natural resources.

Intrest

"Hence as a ministry, we are alive to that reality and look forward to witnessing a lot of activity in this area. We are focused on providing a conducive and very responsive environment to the private sector that is interested

in partnering with the nation in this area of economic activity, and rely on all stakeholders particularly the media in ensuring that information is shared timeously and accurately to all interested parties," she said.

Activities

The minister said the minerals management had already received applications for mining activities for the various minerals within the country and would continuously evaluate and further recommend the ones that meet the requirements for considerations.

"We are, therefore, very hopeful as a Ministry, that as more mining activities begin to happen in the country, the economic improvements will be realised as espoused by the National Vision," she said.

She said His Majesty King Mswati III had recently granted two coal prospecting licences, after completing the exploration programme in a year. "it is expected that the companies would apply for coal mining licences and expeditiously open coal mining operations thereby create employment opportunities, produce coal, sell and earn revenue for the country, leading to the attainment of the ministry's goal of improved economic activity in the country through mining," she said.

However, she said the country's prospects would be challenged by the global challenges currently facing the mining industry.

The mining industry is generally in turmoil worldwide, suffering depressed commodity prices at the moment at international markets.

"Regrettably, this may impact negativelyon the ministry's objective," she said. However, she said they were determined to do everything at their disposal to ensure that the nation got maximum benefits from its natural resources.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES



ebruary :	2016
BUY	SELL
15,8623	15,9123
22,9488	23,0211
7,0499	7,0702
16,3025	16,3455
1,3959	1,4194
11,2495	11,2930
11,4019	11,4345
3,1168	3,1686
17,9371	17,9938
Coatta co	
1,143.0000	
28.3600	
	7,0499 16,3025 1,3959 11,2495 11,4019 3,1168 17,9371

For more information contact: Standard Bank Global Markets Department Direct Lines: +268 2404 1543 / 1544 Email: guswaziland@stanbis.com





RARE GREEN: World Vision Development Facilitator Nonhlanhla Simelane admiring the maize grown using conservative agriculture in one of the fields. (Courtesy pic)

World Vision proves conservative agriculture works

By Sikhulisile Vilakati

WORLD Vision's conservative agriculture (CA) model has proved that conservation agriculture is the best model as the country continues to battle the ongoing drought.

Last year in October, the organisation trained about 743 farmers under the Mkhiweni Constituency and further assisted about 500 with farming inputs. A number of farmers have sung praises for the model.

World Vision's Development Facilitator (DF) Nonhlanhla Simelane said they decided to introduce the project after realising that most farmers recorded insufficient yields in 2014 due to the ongoing drought.

The CA model required farmers to simply plant maize by drawing a line, dig a shallow hole and plant the seed.

She said farmers were also advised to put grass in-between the rows of maize so that they could retain moisture which was then absorbed by the roots that were just on the top soil. Simelane said after selling the idea to the Mkhiweni authorities, they received a huge response from the farmers.

Advantage

"The training attracted a lot of people and about 743 were trained. We gave inputs to 500 and they were 50kgs of maize, beans, LAN and fertiliser and also granules and herbicides. The advantage for this model is the minimum tillage it requires," she said.

Inner Council Member Sabelo Ngwenya who also used the model chanted tributes about it and further shared that about 120 people at Mbelebeleni had been trained and 84 of them received the farming inputs and have planted.

He said only six farmers could not farm, but the CA model was well received and utilised by the farmers. "The project has come to close the gap between privileged farmers and those who are struggling financially. Those with no money benefitted because they were able to plant after the first rains like all people," he said.

"We hope that we will use what we have learnt even next year because the only requirements are manure and seeds," he said. In essence, he said farmers around the area were now a single close unit and had been working together which was contrary to previous seasons.

He was echoed by another farmer Simanga Gembe from the same area, Mbelebeleni. He noted that maize planted using the CA model was bigger in size and somewhat delicious as the roots were able to absorb a lot of nutrients from the top soil.

MINING INDUSTRY RE-STRATEGISED TO FULLY ACCELERATE ECONOMIC GROW

By Manqoba Makhubu

IN re-strategising and reforming the mining sector, government has shown focus to ensure that there are fair and reasonable mutual benefits between mining companies and the economy.

The history of the mining sector in the country is ancient. It could be traced to the iron ore mine of the western Ngwenya mountains, which has, since 1975, been closed.

In recent years there has been resurgence in the sector; however, fiscal contributions from mining operations had been projected to reach at least 4 percent of Swaziland's GDP in 2018.

Minister of Natural Resources and Energy Jabulile Mashwama said as the country was reviving the mining industry; more focus would be on local value addition in mineral output and levy payments, including royalties and taxes, so that the sector would fully accelerate economic growth.

She said the ministry was concentrating on enforcing the provisions of the Mines and Minerals Act No. 4 of 2011, guided by the National Mining Policy (NMP).

The Act and NMP promote development of small and large scale mining sectors.

"There is emphasis on local



RE-STRATEGISING: Government has shown focus to ensure that there are fair and reasonable mutual benefits between mining companies and the economy.

value addition to the mineral output. The mines must pay all levies including royalties and taxes. Compliance by mining companies will certainly ensure that the ministry achieves its objective," she said.

Commodities

Asked which mineral commodities would be given priority and why they were most preferred, the minister said they were working on coal, gold, iron ore and diamonds.

However, he said the occurrence of coal was more abundant than diamonds; hence coal would be given priority.

"However, the order of implementation largely depends on the interest shown by potential investors in any of the commodities, which is largely driven by performance of the particular commodity in the marketplace," she said.

Responding to a question of potential employment and subcontracting opportunities for locals, the minister said direct job opportunities estimates would vary from 50 to 250 per commodity depending on the markets and rate of mine development to full production.

"Indirect job opportunities estimates in provision of services including transport, security, financial, catering or hospitality and many more could be 100 per commodity," she said.

Adding, the minister said there would be indirect economic benefits which would include diverse skills development which would cut across a variety of sectors.

"The education sector and all its subsidiaries will be strengthened as a new stream of education needs arises within the country. This will enhance the productivity of the workforce as new challenges emerge and the human resource is stimulated to find new solutions to emerging opportunities," she said.

She said other opportunities would include procurement of goods and services, which would result in the increase of value added tax (VAT) payments, pay as you earn (PAYE), Swaziland National Provident Fund (SNPF), insurances and improved purchasing power of employees.

The minister said minerals management had received applications for mining activities for the various minerals within the country and they would continuously evaluate and further recommend those who met the requirements for considerations.

"We are, therefore, very hopeful as a ministry, that as more mining activities begin to happen in the country, the economic improvements will be realised as espoused by the National Vision," she said.

Pension funds should find innovative investment instruments

By Linda Dlamini

PENSION funds should be more innovative and widen their financial investment instruments to meet the requirements of investing 30 percent of their assets in the local economy.

Kosi Capital Managing Director Thembinkhosi Dube said there were currently limited financial instruments for investments; as at present the local financial market offered pension funds access to government debt instruments like bonds and treasury bills.

"There are some shares available on the stock exchange (SSX). However, they are few. Shares like Greystone Partne and SBC Limited available as there is an active market for them," Dube said.

On the same note, Inhlonhla Managing Director Mbuso Simelane said pension funds need to seek advice from investment managers who had expertise in financial instruments.

"Local investment managers are best placed to make investment decisions for pension funds as they have the technical knowhow," he said.

He said there were financial



MORE INNOVATIVE: PSPF headquarters.

instruments such as venture capital funds, fund-of-funds which could be used to invest in local companies.

Questions

The market capitalisation of SSX currently stands at E2.7 billion and the market for debt instruments at E 4.58 billion.

With retirement and pension funds standing at E24 billion, 30 percent of these assets, which is relatively about E7.2 billion, the question is, will the financial

market be able to absorb the 30 percent without distorting the economic forces in the financial market.

Dube added that outside the private sector, there was the public sector and that government could start to source more of its debt domestically as opposed to externally.

The problem with government sourcing external loans outside is that these loans are denominated in US dollars.

The US dollar is a volatile currency which right now is very expensive for the local the local economy.

Adding, Simelane said foreign loans could be refinanced by the use of local pension funds as they could up take the loans in local currency as opposed to foreign exchange thus reducing the debt repayments of government and freeing up much needed cash.

Projects

On another note, Dube said pension funds should also look at the large capital projects that the public sector was involved in and then form partnerships with them through private public partnerships (PPPs).

"With government capital spending under pressure given lower revenue, public capital expenditure will fall and the pension funds can step in to fund some of these capital projects like infrastructure projects," he said.

The economist further observed that the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA) should play a bigger role in the allocation of the local assets. For example, the agency could direct that at least five percent of local investments should be within a certain sector like tourism.



TOGETHER: A Group Photo of the Swaziland Beverages Retailers Graduates with some SB staff members. (Pics: Sikhulisile Vilakati)

DON'T SELL ALCOHOL TO **UNDERAGE CONSUMERS - SB**

By Linda Dlamini

SWAZILAND Beverages (SB) Sales and Distribution Director Faith Chaibva has urged retailers not to sell alcoholic beverages to under age consumers.

Speaking during a graduation of 51 retailers held last week at S&B Restaurant Chaibva said amongst a number of issues taught during the eight days training was responsibility management.

"We want our retailers not serve under age consumers for example," Chaibva said.

SB retail development training commenced in February 11 to February 18, 2016. Chaibva congratulated the retailers for successfully completing the course.

Lessons

"I hope you have learnt a lot of lessons which will drive your business growth," she said.

"The course aims to teach our retailers business management skills so as to improve the way they do business and therefore increase their bottom line," she added.

The training also covered personalised skills like personal finance, which Chaiva said was absolutely critical not only in the area of business financial management, but also in individual finance management.



THANK YOU: SB Director of Sales and Distribution Faith Chaibva, awarding Khulile Kunene from Thembelihle Bottle store while Sales Manager Meshack Maseko helps.

The director further thanked the training lectures from Mananga Centre for Regional Integration and Management Development.

Gratitude

Meanwhile, Thembelihle Bottle Store retailer Khulile Kunene, who was elected to represent the retailers, expressed her deepest gratitude to SB for the opportunity to learn business skills.

"The course was a real eye opener for us all, and we will go out and implement the various strategies we learnt," she said.

"We appeal to management to fulfil their promises, especially because we have developed a great relationship with the management of SB, and are confident that all the promises made by the management will be implemented," she said.

ESwatini Kitchen augments export markets

By SikhulisileVilakati

ESWATINI Kitchen has embarked on a food safety certification which would allow the company to intensify their export markets.

The FSSC 22000 Food Safety System Certification provides a framework for the effective management for food safety responsi-

It is fully recognised by the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) and is based on existing ISO Standards. It reflects company's or organisation's robust Food Safety Management Systems that meets the requirements of customers and consumers.

Expansion

ESwatini Kitchen Procurement and Extension Manager Vusie Nkambule said to enable further growth and expansion the company had relocated from the BOSCO Skills Centre to Sidvokodvo Riders Ranch.

Nkambule said the main reason behind the relocation was due to a new certification that they had undertaken.

"We have embarked on Food Safety Certification which is called the FSC22000. This certification will allow us to sell our products in other countries even overseas. It will allow us to meet the world product standards," he said.

He said the new location was bigger and better.

'The new factory is convenient and can accommodate every activity that we do," he said.

ESwatini Kitchen is a fair trade producer of natural gourmet food from Swaziland.

It offers 100 percent natural and traditionally made jams marmalades, honey, sauces, chutneys and atchars.

Meanwhile, Nkhambule urged farmers to form associations so that it could be easier for them to collect the produces in bulk compared to wasting resources fetching small products in bits.

Sense

"It would be more cost effective for the company because we would just collect at once. It does not make sense that we would go to Nhlangano from Sidvokodvo to collect just single 10 litre bucket," he said.

He further suggested that farmers could even from groups of ten or more so that it could be convenient for everyone.

Eswatini Kitchen has grown from a small cottage industry to a thriving business that has enhanced lives of underprivileged communities by providing a fair and sustainable income for over 300 people in Swaziland, and devoting all its proceeds to the Manzini Youth Care initiatives, which supports more than 2 000 marginalised children and young people in the coun-

The company reportedly exports its products to 15 international destinations including Europe, The United States of America (USA), Australia and Japan.



SAFETY: ESwatini Kitchen staff preparing products for

New system for cooperatives, microfinance institutions

By Linda Dlamini

ORADIAN, a global financial technology provider, has signed a distribution agreement with a local company, Purple Cow Inc, for local distribution of Oradian's award winning micro finance software, Instafin.

Instafin is the world's first true core microfinance system and it enables microfinance institutions, co-operatives and credit unions to serve the most rural clients affordably and effectively.

Purple Cow Marketing Strategist Mduduzi Kunene said the software could be handy and affordable even to the smallest of co-operatives like the renowned local stokvels.

The software will come in handy in helping micro finance institutions comply with taxation and financial services regulations, as it generates reports like financial statements automatically.

"Drawing on our deep understanding of the market and our customers, Instafin combines key functionality administration, security, accounting, loan portfolio management, and deposit tracking with state-of-the-art features in a usercentric and powerful way," he said.

company's flagship product and they currently use the software as a service (SaaS) model, in which the software was centrally hosted and licensed to client organisations on a subscription basis.

Platform

"Instafin is a simple and intuitive cloud-based platform which empowers financial institutions tackling the challenges to connect potential clients at the base of the economic pyramid to financial services," he said.

Instafin is delivered via the cloud through web and mobile apps, and

Kunene said the product was the | can address many of the infrastructural and operational complexities that microfinance firms grapple with on a daily basis. As Micro finance experts, Purple Cow identified the gap of a need for an affordable yet user friendly information system that would meet needs of local co-operatives and stokvels.

"With Instafin as the keystone, our customers can begin to reap the full benefit of the Oradian experience and grow their business and saving schemes. Amongst other features, Instafin has SMS notification for any activity on a customer's savings and loan account," he said.

About Instafin

Launched in 2012 by Antonio Separovic together with Andrew Mainhart, Julian Oehrlein and Onyeka Adibeli, Oradian began operations in its core market, Nigeria, and has since rapidly expanded across Nigeria but also into other countries across Africa. All four had previously worked in the microfinance sector, as practitioners and vendors, across Sub-Saharan Africa, South-East Asia, Europe and Latin America. After experiencing first-hand the inability of existing core-banking solutions to cater to the unique needs and challenges of microfinance institutions, the four joined forces to build Instafin.

-OCUS nn

US coup threat not a joke - ANC

CAPE TOWN - ANC leaders say they will formally raise concerns with the US over meetings at the American embassy in Pretoria they claim were aimed at promoting regime change in South Africa.

"We will elevate this matter to a formal level," ANC Spokesman Keith Khoza said on Saturday.

Speaking to thousands of supporters at a march in Pretoria on Friday, ANC Secretary-General Gwede Mantashe said they needed to be vigilant and 'see through anarchy and people who are out there in a programme of regime change'

He said the ANC knew of regular meetings at the US embassy in Pretoria which were about "mobilisation for regime change".

The ANC was also aware of a programme that involved taking young people to the US for six weeks and on return, planting them 'everywhere', including universi-

His statements led Patrick Gaspard, the US ambassador to South Africa, to quip on Twitter: "I'm so disappointed as I always imagined that if I organised a coup it would look like Mardi Gras food, music, dance."

On Saturday Khoza said such tweets would not deter the ANC from taking the issue seriously. "We will raise our concerns as a country whether they make a joke of it or not. If they (the US) had a concern and raised it with us, we wouldn't treat it as a joke.'

On Saturday, Weekend Argus tried to speak to Gaspard, but a US embassy spokeswoman said his tweets sufficiently conveyed his

It appears Mantashe was referring to the Young African Leaders Initiative and the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders, a six-week programme in the US. iol

SABC denies claims of 'R100 000 reward' for moles

CAPE TOWN - The SABC yesterday poured cold water on claims that its chief operating officer Hlaudi Motsoeneng was offering 'R100 000 rewards' for exposing employees who leaked internal information.

"It is not true that we offered any reward to anyone," the public broadcaster's spokesperson Kaizer Kganyago told News24.

According to the Sunday Times, unnamed senior editors revealed that Motsoeneng had announced the reward incentive during a recent management meeting.

Kganyago said employment contracts signed by all staff prohibited them from speaking to the media.

"All we are saying is that we will apply the policies of the organisation to deal with people who leak information."

In an interview with the Sunday Times, Motsoeneng said it was going to be "tit for tat" with media houses from now on.

"That is what we are going to do. You investigate the SABC, well done, we are going to do the same to you," he was reported as saying.

ANG SUFFERS ZUMA FATIGUE

JOHANNESBURG - At first it seemed the ANC benches would leave President Jacob Zuma twisting in the breeze as opposition parties tore into him during the debate on the State of the Nation Address this week.

There was a pre-emptive point of order about the EFF having sat down during the Afrikaans part of the national anthem, but it received only desultory support and then DA leader Mmusi Maimane and the EFF's Julius Malema let rip.

Zuma was not an honourable man, said Maimane, or he would resign. He had built himself a big house on the backs of the poor. He had allowed the education of the African child to dete-

On he went, trashing Zuma's record and, by extension, that of the governing party.

Silence from the ANC.

Malema was even more ruthless, attacking Zuma's personal history, invoking his rape trial and other personal indiscretions, not to mention his relationship with the Guptas.

Even premiers were accused, not just of being corrupt, but of taking out hits on opponents.

Malema may have anticipated howls of outrage and calls for him to withdraw, possibly another show-



FATIGUE: President Jacob Zuma having a word with Speaker Baleka Mbete at the State of the Nation Address.

down with the r there was nothing. Issues down with the presiding officers, but

Or perhaps he had calculated that by attacking Zuma and the 'premier league' he would be pouring salt on the ANC's wounds, its deep disquiet over the very issues he was raising, and he knew there would be no appetite for battle.

It was just more than a week since the president had hung Parliament,

and the ANC caucus in particular, out to dry in the Constitutional Court admitting, as the party had refused to do in the course of its defence of him, he was bound by the public protector's remedial actions on Nkandla.

Speaker Baleka Mbete, whose own counsel appeared to have been blindsided by Zuma's move, belatedly announced Malema's speech would be struck from the record, but the damage was done. iol

Pravin pulls plug on Guptas' breakfast cash cow

JOHANNESBURG -Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan is tackling the influential Gupta family head-on, pointedly snubbing President Jacob Zuma's friends.

He has pulled the plug on the Gupta-owned New Age newspaper's post-budget breakfast briefing, due to have taken place last week.

Ahead of what is expected to be South Africa's toughest austerity budget in decades, Gordhan's office has told The New Age of its decision, which bucks the trend of cabinet ministers meekly bowing to the Gupta family's demands.

Contracts

The minister will also direct the National Treasury to scrutinise all coal-supply contracts awarded by Eskom, including those held by the Guptas.



HEAD-ON: Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan.

Gordhan's moves further highlight the family's controversial relationship with the ANC, amid rumblings in the party and its trade union allies of "corporate capture" of the state by powerful business interests.

The breakfasts, broadcast by the SABC, have become a regular money-spinner for the newspaper and have served to underline the Gupta family's easy access to ministers and heads of state-owned enterprises. timeslive

PRETORIA - Pretoria had to intervene to get Zimbabwean authorities to release a plane carrying an estimated R20-billion in rand notes - and a corpse.

The cargo plane, which made an unscheduled stop at Harare a week ago, arrived at Air Force Base Waterkloof Saturday morning.

The Reserve Bank confirmed the currency was safely unde its control in South Africa.

Sources from Zimbabwe and South Africa confirmed that Minister of International Relations Maite Nkoana-Mashabane talked directly to counterparts in Zimbabwe to release the plane, after Zimbabwean customs officials had demanded to inspect the

"We had to intervene at the highest level. They have agreed to release it, but were trying to score something out of us either through taxes or penalties," a source said.

Minister rescues R20 billion



SAVED THE DAY: Minister of International Relations Maite Nkoana-Mashabane.

Zimbabwe demanded that Western Global Airlines, the owners of an aircraft chartered by the Reserve Bank, pay penalties for landing in Harare without permission.

Duties

Under Zimbabwean law, South Africa was obliged to pay duties for cargo, which meant it had to be off-loaded

and scanned. But South Africa had 'curiously' resisted efforts to do so by customs officials.

"Even the paperwork was not in order," said another source. Zimbabwe also rejected offers by South Africa to send dozens of soldiers to guard the plane, further escalating tensions, sources said. vimeslive

BRAZIL'S ZIKA CRISIS:

BABIES WILL BE DUMPED IN ORPHANAGES

BRAZIL - Neatly made up and covered with cuddly toys, these are the beds awaiting unwanted babies with 'shrunken head' syndrome expected to be dumped in orphanages as Brazil's Zika crisis spirals out of control.

Children's shelters yesterday told how they were preparing to receive 'a large number' of young children suffering with microcephaly - the head-deforming condition linked to the Zika virus - amid warnings that mothers are struggling to cope with the strain of raising their disabled babies alone.

Babies born with the condition need round-the-clock care, with pressure on the child's brain and higher sensitivity to light and sound causing most to cry almost constantly, while eight out of 10 babies will start to suffer seizures and other serious complications before they reach one year old.

And Angela Rocha, the director of Recife's Oswaldo Cruz hospital infectious disease unit, which treats 332 babies with microcephaly, told MailOnline: "I'm extremely worried that, as time goes by, the emotional ties of the mothers to their babies will be broken, because of the fatigue and wearing out.

Depends

"The mothers' ability to cope and stay with their babies will depends much on each one's emotional and family structure, which for many of them is very fragile indeed."

Last week, three babies with microcephaly were reportedly abandoned by their mothers in just one district, Madureira in Rio de Janeiro.

A female judge managed to convince the mothers to take their babies back, according to reports. But the fear of a flood of further cases led Rio's Social Development secretary, Adilson Pires, to call a summit of the city's children's judges to discuss dealing with the problem, reportedly due to take place this week.

In impoverished Recife, in northeastern Brazil, where so far 243 Because they are in so much pain they cry all the time and mothers cannot cope, Brazil warns



BRACED: These beds in the Rejame Marques children's home, in the Campo Grande district of central Recife, are prepared to receive 'a large number' of babies suffering from Zika virus.



babies have been diagnosed with 'shrunken head' syndrome, many fear that for many mothers struggling to BRAVE: Jaqueline, 25, with her son Daniel, who suffers from microcephaly. They live in a rented one-bedroom home in a poor district of Olinda, greater Recife.

raise their brain-damaged babies in difficult circumstances, the strain will soon become unbearable.

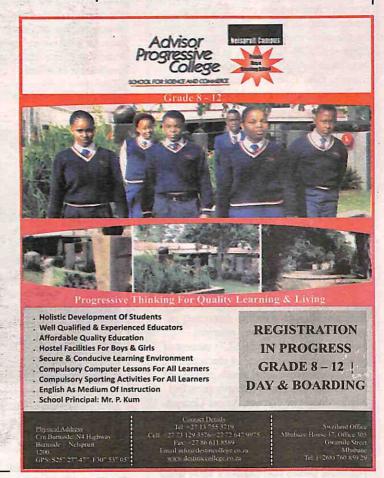
Already in the city, one newborn baby with the condition has been abandoned by a mother who, according to reports, lives below the poverty line and claimed she didn't have any support from the baby's father.

Children's judge Elio Braz said:
"We are appealing for any extended family members of this baby to come forward to try out all possibilities of reintegrating the child into the family of origin. But so far nobody has appeared."

MailOnline



SAFE PLACE: Mothers who have children with microcephaly meet at the Altina Ventura Foundation, where they can talk to women with the same problems and who can empathise with them.







BRIEFS

Zimbabwe releases SA bound plane

HARARE - Zimbabwe authorities on Saturday released a cargo plane hired by the South Afican Reserve Bank, six days after it was detained with a dead body in the landing gear and 67 tons of cash on board. The US-registered cargo aircraft, owned by the Western Global Airlines Company, had last Sunday been en route to South Africa but made an unscheduled stop-over in Harare where the grim discovery was made. news24

US air strike on Libya goes wrong

BELGRADE - A US air strike in Libya believed to have killed an Islamic State group operative behind the mass murder of tourists on a Tunisian beach also killed two kidnapped Serbian embassy employees, Belgrade said on Saturday. The Friday attack, which has been condemned by Libya's internationally recognised government, targeted a jihadist training camp near the Libyan coastal city of Sabratha, killing dozens of people. But Belgrade said the victims of the strike also included two employees from its embassy in Libya, who were taken hostage on November 8 in Sabratha from a convoy of cars heading to the Tunisian border. news24



Touadéra wins CAR election

BANGUI – Former Central African
Republic prime minister Faustin-Archange
Touadéra has won a presidential run-off,
the electoral commission announced on
Saturday, helping to restore democracy as
a step towards ending inter-religious
bloodshed. Touadéra won 62.71 percent of
votes cast in the February 14 election,
according to provisional results announced
by National Elections Authority president
Marie-Madeleine Nkouet. Anicet-Georges
Dologuele, also a former prime minister,
won 37.29 percent. enca

Namibia plans compulsory land grab

WINDHOEK - The Namibian government has announced that it is in talks with the attorney general over the introduction of harsh laws on the expropriation of land after the "willing buyer, willing seller" policy proved "ineffective". The Namibian reported that Land Reform Minister Utoni Nujoma had said he was holding ongoing meetings with the attorney general regarding the issue. The announcement followed concerns raised by farmers over outdated legislation that does little to benefit them. newszimbabwe

40 prisoners escape in jailbreak

NOUAKCHOTT - A senior Mauritanian official says at least 40 prisoners escaped in a jailbreak outside the capital. The official said the prisoners rushed the facility's main door early on Saturday while guards were changing shifts. The official said none of the prisoners who escaped on Saturday were suspected Islamic militants. The official insisted on anonymity because he was not authorised to speak to the press. The official said seven prisoners were back in custody and that officials were searching for the others. Amnesty International has accused Mauritanian security forces of torturing detainees at the prison, located in the Dar Naim suburb of Nouakchott. iol

Affica News (

ROBERT MUGABE TURNS 92

HARARE - President Robert Mugabe turned 92 yesterday.

The world's oldest serving president has stated that he will stay in post 'until God says come,' and has thus far made no clear indication as to his preferred candidate for succession, creating an ongoing and intensifying power battle that may determine the future of the country.

All the while, the unfolding political drama is doing little for a population battling with very real problems. So what comes next for the country that once served as the breadbasket of Africa?

Zimbabwe lacks an effective opposition, with the once strong

Succession battles are suffocating Zimbabwe

Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) now a shadow of its former self, wracked by infighting and damaged by a playing field that is heavily slanted toward Mugabe's ruling ZANU-PF.

Opposition

Former Vice President Joice
Mujuru announced on Wednesday
that she was launching a new opposition, the Zimbabwe People First
(ZPF) party. It is unclear, however,
whether Mujuru has the financial
support or popular backing to have
an impact outside of the ruling
party. It is thus most likely that

when Mugabe does eventually get the call from the heavens, he will be replaced by a Zanu PF candidate.

There are two clear camps at this time. One is known as Generation 40 or G40, and is allied to Mugabe's wife Grace. The other is known as Team Lacoste and is allied to Vice President Emmerson Mnangagwa (Lacoste is in reference to Mnangagwa's nickname, the crocodile).

Massacres

Mnangagwa served as Mugabe's Minister of Defence between 2009 and 2013 and as the head of the feared Central Intelligence Organization—he has been accused of being one of the chief architects of the infamous Gukurahundi massacres, in which an estimated 20 000 opposition supporters were killed in the 1980s.

The security forces are extremely significant in the continuation of the Mugabe regime, and thus Mnangagwa's potential support from this sector may be indicative of his advantage over Grace as a likely presidential successor.

Newzimbabwe



KEEPING
WARM: An
Afghan refugee
wrapped in a
blanket, sits in
the rain waiting
for a permission to cross
the border from
Macedonia into
Serbia. (AP)

Museveni wins election

KAMPALA - Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni extended his 30-year rule on Saturday, winning an election that international observers said lacked transparency and his main opponent, under house arrest, denounced as a sham.

One of Africa's longest-serving leaders, Museveni won 60.8 percent of the vote, while opposition candidate Kizza Besigye secured 35.4 percent, according to the electoral commission.

"We have just witnessed what must be the most fraudulent electoral process in Uganda," Besigye said in a statement, calling for an independent audit of the results.

Besigye, who had been detained three times this week, said he had been placed under house arrest. A Reuters reporter saw his home encircled by police in riot gear and media were barred from approaching it.

The United States on Friday urged Museveni to stop the security services harassing his opponents. Another of



EXTENDED RULE: Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni extended his 30-year rule.

Museveni's rivals, former prime minister Amama Mbabazi, had also been put under house arrest but was later released, his spokeswoman said.

Results

"This election was fundamentally flawed and ... results were not a reflection of the will of the Ugandan people,"
Mbabazi said in a statement.

Museveni, 71, has presided over strong economic growth but is accused at home and abroad of repression of dissent and failing to tackle rampant corruption in the nation of 37 million people.

Museveni's ruling National Resistance Movement party said the veteran leader's victory showed that "opponents failed to offer any alternative apart from empty promises".

European and Commonwealth observers criticised the handling of Thursday's vote.

Reuters

African leaders seek investments despite 'terror' threat

SHARM EL SHEIKH - African leaders and bankers vowed at an economic summit in Egypt on Saturday to push for trade and investments on the continent despite the growing threat of "terrorism" in the region.

More than 1 200 delegates including some heads of state were in talks to sign business agreements during the two-day summit at the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh, aimed at attracting private sector investment.

Organisers hope the "Africa 2016" conference can build on a 26-nation free trade pact signed last year to create a common market on half of the continent.

Analysts say that despite an economic growth rate of more than 4%, Africa still accounts for about only 2% of global trade.

The forum was aimed at "pushing forward trade and investment in our continent to strengthen Africa's place in the world economy", Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi said in opening remarks.

NEWS24

UN under pressure to help end Burundi violence

BUJUMBURA - When UN Security Council envoys flew to Burundi in January to try to end months of violence, the central African country's leader flatly rejected their offer of help and hundreds protested against what they saw as meddling.

Rwanda recruiting refugees to oust Burundi president: UN Rwanda recruiting refugees to oust Burundi president: UN Troubled Burundi tops agenda as African leaders meet Troubled Burundi tops agenda as African leaders meet AU leaders buckle as Burundi blusters on AU leaders buckle as Burundi blusters on African Union backs UN bid to push Burundi peace-keeping force African Union backs UN bid to push Burundi peacekeeping force UN Security Council visits volatile Burundi UN Security Council visits volatile Burundi Rwanda to relocate Burundi refugees to other countries: government Rwanda to relocate Burundi refugees to other countries: government. timeslive





DAMASCUS - Syrian

President Bashar al-Assad

dition "terrorists" did not

backing insurgents halted

the Syrian opposition said it had agreed to the "possibility"

support for them.

there were guarantees

use a lull in fighting to their

advantage and that countries

His comments were made as

of a temporary truce, provided

Damascus's allies including

were lifted and aid deliveries

were allowed country-wide.

"We have said that we are

ready to stop military opera-

tions, but the issue relates to

preventing terrorists from

tions," Assad told Spanish

more important factors such as

using it to improve their posi-

newspaper El Pais in an inter-

He also said any truce must

especially Turkey, are prevent-

ed from sending more terror-

ists and weapons, or any kind

Damascus refers to all insur-

terrorists. Turkey, other Sunni

gents fighting against the

Syrian army and its allies as

of logistical support".

ensure that "other countries,

Russia would cease fire, sieges

ready for a ceasefire, on con-

said on Saturday he was

CHARLESTON-Billionaire businessman Donald Trump won the Republican primary in the southern US state of South Carolina on Saturday, vowing to pick up momentum as the field of candidates narrowed with former Florida governor Jeb Bush quitting the race.

Meanwhile, former secretary of state Hillary Rodham Clinton beat Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders in a separate Democratic caucus in the western state of Nevada.

Trump had 32.6% of the vote, state election officials said. His closest rivals Florida Senator Marco Rubio and Texas Senator Ted Cruz battled for second place, with 22.5% and 22.1% of the vote respectively.

Contest

The results give Trump momentum heading into the next contest in Nevada tomorrow, and the Super Tuesday primary on March 1 when more than a dozen states hold primaries.

Trump told supporters that he anticipates big victories ahead.

"Let's have a big win in Nevada," he said. "Let's have a big win in the [March 1 primaries]. Let's put this thing away and let's make America great again." Trump supporters had expressed anger at a broken political system and the influence of big campaign donors in politics. Trump "can't be bought and he'll tell you to your face what he thinks and how he feels," Michael Reilly, 18, told dpa as he voted for the first time. news24

BRIEFS

India bans mobiles for single women

AHMEDABAD - A village in Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's home state of Gujarat has banned single women from using mobile phones, with elders deeming the technology a 'nuisance to society' Members of the Suraj village council in Mehsana, the premier's home district, passed a resolution in early February outlawing the use of mobile phones for teenage girls and young women. "Community leaders felt that just like liquor, the use of mobile phones by unmarried women was a nuisance to society," village head Devshi Vankar told AFP, adding that a similar ban would be announced for school-age boys soon. news24

India pledges \$250m to rebuild Nepal

NEW DELHI - India has pledged \$250m for post-earthquake reconstruction in Nepal as the two countries try to remove irritants in their ties following protests in Nepal over the country's new constitution. The assistance covering housing, health, education and cultural heritage sectors in earthquake-hit districts is part of an accord signed Saturday during Nepalese Prime Minister Khadga Prasad Oli's visit to India. aljazeera

Taliban blow up girls' school

ISLAMABAD - Militants said yesterday

they had blown up a girls' school in Pakistan's restive northwest, the latest in a string of attacks on educational institutions.



There were no casualties, but the bomb destroyed three out of five classrooms of the government girls' primary school in Tiarza village of tribal South Waziristan, a local security official told AFP. Azam Tariq, a spokesperson for the 'Sajna' arm of the Pakistani Taliban, claimed responsibility for the attack, saying the school had been targeted because it was run by the military and the group was opposed to female education. news24

Dozens die in double car bomb attack

HOMS - At least 46 people were killed and dozens injured yesterday in a double car bomb attack in the central Syrian city of Homs, a monitor said. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said most of those killed appeared to be civilians, adding that the toll could rise further because of the number of seriously wounded. Syrian state television gave a toll of at least 25 dead, citing Homs provincial governor Talal Barazi. reuters

Water rationed as caste protest rises

INDIA - At least 10 people have been killed and 150 injured in protests by India's agricultural Jat community in support of caste-based quota systems, according to police. The violence in the north Indian state of Haryana overnight on Saturday also affected water supplies in the capital New Delhi as protesters cut off canal gates feeding its treatment plants. New Delhi's Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced water rations across the city and said schools would be closed throughout the city to help preserve supplies. aljazeera

Assad ready for truce if 'terrorists' do not exploit it



READY: Syria's President Bashar al-Assad speaks during a meeting with members of the Central Bar Association in Damascus, in this handout picture provided by SANA last Monday.

regional powers and Western countries have supported insurgents fighting against Assad, whose forces are bolstered by Iran, Russia and Lebanese Hezbollah.

Possibility

Asked about the possibility of Turkey and Saudi Arabia sending ground forces into Syria, Assad said: "We're going to deal with them like we deal with the terrorists.

We're going to defend our country. This is aggression."

Attempts to negotiate a truce in recent months have failed. The latest round of talks at the United Nations in Geneva is being jointly chaired by Russia and the United States.

World powers agreed in Munich on Feb. 12 to a cessation of hostilities that would let humanitarian aid be delivered in Syria. reuters

Britain sets June date for historic EU referendum

LONDON - Britain will vote on its membership of the European Union on June 23, Prime Minister David Cameron said Saturday as he began the daunting challenge of persuading the country to stay.

He announced the date for the referendum after a two-hour cabinet meeting where he briefed ministers on the deal he struck in Brussels on Friday, that he said will give Britain "special status" in the EU.

"We are approaching one of the biggest decisions this country will face in our lifetimes," Cameron said, addressing the nation outside his 10 Downing Street residence.

Risk

"The choice goes to the kind of country we want to be," he said, warning that proponents of leaving were offering "a risk at a time of uncertainty, a leap in the dark"

Britain would be "safer, stronger and better off" in the 28-member bloc, he said, calling the concessions negotiated with other EU leaders "the best of both worlds"

The referendum campaign will be bitterly contested in a country with a long tradition of euroscepticism and a hostile right-wing press, with opinion polls showing Britons are almost evenly divided.reuters

Fiji declares a state of natural disaster after fierce cyclone

SYDNEY - Government officials declared a state of natural disaster in Fiji after a cyclone tore through the archipelago on Saturday, destroying villages and leaving five dead, Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama said yester-

Bainimarama described Cyclone Winston, a Category 5 cyclone with winds up to 143 miles per hour and gusts up to 202 miles per hour, as the most powerful such storm in the country's recorded history. "The damage has been widespread," he said in a statement.

"Many are without power and full access to water and are cut off from communication."

Aid workers said roofs had been blown off houses, power lines were down, roads were blocked by trees and some villages had been flooded by heavy rain.

Evacuated

At a hospital in the western district, patients were evacuated after a ward lost part of its roof, and at a hospital in the central district, an intensive care ward, operating room and maternity ward were flooded, Fiji's national emergency

operation center said on Sunday.

An elderly man died on Koro, an island to the east of Viti Levu, the main island, after a roof collapsed. Ewan Perrin, a spokesman for the prime minister, said that four other people had died but that the government would not release details until their next of kin had been notified.

Curfew

Bainimarama said a curfew would remain in place until today morning to allow emergency workers to clear roads of fallen power lines and building debris. Most of

the buildings in Suva, the country's capital on the island of Viti Levu. appeared to have only minor dam-

A CARE Australia aid worker, Anna Cowley, said in a telephone interview from Suva that power outages had hampered aid efforts. "There is still a power blackout across the main island, Viti Levu, which has stopped water pumps from working," Cowley said on Sunday, adding that patchy communications with outlying islands had made assessing the damage there difficult. nytimes





WINNERS: Luyengo Campus freshest Miss and Mr Freshers Nomcebo Dladla and Kwandakwawo Ngwenyama pose with their princes and princesses after they were announced winners on Friday during an event held at Woodlands Conference Centre. (Pics: Samukelisiwe Ginindza).

Nomcebo and Kwanda are Mr and Miss Freshers Luyengo

Stories by Samukelisiwe Ginindza

NOMCEBO Dladla and Kwandakwawo Ngwenyama were crowned the fairest of them all at the University of Swaziland Luyengo Campus Freshers Ball on Friday evening.

The two were crowned in a glitzy event attended by a number of students as well as well-wishers, at Woodlands Conference Centre.

The competition was tough as the panel of judges included former Miss Tourism Lebo Maseko and Philani 'Sgonian' Mpanza.

The queen and king were crowned together with their princesses and princes, Simamukele Vilane and Saneliso Dlamini were crowned princes while Fortunate Maziya and Zinhle were crowned princesses.

The queen and king were crowd favourites which might have boosted their confidence as they walked the runway with poise, thus receiving a number of



POSE: The king and queen strike a pose. The second prince and princess couldn't

POSE: The king and queen strike a pose. The second prince and princess couldn't hide their excitement on stage.

cheers.

Even though the show started more than four hours late, when it eventually began everything went smoothly.

With Frankie Dlamini as programme director, the students were kept in stitches with the jokes he cracked and fashion thumbs up to some of the students.

The contestants were dressed by Teddz Urban in casual and Millennium Trends in formal wear, and answered questions posed by the judges with etiquette. One of the contestants who was interviewed just before the top five finalists were announced, Zamahlubi Dlamini stated that even though she was a bit nervous, she was sure to be amongst the finalists.

"I am confident I will win today, as I have done everything in my power to take the crown home," she said.

However, her name was not

called out when the finalists were called, but she was seen smiling as the queen was announced, which seemed as though she had accepted the defeat and was happy for the queen. "I am ecstatic about the win, I was okay with just being in the top five as I felt the ladies were all beautiful and answered the questions correctly, so winning has really been good," Nomcebo mentioned.

...Some of the questions

Zinhle

 What does growing in Swaziland as a girl child mean to you?

-It means I am privileged enough to known culture, respect and the value of abstaining. It means I value my culture; I respect elders and my King as well as prioritise education.

Ntfombiyenkhosi

• Where do you see yourself in five years?

-I see myself as one of the country's agronomist, as I am current-

ly enrolled Bsc in Agronomy. Kwanda

 Given the chance to be the country's prime minister for a day, how would you deal with the current drought situation?
 I would make sure that boreholes are dug all over the country, to make water available to all, I would also give water tanks to urban areas and teach them about the values of preserving water, while it is still available and mostly I would emphasise in going green, planting more trees to repair the ozone layer.

Mr Kangaroo's new single 'Vroom vroom' drives them crazy

By Phesheya Kunene

ARTISTS made sure they wrapped up a memorable night with lively performances during the International Condom Day show organised by AHF.

The show held at the spacious UNISWA Sports Emporium saw over six acts gracing the stage to deliver spirited performances.

The artists had all the reason to deliver top notch performances as the crowd came in their numbers and painted the place black with the free T-shirts they received at the door. The lively crowd also added to the entertainment on the night as they did not only dance up a storm but they also let the condoms, received for free at the door, rain on the artists on stage.

The crowd which was mainly dominated by the UNISWA students threw the condoms on stage each time appreciated a song or performance on stage something that was much appreciated by performers.

Speaking during the event, Thulani
Mtetwa, Prevention Program Manager at
AIDS Healthcare Foundation, said the show
was a resounding success as they managed to
sensitise the students about the importance of
using protection during sexual activities
hence the show was dubbed "Wrap Up your
Love".

Coming to the performances, Swazi-Boy Entertainment provided a solid line-up that had artists such as Mr Kangaroo, Illa Penboy, Pelepele Cultural dance group and DJs Stitch, MBO and Crooks giving it their all on stage.

Audiences

Another promising rap artist Eskay also rocked the stage and gave a killer performance that had the students on the feet. The rapper sang one song before jumping off the stage to let comedian Mdura entertain the crowd as he manned the proceedings.

Besides the wild and fascinating dance moves from the audience, the biggest highlight of the show was when rapper Illa PenBoy missed a step during his performance and came down falling, an incident that lit up the place.

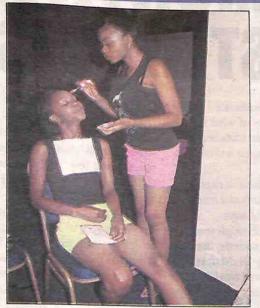
Another unforgettable moment was the affection the audience showed for Mr Kangaroo's new single "Vroom Vroom". The rap artist introduced the song after his hit song "Fork and knife" and the audience crammed the front of the stage as the artist tried teaching them the lyrics of his new release which looks set to take the music scenes by storm. Despite performing late, the students still had so much energy for Mr Kangaroo's music as he performed with Karly B on stage before DJ Crooks took over with his appealing deep house music.

Pelepele Cultural group were the first act on stage with their play centred on the theme of the show and they delivered a breathtaking performance. As dancing seemed to be what the doctor ordered for the students, one of the students, Princess, was given a moment on stage to shine as she displayed her silky dance moves much to the appreciation of the crowd

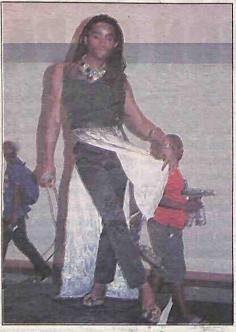
LUYENGO FRESHERS



HAPPY DAY: Happy students congratulate Nomcebo Diadia after she was announced Luyengo Campus Miss Freshers on Friday at the Woodlands Conference Centre.(Pics: Samukelisiwe Ginindza)



MAKING SURE: Ntfombiyenkhosi applys make up on a fellow contestant.



POUT: MC Frankie strikes a pose.



WHERE TOO?: The guys discuss before hitting the runway in casual wear.



IT'S YOURS: The queen gushes as the outgoing queen hands over the sash.



QUEEN: Nomcebo showing them how it is done.



ON POINT: Zinhle smiles as she walks the ramp in casual wear.



WITH LOVE: One of the crowd favourites flashes a smile.



LOVELY: Zamahlubi walks with confidence clad in a bandage maxi dress.



CASUAL: Contestants pose for the judges in casual wear.



EYE CANDY: Andile impressed everyone with his abs.



COPY CAT: While a contestant was standing before the judges, a fellow tipsy student mimicked her catwalk on stage.



GENTS: The guys stand in front of the judges after parading in casual wear.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH A CELEBRATION OF PAST HEROES

By Tenele Dlamini

THE Black History Month, hosted by the United States Embassy, was not only a celebration of past heroes, but draw many to the Mbabane Theatre Club, making it a resounding success.

The educational forum and platform, was organised by the ambassadors assistant, Anita Beamon-Freeman, a Gospel Jazz and blues singer many in the country have grown to love.

The event and celebration held on Friday night, brought a crowd of no less than 130 people to the venue, as American citizens residing in the country as well as locals and other guests, convened at the Theatre Club to commemorate and celebrate a very important day in the American calendar.

Throughout the show, which commenced at 6pm, there was a narration conducted by the Embassy's Sharon Martins, who vividly described the historical events, taking the audience through the journey of what it was like to be an African snatched from Africa to become a slave in a foreign land.

At intervals of Martin's narration, Freeman contributed music under the theme 'African American History through song.'

The show began with the famous 'I have a dream' by Dr. Martin Luther King followed by old songs close to the hearts of the American people.

The African American Anthem,

'Lift every voice and song',
'Nobody knows the trouble I see',
'I too sing America', 'Steal away
to Jesus' and 'Aint I a Woman to
name just a few, as the purpose of
the gathering was explained by
Martin in her speech

"Welcome to the United States Embassy's 2016 American History month programme. You have just listened to 'Lift every voice and sing, which has become the African American National Anthem and is traditionally sung at this commemoration," Martin welcomed guests at the beginning of her speech.

The documentation of great
American heroes who made a
huge difference in the lives of
Americans include; President
Abraham Lincoln, an man who
changed history forever by signing
the Compensated Emancipation
Act, that helped free over 3 000
slaves. This she said marked the
153 anniversary of the signing if
this act. Martin's narration of the
events before and after the era of
slavery in that country, also paid
recognition to heroes like; Dr



GESTURES: Anita Beamon-Freeman gestures after Friday evening's Black History Month Celebration at the Mbabane Theatre Club. The event was organised by the American Embassy. (Pics: By Tenele Dlamini)

Martin Luther King, Fredrick Douglas, Paul Leroy, Mary Mcleod, Booker T. Washington, Mahalia Jackson, George Washington, Oprah Winfrey, Marian Wright Elderman, Jesse Jackson and the most recent, the 44th President of the United States, Procurrent President Barack Obama. One of the highlights of the evening, was the awarding of a CD to one of the audience members, Fatau Leigh, who had answered correctly the question on the current American president.



...New American Ambassador to Swaziland, Lisa delighted

THE recently appointed American Ambassador to Swaziland, Lisa Peterson, gave a brief speech at the commemoration show. She stated how pleased she was with its success, welcomed all the American citizens

whotook part-take in the celebrations and thanked Anita Freeman for her hard work at compiling and choreographing the Black History Month celebration at the Mbabane Theatre Club on Friday night.

SINGING: US Embassy's Anita Beamon-Freeman rendering one of her many songs at the Black History Month Commemoration on Friday evening at the Mbabane Theatre club.

Anita's songs of love, unity and hope at Black History Month celebration

By Tenele Dlamini

IT was quite evident from the renditions by the Gospel, jazz and Blues singer Anita Beamon-Freeman of the American Embassy, that most of her songs spread the message of love, unity and hope, not just amongst Americans, but amongst people of the world in general.

Her humanitarian and compassionate side has made it clear, through song and music, that people should be valued and the element of prejudice in all societies can be abolished through music.

In her own words, she said she enjoy helping people and encourages a selfless spirit amongst people.

"I love helping people and always

strive to live for others, as opposed to living just for myself, said Freeman.

The list of love and compassion songs she performed included well known music such as; 'We shall overcome.'

'I believe I can fly', a song made popular by Rn'B singer Robert Sylvester Kelly, also known as R. Kelly. Other tracks rendered by the blues singer include 'Put a little love in your heart and 'Lean on Me', as she invited audience members to stand up, who gladly obliged, while clapping their hands and participated, in an act of love and unity.

One preparing for the Black History Month commemoration, she revealed that she had personally prepared the content of the evening herself. "I wrote everything narrat-



THE WINNER IS: Fetu Leigh, winner of Freeman's compilation CD at the Black History Month celebration on Friday.

ed and selected all the heroes mentioned today.

I tried with each one to find an appropriate song to go with each

hero to fit with the background information, such as songs originally sang by the slaves.

I wanted this presentation to be as



POSE: Sharon Martins of the US Embassy, posing with Africa Awake's Beko after the commemoration event.

interactive as possible for I wanted people to go back home feeling like they were taking a piece of this," Freeman explained.

...Freeman in concert with local artists

FRIDAY 26th February will see the Mbabane Theatre Club come alive once again, as a number of local artists join Anita Beamon-Freeman in a partnership concert.

This is according to Freeman herself. On family and collaborations, she revealed that her daughter Jewel, who resides in the United States is also actively involved in music and is a performer in that country.

Freeman indicated that she was

very thrilled regarding her collaboration with local producer Sub-Jamz, who is working with her to make her upcoming album a masterpiece. She has plans to launch this album at a date yet to be announced.

Shared

"I previously shared the stage right here at the Mbabane Theatre Club with 25 other local musicians.

This was in November 2014," she said. This included the likes of

Afro Soul musician Flowe D and music genius, Itallo Dlamini and many more.

According to Freeman, she would like to leave a bit of herself and her music for the Swazi people.

This she says will be her legacy for others, when her term in office ends as she will be returning to the United States.

She says artists collaborating and showing unity is what she envisions.



PRESENT: Fetu Leigh, winner of Freeman's compilation CD at the Black History Month celebration on Friday.

* Celebrity *

Karlie Kloss suits up LFW's Fabulous Fund Fair

LONDON - She was MIA from the world of fashion for a little while as she got stuck into her studies at NYU. But back in business for the capital's most fashionable week, Karlie Kloss cut a tailored figure as she attended the Naked Heart Foundation's Fabulous Fund Fair. Held at London's Old Billingsgate Market, the 23-year-old looked chic in a two piece suit as she took to the spotlight with Natalia Natalia Vodianova. Kloss stood tall in a pair of chic pointed suede stilettos as she donned a simple cami underneath her structured blazer. Keeping her accessorises minimal, the model added a bit of





bling with a few pieces of jewellery. *Mail Online*

Demi Lovato does impression of pop rival Christina Aguilera

Watch

LOS ANGELES - Demi Lovato faced off against host Jimmy Fallon in his game 'Wheel of Musical Impressions' on Friday's Tonight Show. After a lackluster Cher, the 23year-old singer did better with Twinkle Twinkle Little Star in the style of rapper Fetty Wap's My Way. 41year-old Fallon, a seasoned impressionist and SNL veteran, did predictably fantastic renditions of Louis Armstrong and

Dave Matthews. But Lovato

belted the SpongeBob

brought the house down when she

Squarepants theme song just like



FACED OFF: Demi Lovato on 'Tonight Show'.

pop rival Christina Aguilera. Rocking a big cat bomber jacket, Demi - born Demetria - effortlessly emulated the over-the-top vibrato typically used by the 35year-old blonde. *Mail Online*

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA

TODAY



THE drivers make a shocking discovery about Skizan. Sbu has a fight at the rank. Jabu and Iris wonder how to handle the murder. Sunday is circling Fezile.

ISIDÍNGO

TODAY



ZUKISA gets caught up in the Sibeko hostilities. Angie finds herself facing a serious moral dilemma. Charlie's attempt to help Brad goes badly wrong.

Muvh∑ngo

TODAY

results on Imani's case come in.
Muvhango returns home with scars and scratches on his legs but he can't remember where he got them form.
Thandaza is



initiated into the religious camp. INITIATED:





LIGHT BULB: Suffo.

SUFFO finds a solution to his money problems from an unlikely source. Zinzi is forced to face her attacker on her own when Bongi abandons her at the last minute. Emanuel and Reneilwe decide to collaborate on a new venture.

Kourtney Kardashian, daughter step out for relaxed lunch

LOS ANGELES - On Friday the mother-daughter duo hit a museum. And on Saturday, Kourtney Kardashian and threeyear-old Penelope Disick again stepped out together, this time for a lunch at fancy sushi joint Sugarfish. The 36-year-old reality star kept things casual for the outing, opting for skinny black trousers, black combat-style boots, and a grey T-shirt. In a racy twist, the shirt was actually somewhat transparent, revealing an elaborate black criss-cross bra underneath. Some spangly bracelets, a substantial gold watch and some classic shades rounded out the laid-back ensemble.



STEPPING OUT: Kourtney Kardashian and daughter Panelope.

Penelope also kept things simple with a black T-shirt and black skirt with some matching black shoes with white rubber soles.

Mail Online

Scotty T swills vodka, lets loose, meets gorgeous ladies

LIVERPOOL - He has pretty much been living the life of Riley since winning Celebrity Big Brother in January. And Scotty T showed no signs of slowing down as he partied up a storm at Levels nightclub in Liverpool on Friday night. The handsome 27-year-old looked to be having a whale of a time as he g-uzzled from a bottle of vodka while chatting to - and picking up, quite literally - some attractive female party-goers at the club. Joined by his Geordie Shore co-star, it was a typically raucous affair for the reality TV star, who also did his job by making sure to take plenty of



LIVING IT UP: Scotty T with an attractive female party-goer.

photos with his adoring fans who had come along to the venue. *Mail Online*

Jessica Simpson flashes skimpy lingerie, ample chest

LOS ANGELES - She's a voluptuous blonde beauty who's back to her body-confident best. And Jessica Simpson, 35, put on a very daring display on Friday as she stepped out with husband Eric Johnson, 36, for a date at The Nice Guy in West Hollywood wearing a completely sheer dress. The singer gracefully climbed out of the couple's car wearing a skimpy, animal print and see-through LBD, with it's low-cut chest revealing plenty of cleavage. Eric was quite the gentleman on the outing, opening the car door for his wife before carefully closing it behind her once she was safely on the sidewalk.



Mail Online

Curvy Blac Chyna, Rob Kardashian flaunt their romance

LOS ANGELES - She's been proudly bragging of her relationship with Rob Kardashian over recent weeks. But despite gushing about him on Instagram, Blac Chyna, 27, had only offered abstract photographic clues as to his presence in her life. Until Thursday, when she shared an intimate moment kissing the 28year-old reclusive brother of Kim Kardashian with waiting photographers in Los Angeles. The former exotic dancer puckered up to her beau, as he smiled and closed his eyes in the very Public display of affection. The couple got in the mood as they were seen leaving the offices of celebrity



INTIMATE: Rob Kardashian and Blac Chyna.

surgeon Dr Simon Ourien in Beverly Hills. And what could have been more romantic than a joint trip to a cosmetic dermatologist, as Blac got passionate with the son of Kris Jenner and the late Robert Kardashian. *Mail Online*

Will.i.am vows to never judge wannabe singers

LOS ANGELES - He's the only judge to have appeared on all five seasons of The Voice.

And will i.am has vowed to continue with the same kind approach to mentoring contestants that he's taken across the series as he admitted he doesn't want to end up with a reputation like media mogul, Simon Cowell. Speaking to The Sunday People, the 40-year-old explained: 'When you see Simon on TV you're like, "Wow, you're a monster. You're so mean to these people." But when you get to know him you're like, "Wait a second! You're not that guy"." Clarifying his comments, the



NO MORE: will.i.am.

Black Eyed Peas star revealed that there was a reason why The Voice judges - Ricky Wilson, Boy George and Paloma Faith - were all so kind on the show instead of taking Simon's acidtongued approach. *Mail Online*

Taylor Swift serves maid of honour duties for Britany Maack

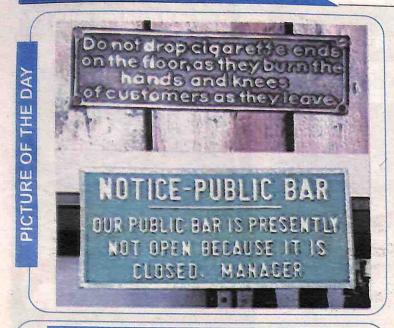
PENNSYLVANIA - Taylor Swift set aside her pop diva crown to serve maid of honour duties at her BFF Britany Maack's wedding in the Pennsylvania town of Reading on Saturday. The 26-year-old singer looked elegant holding her bouquet in a pink Reem Acra gown featuring a plunging, handembroidered bodice. The 10-time Grammy winner - who normally relies on stylist Joseph Cassell Falconer - rocked red lipstick and sported kinky waves on her lightbrown bob. At one point, Taylor was spotted sweetly embracing a brunette gal pal, who was also a



MAID OF HONOUR: Taylor Swift.

bridesmaid at the nuptials.

Mail Online



TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn
Dec 22 – Jan 19
This is a great day to sign contracts, conclude business deals or make plans.

Your sharp mind will see all aspects from all angles. Any high-level mental pursuits should be rewarding and stimulating. Welcome all new ideas! There are new concepts that you are aware of and may find yourself talking about with co-workers. It is an excellent time to solicit the help of others, though it's important that you truly know the needs of your company or business before asking.

Aquarius
Jan 20 – Feb 18
If ever there was a day to work with groups, this is it! Your acute

sensitivity to other people's moods could enable you to fine-tune those moods as you would a violin. Your purchase power is to be envied. Of course, with your ability to socialise, you can create a great business transaction as well.

ransaction as well.

Pisces
Feb 19 – mar 20
This time marks a period of introspection and evaluation of goals. You may feel

lonely and self-critical at this time, but do not be too hard on yourself.

Aries
Mar 21 – Apr 19
Self-discipline and a sense of self-worth

Mar 21 – Apr 19
Self-discipline and a sense of self-worth become important issues in your life. A fear of asserting yourself can hold you back—as can coming on too strong. The trick is learning to make the most of your personal talents and abilities—working within your limitations instead of feeling hemmed in by them. Colors are brighter, images sharper, music more moving.

Taurus
Apr 20 – May 20
You have a sense that

a secure foundation is essential to everything and you go about your day making sure your foundation is strong. This is a good time to lead the way on a project—at work or home. Your originality is

originality is unusually heightened.

Gemini
May 21 – June 21
Your ability to
concentrate is strong—a good day to get
things done. Good eye-hand
coordination and a persistent effort
make almost any task run well.

Cancer

your mind feels like it is on a racetrack today.

Activities are fast moving. Today is a great day for anything non-technical. If you need to meet a schedule or organize a party, this is the day for you; perhaps you will be teaching a new exercise or dance routine. You are on your feet and ready

for whatever may come today. If it seems that things are moving too fast, step back for a bit.

Leo july 23 – Aug 22
You need a career that is mentally stimulating and allows you to

and allows you to express your creative side. Now would be a good time to review and update your resume and give some thought to a job change or upgrade. This afternoon you are likely to reach out or attract a loved one.

Virgo
Aug 23 – Sept 22
Now you can concentrate on practical matters. Your optimism is helpful in teaching yourself to grasp the big, grandiose picture; study. Do not forget, however, that the whole is made up of many parts.

Libra Sept 23 – Oct 23

Optimism is easy to find this monday.

Many projects come to your attention—recognition is present. Your ideas gain a great deal of attention. This is a fine time to try out some new ideas or engage in some new business dealings or investments. Compromise should be exercised whenever possible.

Scorpio Oct 24 – Nov 21

This is definitely a day to get many things done, especially if you are the leader. You tend to attract the people whose energy matches your own. Insight and clarity are successful leadership qualities in your favor. You are able to handle most any situation.

Sagittarius
Nov 22 – Dec 21
You are happy to be with others and to work in groups today.
You may be asked to complete a certain task or job. Your management and directional abilities are in high focus. It is important to stay focused and discourage co-workers from chatty,

on-the-job interactions.





BUCKLES



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



HARD SUDOKU #256

SOLUTION

3	9	6	5	4	8	7	2	1
2	1	8	7	3	6	9	4	5
5	7	4	1	9	2	8	6	3
7	8	1	9	5	4	2	3	6
6	4	5	3	2	7	1	8	9
9	2	3	6	8	1	4	5	7
8	6	9	4	1	5	3	7	2
1	5	2	8	7	3	6	9	4
4	3	7	2	6	9	5	1	8

HARD SUDOKU #255
Fill in the missing numbers so every row, column and quadrant contains the number 1 through 9.

5 9 6 2 1 3 7 9 7 1 9 3 3 8 7 4 5 4 8 6 4

3

A child asked his father, "How were people born?" So his father said, "Adam and Eve made babies, then their babies became adults and made babies, and so on." The child then went to his mother, asked her the same question and she told him, "We were



monkeys then we evolved to become like we are now." The child ran back to his father and said, "You lied to me!" His father replied, "No, your mom was talking about her side of the family."

USELESS FACTS

1. Your stomach has to produce a new layer of mucus every 2 weeks otherwise it will digest itself.

2. The citrus soda 7-UP was created in 1929; '7' was selected after the original 7ounce containers and 'UP' for the direction of the bubbles

3. 101 Dalmatians, Peter

Pan, Lady and the Tramp, and Mulan are the only Disney cartoons where both parents are present and don't die throughout the movie.

A pig's orgasm lasts for 30 minutes.

5. 'Stewardesses' is the longest word that is typed with only the left hand.

BRAINTEASERS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

FRIDAYS' BRAIN TEASER

1. What demands an answer but asks no question?

A. A ringing phone because it has to be answered

2. Who's bigger: Mr.
Bigger, Mrs. Bigger or their
baby?
A. The baby because it is a

little Bigger.

TODAY'S BRAIN TEASER

 If a man is trapped in a room. There are no doors no windows how did he get out?

2. There was a old man who lived by himself. He felt tired so he went into the bathroom, went to the toilet and then turned the light off before going to bed. The next morning there was a news flash on the radio that a boat crashed. The man opened the window and jumped out. Why?



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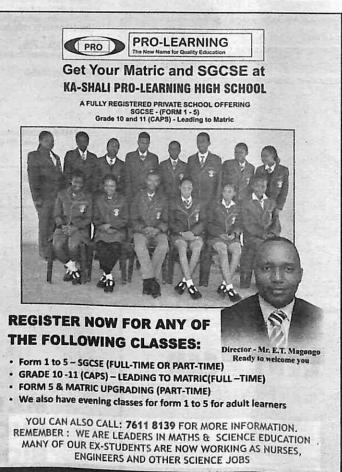
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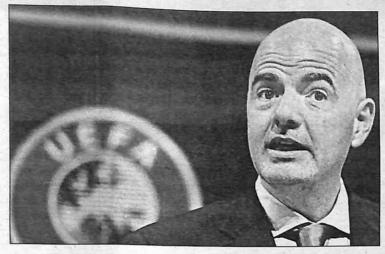
BLATTER-FIFA ERA SET TO END

GENEVA-The Sepp Blatter era at FIFA is set to finally end Friday when soccer's scandal-scarred world body picks a new president after nine months of crisis.

An election meeting designed to give FIFA a fresh start with a new leader could yet be overshadowed by its criminally corrupt past.

Voters return to Zurich this week unsure who is the next target of federal law enforcement agencies in the United States and Switzerland, who have sent FIFA into meltdown with waves of arrests, extraditions and guilty pleas.

Swiss prosecutors could decide this week is best to meet key witnesses in their widening case. Many soccer officials are making possibly their last working trip to Switzerland until May 2019,



FRONT-RUNNER - Gianni Infantino. (AP)

when the next scheduled FIFA election should be held in Zurich.

At the last election in May, Blatter won a fifth presidential term two days after FIFA's favoured five-star hotel in Zurich and its own headquarters were raided. The pressure of criminal investigations soon forced Blatter from his beloved FIFA in his 41st year on the payroll.

Now, leaders of FIFA's 209 member federations visit the tiny Swiss city again to elect a successor for the now-banned 79-yearold who has been president since 1998. The winner will be just the fourth elected FIFA chief in more than 50 years.

Two front-runners have emerged in a five-candidate contest: Asia's soccer leader, Sheikh Salman of Bahrain, and Gianni Infantino, the Swiss general secretary of European governing body UEFA.

The other candidates are:
Former FIFA vice president
Prince Ali of Jordan, who lost to
Blatter in May; former FIFA official Jerome Champagne of
France; and South African businessman Tokyo Sexwale, once an inmate of Robben Island prison with Nelson Mandela.

Infantino acknowledged that police could hit FIFA for the fourth time in nine months.

SPORT24

MANAGE Marana Exposur took

WINNER: Marcus Fraser took advantage of Soomin Lee's dramatic late collapse to clinch the inaugural Maybank.

Championship Malaysia for his first win in almost six years. Lee led by two approaching the final three holes at Royal Selangor Golf Club in Kuala Lumpur but the South Korean doublebogeyed at the 16th and 18th. (AP)

McCaw wants NZ flag to change

WELLINGTON - World Cup winning All Blacks captain Richie McCaw entered the contentious New Zealand flag debate yesterday saying he is in favour of change.

In a Facebook post, McCaw said he realised it was time for a change when he saw the New Zealand and Australian flags side by side at last year's World Cup final.

Both flags have the Union Jack in the upper-left corner, with New Zealand's flag also bearing four red stars on a dark blue background while the Australian standard has six white stars.

Replace
New Zealanders vote next month
whether to replace the flag with a new
design featuring a silver fern on a
black-and-blue background.

Opinion polls show the nation divided on whether a change is warranted.

However McCaw, recently named New Zealander of the Year, said it became clear to him at the World Cup that a change was needed.

"This is the moment when I decided a new flag would be great for our country. Running out at Twickenham and seeing the two flags looking so similar," McCaw posted with a photo of the flags at the World Cup final.

"The silver fem has always been the special symbol on the All Black jersey that represents who we are as Kiwis, so the new flag with a silver fern as a part of it would be a great option I believe."

Another high profile All Black, Dan Carter, has also spoken publicly in recent days in favour of a flag change.

Prime Minister John Key has led the push for change, saying the existing ensign is a colonial relic that is too easily confused with Australia's flag.

Public polls indicate a majority of New Zealanders favour retaining the existing flag, although the gap has narrowed from nearly 70 percent last September to 56 percent in recent surveys.

supersport

Ferrari threat to Mercedes in the spotlight

BARCELONA - Ferrari's ability to challenge Lewis Hamilton and Mercedes' dominance of Formula One will be examined as the longest season in the sport's history gets underway with the first series of testing in Barcelona today.

Hamilton is looking for a third consecutive drivers' championship and the fourth of his career across a mammoth 21 Grand Prix season that starts in Australia on March 20.

The Englishman coasted to the title last season as he and Mercedes teammate Nico Rosberg won 16 of the 19 However, Ferrari showed signs of a revival with four-time world champion Sebastian Vettel claiming the other three race wins, exceeding team principal Maurizio Arrivabene's preseason expectations.

Arrivabene is now looking for even more progress from the SF-16H to be able to challenge Mercedes with Vettel and Kimi Raikkonen - the last man to win a drivers' title with Ferrari back in 2008 — at the wheel.

"I think this year, we need to push a bit more. We would like to fight until the end for the championship," Arrivabene said at the SF- 16H launch.

"I know that is not going to be easy, because our competitors are not sleeping, but we are committed to do our best."

Mercedes certainly believe Ferrari will be their main obstacle to another season of dominance.

"We see Ferrari as our main threat and it remains to be seen how we position ourselves in the weeks to come," Mercedes technical director Paddy Lowe told Sky Sports.

"Ferrari are a very strong competitor and one we worry about. It keeps us motivated to keep us pushing all the time." Sport24

Fraser secures Malaysian win

LONDON - Marcus Fraser took advantage of Soomin Lee's dramatic late collapse to clinch the inaugural Maybank Championship Malaysia for his first win in almost six years.

Lee led by two approaching the final three holes at Royal Selangor Golf Club in Kuala Lumpur but the South Korean double-bogeyed at the 16th and 18th.

That allowed Fraser to steal in and take the title with a flawless three under par 68 giving him a two-shot victory.

It is the Australian's third European Tour triumph and his first since lifting the Ballantine's Championship in April 2010, with the 37-year-old revealing he was spurred on to go all the way by his children.

He told the European Tour's official website: 'It's unbelievable, six years since my last one. My kids keep saying to me every time I walk out the door, 'dad, can you bring home a trophy?' And I say, 'I'll try, I'll try'.

'This time I get to take one home and they can take it to school for show and tell, which is going to be pretty cool.

DailyMail

Warriors bounce back

to defeat Clippers

LONDON - Reigning NBA champion

Golden State bounced back from los-

ing for only the fifth time this season

on Saturday over the Los Angeles

for an emotional 115-112 road victory

Klay Thompson scored 32 points while

Stephen Curry added 23 points and nine

assists, and Draymond Green contributed

18 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists to

lead the Warriors, who own the NBA's

Mo Farah secures first victory of the year

LONDON - Mo Farah's legs were bloody but his pride, bruised after an unexpected defeat in the Edinburgh Cross Country last month, was restored after a first victory of the season.

The 32-year-old ensconced in a minutely managed training regime may not know what day it is most of the time by his own admission, but he recognises the significance of getting back to winning ways in Olympic year. Farah held off the challenge of Kenya's Augustine Choge to win the 3 000m at the Glasgow Indoor Grand Prix in 7:39.55, suffering cuts to his shins in the process but banished the scars of his last visit to Scotland.

'I go to sleep at night, and think about it,' he said. 'What happened, what could I have done? You ask yourself a lot of questions and I did that after Edinburgh, it really hurt. But everything is



VICTORIOUS: Mo Farah celebrates after his victory at the 3,000m event at the Glasgow Indoor Grand Prix. (AP)

geared towards Rio. Along the way we have a lot of races but the important thing is what happens in August. That's what really matters,' Farah will return to his home in Portland, USA before tackling the World Half Marathon in Cardiff in March. He will skip the World Indoor

Championships held in his adopted city the same week but Great Britain are likely to feature prominently in the women's long jump where both Lorraine Ugen and World Championships silver medallist Shara Proctor expect to be vying for medals.

Dailymail

best record at 49-5.

The Warriors are chasing the all-time best record in league history, the 72-10 mark of the 1995-96 Chicago Bulls.

Clippers.

A night after losing 137-105 at Portland, the worst blowout defeat by a defending champion in nearly a decade, the Warriors had 32 assists and only 14 turnovers. At Portland they had 20 turnovers, 13 in the third quarter alone.

"The electricity in this building got us up," Thompson said. "We didn't have 13 in one quarter. The 30 assists, that's crazy. It's a testament to how unselfish we are." *Supersport*



ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



Van Gaal's exit talk of Man United dressing room

LONDON - Louis van Gaal's lame-duck tenure is now the talk of Manchester United's dressing room, with senior players keen to be given clarification over his future.

One dressing-room source said: 'The group are wondering what is next — they're even asking people around the club what is going to happen.'

Van Gaal has the biggest week of his turbulent reign ahead of him, with three huge games in seven days. He will give executive vice-chairman Ed Woodward no choice but to sack him if they suffer more embarrassing defeats before the month is out.

Constant noise about the Dutchman's prospects has unsettled his squad and they have been left wondering how long he will

remain in charge. Jose Mourinho has always wanted the job and is ready to answer the call when a firm proposal arises.

Inter Milan have also been linked with the Portuguese but on Saturday the sister of the club's former president Massimo Moratti let the cat out of the bag on Mourinho's future. Asked at a lunch whether Inter missed their former manager, Bedy Moratti replied: 'He's missed as a person, but right now he's happy,

> UNDER PRESSURE: Louis van Gaal.

he's going to Manchester.'

An early exit in the FA Cup on Monday night at lowly League One Shrewsbury Town would ramp up the pressure on Van Gaal before they try to squeeze past minnows Midtjylland at Old Trafford in the Europa League on Thursday.

United supporters were apoplectic over their Europa League defeat in Denmark last week and will vote with their feet for the return leg, the top tier of the Sir Alex Ferguson stand closed due to lack of demand.

Then comes a clash with old foes Arsenal a week yesterday - a loss would put another

nail in the coffin of

Champions League qualification.

Van Gaal's position would

be untenable if United go out of the FA Cup and Europa League this week against seemingly inferior

> argue his performance has been inferior since a run of eight matches without a win in

opposition. Fans

December.
Woodward
stuck by his man
then, even after a
swell of pressure
from inside the
club. *Teamtalk*

(3)

MSUNG

Man Utd told to consider Giggs/ Mourinho alternatives

LONDON - Manchester United should consider candidates other than Ryan Giggs and Jose Mourinho to replace Louis van Gaal, says Daily Telegraph journalist Matt Law.

There are conflicting reports in yesterday's newspapers regarding United's plan for their next manager, but Law finds it strange that their choice seems to be between only two men.

"It surprises me slightly that it seems to be Mourinho or Giggs," Law told Sunday Supplement on Sky Sports.

"[Diego] Simeone has a release contract at Atletico Madrid, I think they had a look at him before Van Gaal. I can't quite understand why he hasn't come into the picture.

"[Massimiliano] Allegri at Juventus is doing a great job, I can't quite understand why everything is concentrated so much on [Giggs and Mourinho].

"For me, Manchester United used to be the club who could go out and look at all the top candidates and it says a lot that they didn't even feel they could go for [Pep] Guardiola because he was so far down the line for Man City.

"Traditionally, you'd have thought United would be right in there for Guardiola." Giggs 'not a popular choice' among fans Mourinho is an appointment that would likely split fans given his regular controversies while at Chelsea, but Martin Samuel of the Daily Mail pointed out that support for Giggs is also far from universal. *Teamtalk*





I won't quit if we don't qualify for Champions L'

LONDON - Chelsea midfieder Oscar has revealed he is more than happy to remain at the club and reckons fellow big names in the squad will follow suit.

Last season's Premier League winners, the Blues have desperately struggled to recapture that form languishing 12th in the table, and despite a level of stabili-

ty being restored under interim manager Guus Hiddink, there is a genuine concern that Champions League football will be missing

Champions League football will be missing from Stamford Bridge.

Prior to the crunch clash with French giants PSG, Eden Hazard candidly admitted he would find it difficult to say no should they want to sign

him, but despite that admission and the fear of player exodus - come the end of the season, Oscar has said revealed he fears no such reprisal.

"I'm very happy here and, in terms of the Champions League, our best chance of qualifying is to win it this season. So that is what we want to do and giving our all too to achieve it. But, even if that doesn't happen, I still want to stay as I imagine most of the other players will because Chelsea are a huge club, he told

"And whatever happens next season, we'll still be playing for the Premier League, FA Cup and Capital One Cup."
As Chelsea prepared for the visit of Manchester City

Cup clash, the Brazilian has admitted that there was interest from China and despite seeing fellow countryman Ramires make a £25million switch to the Far East last month, there was no desire to follow his lead.

Signing from Internacional in 2012, the 24-year-old has made a 178 appearances for the club, initially wearing the number 11 shirt.

However, he has since switched into the famous No8, donned by the club's all-time record goalscorer Frank Lampard and wants to honour it with the same grace as his predecessor.

"Of course that's something I want to achieve. When I arrived I took the No11 shirt from Didier Drogba, who is another historic player at the club.

"Now I wear the shirt Lampard used to wear and want to represent that number in a fitting way — by staying for a number of years and winning many trophies like he did."

in yesterday's FA Daily Mail

NOT LEAVING: Chelsea midfielder Oscar.

NDO RO BREAKS ACES' HEARTS

JOHANNESBURG - Two second half goals by substitute Tendai Ndoro broke the hearts of his former team Black Aces, as Orlando Pirates triumphed 3-1 in their Absa Premiership clash at Mbombela Stadium yester-

Thabo Rakhale opened the scoring in just the 4th minute with a fantastic volley from close range following good work by Thabo Matlaba on the right flank, from where he delivered a perfect cross to find Rakhale. But Aces got straight back into the fight when, in the 12th minute, Bryce Moon pulled a ball back from the goal line to find Collins Mbesuma who turned onto his left foot and let rip with ground shot that had the power to beat Brighton Mhlongo at his near post.Pirates could easily have been 2-1 ahead in the 22nd minute when Mpho Makola's dipping and curl-



ON POINT: Tendai Ndoro.

ing free kick rattled the crossbar with Shuaib Walters well beaten. More good work from goal scorer Rakhale was to follow in the 33rd minute when he did ever so well to chip a pass to Issa Sarr who was in a scoring position, only to be put off by a defender and send his shot wide of target.

Just a minute later and Pirates striker Lehlohonolo Majoro lacked the confidence to take a first time shot when he received a precision pass into a good area. He took a touch and tried to curl

a shot into the corner, but he had already taken too long to execute. Pirates carved open the Aces defence on the stroke of halftime and the ball spread out wide to Gift Motupa on the right hand side of the 18 area, but he flashed his shot across the face of goal from a good scoring position.

Makola had the first chance of the second half when Majoro found him with a square pass, but somehow Makola totally fluffed his shot with his left foot.

Supersport



PUBLIC NOTICE

RE: PROPOSED MNYANGOMBILI SUGARCANE DEVELOPMENT, POTABLE WATER SUPPLY AND CONSTRUCTION OF TEACHER'S HOUSE AT TSAMBONKHULU PRIMARY SCHOOL

A public notice is hereby published in terms of section 52 of the Environmental Management Act, 2002. Mnyangombili Farmers Limited has prepared an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment report and formulated a Comprehensive Mitigation Plan for the Development of 400ha of Irrigated Sugarcane, Potable Water and Construction of a Teacher's House at Tsambonkulu Primary School.

The purpose of the study was to identify environmental impacts that are likely to emerge as a result of the proposed development so that measures are taken to mitigate negative environmental impacts and enhance positive ones. Copies of these reports are available in the following places:

- 1. Swaziland Environmental Authority offices -- RHUS Office Park, Mbabane
- 2. Simunye Country Club
- 3. Simunye National Library
- 4. Mhlume Country Club
- 5. Mhlume National Library
- 6. Tsambonkulu Primary School
- 7. Tsambonkulu Clinic
- 8. Lomahasha Inkhundla

Interested and Affected parties are requested to submit comments and/or objections as per the Environmental Audit, Assessment and Review Regulations, 2000. Written Submissions should be directed to the Director, Swaziland Environment Authority, P. O. Box 2602, Mbabane. Fax: 2404 1719

The deadline for submission of comments is 24th March 2016* 20 days from last week of publication of notice.

Cosmos lose eighth away game in a row

JOHANNESBURG -Jomo Cosmos suffered an eighth successive away defeat in the Absa Premiership when they were beaten 1-0 by Platinum Stars at Moruleng Stadium yesterday afternoon.

Mduduzi Nyanda scored the only goal of the game early on, taking Dikwena to a fourth win from a run of six unbeaten league matches, though they remain in fifth place on the log standings. Ezenkosi also maintain their position of 14th, but will be disappointed at missing out on the chance to put further distance between themselves and the relega-

tion zone. Stars claimed the lead in the ninth minute with their first notable attack: Solomon Mathe set up Mduduzi Nyanda, who beat Sherwyn Naicker with a right-footed effort to put the home side into the ascendancy. Cosmos looked for a quick reply through Charlton Mashumba, who had a couple of shots on target within the next 10 minutes, but on both occasions Stars goalkeeper Mbongeni Mzimela was well placed to make a save. The remainder of the half saw the teams effectively cancel each other out, with few chances at either end to alter the score line.

The start of the second half brought a change from each side, with Stars bringing on Robert Ng'ambi to give them more fluency in attack, while Cosmos introduced Conrad Madolo for similar reasons.

The visitors had the first chances of the second stanza, with Linda Mntambo shooting wide in the 52nd minute, while Mxolisi Machupu was denied by Mzimela a short while later. On 75 minutes Mzimela was in action again, keeping out an effort from Frederick Nsabiyumva as Cosmos continued to press for an equaliser.

Kickoff



FOOD GROUP

Swaziland Fruit Canners (Pty) Limited

Seize the opportunity to become part of an innovative internationally recognised company within the food industry!

INTERNAL/ EXTERNAL ADVERT

VACANCIES

PRODUCTION MANAGER: FRUITCUP

Swaziland Fruit Canners a subsidiary of the internationally recognised Rhodes Food Group is looking for a dynamic and proactive individual to fill the position of Production Manager - Fruitcup.

Reporting to the General Manager- (Factory Section), the main responsibilities for this position include the following:

- Meeting planned production targets by drawing a weekly production plan in consultation with the Supply Chain Department to ensure efficient production mix of products
- Ensure that production efficiencies and throughputs are met.
- $Provide \, updated \, and \, approved \, fruit cup \, production \, procedures \, and \, guidelines \, on \, efficient \, production \, of \, safe \, and \, \, quality \, and \, safe \, and \, \, quality \, and \, safe \,$
- Responsible for developing and managing the fruitcup plant's annual budget.
- $Ensure that Good \, Manufacturing \, Practices \, are \, maintained \, in \, the \, plant \, and \, ensure \, compliance \, with \, recognized \, and \, plant \, and \, ensure \, compliance \, with \, recognized \, and \, plant \, a$
- Ensure compliance with lean manufacturing standards.
- Implement the company's health and safety program in the plant by ensuring compliance with the Safety and policy and the prevailing health and safety legislation.
- Responsible for developing induction and training programs, coaching and mentoring plus managing the performance of fruitcup employees.

Knowledge and experience

- A high level of numeracy, analytical and computer skills (Word / Excel).
- Excellent people management, communication and interpersonal skills
- Working knowledge of Food Safety and Quality Management System. Analytical decision making and excellent problem solving skills

- Degree in Food Science or equivalent
- Must have 5 years management experience in a FMCG industry

Interested candidates should forward applications with complete up to date curriculum vitaes plus certified copies of their academic qualifications to The Human Resources Manager P.O. Box 77 Malkerns or email

HEAVY PLANT MECHANIC (FARM SECTION)

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the above mentioned position reporting directly to the Garage

The main responsibilities for this position include the following:

- Fixing Maintaining and repairing vehicles, tractors, trailer and implements including auto electrical components
- Performing scheduled Services and recommending tractor, cars and trucks requiring repairs from dealers fortnightly checks on tractors, trailers and implements for possible leaks, lights and conducting scheduled services on tractors.
- Repair electrical system on tractor and trailers.
- Trace and repair faulty electrical on tractors, trailers and trucks.
- Welding and Brazing when necessary

- Must pay attention to detail, and have an ability to work under pressure with minimal supervision.
- Must be results oriented and focused on productivity
- Must have excellent Communication skills

The ideal candidate must have the following:

- · Heavy Plant Mechanic Grade 1 Auto Electrical qualification
- Interested candidates should forward applications with complete up to date curriculum vitaes plus certified copies of their academic qualifications to The Human Resources Manager P.O. Box 77 Malkerns or email

NB: ONLY SHORT LISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE CONTACTED

(sibandzem2@rhodesfoodgroup.com) not later than the 26th February 2016.

LOGS

Absa Premiership							
Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Mamelodi Sundowns	20	14	4	2	37	14	46
Bidvest Wits	20	12	3	5	34	18	39
Kaizer Chiefs	20	10	8	2	30	16	38
Black Aces	20	10	6	4	26	17	36
Platinum Stars	19	9	7	3	28	19	34
Chippa United	20	10	1	9	29	29	31
Orlando Pirates	20	7	5	8	24	22	26
Ajax Cape Town	19	7	5	7	28	27	26
Golden Arrows	19	7	4	8	18	21	25
Free State Stars	20	7	4	9	21	28	25
SuperSport United	20	6	6	8	20	26	24
Bloem Celtic	20	5	7	8	16	18	22
Polokwane City	20	6	3	11	22	33	21
Jomo Cosmos	20	4	5	11	13	23	17
University of Pretoria	20	3	4	13	11	28	13
Maritzburg Utd	19	2	6	11	21	39	12

English Barclays Premier League

(Cairi	-	AA	U	-	GF	GA	PIS	
Leicester City	26	15	8	3	48	29	53	
Tottenham Hotspur	26	14	9	3	47	20	51	
Arsenal	26	15	6	5	41	23	51	
Manchester City	26	14	5	7	48	28	47	
Manchester United	26	11	8	7	33	24	41	
Southampton	26	11	7	8	34	24	40	
West Ham United	26	10	10	6	40	31	40	
Liverpool	26	10	8	8	38	36	38	
Watford	26	10	6	10	29	28	36	
Stoke City	26	10	6	10	27	32	36	
Everton	26	8	11	7	46	35	35	
Chelsea	26	8	9	9	38	36	33	
Crystal Palace	26	9	5	12	27	32	32	
West Bromwich Albion	26	8	8	10	24	32	32	
Bournemouth	26	7	7	12	30	44	28	
Swansea City	26	6	9	11	24	34	27	
Norwich City	26	6	6	14	30	50	24	
Newcastle United	26	6	6	14	27	49	24	
Sunderland	26	6	5	15	32	50	23	
Aston Villa	26	3	7	16	20	46	16	

Spanish La Liga

	Barcelona	25	20	3	2	67	20	63	
	Atletico de Madrid	24	17	3	4	35	11	54	
	Real Madrid	24	16	5	3	70	23	53	
	Villarreal	24	14	6	4	30	18	48	
	Sevilla	25	11	8	6	36	26	41	
	Celta de Vigo	25	11	5	9	38	44	38	
	Eibar	25	10	6	9	40	34	36	
	Athletic Club	24	10	5	9	35	34	35	
	Deportivo de La Coruna	25	6	14	5	33	31	32	
	Real Sociedad	24	8	6	10	34	34	30	
	Malaga	24	8	6	10	21	21	30	
-	Valencia CF	24	6	10	8	28	25	28	
-	Real Betis	25	6	9	10	19	34	27	
	Getafe	25	7	5	13	26	39	26	
	Rayo Vallecano	25	6	7	12	34	51	25	
	Espanyol	25	7	4	14	22	48	25	
	Sporting de Gijon	25	6	6	13	28	42	24	
	Las Palmas	25	5	6	14	24	40	21	
	Levante	25	5	5	15	24	45	20	
	Granada CF	24	5	5	14	25	49	20	

P W D L GF GA Pts

Italian Serie A							
Team	P	W	1 0	L	GF	G/	A PI
Juventus	26	3 18	3 4	4	46	15	58
Napoli	25	5 17	5	3	53	20	56
Fiorentina	25	15	4	6	44	24	49
Internazionale	26	14	6	6	34	23	48
Roma	25	13	8	4	47	27	47
Milan	25	12	7	6	37	27	
Lazio	25	10	6	9	34	34	36
Sassuolo	25	8	11	6	29	E7.58	35
Empoli	25	9	7	9	30	34	23
Bologna	26	10	4	12	29	31	34
Torino	25	8	7	10	33	33	31
Chievo	26	8	7	11	31	36	31
Atalanta	25	7	8	10	23	27	29
Udinese	25	7	6	12	21	38	27
	25	7	5	13	27	42	
Palermo	25	6	7	12	25	30	25
Genoa	26	6	7	13	37	46	25
ampdoria	25	6	4	15	26	51	22
rosinone	25	4	7	14	23	43	19
ami							

MESSI, NEYMAR STAYING AT BARCELONA - BARTOMEU

BARCELONA - Barcelona president Josep Maria Bartomeu has no concerns that star players could be tempted away from Camp Nou by the riches of Manchester City or neighbours Manchester United.

With Pep Guardiola set to take charge of the Premier League club at the end of the season, speculation has mounted that he could look to raid his former club as part of a squad overhaul.

Linked

Lionel Messi has been linked with a sensational move to the Etihad Stadium, as has team-mate Neymar, who is also a rumoured target for neighbours Manchester United

Yet Bartomeu is adamant



STAYING PUT: Barcelona duo, Messi and Neymar. (AP)

Barca will keep their best players and insists the lure of money alone will not be enough to see them move.

"We know Messi could earn more money in other teams, or Neymar, Busquets, Gerard Pique or Luis Suarez," he told The Daily Mail.

"Neymar, for example, when he came to Barcelona, had better offers from other teams. *Daily Mail*

Clean sheet boosts PSV ahead of UCL tie

MADRID - A third successive clean sheet proved the high point of Saturday's win in the Dutch league for PSV Eindhoven coach Philip Cocu as his team prepare to host Atletico Madrid in the Champions League on Wednesday.

PSV extended their lead at the top of the domestic standings by beating Heracles Almelo 2-0 in a performance that pleased Cocu as he looked ahead to the first leg of the Champions League last 16 clash."I thought we were defensively a lot stronger. The last line and the midfield worked well together and the players put in a lot of work," he told reporters after Saturday's win.

"We were never in any trouble and I thought in the first half we played together a superb match. We controlled the second half too. It was just a pity we did not convert all our chances.

"On Wednesday we'll need to bring the same work and intensity. We gave Heracles too much space in the second half and made the field too big. We can't do that on Wednesday because Atletico are deadly on the counter attack. Supersport

Results

Saturday Absa Premiership

Kaizer Chiefs 2 - 1 SuperSport United Mamelodi Sundowns 0 - 0 Golden Arrows Chippa United 2 - 0 Free State Stars Polokwane City 2 - 3 Ajax Cape Town

English FA Cup

Bournemouth 0 - 2 Everton
Watford 1 - 0 Leeds United
Reading 3 - 1 West Bromwich
Albion
Arsenal 0 - 0 Hull City

German Bundesliga

Hertha BSC 1 - 1 VfL Wolfsburg
FC Ingolstadt 04 2 - 0 SV Werder
Bremen
TSG 1899 Hoffenheim3 - 2 1. FSV Mainz 05
Borussia Monchengladbach 1 - 0 1. FC
Koln
FC Bayern Munchen 3 - 1 SV Darmstadt 98

Italian Serie A

Internazionale 3 - 1 Sampdoria Verona 3 - 1 Chievo

National First Division

Black Leopards 0 - 1 Witbank Spurs
FC Cape Town 0 - 0 Thanda Royal Zulu
FC
African Warriors 4 - 1 Moroka Swallows
Cape Town All Stars 0 - 4 Baroka FC
Highlands Park 2 - 0 Vasco Da Gama

Spanish La Liga
Celta de Vigo 3 - 2 Eibar
Balaidos
Real Betis 1 - 1 Sporting de Gijon
Espanyol 1 - 0 Deportivo de La
Coruna
Las Palmas 1 - 2 Barcelona

Injuries no excuse for Carrick

MANCHESTER -

Manchester United midfielder Michael Carrick has rejected suggestions the club's lengthy injury list can be used as an excuse for failure in their FA Cup fifth round visit to thirdtier Shrewsbury Town today.

Beleaguered manager Louis van Gaal has frequently blamed the club's injury woes for an unsatisfactory campaign which has seen his own future at Old Trafford brought sharply into question.

Thursday's Europa League defeat at Danish side Midtjylland was seen by many as the low point of the season for United and more embarrassment will await at the struggling Shrews in the FA Cup should United fail again.

But veteran England midfielder Carrick has insisted his colleagues cannot use fitness problems as an excuse and must reward United's loyal fans with wins.

"Injuries are part of the game — it's something that's not ideal as we obviously



INJURY PRONE: Micheal Carrick has been out due to injuries for United this season. (AP)

want everyone fit, but we can't make any excuses and put the Midtjylland result down to that," said Carrick.

"We have to pick ourselves up and go again today there's no other way.

"I think Monday's a different game but we need to be so much better than we were on Thursday night. We know what to expect but it's going to be tough and Thursday's game proves that if you're not at your best then you can

slip up, so we need to be ready for that.

"If we're at our best, we should win the game. But it's not as easy as that, as we showed on Thursday."

Carrick added: "The supporters have been incredible and we haven't given them an awful lot to shout about. They always stand by us and support us unbelievably well, coming out in their numbers once again in Denmark.

Daily Mail

Ibrahimovic on fire for PSG

PARIS - Zlatan Ibrahimovic played chief tormentor when he scored two goals and set up the others in Paris St Germain's 4-1 home victory over Stade de Reims in Ligue 1 on Saturday.

The result put the capital side on 73 points from 27 games, 24 ahead of second-placed Monaco who won 3-1 at home to Troyes thanks to two goals by Guido Carrillo and one from Kylian Mbappe Lottin.

"After a good game against Chelsea it would have been disappointing not to play well tonight," midfielder Adrien Rabiot told Canal Plus after PSG extended their unbeaten run in the league to 36 games.

Ibrahimovic, who also scored in PSG's 2-1 win against Chelsea in their Champions League last-16 first leg last Tuesday, played Gregory van der Wiel through for the first goal in the 12th minute.

Reims levelled in the 34th minute, Prince Oniangue heading home from Nicolas de Preville's free kick as keeper Kevin Trapp made a huge blunder going for the ball.

PSG restored order in the 43rd when Ibrahimovic beat Cedric Carrasso from close range after being set up by Lucas who had just torn apart the visitors' defence with one of his trademark speedy runs.

On the stroke of halftime, the Swede flicked then ball into the path of Edinson Cavani who slotted it past Carrasso for his second goal of the week. *Goal.com*

Tello inspired Viola add to Orobici woes

MILAN - Fiorentina defeated Atalanta 3-2 at the Stadio Atleti Azzurri d'Italia yesterday afternoon.

Goals from Matias Fernandez, Cristian Tello and Nikola Kalinic saw Fiorentina continue their unbeaten streak against the Orobici, who remain without a win in 11 games, as a late strikes from Andrea Conti and Mauricio Pinilla were not enough to ensure a comeback for the hosts.

La Dea started the match full of confidence, passing the ball around swiftly and keeping hold of possession, though their brave start was almost undone in the ninth minute by Fiorentina stalwart Manuel Pasqual. Having been gifted a direct freekick from a tight angle, the Italian chose to fire a powerful shot towards the near post, though luckily for the Atalanta faithful goalkeeper Marco Sportiello was on hand to produce a fine dive and parry the ball away. Boukary Drame and Alejandro Gomez then spurned two clear chances at goal. Drame was left free at the back post yet headed into the outstretched body of Ciprian Tatarusanu, before the speedy



MUCH NEEDED VICTORY: Fiorentina players celebrate one of their goals. (AP)

Argentine threw him self at ground upon receiving a cross from Marco D'Alessandro, instead of attempting to beat the Romanian keeper.

With neither side able to break the deadlock, tempers began to boil as early as the 15th minute, with Mauricio Pinilla and Khouma Babacar both picking up yellow cards for dissent prior to Drame hacking down Cristian Tello for the third yellow in under 60 seconds.

The remainder of the first half tailed off as both teams knocked the ball around the pitch, however, the action finally picked up after half time following the introduction of Nikola Kalinic.

Brought in on the hour mark, Kalinic's substitution had an immediate impact for the visitors, as he smartly laid off balls for team-mates and allowed more space for Tello on the right wing. *Goal.com*

Paco Jemez rescues a point for Rayo

MADRID - The rayista technician made two quick changes in the first half with 0-2 that changed the course of the duel It seemed the day indicated for the first victory of Sevilla away from home when 20 minutes dominated the score 0-2 before a fully Rayo KO.

Had even the third and sentence, with shots of Iborra and Gameiro to the sticks. But Jémez gambled everything on ultraofensivos with some changes and ended up scraping a deserved draw against Sevilla set the weight at Thursday's game prevented him for victory in the second half, exhausted.

As is standard in Vallecas, Ray began with the initiative in the match but was otherwise harmless possession as they were unable to enter the very solid defense of Sevilla. Emery were very quiet and Jemez began to get nervous after a couple of unforced errors in defense that were about to reap the hispalenses front. It seemed that the plan Emery was wait for the Lightning to stick a shot in the foot to use it and under what is seen in the first few minutes, it was not a crazy plan.

And the defense of Rayo turned to show how the Achilles heel of

the team. Probably none of the two goals conceded in the first half was a defensive mistake per se, but a sign of lack of skill and fang of rayista behind, as both goals came from fumbles in your area that came with more ambition, intensity and playfulness Hispalenses.

That was the 0-1 on a corner taken by Krohn-Dehli that would top all alone Kevin Gameiro. Juan Carlos pulled a good hand but the ball tossed small area was pushed to the network N'Zonzi, who went all out to put the 0-1 on the scoreboard. If they were already tranquilisimos Sevilla players in the game, the more they were with the 0-1 that put the meeting where they wanted. From the goal, Emery clearly dominated the match and the second goal was only a matter of time.

In a play with similarities to 0-1, another dead ball in the area, also rejected by Juan Carlos, this time to throw Vitolo, Iborra was riveted by returning ahead of the innocent defense of Madrid.

With the game lost, Emery burned the ships getting Manucho and Embarba by Baena, and Nacho, midfield and defense.

Goal.com

'Chiefs have realised they cannot afford to lose Yeye'

JOHANNESBURG - Former Kaizer Chiefs midfielder Linda Buthelezi is happy that the club has come to their senses by offering Reneilwe Letsholonyane a new contract.

Football manager Bobby Motaung confirmed this weekend that they were confident of keeping Letsholonyane having agreed terms with him.

"Listen, I am a happy man [that Yeye has agree terms with Chiefs]. We should start there because he really deserves a new contract. I think they have realised that losing Reneilwe Letsholonyane would be a big loss of an asset for the next five years," Buthelezi told Goal.

"He has always been a pillar of that team when it comes to the transition and when the team is defending. Every goal that has been scored for the last three years, Yeye always contributed to that movement.



ASSET: Reneilwe Letsholonyane.

"He is a team player, you can't lose a player like that. He is level-headed, humble," Buthelezi said.

Buthelezi feels Yeye is way too good to be let go by Amakhosi due to ability to create goalscoring chances for his teammates.

"You don't lose somebody who is very genius in terms of pick-pointing the space making sure that everybody is involved in the creating of goals that's what Chiefs need. *Goal.com*

Hammers reach FA Cup quarterfinals

OVER THE MOON: West Ham manager Slaven Bilic

(right) is all smiles as Dimitri Payet runs over to cel-

LONDON - West Ham United eased into the quarterfinals of the FA Cup with a 5-1 romp at second-tier Blackburn Rovers yesterday.

ebrate with him. (AP)

The Londoners were given an early jolt when Ben Marshall's low shot put Rovers ahead but they responded in emphatic fashion with goals from Victor Moses and Dimitri Payet before halftime and a brace from Emmanuel Emenike and another classy Payet effort after the break.

Nigerian Emenike could have claimed a hat-trick late

on when he slammed a shot against the post after some nifty footwork.

Closing

Both sides ended with 10 men with Blackburn losing Chris Taylor for a second yellow card after a trip on Moses and the Hammers having to do without Cheikhou Kouyate for the closing stages after he was shown a straight red for tripping Adam Henley. Later yesterday Chelsea host Manchester City while Tottenham Hotspur take on Crystal Palace.

supersport

Maritzburg secure much-needed win against Celtic

JOHANNESBURG - Pagiso Sanoka scored the only goal of the game to hand Maritzburg United a much-needed 1-0 win over Bloemfontein Celtic.

Celtic nearly opened the scoring after seven minutes when Lerato Lamola cut the ball back for Lyle Lakay, who fired straight at Glen Verbauwhede from 12-yards out. The home side had another chance three minutes later, as Thapelo Morena showed great

space to get the byline, before picking out Fiston Abdul Razak, who forced Verbauwhede into a fine save. Maritzburg should have went ahead in the 18th minute, as Philani Zulu broke through on goal but ended up dragging his effort inches wide of the upright.

That proved to be the last bit of goal-mouth action in the opening 45 minutes, despite it being a lively encounter. Celtic got off to a better start in the second half and should

have taken the lead in the 49th minute but Musa Nyatama blazed over from 12-yards out.

After a quiet spell in the half, Maritzburg broke the deadlock in the 73rd minute, as Pagiso Sanoka rose well to head home Kurt Lentjies' free-kick.

Serame Letsoaka's charges pushed for a equaliser in the closing stages of the second half, but they struggled with the final ball. **SoccerLaduma**

SIDLALA KANJE...

PICTURES





MOVE: Mbabane Highlanders' Kingsley Makgatho negotiates to go past Papy Kabamba during their SwaziBank Cup match at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. Swallows won 1-0. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



CLEAR: Highlanders Vusimuzi Zungu clearing the ball away from Banele 'Pupu' Sikhondze.



SAVE: Swallows goalkeeper Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza making a brilliant save.



EXIT DOOR: Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza being red-carded by referee Mbongiseni Fakudze.



NOT TODAY: Mbabane Highlanders CEO Celucolo 'Dino' Dlamini and Mbabane Swallows CEO Sibusiso Manana in a showdown.



EISH: 'Landers substitutes reacting after their side missed a scoring opportunity.



NUMBER ONE: Swallows technical bench in discussions after their goalkeeper was shown red.



GWAZWA NKUNZI: Some Highlanders supporters in a sombre mood.



IT'S A GOAL: Mbabane Swallows' goal scored by Felix Badenhorst (not in the picture).





SIDLALA KANJE...

PICTURES





CHEST-TRAP: Felix Badenhorst chesttraping the ball while Sabelo Gamedze closes in.



ASAMBE: Njabulo Ndlovu attempts to go past Sabelo Gamedze.



TIGHT MARK: Lungelo Tsabedze being tackled by Papy Kabamba.



WE THANK YOU: Swallows officials and players waving to the crowd.



THROUGH: Swallows goalkeeper Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza, General Manager Sandile Zwane and other officials in jubilation after the referee blew the final



DEJECTED: Thousands of Mbabane Highlanders soc-



CAN'T PASS: Sanele Mkhweli marking Kingsley Makgatho.



BUT WHY?: Disappointed Highlanders supporters.



MAKE ONE LINE: A police officer controlling the soccer



JOB WELL DONE: Badenhorst being congratulated by his team-mates after scoring the team's lone and winning goal.



Female soccer fans in court for Malanti/Wanderers chaos

By Mbono Mdluli

SOCCER - IN yet another case of violence at Somhlolo National Stadium in a space of a week, three female fans yesterday appeared at Mbabane Magistrates' Court charged with causing mayhem on Saturday at the stadium.

Nonhlanhla Hadzebe (30) of Mbabane, Delly Tfwala (24) of Fairview in Manzini and Nonhlanhla Ndwandwe (28) of Lushikishini were charged with contravening Section 6 of the Public Disturbance Act 17 of 1963. The three women were accused of wrongfully, unlawfully and intentionally damaging chairs, windows



and gates. They were also accused of throwing missiles in the pitch while at the stadium.

However, there was uncertainty on whether the legislation was the right one to charge the three with.

This was after Principal Magistrate Fikile Nhlabatsi, stated that she had not come across the legislation. It remains to be seen whether the soccer fans will continue to be charged by this legislation

These three women, who are suspected to be Manzini Wanderers fans, are allegedly among the fans, who caused chaos on Saturday at the stadium. Malanti were leading 2-1 when the chaos started. The first goal of the game was scored by Malanti Chiefs through Thokozani Khanyile.

Matters

Manzini Wanderers levelled matters through Sifiso Matse in the 60th minute.

It was Malanti Chiefs' second goal from the penalty spot that sparked the violence in which the three fans are alleged to be involved.

Mcolisi Mkhontfo score with a

thunderbolt from the spot. It was then that Manzini Wanderers' fans started the violence as they were baying for the referee, Letticia Viana's blood.

The three fans were informed in court that they were at liberty to either represent themselves or get services of a lawyer.

They chose to conduct their own defence.

Wanted

The principal magistrates wanted to know why they committed the violent act at the stadium.

Hadzebe, who is the first accused person in the case, said she did not commit the violent acts she was accused of. She said she was only carrying beer bottles and was enjoying the alcoholic drinks on

She said maybe the police were mistaken for thinking that she was one of the people who were violent because she was extroverted in terms of behaviour.

Tfwala, who is the second accused person, said she was actually holding the gate as she was splashed with water from the water cannon.

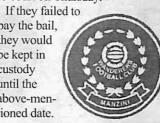
She said when she got into the kombi in which they were travelling, the police were looking for her and they spotted her because she was wet.

Ndwandwe, who is the third accused, said she was among the group of people who were holding the gate when the chaos erupted.

"There was a group of people, who were pushing and were eager to come out of the stadium and I held the gate to position myself," Ndwandwe said.

Nhlabatsi granted the three ladies bail fixed at E500 each. She told them that they would have to return to court on Thursday.

pay the bail, they would be kept in custody until the above-mentioned date.





HAPPY MAN: Zenzele 'Ace' Dlamini.

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER - SWAZ-**IBANK Cup defending** champions Moneni Pirates coach Mlamuli 'Sputla' Zwane has praised his players' showing despite being knocked out of the tournament.

The soft spoken mentor said this after watching the Buccaneers going down 0-1 to Red Lions during the last 16 tie played at Somhlolo National Stadium on Saturday.

Zwane said it was just not their day. "We did everything and created scoring chances which we failed to utilise.

The opposition punished us in the second half despite playing good football. We

now have to pick ourselves up and put our whole focus on the league," he said.

Meanwhile, his Red Lions counterpart Zenzele 'Ace' Dlamini attributed their hard fought win to his players' tactical discipline.

Able

"We were more organised today (Saturday) as my players were able to stick to the game plan. Ours was to

close them down on the flanks which they did very well and it really helped us to win the match.

"We will continue working hard in the next round of the tournament," he said.

A Mphumuti Ginindza second half penalty gave 'Amabhubesi' a ticket to the quater-final of 'Sidlala kanje' Cup.

Mamba Under-20 record first SwaziBank Cup win

By Sanele Jele

Sea Birds..... (0)2 Green Mamba..... (1)3

SOCCER - GREEN Mamba recorded their first win in the SwaziBank Cup Under-20 after beating Sea Birds 3-2 in a tightly contested game played at Somhlolo National Stadium on Saturday.

Menzi Dlamini opened the scorers chart for 'Inyok'eluhlazana' in the half hour mark after receiving a defence-splitting pass from

Lindokuhle Zikalala.

Dlamini made a solo run before unleashing a rasping shot to beat the advancing Sea Birds goalkeeper Sabelo Gamedze. Sea Birds tried to pile pressure to find an equaliser but Phila Mpama failed to convert after receiving a manna from heaven. He came one-onone with the goalkeeper Bafana

Sikhondze, but missed the target with the fans already celebrating.

The match went for a breather with Green Mamba leading 1-0. The second stanza started on a high with the Gcina 'Magiyane' Dlamini charges continuing where they left off.

They doubled matters through Fakani Dlamini, who nailed it from just outside the box, beat-

ing the goalkeeper hands down. Green Mamba substitute Linda Dlamini managed to finish a header from Bongumenzi Dlamini in the 81st minute to make it 3-1 for the green and white ensemble.

A minute later, Mhlengi Mngometulu benefitted from a rebound to give the coach David Simelane-led charges a consolation goal.

They continued to press hard in the dying minutes, but it was too late as the referee blew the whistle to mark the end of the game.

Manyatsi, Yende inspire 'Buffs' into SwaziBank Cup U-20 quarter-finals

By Sanele Jele

Young Buffaloes..... (0)2 Midas City..... (0)0

SOCCER-YOUNG Buffaloes top striker Likhwa Manyatsi and Paballo Yende inspired Young Buffaloes to

a 2-0 victory over Midas City

in the SwaziBank Cup Under-20 group stage match yesterday.

'Buffs' have now booked themselves a place in the quarterfinals of the tournament.

Likhwa Manyatsi, who came in as second half substitute scored the opener via a free header from Yende's high flying cross in the 55th minute.

Keeper Unity Malinga could do less to stop the shot. City tried to search for an equaliser but they were let

down by their poor finishing.

Bukhosi Mavuso had the chance to level matters for the Mbabane-based side in the 63rd minute but he fumbled the ball over the bar.

'Buffs' doubled their lead in the 73rd minute through the marvelous Paballo Yende, who received a through pass from

the skillful Ncamiso Gina before unleashing a ground shot past the goal keeper. Buffaloes were the better side as they created numerous scoring opportuni-

ties but failed to convert them. City failed to come

to the party in the second half.

'Buffs' duo of Ncamiso Gina and Paballo Yende were a marvel to watch as they spiced the match with their amazing skills, sending the over 1 000 fans into a frenzy.



COMMENDS: Royal Leopard coach Sifiso 'Nuro' Ntibane.

'Nuro' commends players' fighting spirit

By Sanele Jele

SOCCER - ROYAL Leopard coach Sifiso 'Nuro' Ntibane has commended his players for showing a good fighting spirit against CPL in their SwaziBank Cup last 16 match at Mayaluka Stadium on Saturday.

He made these remarks in a post match interview after seeing his side beat Lubombo Super League side CPL 3-0.

"This was a tough match, but my players continued to show good fighting spirit, which eventually saw us scoring the three goals. Our opposition managed to contain us in the first half, but in the second stanza they cracked."

'Nuro,' as the coach is affectionately known, also said experience came in handy for his side during the course of the game. "In the second half we proved that we were more experienced than the Super League side."

Upped

Ntibane said it was after they upped the tempo that CPL started to show scracks.

"Our main aim was to win this game without having to go into penalties and I am glad we managed to do that and we are now looking forward to the next

On the other hand, CPL coach Zakhele blamed their loss to lack of concentra-

"We played well in the first half, but then after the hour mark we were a shadow of ourselves. We could not make three successful passes and I don't know what went wrong with my players.

The lapse in concentration also let us down as the match stopped for over 10 minutes and that also had an effect on the tempo of the game. Otherwise, I am happy with the way my players performed." he added.

SIDLALA KANJE ...



SWAZIBANK MD COMMENDS FANS GOOD BEHAVIOUR

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER – SWAZIBANK
Managing Director Zakhele
Lukhele has commended soccer
fans for their good behaviour in the
'Sidlala kanje' derby between
Mbabane Swallows and Mbabane
Highlanders at the Somhlolo
National Stadium yesterday.

Lukhele said this after watching the 'Beautiful Birds' sneaking into the quarterfinals with a 1-0 win over the 'Black bull' in front of about 10 000 fans

"We commend the good behaviour witnes throughout the day by the two set of fans as we did not witness any scenes of violence. They even demonstrated high level of patience when the game was delayed due to the long queues and hope they continue behaving themselves throughout the tournament."

He further lauded the SwaziBank Cup Management Committee for managing to control the situation as the match started an hour later.

"It was really encouraging to see fans at their best behaviour. The MC also did a great job on the day."

The MD then hailed the two teams for displaying top shelf football throughout the exhilarating afternoon.

"Congratulations are in order to Mbabane Swallows for their hardfought win and we also hail Highlanders for giving their best throughout the match.

Both teams rewarded their respective supporters with their determination and fighting spirit throughout the match "



IMPRESSED: SwaziBank Managing Director Zakhele Lukhele.

Red card had effect on us - 'Samba Jive'

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCER - Mbabane Swallows skipper Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko confessed that the sending off of goalkeeper Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza had a negative impact on them.

Ginindza was shown a straight red after handling the ball outside the box deep in the second half and was replaced by Ntokozo Shabangu, whom Swallows signed from National First Division outfit Madlenya.

"The game plan changed after the red card and we ended up playing too deep and defending. Credit should go to the defence as they kept firm and we continue frustrating the opposition. We created plenty scoring chances especially in the first half but failed to score. Overall, I am satisfied with the performance and we will maintain the good run

SOCCER - GOALKEEPER

Ntokozo Shabangu was an

throughout the tournament. Praise should go to the whole team," he said.

Meanwhile, Mbabane Highlanders skipper Colani 'Chocco' Sibandze expressed his bitterness over the loss and said his team missed a lot of scoring chances.

His face betrayed him as sadness was written all over it even though he tried to be cool.

"We learnt a lot from this game and one thing in particular is our finishing, it was poor and we have to put more attention to it. We came prepared and fought hard as a team but it was not our day. Now that we out of the tournament, the focus will be on the league," he said.

Both captains did something that we rarely get to see as they advocated for harmony, addressing their supporters and telling them to accept any result just before the start of the game yesterday.

My boys played like true champions- 'Koki'

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCER - MBABANE Swallows coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati believes his charges played like champions during the derby at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

Interview after his side recorded a 1-0 victory against Highlanders in a SwaziBank Cup last 16 encounter, the coach said he was happy with the performance displayed by his boys during the game. "This being a derby, we had anticipated that even the opposition would rise to

the occasion but my boys played like true champions and we were very professional. We managed to score first and thereafter played our game. We were not looking for an avalanche of goals considering this was a derby. The coach, however, noted that his side missed a lot of chances during the games. Asked on the red card awarded to goal-keeper Nkomishi Ginindza and being denied what seemed to be a penalty in the first half of the game, the obviously excited coach said these were unfortunate incidents.

"Mbongiseni Fakudze is one of the best referees in the country especially when it comes to game management. It did seem like a penalty and the ball that caused 'Nkomishi' the red card also seemed to be an offside ball to me. I can, however, not say much on this because it is the referee, who has the last call," he said. The coach also said he was happy for substitute goalkeeper Ntokozo Shabangu, whom he said did a great job at the poles."This boy is a hard worker. I have been telling him that his time would come and luckily for him it came at a big stage. This will definitely boost his confidence," he

instant hero yesterday after coming on for Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza, who was shown the straight red card. The youngster made cutting edge saves that rescued his team and drove them to the next stage

of the SwaziBank Cup tournament.

The former National First
Division side Madlenya goalkeeper gave all the credit to his teammate and mentor Nkomishi,

"Since my arrival at Swallows, 'Nkomishi' has been good to me. He is an experienced goal-

whom he said he was learning

keeper and has been sharing his experience with me. I look up to him and will keep learning from him," he said. The player said he was a little nervous after getting on to the field given the magnitude of the game yesterday but said he soon gained confidence and stood firm between the poles.

"I would like to thank the management of the team, the technical bench, my teammates and the supporters for all the support and I will work hard to cement my place in the team. Highlanders are a big team and getting a slot in a big game like this was such a blessing" he

...We failed to score goals - Mwase

MBABANE Highlanders Coach Meck Mwase believes there was no way his team could win as they failed to score against Mbabane Swallows.

In a post match interview with the coach after his side was booted out of the SwaziBank Cup, he said he was very sad with the outcome of

he game

"If one cannot score then you cannot win. My boys lacked aggression upfront and that cost us the game. We also couldn't execute our game plan which was to score first and then defend despite creating some chances," he said.

The coach said they would now

shift focus to the league, where they are competing for honours.

"The league is the only tournament left for us now.

We just need to prepare hard for the game.

Yes we will be playing Swallows again after one game and we need to prepare well," he said.





MIXED EMO-TIONS: The City giants coaches Meck Mwase and Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati both expressed their feelings on the derby.

Over E200 000 collected in 'Sidlala kanje' derby

Ntokozo gives 'Nkomishi' all the credit

By Sibusiso Masilela

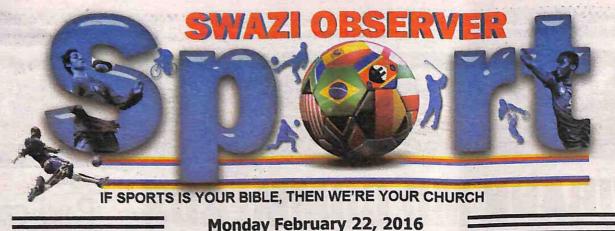
SOCCER – A total of E252
854 was collected during the
SwaziBank Cup last 16
derby between Mbabane
Swallows and Mbabane
Highlanders at the Somhlolo
National Stadium yesterday.
Each team took home E86 168
after deductions as a capacity
crowd of over 10 000 football
fans witnessed the biggest
match in the calendar of local
football.

The tournament's Management Committee Chairman Johannes 'Ace' Siboza confirmed figures and thanked the fans, who came in their to watch the match.

"We would like to thank the dignitaries and the football officials for coming to support the tournament. We further commend the good behaviour from the fans as they were well behaved throughout the match despite the magnitude of the match." He, however, said some fans used illegal entry points. "Some fans used illegal entry to the venue and we hope they will desist from this unprofessional action in future by arriving on time at the stadium." The 'Sidlala Kanje' Mbabane derby ended up starting an hour later than the initial 3pm kick-off time due to long queues as the fans were still flocking in.

WORLD RESULTS

ABSA PREMIERSHIP		
Platinum Stars	1-0	Jomo Cosmos
Bloem Celtic	0-1	Maritzburg Utd
Black Aces	1-3	Orlando Pirates
ENGLISH FA CUP		
Chelsea	5-1	Manchester City
Tottenham Hotspur	0-1	Crystal Palace
Blackburn Rovers	1-5	West Ham United
SPANISH LA LIGA		
Malaga	1-1	Real Madrid
Rayo Vallecano	2-2	Sevilla



adlale kanje:

-Badenhorst's goal sends 'Landers packing in 'Sidlala Kanje' derby



By Qondile Ntiwane

Swallows..... (1)1 Highlanders.....(0)0

SOCCER - WITH the menacing Highlanders MD Bheki 'Rubber' Simelane and the marauding Swallows boss Victor 'Maradona' Gamedze, judging from their faces as they arrived at the VIP, one could easily tell that this was not your usual match.

It was more than booking a place to the quarter-finals of the SwaziBank Cup, but it had everything to do with pride and claiming the bragging

After missing a number of glorious opportunities, denied what seemed to be a genuine penalty, had their first choice goalkeeper sent off the field, Mbabane Swallows emerged the winners in the end.

Revenge

The red and white ensemble recorded what is said to be a champions' score against rivals Mbabane Highlanders after beating them 1-0 in the much anticipated derby in the last 16 of the SwaziBank Cup at the Somhlolo National Stadium yester-



JOB WELL DONE: Felix Badenhorst being congratulated by his team-mates after scoring the team's lone and winning goal.

This was sweet revenge for the 'Beautiful Birds' after losing to Highlanders in their first meeting in this tournament about seven years ago in which they beat them 3-2 in the semifinals at the very same stadi-

Swallows scored through lanky

midfielder Felix 'Fela' Badenhorst 38 minutes into the game after connecting a brilliant pass from defender Sifiso Mabila.

Control

One could have mistaken the goal by the midfielder as a pass as he simply controlled the pass from the defender, before letting a soft shot

past the advancing Highlanders goalkeeper Sidumo Vilakati.

The derby, witnessed by close to 10 000 football fanatics, lived up to expectation as both teams rose to the occasion and displayed rather interesting football. Highlanders got a chance to score as early as the third minute, but were unfortunate as a shot by Patrick Meso bounced off the cross bar despite Swallows keeper Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza being nowhere near the poles. Swallows suffered the same fate a minute later when a shot by striker Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa also hit the cross bar before the ball was cleared away by the Highlanders defence. Swallows midfielder Njabulo 'D4D' Ndlovu was unfortunate when his shot resulting from a Badenhorst cross missed the target in the 16th minute

Penalty

Swallows could have been punished two minutes later, but Highlanders captain Xolani 'Chocco' Sibandze failed to just tap inside the net a right flank cross by Meso.

Referee Mbongiseni Fakudze, who seemed not have a good day in office, denied Mbabane Swallows what seemed to be a penalty in the

25th minute, but instead called for a corner kick. This was after Highlanders goalkeeper tackled Sikhali inside the box. The referee, however, made what to many seemed to be a right call when he gave Swallows goalkeeper the marching orders 11 minutes into the second stanza. This was after the goalkeeper handled the ball outside his area of designate. Substitute goalkeeper Ntokozo Shabangu came to the party as he made brilliant saves, denying the 'Black Bull' what could have been a last minute equaliser in the two minutes of added time. The goalkeeper tipped over a corner kick shot by the Highlanders skipper, much to the joy of the Swallows family and sadness from the 'Bull's Kraal' as they crashed out of the 'Sidlala Kanje' tournament.

The teams:

Swallows

Sandile, Siphamandla, Sanele, Mandla, Sifiso, Papy, Wonder, Njabulo (Tumelo), Sabelo, Felix (Alex), Banele (Ntokozo)

Highlanders

Terms & Conditions apply

Sidumo, Celani, Sabelo, Sibusiso (Mphucuko), Jimoh, Vusumuzi, Patrick (Fanelo), Colani, Lungelo, Kingsley, Chocco,

PREDICT THE CHAMPIONS Consolation prizes: 10 x E500 cash prizes. SwaziBank and Swazi Observer

employees are NOT eligible to enter competition.

Deduille.			
01	April	2016	

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		E10,000
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Name	Telephone



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