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The Right Place

The Right Sunday



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SOCCER FANS IN FATAL ACCIDENT

12-DAY OLD BABY ABDUCTED

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WITH GOD, WE WILL OVERCOME...



His Majesty King Mswati III joined by Sigodlo, his guests and the congregation as they listen to the sermon delivered by his special guest Reverend Ock Soo Park of Good News Mission from South Korea. This was during the end-of-year church service at Mandvulo Grand Hall yesterday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

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BUS RANK SHOCKER...

MINOR PUPILS SEXUALLY ABUSED

● We are also young so I don't understand your concern about the age of the girls we court - Conductor

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BUS RANK SHOCKER:

STORIES BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

Primary school children are falling prey to tricks of public transport employees who have turned stationary kombis parked at the bus ranks to bedrooms.

A concerned teacher raised an alarm this past week after seeing that her requests for assistance have been ignored by members of the Royal Swaziland Police Service.

"I have noted with concern how children are sexually abused by these men who claim to be in a relationship with them and the way it is done is so subtle, yet scary," she said.

She revealed how she got to hear about the shenanigans that happen in the parked kombi from pupils she teaches after one of them failed to appear in a class a few weeks ago.

"They told me they left her in the kombi," the livid teacher said. After taking matters into her hands, the horrid tale of a pubescent being sexually abused came to fore as the child confessed she usually missed classes in order to sit with her boyfriend who

PUPILS SEXUALLY ABUSED IN BROAD DAYLIGHT

happens to be a conductor based in Manzini.

"After the confession I made time to find out if other pupils were involved and I was shocked to find the behaviour to be rampant as pupils are in relationships with drivers as well as conductors," she said while revealing how the issue touched several schools.

She revealed how she tried to call the police on several occasions and asked them to be vigilant and she was told there was nothing they could do seeing as the children went into the kombis out of their own volition and were not forced.

"I was told to bring evidence of the rape because they couldn't curb wayward children's behaviour," the teacher said.

A visit to the Manzini bus rank revealed

nonchalant reactions to the possibility that such could be happening right under the eyes of the public.

"What can you say when two people sit in a closed kombi at ease with each other? *Kute losuke abanjwe ngenkhani mosi ke*," an employee who only identified himself as Papa said.

Finding humour in the whole debacle, his mates with whom he was in a kombi with said they do not interfere in people's love lives. They went

further and joked about the fact they had a pupil in their midst who was fresh from writing her examinations.

"Are we supposed to call out people and look out for those who do not want to be looked after," they asked.

They made reference to mature women ignoring their catcalls.

"If the women I feel are supposed to be my age mates ignore my proposals of love, what am I supposed to do," Papa asked rhetorical-

ly. When asked about whether they considered the age of the young girls they approached, their response, "As long as they have breasts which look ripe for the taking."

"We are also young so I don't understand your concern about the age of the girls we court," a conductor responded after being asked about the subject of young girls being violated.

"We don't violate them, we are in a relationship," he responded taking exception to being told he was doing wrong.

He revealed how he could at times have two girls visit him in the kombi per day.

"I have several girl friends, some are at primary school so I am able to see them alternately," another conductor who called himself S'gumfefe. They all took exception to having their real names revealed.

"They also call me S'gumfefe and shorten it to S'gumf," he said cheekily.

When the question of condoms was broached, they were said to be optional.

"When do you get time to put on a condom when you are in a rush?"



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Schools only cement values from home

A visit to several primary schools in Manzini revealed how some teachers are aware of what happens whereas others are totally ignorant of what takes place at the bus ranks

In one school, a teacher revealed how she was alerted that a Grade Five pupil had disembarked from a kombi and shared a passionate kiss with the conductor.

"We called the parent to the school and he had had to find alternative transport for the child," the teacher said, further commending the parent's timely response.

"Other parents who we have called to come here concerning such behaviour by their children have resulted in us being called all sorts of names." The teacher said it was unfortunate that parents left parenting to them who were burdened by overpopulated classes.

"How is a teacher expected to parent over 40 children at the same time?" the teacher asked.

Out of three head teachers approached, only one revealed to be aware of what takes place in the bus rank while others not only expressed shock but pledged to enlighten their charges that they were being violated.

WLSA calls for vigilance at bus rank

Women and Law in Southern Africa - Swaziland wishes expressed her shock and utter disgust at the sexual abuse subjected to primary school children within the bus rank after school and the increasing number of violence cases against women and girls in Swaziland.

This happens a few weeks after the day when the world was commemorating the girl child and such disgusting acts are a barrier to the success of the girl child. "It is time as a country we

adopt revolutionary measures to curb gender based violence. Such hostile spaces like the bus rank need to be disrupted through sensitisation and awareness raising.

"We call upon the police to take action on this matter; we want to see justice served to these innocent girls.

"We cannot live with such people in our society they must be behind bars, more children are at risk. We cannot sit back and watch while they destroy the future of our kids," WLSA said.

Police ask for assistance

While relenting that police need evidence in order to action such cases, Acting Police Information and Communications Officer Assistant Superintendent Phindile Vilakati said it was up to members of the public to report such matters to

them. She relented though it was difficult to act on third party reports as they needed to have complainants at all times in order to be able to act.

"We will however be vigilant and rope in Crime Prevention officers to assist us in this regard," she said.

SWAGAA-We have tried to intervene

SWAGAA has heard of cases of young vulnerable girls being taken advantage of by conductors.

This was revealed by Communications and Advocacy Officer Slindelo Nkosi who said they had tried to intervene in cases but hit a snag. She was however referring to older girls

who drop out of school and go to Manzini with the intention of finding employment. "We tried intervening but it hit a snag as it was the girls themselves that availed themselves to the boys. Having left their homes to look for jobs in town then find themselves in such situations," she said.

They offer us discounts

Several pupils from four schools interviewed revealed how the attractive conductors offered them discounts.

"We only ride the kombis which charge us E3 instead of E6. They then ask us out and those in a relationship sit in front while the rest of us take the back seat," two young girls said. They revealed how it was easy to spot those who were in a relation as they stood apart from others and ended up riding for free.

Kombi owners: some condemn, others indifferent

A kombi owner confessed how he was once called to the police station in Manzini when a conductor of his was been implicated in violating a young girl.

"Since that day, my drivers and conductors know I don't tolerate relationships with school children," he said.

But another had a different opinion as he said everything started and ended at home.

"While growing up, everyone was a parent but now whenever you caution a child you get an attitude and are told off," he said while saying such behaviour was rife.

"I once found a colleague's child having sex in a sprinter in Mbabane and I had to walk away as though I had done wrong," he said.

He said this issue was not a Manzini problem as there were other places where PSVs parked without a reason.

"How often are those parked below Swazi Inn there on an innocent mission, or those parked at Mangozeni near the Mavuso Trade and Exhibition Centre?"

SWALLOWS SUPPORTERS IN FATAL ACCIDENT

BY QONDILE NTIWANE

Giants Mbabane Swallows' joy after their victory against Green Mamba was cut short following fatal car accident that claimed the life of one of their supporter.

Over 10 supporters were involved in the accident that happened at Esitjeni, situated along the old Mbabane-Mahlanya road yesterday.

Information gathered by this publication is the Corsa van, which had over 10 of the supporters on board, overturned and plunged under the bridge in the area.

The supporters, who were from watching their MTN League encounter against Green Mamba played at the Somhlolo National

over 10 supporters involved in accident while returning from game at Somhlolo yesterday



Acting Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Assistant Superintendent Phindile Vilakati.

Stadium, were rushed to the Mbabane Government Hospital after sustaining injuries during

accident.

Acting Chief Police Information and Communications Officer (CPICO) Assistant Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed the accident yesterday. "Yes there was an accident at Esitjeni but I am not sure if there are any deaths because the passengers were still being treated in hospital," she said.

Mbabane Swallows CEO Sibusiso Manana also confirmed the matter when contacted last night.

"Yes our supporters were involved in a terrible accident yesterday and it claimed the life of one of them while others are critical. We are however still try-

ing to ascertain the exact number of those injured but they are said to be over 10 involved," he said.

He also noted the supporters were mainly from Malkerns and Mahlanya branches.

The CEO, who rushed to the hospital after the accident alongside the team's General Manager Sandile Zwane and National Supporters secretary Jackson Dlamini, said they were really disturbed by the incident that befell the supporters.

"We want to send condolences to the families and friends of all those involved in the accident and pray for the speedy recovery of those who are injured. We have also lost as a team because these people went to the Stadium for the love of the team and are at a loss of words," he said.

Civic society discusses referendum

BY MLONDI MPANZA

The country's civic society yesterday had a lecture where they discussed on the issues around a referendum and what it basically is.

The lecture was facilitated by the University of Swaziland Political Science lecturer, Dr. Petros Qambukusa Magagula who had been roped in by the Institute for Democracy and Leadership (IDEAL).

This was subsequent to a decision taken in a previous meeting which had been convened by IDEAL where the civic society was enlightened on the subject.

The main reason for this lecture was because the members of the civic society had troubles in understanding what this entailed, yet it formed an integral part of their deliberations.

As for such, Magagula defined a referendum as a concept of democracy, this being an outcome of a social contract which emanates from the realisation that, "We, as humans should live together harmoniously if we want to avoid self destruction such as self annihilations," said Magagula.

In this case, these are said to occur because of the equal claim to live and therefore equal claims to resources of this planet earth that are essential for life.

Dragging

Of note, this comes two months after the issue of a referendum had been brought up during the People's Parliament where one of the speakers stated the issue of political parties had been dragging for a long time in the country and maybe it was time the matter was decided through a referendum.

In the internet, this term is defined as a general vote by the electorate on a single political question that has been referred to them for a direct decision.

A referendum was recently put into use in Britain whereby the public was called in to vote whether the country should remain in the European Union or not. It is today history the Brits voted to leave the European Union, a result that forced the then Prime Minister David Cameron to resign his position.

Sources who had attended the lecture stated after the discussions on the referendum, they were then challenged as to whether the civic society was ready if they were to wake up to news of a referendum being put into practice in the kingdom.

"It is also at this meeting where it had been planned we would discuss the pros and cons of the 2013 elections in preparation for the upcoming one in two years time," said the source.

She further said this was meant to analyse how participating had benefitted those who did and how it also helped those who did not.

This is because this issue is said to always divide the civic society whenever it was time for elections as some decide to participate while others do not.

However, IDEAL is said to have been given the mandate to convene yet another meeting in two weeks time where the rest of the agenda will be discussed.

Prince Dukanezwe at the recent Sibaya suggested that probably it was time the Swazis deal with the issue of multi-party democracy versus Tinkhundla through a referendum to rest this nagging question once and for all.



The home in Nkwalini where the baby was abducted on Friday night by a couple which pretended to be lost and asked for directions from the baby's mother, only to later abduct the baby.



COUPLE ABDUCTS 12 DAY OLD CHILD

BY MLONDI MPANZA

A 12 days old baby was on Friday night abducted from her parents by an unknown couple.

This happened in Nkwalini Zone 2 where the baby was under the watch of her mother, Kholiwe Magagula and her aunt.

The preying couple is said to have first come to the home where the family stayed under the pretence they were lost and looking for a certain homestead, but moments later they turned out to be the child's abductors.

This was revealed by Magagula's family where it was

said the couple came in, in turns to carry out their mission.

First was the man who asked if there were any available flats to rent within their homestead and they responded to the negative and he left.

A few minutes later, came the woman who asked for directions to a certain homestead she was headed to and Magagula told her,

"We do not know the homestead she is looking for and advised her to look for a coin box in the shop in order to call her so called relatives and request them to further explain on the directions."

She went to the shops and came

back looking for a different home and it is then that the baby's mother decided to assist the woman and went out to ask around from the neighbours if they had an idea what she was looking for.

Whilst they were out of the house, the man went into their house which had been left unlocked with Magagula's aunt sleeping.

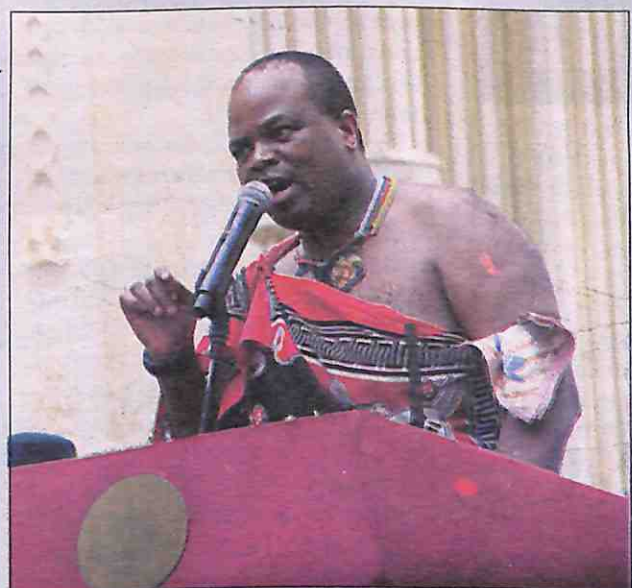
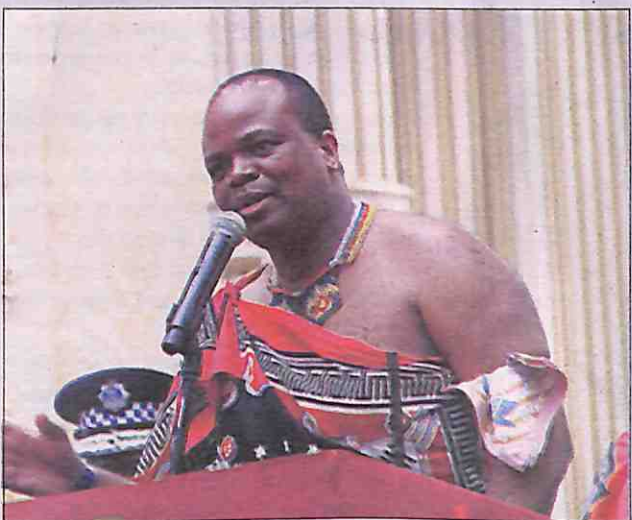
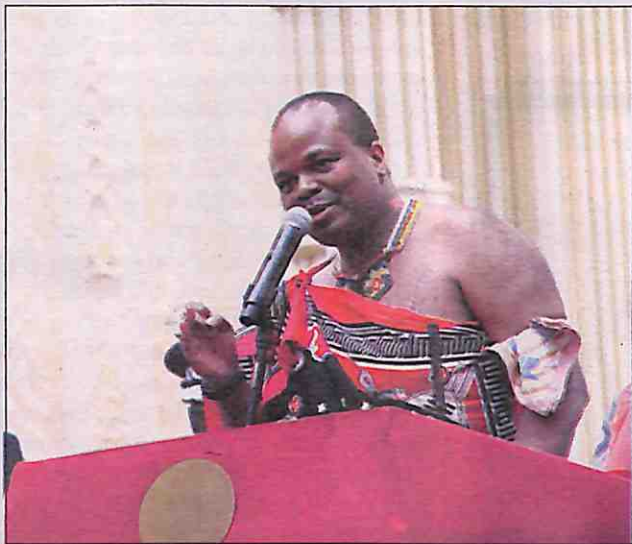
The man is said to have gone straight to the baby's bed, grabbed her and ran out to board a car which had been parked by the road which is a few metres away.

When asked about the woman's

description, it was said that she was wearing a two piece attire and their run away vehicle was a black Honda Fit which they did not manage to see its registration plates.

The matter was reported to the Royal Swaziland Police who have since requested members of the public who could possibly have information to come forward through the Acting Chief Police Information and Communications Officer, Phindile Vilakati who urged everyone who could possibly have information to come forward so the culprits are brought to book.

WORDS OF WISDOM



BAYETHE: His Majesty King Mswati III gesturing during his speech.

WITH GOD WE WILL OVERCOME - KING

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

His Majesty King Mswati III has assured the Swazi Nation that with God on its side it can overcome all situations, be they economically or socially.

Speaking at Mandvulo Grand Hall at Lozitha Palace during the end of year annual prayer service, the King said there was nothing impossible with God on one's side.

"Drought and economical hardship we can overcome, so long as we are with God," His Majesty said.

He said people had to be more like young David who defeated a giant Philistine warrior, Goliath, in a battle after harassing the Nation of God.

The King started off by narrating the story of David and Goliath found in **I Samuel 17** in the Bible, of how Goliath, a big and strong giant, challenged the Israelites for 40 days and 40 nights to choose a man who would fight him while none of the Israelites came forward as they feared him.

"David saw the giant. He heard Goliath challenging the Israelites. He saw that the men were afraid of Goliath. David said he would fight the giant. His brothers were angry. They said David should be taking care of the sheep. David knew God would help him. He picked up five stones. He took his sling and went to fight Goliath," reads **I Samuel chapter 17 verse 13**. His Majesty King Mswati III highlighted that David was able to fight and conquer the giant due to his faith in God. He said



His Majesty King Mswati III preaching during the end of year annual prayer service at Mandvulo Grand Hall at Lozitha yesterday while Pastor Sihle Dlamini interpretes for him. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

when God wanted to use His people; He removed them from the fearful bunch as he isolated David from the Israelites who feared Goliath. The King said such faith could be used even in the most difficult situations and challenges such as drought and downturn in the economy.

"David was just a young shepherd who feared and worshipped God but was able to take on a big challenge that other warriors could not, because he trusted God. People like David are to be emulated. When the devil comes to threaten and instil fear in you, remember that David faced his fears and conquered," he said.

The King amused the congregation when he revealed he had not gotten

enough time in the week to prepare his message but as he sat and listened to the other pastors he prayed to God to allow him pass a message to the nation.

His Majesty was pleased as he declared that the devil was a liar and was trying to use this as one of his tricks but he had failed as God had answered his prayers.

The King also advised the nation to face all challenges head on and not be intimidated by the devil.

"Today we declare that if any situations were sent by the devil to instil fear in us we rebuke them. As we end the year and leave Mandvulo Grand Hall, the Lord will bless us greatly, the devil will never win as he is a liar and a thief."



Prophet Magaya's wife announcing her gift to the King which was a gigantic portrait of the King in Incwala regalia.



Prime Mnister Sibusiso Dlamini introducing His Majesty.



Choristers from Good News Mission in South Korea performing Siswati songs for the King.



Reverend Dr Nicholas Nyawo and Reverend Solomon Dube were also among the many men of the cloth who attended the service.



His Majesty joined by Emakhosikati, Emazinyane, Prime Minister, special guests and the congregation as they listened to the sermon.



Emakhosikati LaMotsa, LaNgangaza, LaMahlangu, LaNtentesa, LaDube and LaFogiyane joined by Emazinyane during the service.



Ntombi Matse presenting a E10 000 cheque which was meant for the SADC Summit.



Reverend Johannes Mazibuko praying during the service



Congregants in prayer during the service.

MEN OF GOD



Pastor Nhlanhla Hlatshwako



Pastor Shortgun



Prophet Mkhemetelo Fire Mkhathswa



Reverend Ock Soo Park



Reverend Tembe



Reverend Grace Masilela
Preachers sharing the word of God during the service.

King dedicates end of year prayer to Mandvulo Hall

His Majesty King Mswati III has dedicated this year's end of year prayer to the state of the art Mandvulo Grand Hall that was used for the first time during the 36th Ordinary SADC Summit that was held in the country in August.

His Majesty was speaking at the service that was held in the momentous hall that housed heads of states and government officials during the historic summit.

The King said it was his wish that before the grand hall started operating after construction it would be opened with a prayer but this was not possible.

"Our greatest desire was to open Mandvulo with prayer but with the influence of the devil this was not possible. I am happy that today we are here to pray in this hall and it gives me great joy that Swazis came in their numbers to pray here as we dedicate this building to the Lord. Whatever takes place in this hall will be blessed," declared the King.

The end of year service, known as the Thanksgiving Prayer Service, was held inside the massive conference facility for the first time this year. Swazis crammed the grand hall yesterday to hear the word of God from different men and women of the

They call me 'Cisha Sibane' - TV

Comedians may soon have to deal with stiff competition from Acting Ludzidzini Governor Timothy Velabo Mtetwa, TV, who just cracks people up as soon as he opens his mouth. This time, TV made His Majesty King Mswati III laugh when he told him and the congregation that he was now being

mocked and referred to as 'Cisha Sibane.' TV's famous quotes from the people's Parliament, Sibaya, went viral on social media including voice recordings of Mtetwa. Some of these quotes include 'Cisha logesi' which he would normally say when people at the Sibaya had exceeded their given time to speak on the

microphone. Speaking yesterday after he delivered a brief message from the King to the people on refreshments, Indvuna went on to tell His Majesty he was now called 'Cisha Sibane' and mocked for his statements. His Majesty King Mswati III laughed hysterically along with the throngs of people gathered at the grand hall also burst into laughter.

God who took turns in delivering their prepared messages before His Majesty the King, his guests and the nation at large as the service was also broadcasted live on national TV and radio.

This year's sermons were delivered by Reverend Nhlanhla Hlatshwako, Reverend Grace Masilela, Reverend S. Tembe, Reverend S. Simelane as well as visiting man of the cloth Reverend Ock Soo Park from Good News Mission in South Korea.

One of the messages that was emphasised by the reverends was anything is achievable through God and in order for the country to also develop there was a need for the country to pray. Meanwhile, Reverend Masilela



Church leaders Titus Ndzima, Winston Shongwe and Apostle Robert Kasaro with MTN CEO Ambrose Dlamini leaving after the service.

also advised the nation to pray for the leaders of the country after she read from 1 Timothy 2: 17 in the scripture. This verse states I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and

thanksgiving be made for all people— for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour."

ESCAPED INMATES USED HACK SAW BLADE TO CUT BURGLAR TO CUT BURGLAR

STORIES BY WONDERBOY DLAMINI

The seven suspects who escaped from Big Bend correctional facility last Friday are said to have used a hack saw blade to cut the burglars from their holding cell before getting away.

At least, this is according to one Siphon Matse (30) of Lubulini who is said to have given the blade to one of the escapees. Matse made this revelation when appearing before Magistrate Joseph Dlamini at Big Bend Circuit Court after he was arrested and charged with contravening Section 53(1) (a) as read with Section 53(2) and (4) of the Prison Act 40/1964.

The accused person was said to have wrongfully and unlawfully supplied a hack saw blade to Benson Shabalala, one of the escapees. When the charge sheet was read to him, the accused pleaded guilty to the charge.

His plea was also accepted by the crown without leading evidence to prove commission of the crime. When asked by the court on how he gave the blade to the inmate, Matse explained he was employed in a company which was currently making renovations at the Big Bend correctional facility. He said he met the inmate while going about his duties. Matse said the inmate informed him he needed a blade to cut his shoes which he wanted to repair.

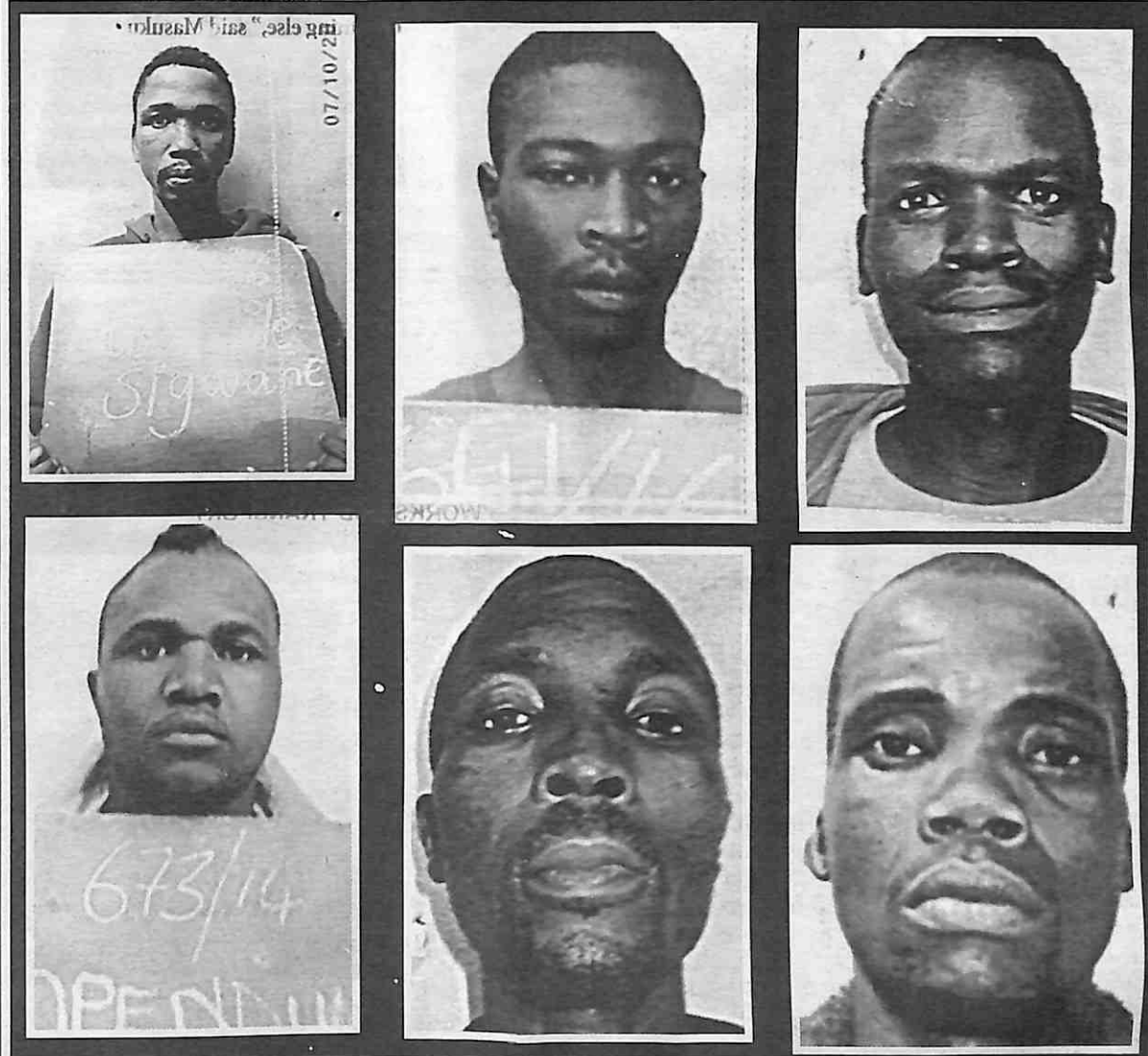
He said he had already made some friendship with the inmate after meet-

ing him at the same institution some few weeks ago.

Matse said the inmate also showed him the shoes which he claimed he wanted to repair. "I was convinced he wanted to repair his shoes, hence I gave him a piece of blade," said Matse during his trial.

When issuing sentence, the magistrate stated the accused, was negligent in giving the inmate a dangerous object which was prohibited in the cells. Dlamini said the court however believed the accused; version that the inmate told him he was to use the blade to cut his shoes.

The accused was eventually found guilty and was sentenced to two months in a correctional facility without an option of a fine.



KM III Airport officials arrest illegal immigrant from Bangladesh

Officers at KM III International Airport arrested the first illegal immigrant on Wednesday after the visit of the Asian probe team about three weeks ago.

Habibur Rahman (32) of Bangladesh was arrested upon his arrival at the airport. It was discovered during the routine check Rahman did not have an entry permit. He was charged with contravening Section 14(1)(d) of the Immigration Act 17 of 1982.

According to the charge sheet, the accused person not being a holder of a valid permit did wrongfully and unlawfully have in his possession a forged entry permit.

The accused appeared before Senior Magistrate Donald Mavuso where he was represented by lawyer Nhlahlhla Dlamini of NK Dlamini and Co Attorneys.

It appeared that however, the accused person could neither understand nor speak English language, hence the need for an interpreter who would translate to his home language. Efforts made by the prosecution to ask for assistance from another man from Bangladesh proved unsuccessful as he was also not able to speak English fluently. The senior magistrate stated the matter could not proceed without the accused person fully understanding

what was being said about him. Mavuso said even though the accused was represented by a lawyer, there was a need that he also understands the proceedings. The matter was then postponed to today where the prosecution is expected to bring a proper interpreter. Meanwhile, the probe team which comprise of parliamentarians has recently been going around the country to ascertain the impact of the Asian influx into the country. During their investigations, it was gathered some illegal immigrants bribed their way into the country through some of the entry points which include KM III International Airport.

UNISWA students to petition administration

BY LUNGELU NKAMBULE

Following the closure of the Mbabane campus University of Swaziland students are set to petition the administration on Monday to open the capital city based campus.

The students have requested their leaders to draw up a petition to be signed by fellow students over the weekend and be delivered to the administration on Monday. Speaking to this publication student leader Kwaluseni Campus electoral officer Menziswa Dlamini said as a campus they are in pain that their fellow brothers and sisters were currently at home.

"We are unhappy they closed down our sister campus and we are currently negotiating with the administration to bring them back to class," he said. He further said that what angered the students the most was the administration chose to close down the campus when in actual fact their grievances were legit.

Their grievances are familiar and in actual fact these problems they voiced out are ones we are all facing," he said. He said what confused him the most is the administration was always saying their

doors are open for dialogue but they never wanted to sit down and talk to them.

"The University is always saying their doors are open to dialogue when in fact they are not, they have just one strategy which is to divide and conquer," he said.

Furthermore Dlamini said as student leaders they could only contain the students' anger for so long. "We can only contain the students for so long but in the end they are the ones who will give us direction, so if they want a petition to be delivered to the administration then we will have to make that happen as their leaders," he said. Dlamini also said it was time the University sat down with the students so they address their grievances.

"We don't like picketing, we have lost so much time already, all we want is for the administration to address our grievances," he said. He further said the absence of Mbabane Campus was delaying Student Representative Elections. "We are currently without an SRC and we can't go through with the elections without the other campus especially because the chief electoral officer is from that campus," he said.



Also present among the congregants were members of the Shembe faith who were joined by former MP Qedusizi Ndlovu.



Bishop Ellinah Wamukoya of the Anglican Church was also among the congregants.



Cabinet, ministers emabandla and legislators also came through to be part of the service.

GIRL WITH ALBINISM 'ABDUCTED' AFTER ACCIDENT

STORIES

BY STARSKY MKHONTA

A young girl with albinism allegedly escaped from jaws of death after allegedly being knocked down by a speeding vehicle and dragged her into the car, which sped away.

The incident occurred last Friday had many people talking with others even suggesting that something was amiss including the manner police and other parties have handled such a sensitive matter as the suspect is now out after courts had deliberated in the matter having been charged with reckless driving and also being unlicensed to drive.

Such a matter is now a cup of tea in some sections including where the girl lives as well as at her school. It is also a topic issue in some places around Nhlanguano town with others even suggesting if it was true that courts have already dealt with the matter and the suspect prosecuted, the case needed to be reviewed to see to it if there was no miscarriage of justice to all parties.

The pupil aged 16 doing Form One at Nhlanguano Central High was returning to her place of abode, Nhlanguano SOS Children's Village when she was knocked down by a vehicle. What made many to be suspicious was that out of many

other pupils who were walking along the road, she was the only one who got knocked down by the vehicle.

While others have now been made to believe there was no intention or ulterior motive behind as this was purely an innocent accident, there are those strongly suspecting that the driver of the vehicle was up to some mischief especially when considering it was only when onlookers gave chase on the vehicle that the girl was rescued.

It was around 2pm when the girl in the company of colleagues was hit by the speeding sedan. After she became unconscious, the driver then took her inside the car and sped away. It is said many were also surprised when the car took a different direction which was not to the hospital. Upon the realisation that the car was taking a different direction, other pupils joined by members of the public gave chase to the vehicle and that was when the girl allegedly managed to open the door and jumped out. Realising there was a crowd still on hot pursuit, the driver drove off in full speed leaving behind the badly injured girl.

The girl was then taken to the Village by her colleagues as they felt it was not safe for her to walk alone given the state of condition she was in.

On arrival at SOS, the pupils were

met by security guards and were equally shocked to see the girl in uniform soaked in blood. Means were made to rush her to the hospital which became the burden of the Village. It is said the driver later arrived but without the car he was driving.

It was then that eyebrows were raised and when others started to realise something was amiss. It later transpired that the car belonged to a certain teacher but as to how he had given it to the driver was a mystery.

Questions

Again, more questions than answers were raised when it was further alleged the car had been taken far away to Malutha.

Others wanted to know if police did their work when handling the matter including finding out why the driver sped away when there was no intention for what happened and the vehicle's whereabouts. Other reports are that the Village authorities are not convinced with the way such a matter has been handled such that they are calling for a review of the case.

Meanwhile, sources at the Village said the matter is now causing tension as others in the Village are seemingly all out to protect certain culprits and there has been an instance where exchange of blows were almost experienced

when others started questioning how a certain individual working at the Village was seemingly on the side of those that are believed are to blame for what happened.

"There was a confrontation where others almost exchange blows as there is an individual believed to be another player on what happened to the girl. There is tension even now and we are not sure what could happen as there are those that are pushing for the matter to have it reviewed as there seems to be foul play and fingers are now pointing at certain people. What I know is that even the authorities at the Village are keen to have the matter reviewed and are even prepared to go an extra mile of appealing if it is true that courts have since made a ruling and concluded the issue," said an insider.

On the other hand, Acting Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Assistant Superintendent Phindile Vilakati said from what she was told, the driver incidentally knocked the girl and further surrendered himself to the police. "He later handed himself and he has already been convicted. He was charged for negligent driving and also for being a no license holder," she said.



RA Themba Masuku.

RA believes it was just an accident

Themba Masuku, the Shiselweni Regional Administrator, said he did not want to believe driver of the car which knocked down the girl had ulterior motives.

The RA said everyone had to be treated fairly and if anyone had to be punished, it should be a fair punishment. He said he believed the driver of vehicle, at the back of his mind, knocked down the girl by mistake and nothing else.

"Let's hope there was no intention and no one deserved to run over by a car, whether living with albinism or not. Let's just hope it was one of the road accidents and nothing else," said Masuku.

He also said if it was true that pupils did chase the car when it sped away with the girl then they deserved to be praised for such bravery. "If that happened and if it is true the driver was speeding away with her, then the pupils deserve to be praised as that would mean they saved a life if indeed there was intention," said the RA.

Principal told only of accident

Mloni Mkhonta, the Principal at Nhlanguano Central High where the girl attends school said he was only informed that she was accidentally injured.

Mkhonta said he knew no further details pertaining to the matter of the girl living with albinism who was reportedly knocked down by a vehicle and the driver decided to bundle her in it and sped away.

Others alleged the believe driver sped away with the girl with the intention of rushing her to hospital while some do not want to buy such a story and claimed there was an ulterior motive. Fuelling suspicions is that the vehicle's whereabouts remained unknown while some claimed it was taken somewhere possibly to help destroy evidence. It is said the driver was also not licensed.

The principal said he was only informed of the accident after it was communicated to him by someone at the SOS Children's Village where the girl stays.

"I have not been made aware of any other thing except to be informed of her being knocked down by a car. Make Dlamini from the Village gave me that report



Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini.

and the girl was brought to the school with bandages which she sometimes has to change. I am not aware of any other information apart from what the Village authorities told me," said Mkhonta.

Meanwhile, the office of the Deputy Prime Minister through the Principal Secretary Khangeziwe Mabuza said they would not want to believe the driver had other ulterior motives. She said if that was the case, then that would be an unfortunate thing as all people living with albinism are entitled to live and enjoy life like any other person.

"Let's just believe it was purely an accident that could

happen to anyone. If there is something else, then it's an unfortunate thing. If the authorities at the Village who are the custodian of the girl have challenges in far as the issue is concerned, then they are welcome to seek our assistance as a ministry responsible in matters touching children. Our social welfare officials can be of great help should they be alerted. We also deserve to be updated as even the international community is closely following issues touching on people with albinism," said the PS.

Mabuza said the belief that people with albinism were to be hunted and killed for certain benefits or luck, was absolutely wrong. She said even those who claimed there was a charm to acquire wealth with body parts or anything from a person living with albinism should not be believed. She called for an end to such killings.

"It's not their choice to be like this and no one's wealth can be determined by such brutality on innocent people," said Mabuza without implying that even in this matter, the person involved could be planning such an evil act.

"Let's hope it was merely an accident and nothing else," she said.



GOVERNMENT OF SWAZILAND
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORT

PUBLIC NOTICE

REHABILITATION OF A LAND SLIDE ALONG THE MR18 (SUNDOWNERS - BHUNYA) PUBLIC ROAD

The Ministry of Public Works and Transport through the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development has engaged the Esor/ Roots Joint Venture for the rehabilitation of a land slide along the MR18 (Sundowners - Bhunya) road near the Mawelawela Women's Correctional Facility in Luyengo. Construction works are expected to commence on the 20th October 2016 and are to be concluded on the 30th November 2016.

During the construction period, the contractor will close off the Malkerns-bound lane of the aforementioned road for the purposes of creating working space. Closing times will be between 0700hrs and 1800hrs. Thereby, members of the public are advised to drive cautiously and to adhere to the temporary road signs that will be erected in order to avoid accidents.

Yours Sincerely,

S.M. MNDawe
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY



His Majesty King Mswati III joined Cuba's Ambassador to Swaziland Carlos Fernandez de Cossio and his wife as they pose with the team of doctors from Cuba. The doctors paid a courtesy call to the King at Lozitha Royal Palace on Thursday night. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

KING WELCOMES CUBAN DOCTORS

BY SIMON SHABANGU

His Majesty King Mswati III has applauded the medical assistance extended by the Republic of Cuba Africa during the Ebola outbreak in some parts of continent recently.

The King says Cuba commissioned a team of doctors to extend their medical expertise to the countries which were affected by the outbreak, a mission which was well accomplished with the assistance from the Cuban medical team.

His Majesty, who is also Chairman of SADC, said the doctors continue to be of good help to the continent, including Swaziland, where a team of doctors is currently deployed in many health facilities around the country.

His Majesty was speaking at Lozitha Royal Palace on Thursday night when he met the team of Cuban doctors who are currently assisting the health ministry through offering their professional services to the people of Swaziland.

The team of about 20 doctors was led by the Minister of Health Sibongile Simelane and Cuba's Ambassador to Swaziland Carlos Fernandez de Cossio together with Dr. Raquel, who is head of the mission.

His Majesty said the country was grateful to the president of Cuba for the cooperation between the two countries.

He said the coming of the doctors to assist the country was a result of talks between him and that country's president during his visit sometime back. He noted that Cuba is known for having good doctors saying having a team from there to help the country was commendable.

"On behalf of all Africans, we wish to say thank you very much for the contribution you are making to the lives of the people of the continent. The expertise you make to Africa, especially in Swaziland, is highly

His Majesty said the country was grateful to the president of Cuba for the cooperation between the two countries. He said the coming of the doctors to assist the country was a result of talks between him and that country's president during his visit sometime back



The King in a conversation with Cuba's Ambassador to Swaziland Carlos Fernandez de Cossio.



His Majesty King Mswati III addressing the Cuban doctors who were also joined by the Minister of Health Sibongile Simelane.



Dr Lesvia, who is a Gynaecologist based in Pigg's Peak, introducing herself to His Majesty. The massive positive contribution

Cuban doctors made during the Ebola outbreak made great relief to

the entire continent from the deadly disease which threatened many lives all over Africa. His Majesty said the team was dedicated so much that even when one of the doctors contracted Ebola, they never abandoned the mission but worked hard until accomplishment of their work.

The King said even the doctor who got the Ebola went back to get treatment and thereafter continued with the mission.

His Majesty said Cuba and Swaziland would expand the cooperation and look into more areas of cooperation to ensure the relations were strengthened.

He further wished the doctors an enjoyable stay in the country and urged them to continue with the good work and further take good care of the Swazi people while passing the same message

to the locals who interact with the doctors on daily basis.

The Ambassador, Carlos Fernandez de Cossio said the doctors were grateful to have an audience with the King.

He said the team of doctors were specialists in their respective fields. He said they were here to share their expertise as well as love and compassion with the people of Swaziland.

"They are only here to share their expertise and share the love and compassion with the people of the kingdom.

"They are not here to invest in business, buy land or any other intentions but merely to help the Swazi people with their health problems.

"They came from afar to share the professional skills, compassion and solidarity and contribute to the health and social problems of the people of Swaziland," he said.

SA NDWANDWE CHIEFDOM BELONGS TO SD

STORIES BY MBONO MDLULI

The Ndwandwe chiefdom in South Africa recognise the fact that they still belong to Swaziland even though they are in South Africa.

This was evident when the Mawewe Traditional Council (Mawewe Chiefdom) Headman Phahlane Mkhathshwa welcomed the people who had come to celebrate the *ummemo* ceremony.

Ummemo is a traditional occasion usually held by chiefdoms. They revive their royal kraals (*imiphakatsi*) by building structures that are needed to make them recognisable as such. Such functions are also meant to remind people about their cultural origins.

Indvuna Mkhathshwa mentioned when he welcomed the guests that they were staying in a place allocated to them by King Mswati II to stay.

"We all know that we were allowed by King Mswati II to stay where we are. This happened in 1862 when Mawewe was allowed by the king to live in this place," Mkhathshwa said.

Mkhathshwa said this after thanking the Swazi delegation who went to Mgobodze to grace the occasion, which was organised by Mawewe Chief Khulile Nxumalo. Nxumalo is a female chief, who is in charge of several areas under Mawewe Chiefdom. Some of these areas include Mgobodze, Sibange, and Madadeni. These areas are situated in the Mpumalanga province of South Africa, just next to the northern border line of Swaziland.

The nearest Swazi border posts to that place are Mananga and Matsamo. Many people living there ply their trade in the teaching profession.

There are many schools in that place. They include Mgobodze Primary School, Dlamadoda High School, Sihlangu Primary School and many others.

Other institutions are also found in that place like clinics and government offices, like that of home affairs.

The nearest towns from the chief-

"We all know that we were allowed by King Mswati II to stay where we are. This happened in 1862 when Mawewe was allowed by the king to live in this place"



Prince Bukhosi (2nd I) dancing to one of the songs performed. He is sandwiched by Imbali leader Nonduduzo Zubuko, Chief Shongwe and Chief Roy Nkosi (r).



Mawewe Indvuna Phahlane Mkhathshwa welcoming the attendants of the event.

dom include Tonga, Naas and Nelspruit, which are also in Mpumalanga.

Chief Khulile Nxumalo also reiterated Mkhathshwa's words.

She thanked the Swazis for gracing the occasion.

She said it was true that King Mswati II allowed Chief Mawewe to settle in the area during his reign, where he expanded Swaziland to include some areas which are in the present South Africa.

Nxumalo also encouraged the people of Mawewe to play their part in

developing their chiefdom so they could make their lives better. She thanked the South African government for helping her develop the area.

The government promised to help in building a pre-school that is supposed to help in making education accessible to all the Mawewe residents.

The occasion was also graced by many cultural groups from different tribes in South Africa. Some even came from Mozambique to partake in the event.



Pupils from Sihlangu Primary School dancing sibhaca for the guests.



Ministry of home affairs staff members upon arrival on Friday night at Mgobodze. They are Gcamani, Phumaphi, Nomfundo, and Thulile.

...King tells Chief Khulile to stay strong

His Majesty King Mswati III encouraged Mawewe Chief Khulile Nxumalo to stay strong in leading the residents.

The king, speaking through Prince Bukhosi, said Nxumalo should lead her people to be a tribe that lived a better life.

"The king also told us we must remind you about the importance of culture. He said you must make sure you transfer culture to the children in this chiefdom because they are the future," Prince Bukhosi said.

The prince went on to say the king warned the chief about the importance of being humble as a leader.

"A wise leader is the one that will exercise humbleness towards her people so they respect you as their chief and look up to you for proper guidance towards a better future," he said.

Prince Bukhosi, on behalf of the king, also expressed his happiness in learning that the Nxumalos were aware of their history.



Mawewe Chief Khulile Nxumalo smiles as she follows the proceedings.

He said he was happy to hear Indvuna Mkhathshwa telling the people how they got to settle in Mawewe Chiefdom.

He said teaching the people about their history would make the people of Mawewe gain understanding about the place they lived in.

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STANDARD BANK AND SEC REACH OUT TO LAVUMISA COMMUNITIES

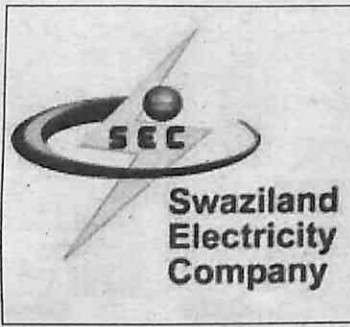
STORIES BY STARKY MKHONTA

Swaziland Electricity Company, in partnership with Standard Bank, continued their outreach programmes by coming to the rescue of needy communities.

The two companies have embarked on a programme of providing pupils from selected schools around the kingdom with solar lamps and on Thursday the companies visited Mgamphondo Primary, a school in the rural community under Somntongo Inkhundla in Lavumisa.

A total of 43 Grade Seven pupils were presented with the solar lamps. Already five schools have benefitted from the generosity of these companies.

Standard Bank Marketing Manager Zitsile Dlamini, when giving a brief background of the



programme, told the pupils at Mgamphondo that it all started after the bank was touched by an article which appeared in sister publication Swazi Observer where children were almost torched to death after falling asleep after leaving a candle lit while studying.

She said the article touched the bank's authorities and it was then where it was resolved that something needed to be done to avoid a similar situation or even better, prevent lives from being lost because of the danger candles

could cause to families, especially pupils who were without any other alternative to provide light when doing school work other than using a candle.

"That article in the Swazi Observer touched our hearts as a bank. It was then that we sat down and decided to work on doing something and management endorsed that we should stand up and assist. We then approached SEC and sold the idea. Without hesitation, they agreed to partner with us hence the birth of this pro-

MONEY MATTERS: Standard Bank Marketing Manager Zitsile Dlamini



gramme where we identify schools with pupils writing external exams and present them with the solar lamps. It's a joint effort where each company has contributed 50 percent," said Dlamini.

The marketing manager whose slogan is 'Moving Forward' said it was the wish of the two companies to see the country moving forward in everything, including seeing the

country's children receiving education up to the required standard whether in rural or urban areas.

"It befits the slogan what we are doing under this programme where with SEC, we have decided to partner for this noble cause.

Our companies want an educated nation moving forward and towards the 2022 vision," said Dlamini.

SEC lectures about danger of electricity

The public has been warned not to take chances should they notice that power cables were not in their right place, which is the work of the experts, being the Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC) or any of those authorised by the company. It has been explained that SEC is concerned with the way people were failing to heed to advise and warning on the danger that electricity poses and this has seen even innocent lives lost. SEC has advised the public to refrain from tempering with electricity cables or anything transmitting power, be it a household item or an infrastructure which help produces or supplies power at business level or home-steads.

Addressing pupils and teachers at Mgamphondo Primary School in Lavumisa, Nqobile Ndlangamandla from SEC said many lives have been lost as a result of others having tempered with live wires where people are electrocuted or those lucky enough are maimed.

She was speaking on Thursday when SEC and Standard Bank presented solar lamps to Grade Seven pupils. The pupils are to use the solar lamps when studying ahead of their exams next month. SEC and Standard Bank have embarked on an outreach programme where they are visiting schools around the country to distribute the solar lamps and this is a project conceived after this newspaper ran an article about children who nearly died after falling asleep while studying and forgot to put out a candle which led to the house they were in burned.

Ndlangamandla said SEC was concerned with the manner people were ignoring precautions that should be taken when using electricity.

She said apart from failure to take the advise that the company gives, there were known incidents which



result to fatalities because of certain individuals paying no attention on all the warnings the company issues. "The sad thing is that no matter how hard we are trying to educate the public on danger electricity can cause, we still have those that don't bother to listen. We have been running programmes in educating the public on electricity use and its danger especially when live wires are left hanging and not at the right place. People are electrocuted not only because of lack of knowledge but others are taking chances," said Ndlangamandla.

Warned

Ndlangamandla warned the pupils to never attempt to fix any electricity cables found hanging or left uncovered or not insulated. She said even households, they were advised against fixing anything related to power lines as consequences were regrettable and most of the time anyone tempering with live wire or cables, death that followed. "If you come across an electricity cable hanging, don't touch it and not even come closer to it or don't try to jump over it. If it's hanging never walk under it. Never attempt to do anything but make means of contacting us through our emergency or free toll line, 800 9000.

It's advisable that each time you see power or electricity cable not in its right place you alert the relevant parties who are experts in handling such things. You can also alert the

police through 999/9999. You can also contact the Fire and Emergency Department as we work hand-in-hand with these bodies when it comes to matters of this nature," said Ndlangamandla. She said other deaths occur when people 'steal' electricity through the illegal connections. She said illegal connections remain a serious crime.

She went on to give some tips on what should be done when power failure was experienced and at the same time warned against allowing children to play near where there are plugs or where utensils were connected.

"There are also those that even temper with transformers. Even in schools we are aware that it happens when pupils hate a certain subject; let's say a computer class where pupils would pull down plugs in order not to have the lesson taking place.

It is these naughty pupils who are also placing lives of others to danger," said Ndlangamandla. Ndlangamandla then told the pupils that SEC was caring and it does not want to see pupils failing to pursue their goals and it never wanted to see them risking with their lives as it happened with the pupils who had left a candle lit and almost led to loss of lives.

"SEC and Standard Bank, by presenting you with these solar lamps, it is one way we are investing in the country's education. You are the future and we do not want your goals failed by things such as light when doing your studies.

These lamps are easy to use and are not going to endanger anyone's life. The advantage with them is they are handy and are not a threat. You are advised to handle them with care in order to last longer," said Ndlangamandla.

...administration grateful

Mgamphondo Primary School administration has hailed Swaziland Electricity Company and Standard Bank for presenting solar lamps to the Grade Seven pupils.

Speaking on behalf of the school Vusi Gama, who is the deputy principal said what was pleasing was the companies had identified the school which is located in a rural community which faces challenges.

The Deputy Principal said the donation of the solar lamps; was also another symbol that the two companies were wishing the pupils a bright future.

"This gift can also be interpreted in a number of ways. We all know that where there is light, there is success and also future. What the two companies have done, together with Swazi Observer, symbolises that they want a bright future for the children and all beneficiaries from this project, as class of 2016, they are a special class and what the companies have done, is going to be recorded in the history books. To you pupils, show appreciation by excelling in your exams," said Gama.

In a separate interview, the deputy principal did said that they were a school located in a poverty stricken community. He said some of the pupils were orphaned and even those that have parents, others were not employed.

"Almost 80 percent of this community is struggling and they include the families who still do not have electricity. Some of these parents or guardians cannot afford the expenses that come with power supply hence we have those families still relying on candles as the only way light can be provided in their houses. It is this reason I feel presenting the solar lamps to our

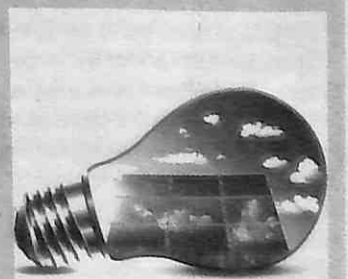
pupils who will be writing, has also eased another burden from some of the pupils and their parents. We are indeed grateful to these companies and this is also investing in our children's future," said Gama.

On behalf of the pupils, Menelisi Dlamini thanked the companies and stated that as the class of 2016, they would make history by doing much better than the school has been doing in the past.

"We feel motivated and each time we study with the lamps lit, that would make us remember we have the image of these great companies to protect and we would have to do by doing well in the exams. I can assure these companies that they are not going to regret having picked us as one of the beneficiaries in this programme," said the pupil.

So far, the companies have visited a total of five schools to present the solar lamps and it is still to be known how many in total will benefit.

"I cannot be sure as to when we are going to finish this project but what I know is that as long as the solar lamps are still available, we are going to continue with the exercise until they are finished and we are only targeting primary schools," said Zitsile Dlamini, the Standard Bank Marketing Manager when asked when they intended to conclude the exercise.



ENERGY: Solar Energy.

NGWANE LECTURERS DISTANCE THEMSELVES FROM LEAKED INFORMATION

● *Whilst Mahlalela tells first year students they deserved to be admitted amid rumours of alleged mal-practice in the admission process*
Lecturers from the Ngwane Training Teacher's College are distancing themselves from the leakage of the institutions 'dirty linen' to the media.

BY MLONDI MPANZA

Lecturers from the Ngwane Training Teacher's College are distancing themselves from the leakage of the institution's 'dirty linen' to the media.

This has been revealed by highly placed sources within the college where it is said the lecturers convened a meeting subsequent to reports of corruption within the institution by the Principal, Dr. Amos Mahlalela.

The source revealed the lecturers were mainly concerned because this was not the first time fingers had been pointed to them over leaked information from the college, especially now that it has been alleged they got a tongue-lashing for the leak this time around.

"The lecturers meeting was meant at addressing the alleged leak by them which they seek to make it known to Mahlalela they have nothing to do with this, unfortunately they could not get the audience with him due to his busy schedule," said the source.

He further revealed all the lecturers wanted to do was to put a disclaimer that they are not part of any fights

between the alleged person behind the leakage and their boss.

When asked on the proposed date for the meeting with Mahlalela, it was still not clear but they were hoping they would eventually manage to this coming week.

Although, it could not be certain on how many lecturers met to discuss this issue, but those who did are said to be happy with the principal, however the fact that there were also those who are not pleased with his leadership style has not been disputed either.

Two weeks ago, the principal assured first year students they all deserved to be part of the college, in light of the litany of allegations being laid against him.

He made this statement during the institution's Fresher's Ball, an event meant to welcome incoming students which was held at the college hall where even his presence was questionable in the eye of an ordinary student.

The principal told the students, "I want to assure you that you are not here by mistake or default. You have all been admitted through the rightful



procedures."

He said he was making these sentiments because he had been asked to respond to concerns some students did not deserve to be part of the college and this was the night before our sister publication, the Observer on Saturday broke the story of the allegations against him – for which he did not respond to.

Amongst the many allegations alleged against him, there are claims he is a close ally to a lawmaker who is influential in the running of the college, particularly with the admission of students.

The two are alleged to be admitting students who did not meet the required qualifications without the knowledge of the admissions committee with the lawmaker alleged to be getting gains for his role in the transactions.

Mahlalela said, "For those of you that are here, be proud of yourselves. Each and every one of you who got an acceptance letter signed by the principal, Dr. Mahlalela, be proud of that. Now that you are here to learn, the learning process is all-round and this event being a part of it." He further encouraged the students to take their studies seriously as they embark on their three-year journey to getting their qualifications, a diploma through perseverance. The principal stated no one ever got a diploma without working hard for it at the college and those who have been there are well aware of the fact that this comes through sleepless nights spent studying and months of not being able to visit their families. The students were told their future was now bright because they had hope for themselves, families and the country at most. Adding, they were told to ask if

there was something they did not understand, how it was being done and further speaking of the presence of things which it would be easy to change, as well as the existence of those that could not be changed.

"What you can change, do so and which you cannot, leave it as it is because it's none of your business," he told the students.

Mahlalela boasted of how they heard from people how great the college was – something which he urged the students to maintain as they rate amongst the best.

In furtherance, the alleged anomalies in the admission process are to the extent that the list approved by committee is different from the one which is allegedly a resultant of the lawmaker's influence in terms of the entry requirements and the committee is not allowed to question the vetting process by the administration. In as far as the other allegations are concerned, questions have been raised in relation to a donation of livestock he made on his personal capacity, but it turned out the stock was taken from the college. Lecturers are also alleged to alter results of the college in a bid to boost its image, with those declining to do so being slapped with letters of insubordination.

A lecturer was alleged to have applied for further education but his cheques continued coming to the school, with another under-qualified lecturer being transferred to William Pitcher to take up a senior post which was to be taken by the one sent in the opposite direction in a move allegedly facilitated by Mahlalela.

TSC OFFICERS ACCUSED OF NEGLIGENCE

BY MLONDI MPANZA

Officers at the Teaching Service Commission have been accused of negligence in as far as looking after employment files for teachers is concerned.

This, in particular, is in reference to employment files for teachers who have not been confirmed as permanent employees despite having successfully served the probation period of two years.

This has seen the teachers running up and down from their workplaces to the TSC offices located within the ministry of education building in Mbabane to follow up on their matters.

One teacher, who spoke on condition of anonymity in fear of victimisation, told this newspaper she has been the four times unlucky with the commission where her employment file keeps on getting lost. Having been employed three years ago on a permanent basis, the teacher said she should have been confirmed by now but none of that has happened.

This is in accordance to the normal procedures of the TSC which states a teacher should be confirmed as a permanent employee after successfully completing the probation period of two years.

However, despite having completed the probation period, the confirmation has not

been forthcoming as she keeps on being told to replace her file which has been lost.

Whenever she follows up on the matter, the teacher said all she has been getting was the 'sorry story' from officers at the registry office at the TSC for the fourth time now, with the excuse the file had been lost and thus the need to file her documents again.

"We have been on probation for three years now. At first, when we follow up on our cause with the TSC in Mbabane, we were told they do not know anything about our files and we have to submit our certificates and fingerprints and sign new contracts then our fate will be decided together with those of teachers hired in 2013 like us, which we did," she said.

However, months later during a visit to follow up on the matter, she said they were made to learn the files had been lost again and we had to bring our certificates and fingerprints for another file. The negligence by the officer of the TSC is said not only to be an inconvenience but also an economical drain due to the expenses she has to cater for when she makes the trip to the TSC offices in Mbabane and let alone ditching her classes for the whole day when she makes the trip.

Upon her efforts proving futile, the teacher revealed that she decided to seek for the intervention of her superior,

the principal whose efforts also hit the snag when the same story of the file getting lost was relayed to him.

The aggrieved teacher stated she had had enough of the games by the TSC as all she needed was to get the attention and service she deserved as per the responsibilities of the commission.

Another teacher shared a similar story which she said she has been nursing hopes to be confirmed for the past seven to eight months since completing her probation.

On a number of occasions she has been given false hope that her file was being auctioned when in actual fact that was not true.

She said she was supposed to be confirmed in February, but that did not happen and when a follow up was made at the end of August, she was told her file was being processed. When she went to the officer supposedly working on her file, she was shocked to learn the file was not with her. In fact, no one knew where it was until they had to search for it and found it in one of the offices. "After it was found, we then took it to the relevant officer and until now I am still waiting for feedback in so far as the processing is concerned," she said. Also, this is said to affect the teachers in that whenever their colleagues notch, for them it's a different case as they do not get such a benefit.

fhi360
THE SCIENCE OF IMPROVING LIVES

ICAP
GLOBAL HEALTH ACTION.
Columbia University
Mailman School of Public Health

VACANCY

JOB TITLE: Driver

REPORTS TO: Fleet Coordinator

Overview: Provide support to the ICAP Program by transporting Program staff, clients and implementing partners in undertaking Program work of ICAP Swaziland

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Drive ICAP vehicles safely to field destinations throughout Swaziland on a daily basis
- Ensure all vehicles are fueled and maintained prior to the day's work and ready for field work each day.
- Report any maintenance issues to the supervisor in advance of a problem.
- Log all trips taken accurately on the ICAP Vehicle Log sheet and submit the completed log sheets to the Fleet Coordinator on a weekly basis.
- Comply with the ICAP Swaziland Driver's Code of Conduct.
- Ensure all traffic laws are adhered to on a daily basis.
- To communicate effectively with all ICAP Staff, Visitors and Partners.
- Ensure internal and external cleanliness of the allocated vehicle on a daily basis.
- Any other duties as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- O'level certificate

PREFERRED EXPERIENCE AND OTHER SKILLS:

- Clean driver's license (for at least 5 years)
- At least 3 years as a professional driver, with an NGO, or which driving was primary function
- Ability and willingness to travel frequently
- Fluency in English and SiSwati – written and spoken
- The ability to communicate effectively and work with a diverse team
- Flexibility to work overtime and be stationed at different area/regions as and when required.

How to Apply

Interested applicants should send their application and resumes named after their surnames by email with a subject line "Driver" to icap-jobs-swaziland@columbia.edu. Closing date for applications to be submitted: **Friday 28th October 2016** at 17:00pm.

Please do not attach any certificates when submitting on line. Only short listed applicants will be contacted. Please consider your application unsuccessful if you don't hear from us 3 weeks after the closing date.

VISUALLY IMPAIRED CALL FOR INCLUSION IN DEVELOPMENT, HIV ISSUES

STORIES BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

“Leaving disabled people out when tackling developmental issues will be regressive for the country’s aspirations towards attaining first world status.”

Federation of Organisations of People with Disabilities in Swaziland (FODSWA) President Mandla Methula, said they were for this reason grateful to the Municipal Council of Mbabane for the strides made in making the city friendly to needs of the disabled.

“In our advocacy, we asked that the town be accessible for people with disabilities and the municipality was very responsive as they have listened to our concerns and improved services accordingly,” Methula said during the commemoration of the White Cane Day, which took place at Council premises yesterday morning. The event, themed ‘In the race for sustainable development’ had members of the community calling for their inclusion in economic activity seeing as they too had aspirations to be contributors thereof.

He commended structural improvements which have been made by the Council after their insistence such as ramps along the streets to enable those who use wheelchairs easy access.

Other changes include audible traffic lights which enable those with visual impairment to cross the road appropriately as well as guide blocks which enable them to walk on the pavement using their cane.

He called for assistance in the public transport sector stating how boarding them was problematic as they were not equipped to handle those with different disabilities.

On the other hand, National Association of the Visually Impaired President Nhlanhlahlenhle Mtsetfwa, called upon the nation to identify those who have varying degrees of

...institutions commended for embracing change and making services and goods accessible to disabled people



Alwande Simelane, Bonginkosi Mtsetfwa with visually impaired Sibongile Dlamini who was accompanied by her neighbour Sibongile Dladla sitting in anticipation before the beginning of the commemoration of White Cane Day yesterday at the Mbabane City Council premises. (Pic: Thembeke Dlamini)

blindness, not with pity, but with intention of tapping into their capabilities and harnessing their ability to make wealth.

He lauded the way organisations were opening their doors for the visually impaired as some were starting to accept their capabilities and employing them.

Leaf

“We have the Central Bank of Swaziland which has over the years employed Tom Mndzebele as well as Nedbank Swaziland which has Philip Dlamini. If others could take a leaf from these institutions, they would realise that those who are visually impaired are also capable of working normally, provided a few modifications are done,” Mtsetfwa said while assuring that the quality of work done by the visually impaired was up to standard. After reiterating and commending the municipality for their contributions towards their well being, he lauded the Swaziland National Library Services for including the disability corner which has given them confidence in learning and embracing information. “We now use computers due to those

which are in the library and this will ensure we keep pace with the ever changing world of information dissemination,” he said.

The municipality CEO Gideon Mhlongo, who was represented by Road Works Manager Bheki Tfungbatsa, said the city was aware of the disabled community and was trying to include them in their programmes.

He highlighted that the current structural developments were just the beginning as they were looking at making the whole city accessible and were seeking funding to continue with installing audible traffic lights while new pavements would have the guide blocks.

The Central Bank Governor Majozi Sithole, through General Manager-Research Sikhumbuzo Dlamini, said the bank’s mission was to ensure price and financial sector stability conducive to economic development within the Kingdom of Swaziland. “It is in the pursuit of such an objective that as a bank we found it prudent to ensure that as all Swazis strive for prosperity, our visually impaired are not left behind,” he said.



Central Bank GM Research Sikhumbuzo Dlamini exchanging pleasantries with Sicelo Dlamini who travelled from Luve for the commemoration.

...Appropriate HIV prevention lessons needed

With the country trying to eradicate new infections of HIV, the visually impaired are being left behind as programmes on prevention do not include them.

FODSWA President Mandla Methula said their education was overdue as leaving them behind was tantamount to perpetuating the spread of HIV.

He said it was disappointing to note

how counsellors elected to stand in front of them and demonstrate how a condom is supposed to be put on whereas their vision was only necessitated by touch.

Condoms

“It is well and good they demonstrate how condoms are supposed to be used, however, we are supposed to be taught in a way we are able to do it for ourselves and this then calls for

them to use different techniques like letting us touch the teaching apparatus as a way of learning,” he said.

He emphasised that the issue of new HIV infections could not be eradicated by merely teaching those who are without disabilities only.

“HIV affects everybody and we all have to be taught on how to take precautions and accessing health care,” he said.



The money identifying cards has indications for all note denominations thus making them easier to identify.

Central Bank donates 10 000 money identifying cards

The Central Bank of Swaziland distributed 10 000 money identifying cards to the National Association of the Visually Impaired.

The Central Bank Governor Majozi Sithole, through General Manager-Research Sikhumbuzo Dlamini said, “As we continued to interact with visually impaired persons through various forums we noted they were struggling with regard to handling some of the currency that we as a bank are responsible for issuing in the country.”

He said it was on this premise they observed that while they have over the years strived to make it easier to identify coins through the features they kept introducing, the same could not be said about the notes.

“This affected visually impaired persons either in their normal day-to-day trading or in business,” Sithole said adding, “I am pleased that today, on this very significant day, the Central Bank will be distributing Cash Test Cards, which will assist visually impaired persons to easily identify the notes.”

Before we depart today, the team from Central Bank will distribute and demonstrate the use of the cards. I hope you

find them useful.”

The bank acquired 10 000 cards, which will be distributed to all visually impaired persons in the country free of charge. However, in the unfortunate event that a person loses the card and requires a replacement, it will be replaced at a charge of E30.

Best

“We hope we shall do our level best to keep the cards safe,” he said.

President Nhlanhlahlenhle Mtsetfwa said this was one of the developments which they wholly embrace as it shows they are included in the country’s economic activity and plans.

“In the race for sustainable development, such moves will develop the country as well because we are also contributors to the economy as we have several business people within our ranks who are successful but were impeded by failure to identify the money properly,” he said, further appreciating the innovative card which was demonstrated to the visually impaired by Khangezile Mkhonta.

The card is intended for users to identify the various Emalangeneni notes as they are differentiated in denominations according to length.

Assist visually impaired

The commemoration of White Cane day serves as a reminder on the significance of the white cane which assists the visually impaired make their way around.

Thembelihle Vilakati said this called for vigilance of drivers and pedestrians whenever they encounter a person walking with the cane extended because often than not, the bearer does not know of their presence.

“Whenever you come across a person carrying the cane, assist them to find the right direction of their destination because they cannot see where they are going,” she said.

Recalling how the day came about, Central Bank of Swaziland Governor Majozi Sithole, who was represented by General Manager-Research Sikhumbuzo Dlamini, said the day’s objective was to educate the world about blindness and how the blind and visually

impaired can live and work independently while giving back to their communities.

“It is intended to celebrate the abilities and successes achieved by blind people in a sighted world and to honour the many contributions being made by them,” he said.

He highlighted how the day provided an opportunity to increase awareness about the white cane.

“We shall forever remain grateful to one of the originators of white cane, Mr. James Biggs.

“Mr Biggs became blind after an accident in 1921.

“He was uncomfortable with the amount of traffic around his home and apparent failure by these motorists of his impairment that he decided to paint his walking stick white to be noticed from a distance. This innovation later spread throughout the world.”

VACANCY

ANNADALE PRIMARY SCHOOL is looking for a Physical Education Sport trainer and a teacher who can teach Primary School, deadline 7days. Send your application to P.O. Box 2769 Mbabane #100.

RN 183002 Dz 23 Oct



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Kareem Ashraf and his wife who are Indonesian and Indian Consulars, respectively, Sagar, the PM, Prince Hlangusemphi, Minister Princess Tsandzile and the SEC MD.

MONA ASHRAF COMMENDED FOR THERMAL CONTRIBUTION

BY MLONDI MPANZA

The Indian Consul in Swaziland, Mona Ashraf has been commended for her role in the consultations between the government and JSW Energy which will be bringing into the country a massive investment of about E7 billion (US\$500 million) to establish the first ever thermal power plant in the country.

The wife to Indonesian Consular and businessman Kareem Ashraf was applauded by the Prime Minister, Sibusiso Dlamini on Friday during the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the government, the Swaziland Electricity Company and JSW Energy Limited.

The company of Indian origin is a subsidiary of the JSW group of com-

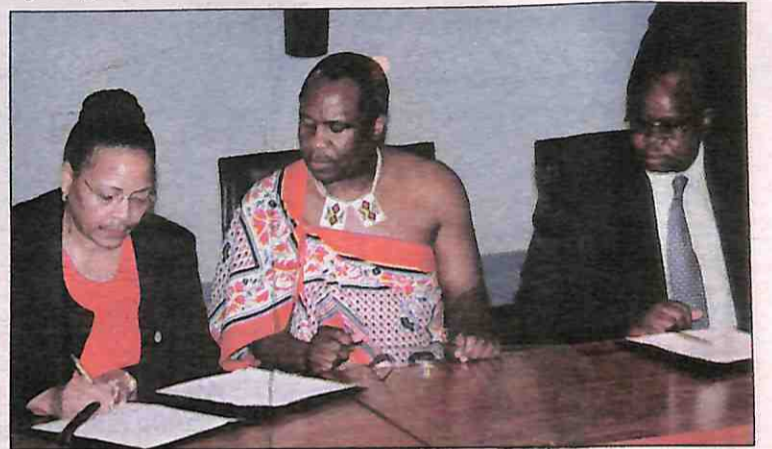


Mona Ashraf with officials from JSW Energy listening to speeches.

panies and through the MOU, the company will generate electricity by use of coal produced in the country which would then be sold to SEC.



The Prime Minister making his remarks whilst flanked by Sagar and the Minister.



PS Winnie Sterwart also signed as a witness during the event.

Making his remarks, the PM stated these were the fruits of negotiations which had taken over eight months which will soon lead to the development of a business plan and feasibility study to make sure the project is a success.

All along, the country has been dependant on South Africa and Mozambique for power and recently the country has become fully dependant on the two neighbouring countries due to the impact of the drought the country was facing.

HEELS ON WHEELS

A women's road safety networking dialogue.

The dialogue is organized to empower lady car owners, future owners and drivers on different aspects of buying, owning, driving and dealing with vehicles and road safety issues on a day to day basis. Emphasis will be on how to choose a car to buy, financing it, insurance and road safety, according to one of the organisers of the event Sibongiseni Mamba.

The objective, Mamba said, is to give women full control of their interaction with cars. "The concept was actually born out of conversations I had with different lady friends and colleagues who challenged the perception that cars and car discussions are the sole privilege of us men.

The reality is that women interact with cars these days as much as men do. In those conversations, these ladies also highlighted some of the challenges and inconveniences they face in their daily interactions with their cars, including things such as changing a tyre, interpreting a signal on the cockpit and so on," said Mamba. Critically, he said, the focus of the dialogue would be on safety, particularly with our roads increasingly becoming dangerous due to bad driving and hijackings.

This is the first of two road safety events planned by the company. Another will be hosted soon potentially in partnership with another vehicle brand.

"We had a discussion with representatives of Volvo in Nelspruit who showed a keen interest to partner with us to host a comprehensive dialogue exposing our drivers to different options on safe driving and some useful practical tips when dealing with cars. They agreed to also educate and demonstrate some of the safety features that their cars are known for," he added. Volvo cars are known for their premium safety standards, luxury and stability.

Many ratings and reviews across the world pit the Swedish brand against German luxury models such as Mercedes Benz, Volkswagen and BMW. In Swaziland, it might not be as popular as its German competitors, but Volvo cars still turns heads and add colour and life to any parking lot or drive way. "We are happy to form this partnership with such a brand," Mamba said.

To add value to the conversations, said Mamba they also invited specialists in vehicle finance,

insurance and anti-hijacking to make presentations and lead a discussion on those issues. Hijacking is by far the scariest experience any driver can endure, especially given the violence used of late in hijackings. "The discussion will look at some of the known ways drivers can either use or avoid to prevent and survive hijackings. The intention is to enlighten our audience at the same time challenge them to draw from their own experiences."

On the day, guests will also have an opportunity to test-drive some of the latest Volvo models. There will also be an opportunity for people to learn basic golf skills. "We would like to invite ladies to attend this empowering event, not only to learn about cars, road safety and vehicle management, but to also be part of the conversation and meet other ladies who appreciate the finer things in life.

Interested individuals can pay E250 at the door. Groups of 10 enjoy a E50 discount on condition that they make a prior arrangement with us via an e-mail on bontlecomm@outlook.com or through our Facebook page Heels on Wheels with Volvo. They may also call Busile on 76088608."

Heels on Wheels

an empowering conversation on:

- Insurance
- Vehicle finance
- Surviving hijacking
- Buying a new car
- Know more about your car

Date: 29 October 2016

Venue: MTN Golf Park, Ezulwini

Time: 12:30-19:30

Entrance: E250.00

GOLF LESSONS

Come and test-drive a Volvo

Contact: 76786829 or 76088608

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

UNISWA READY FOR PERMANENT RADIO LICENSE

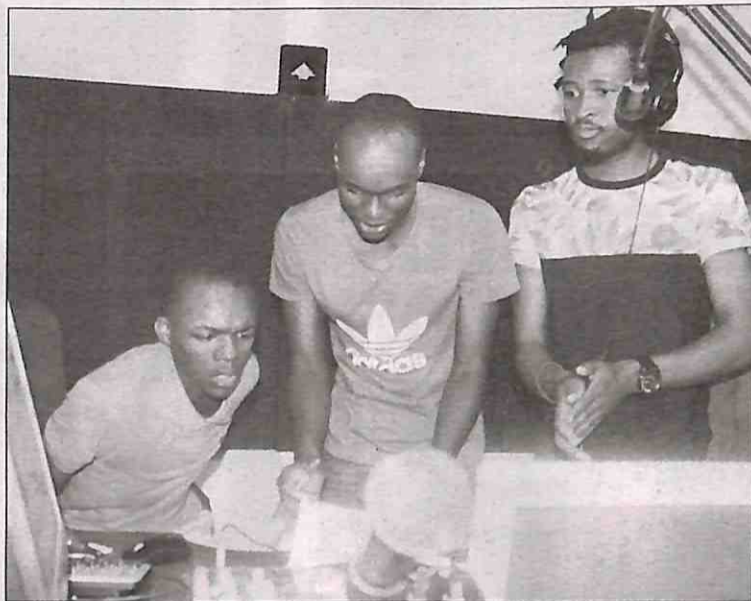
The University of Swaziland is ready to run a radio station full time following the successful running of the three day campus radio after being granted a provisional licence.

This is the feeling of the university's Head of Journalism Department Dr Maxwell Mthembu. He said although the university and the Journalism and Mass Communication students had little time preparing before going live, he felt as though they successfully proved to be more than capable of running a station full time.

Mthembu said applying for the provisional licence while they waited for the Swaziland Broadcasting Bill to be finalised, was an idea they had for a long time before actually applying for the licence which was granted to them in a few weeks time. The students jumped to the opportunity of gaining broadcasting experience, starting a day before their graduation day and went off air last Sunday.

"It is an idea we have had for a while but we finally decided to take action and apply. We applied for the three day licence and that is what they granted us. Because it was close to the graduation ceremony, we had to action fast and purchase equipment as well as train the students before they could start broadcasting but it all went well," he said.

Mthembu said the feedback they



UNISWA students were found hard at work in their campus radio studio last week as they took turns in broadcasting.

had received was mostly positive hence he believed the university was ready to have a station full time. The university staff and students are just some of the number of people in the country who are eagerly waiting for the Swaziland Broadcasting Bill of 2013 to be passed.

According to the Swaziland Communications Commission,

some of the things the bill seeks to achieve is ensuring the commercial and community licenses viewed collectively, are controlled by persons or groups of persons from a diverse range of communities in Swaziland, as well as ensuring broadcasting services are effectively controlled by Swazis.

The broadcasts from the UNISWA Campus Radio last



UNISWA students Mandisa Maseko and Sandile 'Switch' Khumalo were among the student broadcasters.

weekend was evidently met with excitement from students at the tertiary institution, as well as other Matsapha residents who could access the station on the 107.2 Frequency Modulation (FM).

The students who took turns in broadcasting were well received by the youthful listeners who could relate to the youngsters who kept things in the studio exciting. This

was evident through the social media interactions that each of the broadcasters had with their listeners who applauded them for the content and music that was being played. The students also ran frequent news bulletins updating the listeners on the graduation ceremony that was graced by His Majesty King Mswati III, and other breaking news.

UNISWA Radio Station in line with vision 2022

BY LUNGELO NKAMBULE

University of Swaziland students have applauded the department of Journalism and Mass Communication for their historic three day radio broadcast during the graduation weekend.

Kwaluseni Campus Electoral Officer Menziswa Dlamini said as students they were proud of the

department and how far it had come. "They have proven they are a priority course just like every other course," he said.

Dlamini said the department had come so far from being sidelined by government from the scholarship list to making Uniswa the first tertiary institution in the country that had a radio broadcast. "We are very proud of our brothers and sisters in that department and we

would like to applaud the administration as well as the department lecturers for making this happen," he said.

He said the way the students were happy when the students went to air was amazing.

It was amazing to see all students on campus so excited, some converged at the tuckshop to listen to the station and it was the talk of the corridors. The students even went

on to say the first thing the incoming SRC had to do was engage the administration and the JMC department and have the station permanently," he said. Dlamini further said the three day broadcast was in line with the King's 2022 vision.

"First world states have campus radios and this is in line with the King's vision," he said. He said it was therefore important for all parties involved to make sure the department got the full time

license. "First and foremost it benefits the students because they get a practical feel of what they are taught in class, secondly the whole student committee and Kwaluseni committee because it addresses issues that affects us," he said. He said the broadcast also showed Swazis were working towards making the dream come true. "We applaud the JMC department and plead with the administration to help them get a permanent licence," he said.

Suddenly it has changed...

Mr. Editor,

The main requirements for receiving scholarship the last time I checked was through performance and citizenry.

The higher one performed, the lightly they would be to obtain it. If it has changed to vulnerability, that also would require most vulnerable students get funding from government.

The government will soon restore the 60 percent allowances to government sponsored students.

However, nothing is being said about Law students which the government completely cut from its budgets as far as scholarship is concerned. My question is WHY? Aren't these Law students Swazi citizens didn't their parents and themselves pay enough tax? Don't they face the challenges faced by all other students? After all, tertiary problems are not faced only by Humanities students or even science problems. Each respective course

offered by the institution is challenging and has its difficulties. My concern grows each time students hit the headlines of the local newspaper and no one asks these questions. Law courses require many books, statutes, a constitution and other requirements. Has the government considered how they afford to get those each and every year.

Many students have grievances that what the Government is offering them is not enough.

Today I put it to you that there are students who are cut off completely, and they don't get any form of assistance.

In either form of book allowances, accommodation fees nor tuition. It raises many questions then, is the Government really supposed to choose which programmes its citizenry should now take? What happened to the right to education, isn't it infringed? The government is basically classifying Law as a non-require-

ment in the country. Is a law degree that worthless that the government sees no reason to fund students who chose to study it. These are questions you ask yourself as you walk down the corridors of Kwaluseni Campus thinking you were going to attend a class only to find that the students paid for by government have called for a strike.

There is nothing more painful than struggling with your fees and be put under pressure for exams by another person who does not face the same challenges as you do.

It is amazing how this students pass every year, hence a law course requires extensive reading over and over again, and with the random strikes which do not concern them, they still manage to excel.

Then why wouldn't they be classified as "beneficiaries" in terms of funding.

It would be a good idea for everyone to share the little that is there than some to get more and some none at all, after all our 2005 Constitution expresses clearly about promoting

equality amongst all. We need intervention in these matters; the government could consider paying for all programs fairly and allow students to perform in their respective institutions in a competitive scale if needed. There can never be education that is more important than another, The legal advisers in every government department are leaned in the Law, the chief justice, The attorney general, the director of public prosecutions, the attorney general, all judges and magistrates studied law.

The question then comes, when the people filling all these positions retire, will their positions be filled by teachers, or doctors? The need for teachers is as equal as the need for lawyers in the country.

Who would challenge the laws that are repugnant to the constitution and common law, the abuse of power amongst the three arms of government, see to it that the state adheres to the rule of all and all conventions it signed. The need for education is equal to the need for freedom, the need for having protected and

enforceable rights

The government should consider every Swazi child, not some. Furthermore, I hope the SADC Summit we just hosted will also broaden the Law interrelations in between countries.

As much as a Swazi doctor can practice in South Africa and other countries, a Swazi Attorney should also be able to practice in South Africa and other countries just as Attorneys from other countries can do the same. Instead of trying to cut the numbers of attorneys in Swaziland, the government should consider exporting its lawyers to other regions in Southern Africa and abroad. One does not need to be in his own country to make a change, after all the previous chief justice was from another country. We hope those in power will fight for significant change, because I believe what changes the world are not the big projects alone, but also the little developments too.

Regards,
The voice of Law students



World Vision Communications Manager Thabile Maripe.

E23.1 MILLION EMERGENCY AID BENEFITS 30 000

BY SIZWE DLAMINI

A collaboration between World Vision and the World Food Programme (WFP) will see over 30 000 benefit from cash transfers of E110 each per month until the end of March next year.

The dissemination of E23.1 million started this past week and 6 000 households will benefit from the initiative, according to information sourced from World Vision Communications Manager Thabile Maripe

Maripe stated as the effect of the drought continued to worsen in the country, World Vision Swaziland,

with support from the WFP, this week commenced money-transfers aimed at meeting the basic needs of 30 000 people in drought-affected areas under both the Lubombo and Hhohho regions.

Maripe said, "The overall objective of the programme is to save lives and protect the livelihoods of the drought-affected populations in both the Lubombo and Hhohho regions."

Maripe stated in identifying, registering and verifying processes conducted by World Vision and the WFP, priority was given to vulnerable elderly headed households. She further explained how they had identified other vulnerable households such

as those with people living with disabilities, child headed households, those directly affected by drought, those classified as extremely poor as well as households with severely impacted livelihoods.

Maripe said, "With these monthly money transfers, the model seeks to empower people as well as stimulate existing markets in their living areas by providing money rather than only

food aid. We anticipate improved economic access to more diverse food choices that meet basic food and nutritional requirements."

She stated how they also expected to increase each household's food consumption. She further revealed that the affected households would receive their monthly money transfers through MTN's Mobile Money service.

The aid is distributed as follows:

Region	Constituency	Number of Beneficiaries
Hhohho	Madlangempisi	6 072
Lubombo	Lugongolweni	11 168
Lubombo	Nkilongo	12 260



Michael Mbetse, Fisiwe Vilane, Nozipho Shabangu, Thulisile Mbetse, David Ngcamphalala, Stanley Mkhwanazi, Makhosami Dlamini. SECOND ROW; Owenkosi Nyawo and Mlayeto Dlamini.

SNYC board to work through festive holidays

STORIES BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

The new-look Swaziland National Youth Council board has been instructed to work tirelessly and forget about taking a festive break in order to restore the organisation's dignity to its intended stature. Minister of Sports, Culture and

Youth Affairs David Ngcamphalala, laid out the terms under which the board is supposed to work during the introduction of two members who joined other members who were appointed over three months ago. The new members are Stanley Mkhwanazi and Nozipho Shabangu. They replace Futhi Dennis-Langa who was awarded a scholarship to

Harvard University a few days before the announcement of the board led by MTN Swaziland's Brand and Sponsorship Manager Fisiwe Vilane. The minister said the board members could only go on festive break after providing a report which should be on his desk by February, the latest so he can be able to table it before parliament when the fourth session com-

mences. The minister, echoed by his Principal Secretary Chief Mlayeto, said his office was bombarded by calls made by members of the public who were curious about the goings on of the council. He called for each member to work together in furtherance of the youth agenda. "There should not be any cases of looking down on each other as you

have all been chosen due to your capabilities and what you have to offer in terms of experience," Minister Ngcamphalala said. He called for the members to remember the wise counsel of King Sobhuza II who said wise people knew how to listen to everybody's perspective. "Constructive contributions from others will help you make a difference in this organisation. However, after listening to others, weigh and see how the advise will help the organisation," he said.

TAKE YOUTH AS PRIORITY

The new-look SNYC board has been challenged to make youth a priority. Principal Secretary Chief Mlayeto said, in as much as his ministry was intended to look at issues affecting the

youth, the board's mandate was to take their issues and make them a priority because they have the future of the country in their hands. He said the board was appointed

on the premise of trust which he hoped would not be broken by the members while they execute their duties. On the other hand, board Chairperson, Fisiwe Vilane, com-

mended the minister of sports, culture and youth affairs for bringing together people who have already demonstrated their passion for youth initiatives. She said she was excited to note that she had previously seen their passion in helping the youth in action. "I thank God for the youthful

board as I know this will help us understand issues that affect the youth," she said while noting how the gender balance was in their favour as women were adequately represented. She called for an increased working pace and further promised not to break the trust of responsibility entrusted on them.

SwaziMed Select Committee gets an extension...

BY LUNGELO NKAMBULE

Parliament SwaziMed select committee has requested for an extension in its investigation of the matter. The committee which was selected after an intense debate in parlia-

ment on September 7, was given 30 days to investigate if SwaziMed, a local medical aid company, had the skills necessary to administer itself. This came after a motion of privilege moved by seasoned Member of Parliament Marwick Khumalo. Moving his motion, Khumalo said

SwaziMed did not have the adequate skill to administrate itself hence it must not terminate its contract with its South African service provider, MedScheme. Khumalo was of the view that a select committee be put in place to look into the operations of

SwaziMed and the localisation process be stopped while the investigations were underway. During the debate, members of parliament were against the stopping of the localisation process saying it was interference but nevertheless agreed to select a committee which would look into the operations of the company. Now 30 days after the committee

was selected, its Chairman Kubuta MP Njabulo Mabuza requested a two weeks extension. He said they had faced some challenges and would have all the necessary information in two weeks. While the select committee has asked for an extension in Parliament, SwaziMed has started with its hiring process through JBH consultants.

ENACTUS VOCTIM INITIATES RECYCLING PROJECT

BY MLONDI MPANZA

While many continue to make noise in as far as the use of disposable nappies is concerned, the Enactus team from Gwamile VOCTIM has decided to act on the matter through an initiative which seeks to recycle these nappies.

The initiative to keep the country clean was launched a week ago at the Ludzeludze RDA, in preparation for the Waste Management Indaba which took place in the past week.

Not only will the project focus on the used nappies, but will also seek to control even other waste that is normally found in critical areas where they could spread diseases.

There is also an economic aspect in this initiative as stated by Wonder Xaba, the Project Beneficiary who told this newspaper that, "The main aim of this project is to create job opportunities in every community through setting up recycle plants or centres to make every waste a good product that can be turned into cash while helping the environment remain clean and healthy."

He explained this approach would help to minimise the amount of waste, including disposable ending in the landfills.

Of note, the issue of waste control has been the subject of discussion in the country in recent times, particularly the improper disposal of the



The littered disposable nappies were loaded in the back of a van after they were collected in areas around Ludzeludze. (1) The participants of the waste recycling project during the collection of the litter. (Courtesy pics)

nappies which has seen members of parliament calling for the ban of such.

Once again, the matter was part of the discussions in the Indaba as reported that the call for ban on these was made known during the Lubombo region leg of the event.

Participants of the Indaba said the

government should ban the use of the disposable nappies because they were part of the contributing factors of poor waste management in the society.

However, it was reported there were also those who held that use of the disposable nappies should only be used on special occasions, opposing the call to completely ban them.

In the discussions, the call for the ban apparently came from males, while females said this only needed a proper way of disposal.

Mbabane West Member of Parliament, Johane Shongwe has made it known he is for the ban of the disposable nappies because they were a major challenge due to not being properly disposed.

Adding on the disposable nappies recycling project, Xaba stated the project would be the best tool for the country to fight climate changes as it focuses mainly in biodegradable waste and any other waste that produces greenhouse gases to the atmosphere that includes fermenting used disposable and garbage. Xaba further encouraged landlords and individuals who have a challenge on disposing their waste and disposables to come forward so that a plan could be made and a solution found in order to dispose of these in a proper way.

But, he decried the fact that the project was slow due to lack of funding. "It is very difficult to operate in this field since most people and businesses are less interested in funding new environmental ideals," he stated before revealing that the launch was only a success through the support of the Swaziland

Environment Authority and Smile Supermarket yet this was meant to benefit the whole country.

When asked why the project was kick-started at Ludzeludze RDA, Enactus VOCTIM's Chief Executive Officer, Phinda Dube said this was because there was a pre-school and a primary school just a few metres away from the affected area hence they were trying to minimise the health risks to the innocent children.

Throwing around ideas on the management of waste in the country, Chief Maliwa Maziya of Maphungwane felt the sale of plastic bags by shops would be one factor that can help. Alternatively, the introducing of paper bags for carrying groceries as opposed to the use of use of plastic bags would do.

The debate on the management of waste in the country also saw the then Minister of Tourism and environmental Affairs, Jabulani Mabuza saying the country had litter everywhere hence the Indaba which was held in all regions.

The aim of making this regional was because many people easily understood and appreciated solutions if they had come from them.

This was because dumping was not just an environmental concern as it was fast becoming a health issue as many communities stand to be affected by contamination stemming from hazardous waste strewn all over the place.

Rains give hope to farmers

BY MLONDI MPANZA

The recent rains have given hope to many Swazis who have rushed to Rural Development Areas (RDAs) to register for tractor hire in preparation for the planting season, as well as collect farming inputs.

This was witnessed during a recent visit to one of the RDAs by the *Sunday Observer* in the Manzini region where farmers were found moving in and out of the officers where they were working on logistics in preparation for the ploughing season.

This is despite the previous season proving to be a disappointment to farmers as they failed to get any yields because of the dry conditions the country was faced.

In an interview, farmers who were found at the RDA, told this newspaper the recent rains gave them hope there would be a good harvest this season hence they were taking their chances to plough.

"So far, there is hope for a better season judging from the rains we have been experiencing of late. There are signs of a possible turnaround in as far as weather conditions are concerned," said one farmer, who preferred to speak on condition of anonymity.

The farmer added they were appre-

ciative of the assistance government was extending to them through the availability of tractors for hire and the provision of the inputs.

He said this was more-so because the services were cheaper than normal and thus making it possible for everyone to plough and get something to feed their families as most Swazis in the rural areas depend on subsistence farming for survival.

The government, through the ministry of agriculture, has over the past couple of years catered for the needs of farmers through a provision of the Farm Input Subsidy Programme.

This is meant at encouraging farmers to be productive in a way they would also be able to contribute to the country's economy.

Registered

Nelly Thwala from the ministry of agriculture said so far they had recorded around 13 415 hours of bookings for tractors and 3 014 farmers had registered for the inputs in all RDAs under the Manzini region.

She said, "For now, we cannot say much about the numbers as the registration is still ongoing and more farmers are coming in with each passing day."

In terms of the hours for tractor hire, the Central RDA at Ludzeludze has the most hours of 4 836, while the least hours are at Malkerns

...as they rush to Rural Development Areas (RDAs) to register for tractor hire in preparation for the planting season and collect farming inputs from government through the subsidy initiative.



Research.

All in all, the Manzini region has a total of five RDAs namely Ludzeludze, Mahlangatsha, Luve, Ngwempisana and Malkerns Research.

1 049 farmers registered for the inputs at Ludzeludze, 952 in Ngwempisana, 550 in Mahlangatsha and 463 at Luve.

The subsidy came as a result of a partnership between the government and India where the country was lent about E500 million to initiate this project.

A month ago, this publication interviewed the Minister of Agriculture, Moses Vilakati who

called upon farmers to start ploughing their seasonal crops, thus take advantage of the rains.

An optimistic Vilakati urged farmers to vary their crops, as well as plough those that matured in different stages.

Plough

For those in the Highveld and moist Middleveld, he advised them to plough maize, while those in the dry Middleveld it should be early maturing maize and sorghum for the Lowveld.

This comes in light of a slight trend being shown by the country's seasonal rainfall outlook, which reflects there were increased chances of nor-

mal to above normal rainfall over most parts of the country during the October to December period.

From January to March, the Meteorological Service said the country should look forward to normal to below normal rainfall.

Concerning the next three months, most parts of the Highveld, parts of central and northern Middleveld, northern Lowveld and Lubombo Plateau should expect the normal to above normal rainfall predicted. However, most of the southern Lowveld as well as parts of the southern Middleveld should expect normal to below normal chances of rainfall.

MORE FROM WILLIAM PITCHER GRADUATION, STATUE UNVEILING



Manzini City Council Acting Mayor Siphon Masuku briefing His Majesty King Mswati III about the King Somhlolo statue which was unveiled on Friday at former Jubilee Park in Manzini. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



His Majesty King Mswati III joined by William Pitcher Principal Philemon Gumedze, Acting Prime Minister Princess Tsandzile and UNISWA Vice-Chancellor Professor Cisco Magagula as they follow proceedings of the day.



William Pitcher Principal Philemon Gumedze presenting cattle to the King.



Cabinet ministers, special guests, chiefs and senators were also among the throngs present at the event.



English and Siswati graduate Ntuthuko Thwala received overwhelming support from family and friends who came through to see him graduate.



Vice-Chancellor Cisco Magagula presenting a prize to one of the best performers.



Graduates lining up for their names to be called as they await their turn to receive their certificates.



UAE businessman Mohammed Omar Saeed flanked by King's Office Director Administration Sihle Dlamini and Dumsani Dlamini after the graduation.



Dignitaries who witnessed the unveiling of the statue.



Also spotted at the event was renowned Zimbabwean Prophet Magaya's wife Tendai, who was accompanied by brethren from the church.



Chiefs and senators also came out in numbers for the graduation ceremony.



Senior officers from the three forces during the singing of the National Anthem.

Focus on SA scene

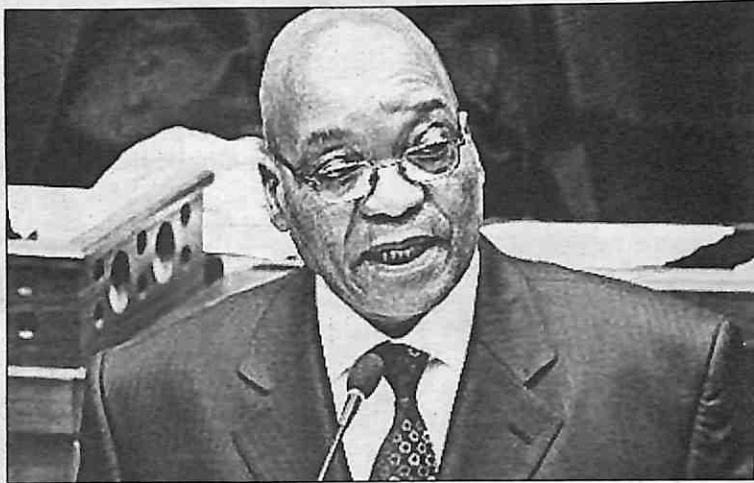
ZUMA PERFECTED CRIME OF CORRUPTION

PORT ELIZABETH - President Jacob Zuma has perfected the crime of corruption, Democratic Alliance leader Mmusi Maimane said yesterday.

Addressing a public meeting in New Brighton in the Nelson Mandela Bay metro, ahead of by-elections scheduled for November 9, he said corruption in all its forms ate away at the possibility of job creation and service delivery.

"Corruption is not a 'victimless crime' or a 'Western paradigm' as once stated by a man who leaves a trail of lies, deceit, and corruption wherever he goes. This trail of lies, deceit, and corruption can be defined by two words - state capture.

"President Jacob Zuma has perfected the crime of corruption by ensuring that the institutions tasked with uncovering and prosecuting against corruption are headed by yes-men and women who have no regard for the Constitution, the rule of law, and



South African President Jacob Zuma.

you, the people of South Africa," Maimane said.

"We're not surprised when there's corruption and the name Jacob Zuma comes up, because he is the same man who started his first term in office, seven years ago, with 783 counts of money laundering, racketeering, and corruption hanging over his 'ugly head of impunity.'"

Maimane said in the past seven years Zuma had captured the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA); a long list of strategic state-owned companies; he dismantled the corruption-busting Scorpions and replaced it with the political hit squad called the Hawks; Zuma's executive had turned Parliament into a lapdog.

News24

UN confirms SA ICC withdrawal

JOHANNESBURG - UNITED NATIONS - The United Nations confirmed receipt of South Africa's withdrawal from the International Criminal Court (ICC), which will take effect one year from last Wednesday, spokesman Stephane Dujarric said.

The instrument of withdrawal document, seen by Reuters on Thursday, has been assessed by the United Nations as bona fide and is being processed, Dujarric said.

Minister of Justice and Correctional Services Michael Masutha said the country's plan to leave the ICC would enable the country to negotiate peace in conflicts in Africa more effectively.

He said South Africa had submitted a written notice to withdraw from the Rome Statute of the ICC.

In March this year, the government lost its bid to have the

North Gauteng High Court ruling that it should have arrested Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir when he was in the country, overturned.

Parliament also confirmed receiving correspondence from Masutha with regard to the decision to withdraw from the Rome Statute.

"Speaker of the National Assembly, Ms Baleka Mbete, and Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces (NCOP), Ms Thandi Modise, today received correspondence from the Minister of Justice and Correctional

Services, Advocate Michael Masutha, informing Parliament of a Cabinet decision to withdraw South Africa from the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court as well as a request for an opportunity to explain the decision in Parliament," it said in a statement. eNCA/Reuters



Reports that Mcebo Dlamini on hunger strike false

JOHANNESBURG - Correctional Services spokesman Manelisi Wolela has denied allegations that student leader Mcebo Dlamini is on a hunger strike at the Johannesburg Prison.

Dlamini, who was denied bail and is set to appear again in court in November, is facing charges of public violence, theft, malicious damage to property and assault.

News that Dlamini was on a hunger strike started spreading on Friday after his comrade Nkululeko Tselane apparently confirmed it to some media houses.

It had also been alleged that Dlamini is being kept in a single cell amid fears that hard-

ened prisoners could harm him.

Wolela said regional management visited the prison on Friday and consulted local management and it was established that Dlamini was not on a hunger strike.

"Those reports are false, Dlamini is not on a hunger strike," he said.

Refused

Wolela refused to reveal where Dlamini was being kept at the prison.

"Any person when he or she gets into our facility, a determination is made where that person should be kept and that is a security matter which I cannot reveal," said Wolela.

- TMG Digital

State capture report won't divide ANC - Mantashe

JOHANNESBURG - There is no reason for former public protector Thuli Madonsela's state capture report to divide the ruling party says ANC Secretary General Gwede Mantashe.

He made the comments during an interview with News24 on Friday, just hours before it was revealed that new Public Protector Busisiwe Mkhwebane would not oppose President Jacob Zuma's court bid to delay the release of a report into allegations of being captured by the influential Gupta family. It's been alleged the family has interfered in key decisions by Zuma, including the appointment of ministers.

Mantashe said the ANC attempted to investigate the matter, but it was fruitless.

"We opened the investigation; they [members of the party who made the claims] didn't come forward and trusted someone else. Its fine," said



ANC Secretary General Gwede Mantashe

Mantashe.

ANC members, including Deputy Finance Minister Mcebisi Jonas and former member of parliament Vytjie Mentor, claimed they were both approached by the family offering them ministerial positions,

Mantashe said the report compiled by the former public protector, who has been criticised in some quarters for rushing the investigation, wouldn't be seen as an issue in the party as long as it was accurate.

News24

Treasury tells Guptas to lay off Gordhan

JOHANNESBURG - The Treasury has told the Gupta family to stop its media campaign against Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan following a week of sustained responses in the media to his affidavit detailing their transactions totalling R6.8 billion.

The Guptas this week responded through media statements that the Treasury's claims contain contradictions.

This follows a turbulent week for the controversial family's Oakbay Investments in which Minister Pravin Gordhan's revelations about transactions flagged as suspicious by the Financial Intelligence Centre were followed by the resignation of company's chief executive Nazeem Howa.

The company's lawyers were expected to file their responding affidavit to Gordhan's application

for a declaratory order that he's not legally obliged to intervene in their disputes with the major banks.

Application

Gordhan's court battle with Oakbay over his application comes ahead of a showdown in court with the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA).

This has also caused ructions in the ANC, with the ANC in North West on Friday urging him "not to behave in a manner that casts aspersions on law enforcement agencies".

IOI

BRIEF

Fight against Islamic militancy makes enemies

CAIRO — Egypt has made fighting Islamic militants its overriding foreign policy objective, a decision that has brought it closer to Syrian President Bashar Assad, Russia and Iran, in turn antagonizing its chief financial backer, Saudi Arabia. The policy is risky at a time when Egypt is struggling to contain a homegrown Islamic insurgency and tackling its worst economic crisis in decades. Saudi Arabia, which has helped keep Egypt's economy from collapse with billions in aid, has already signalled its displeasure by holding back promised supplies of fuel.

AP

Burkina Faso thwart a coup attempt

OUAGADOUGOU - Security officials in Burkina Faso say they have foiled another coup plot in this west African nation and blame it on former presidential guards. Security Minister Simon Compaore said at least 10 people have been arrested, while the top suspect remains on the run.

AP

Cameroon passenger train derailed, 60 killed

YAOUNDE - At least 60 were killed when a packed passenger train derailed between Cameroon's two main cities, a hospital source in the capital Yaounde said yesterday, giving a new toll the day after the accident. Almost 600 people were injured when the train, travelling from Yaounde to the economic hub of Douala, came off the rails near the central city of Eseka at around midday on Friday.

AFP

Libyan speedboat attacks migrant dinghy

TRIPOLI - Up to 25 people were missing, feared drowned, on Friday after men on a Libyan coast guard speedboat attacked a packed migrant dinghy during a rescue operation off the north African state.

German NGO Sea-Watch, which is taking part in the multinational search and rescue operation in the Mediterranean, said the tragedy happened after its boat Sea-Watch 2 and a passing oil tanker was sent to help the distressed dinghy in the early hours.

As the rescue operation proceeded just beyond Libyan territorial waters north of the port of Sabrata, a speedboat bearing the Libyan coast guard insignia arrived and tried to steal the dinghy's outboard engine, spokesperson Ruben Neugebauer told AFP.

AFP

Germany refuses to print bond notes

CAPE TOWN - A Germany company, Giesecke and Dverient has reportedly rejected a request by Zimbabwe to print bond notes for the country's cash-strapped treasury.

According to Zimbabwe Independent, the southern African country had since turned to South Africa and other countries for help. Zimbabwe's Reserve Bank Governor John Kangudya recently announced that the bond notes were expected to be in circulation by the end of October.

Mangudya said by the end of December, at least \$75m worth of bond notes would be in circulation.

The report, however, quoted sources as saying that the German firm, which had previously helped Zimbabwe print money, was reluctant to print the bond notes as confusion surrounding the introduction of the surrogate currency continued. News24



SUNDAYOBSERVER AFRICA NEWS

The right place | The right Sunday

SUDAN URGES AFRICAN MEMBERS TO QUIT ICC

KHARTOUM - Sudan urged African members of the International Criminal Court on Friday to follow South Africa in withdrawing from the ICC, insisting it was a "new colonial tool" targeting only African leaders.

South Africa announced earlier it would withdraw from The Hague-based ICC after a dispute last year when Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir visited the country despite an ICC arrest warrant over alleged war crimes in Darfur.

Authorities in South Africa refused to arrest him, saying as a head of state he had immunity.

South Africa would be the first country to leave the court formally.

Welcoming South Africa's deci-



Sudan's Omar al-Bashir urge ICC African members to quit the 'colonial' court.

sion, which came weeks after Burundi said it would leave the court, Bashir's office urged other African member nations to withdraw as well.

"The presidency of the repub-

lic... calls on African leaders and the people of Africa who are still members of the ICC to take a collective step in withdrawing from the ICC," a presidency statement said.

It said such a withdrawal would amount to implementing a decision taken at a recent African Union meeting at Kigali that described the ICC as a "new colonial tool that targeted the African continent and its leaders".

Follow

A senior Bashir aide told AFP that more African countries were expected to follow South Africa and Burundi as part of African solidarity with Sudan and its president.

"All the cases raised by the ICC target African countries. It never targets a European state or Israel despite the crimes they commit," Ibrahim Mahmoud said.

"We expect that more African countries will quit the ICC."

AP

2018 too far to hold elections - DRC opposition

KINSHASA - Democratic Republic of Congo's opposition coalition has called for elections to be held in 2017, as they maintained that President Joseph Kabila must step down.

This came after authorities and "fringe opposition groups" taking part in a "national dialogue" held to reduce tensions in the country, signed a deal on Monday which would allow Kabila to stay in power until April 2018. The move effectively delayed the presidential vote



scheduled for this year.

In an interview with News24, spokesperson for the coalition Bonga Bogaine maintained it was not feasible for the central African country to hold its elections in 2018.

"They are pushing the elec-

tion to 2018 and we are saying that is very far. In order to protect our constitution, we have to hold it at least in 2017," said Bogaine.

Kabila first took office in 2001, and in 2006 a new constitutional provision limited the presidency to a two term limit which expires on December 20.

A wave of deadly protests pitting police against demonstrators hit the DRC in late September, as the opposition demanded Kabila's resignation.

News24

Malawi leader Mutharika in 'excellent health'

LILONGWE - Malawi President Peter Mutharika has boasted of enjoying excellent health despite suffering from rheumatism which attacked his right shoulder as he returned from the United States last Sunday.

"I am in excellent health. I am not sick," Mutharika told journalists

He explained if he was seriously ill he would not have returned to Malawi because the US - where he was - has excellent health facilities.

"My heart, my kidney, in fact my body is in perfect condition. I only have one small problem - my right hand. I have rheumatism which sometimes makes it go numb as was the case when I arrived at the airport," said Mutharika.

Waving at the media with his right hand, Mutharika said: "My right shoulder is now 80% fine," explaining it will be fully recovered in two weeks.

Challenging that he was far much healthier than journalists who were asking him questions, Mutharika lambasted the media for alleging he was either incapacitated or dead. "I am not incapacitated. People should also differentiate between incapacitation and sickness. The president can only step down if he is incapacitated not when he is just sick," he said. According to Mutharika, it was a mistake for anyone to hide illness because everyone became ill at one point or another.

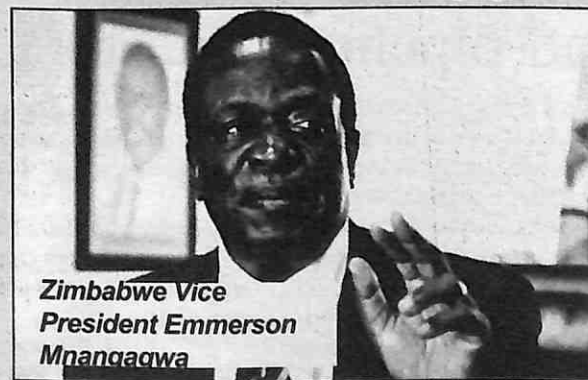
Mutharika added: "Those who talk about my death portray me as if I am like a cat with more than nine lives... I think I have more than nine lives"

News24

IMF decision to reinstate Zim victory for Mnangagwa

HARARE - The International Monetary Fund's decision this week to reinstate Zimbabwe on its books as a full member, which means it can once again apply for loans, was a victory for the Vice President Emmerson Mnangagwa's faction in the ongoing secession battle.

Gerry Rice, Director of Communications at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said Zimbabwe had repaid its \$107-million (R1.4-billion) debt on October 20. "Zimbabwe is now current on all its financial obligations to the IMF," he



Zimbabwe Vice President Emmerson Mnangagwa

said. Finance Minister Patrick Chinamasa, who has tried with little success to reform some of the Zimbabwe government's wild spending and unfriendly investment laws, spearheaded Zimbabwe's attempts to

return to international capital markets, and the IMF was a prime target.

It is not clear yet how he raised the cash as Zimbabwe cannot even pay civil servants, including soldiers, on time.

ANA

BRIEFS

26 travellers treated after London airport 'chemical incident'

LONDON - Hundreds of passengers and staff were evacuated from London City airport on Friday following a reported "chemical incident" that left 26 travellers feeling unwell and shut down flights in and out of the hub.

The airport re-opened later Friday. "We are treating 26 patients at the scene for difficulty in breathing," the London Ambulance Service said, adding that two of them were taken to hospital.

A "hazardous area response team" was also sent to the airport in east London, which caters mainly for business travellers and short-haul flights.

Enca

Forever Trump: Diehard supporters keep their faith

JOHNSTOWN, UNITED STATES - Pundits and pollsters say the bottom may be falling out of Donald Trump's White House run, but diehard supporters in the western Pennsylvania city of Johnstown strongly disagree.

A few hours' drive north and west from liberal Washington, Johnstown, the beating heart of Trump Country, is a world away from the US capital. Industry in the region has been on the decline for decades. Smoke stacks from the steel plants have been quiet for years and large parts of its downtown are deserted. There are few jobs remaining from the steel, coal and garment industries that once kept the local economy humming.

AFP

China slams 'provocative' US sail-by in South China Sea

BEIJING - China has slammed the US for sailing a warship near disputed territory in the South China Sea, saying the move was a "serious illegal act" and "deliberately provocative".

In a statement on its website late Friday night, the country's defence ministry said two Chinese naval vessels warned off a US ship after it entered "Chinese territorial waters" near the Paracel Islands, known as Xisha in Chinese. China controls all of the islands, which are also claimed by Vietnam and Taiwan. The ship's "entrance into China's territorial waters is a serious illegal act and a deliberately provocative act," it said, adding the ministry had made "solemn representations" to Washington.

AFP

Mexico arrests ex-police chief in 43 students case

MEXICO CITY, MEXICO - Mexican federal forces arrested on Friday the fugitive former police chief of the city where 43 students disappeared in 2014 after they were rounded up by local officers. Felipe Flores was detained at 7am in Iguala in an operation involving federal police, the military and the attorney general's office, the National Security Commission said on its Twitter account, without providing more details. Flores was Iguala's police chief when officers attacked dozens of students in the town on September 26, 2014, after the young men stole buses for a protest in Mexico City, a common practice among the trainee teachers in Guerrero state.

AFP



SUNDAY OBSERVER WORLD NEWS

The right place | The right Sunday

CLINTON CAMPAIGN OFFICE RECEIVES SUSPICIOUS ENVELOPE

NEW YORK, UNITED STATES - An envelope containing a white powdery substance was sent to one of White House hopeful Hillary Clinton's campaign offices in New York, though police initially ruled out any danger.

The envelope was first delivered to Clinton's offices in Manhattan, where campaign workers then transferred it to her Brooklyn headquarters, New York Police Department Lieutenant Thomas Antonetti told AFP.

"The preliminary investigation determined it was negative in terms of containing a hazardous substance," he added, noting the department of health was conducting further evaluation to



USA Democratic Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton.

determine the nature of the substance.

Antonetti said the envelope also contained writing, but no death threats.

"We're trying to determine what the substance was. For right now, we can at least rule out any poisonous or deadly nature of the substance," Antonetti said. AFP

Ivanka Trump backs her father, won't fall with him

LAS VEGAS - She is as calm and thoughtful as her father is strident and impetuous.

She is Ivanka Trump, and the distance she has taken from her father Donald has earned her both the respect of Democrats and the head-scratching of analysts.

So the Republican candidate shocked the nation by saying he might not recognise the results of the presidential election if he loses? Ivanka, the model-turned-business-executive, insists "he'll accept the outcome either way."

So Donald Trump is caught bragging in lewd terms that he can do whatever he wants to women, then insists this was only "locker-room talk"? His

daughter calls the comments "inappropriate and offensive" and admits her father's words can be "uncomfortable for us."

Unstinting

Ivanka, soon to turn 35, is still clearly her father's protegee.

He has been unstinting in his praise for his glamorous offspring, a graduate of the prestigious Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. Donald counts on her to attract young and female voters.

In

introducing her father at the Republican convention in July, Ivanka bragged about his "strength" and his "kindness and compassion."

But she also knows when to step back.

Spotlight

Having grown up in the spotlight from an early age, at a time when her father's extramarital affairs filled the tabloid press, Ivanka knows how to tend to her own image - and that of the clothing line that bears her name.

AFP



Anti-pipeline protester tosses pumpkin seeds in Canada

OTTAWA - Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is usually greeted by cheering crowds when he goes out in public but received a less pleasant welcome in Hamilton - a handful of pumpkin seeds thrown by a green activist.

The Canadian Broadcasting Corp said the woman shoved past reporters and threw the seeds at Trudeau before police wrestled her to the ground.

Trudeau, who appeared unharmed, was hustled into his car.

Expand

The woman later told the CBC she was protesting about plans to expand an Enbridge Inc oil pipeline that runs through Hamilton, a city some 50 miles (80 km) southwest of Toronto.

"I did it because I care, and I didn't

know how else to get my point across," said the woman, who identified herself as Ute Schmid-Jones.

The CBC said Hamilton police had released her without charge. Police in the town were not available for comment.

Pressure

Trudeau's Liberal government is under increasing pressure from environmentalists to block major pipeline projects by Enbridge, Kinder Morgan Inc. and TransCanada Corp.

Trudeau's office did not respond directly when asked about the incident, saying in a statement that he "travels the country to meet with Canadians and have conversations with them".

Reuters

UN says to pursue perpetrators of war crimes in Aleppo

GENEVA - The UN Human Rights Council said on Friday it would identify the perpetrators of war crimes in the besieged Syrian city of Aleppo and launched a special inquiry into the use of starvation and air strikes there, as well as increased "terrorist" attacks.

Zeid Ra'ad al-Hussein, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, had earlier called for major powers to put aside their differences and refer the situation in eastern Aleppo to the International Criminal Court.

He said the siege and bombing there constituted "crimes of historic proportions" that have caused heavy civilian casualties amounting to war crimes.

Zeid did not name Russia or the Syrian air force, whose jets have attacked the rebel-held districts of Aleppo for weeks, but his reference was clear.

"Armed opposition groups continue to fire mortars and other projectiles into civilian neighbourhoods of western Aleppo, but indiscriminate air strikes across the eastern part of the city by government forces and their allies are responsible for the overwhelming majority of civilian casualties," he said in a speech to a special session of the UN Human Rights Council.

Such violations constituted war crimes and if there was intent to commit them as part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilians, they would amount to crimes against humanity, he said.

"The violations and abuses suffered by people across the country, including the siege and bombardment of eastern Aleppo, are simply not tragedies; they also constitute crimes of historic proportions," Zeid told the Geneva session.

Reuters



Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

SundayObserver
Scene

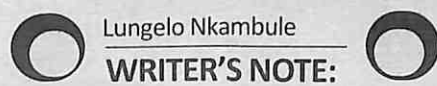
THE SEXUALITY ISSUE

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**THE
FEARLESS
MELZ**

COMPILED BY: Lungelo Nkambule | SUB-EDITING BY: Futhie Dlamini

Email: scene@observer.org.sz



Lungelo Nkambule

WRITER'S NOTE:

This week when doing our main interview, I was reminded of a scripture in the Bible where Jesus says "He who has no sin must cast the first stone." These words became so real for me because for the first time I understood exactly what His message was. Sitting down with Melusi awakened things in me and got me thinking about so many things. I, have never been one to dwell much on the sexual orientation issue until I sat down with this young men. I realised there was just no issue there. I realised we are all the same and this big debate about rights of gays and lesbians was not really necessary. I am heterosexual and I am not ever asked to defend my sexuality to anyone, why then should homosexuals and bisexuals be called and be expected to explain themselves and their preferences? Read more on what the phenomenal Melusi Dlamini says on **PAGE 4** on the matter.

UNISWA Journalism Department made history last weekend when they were granted a temporary radio broadcasting licence. The three day broadcast covered the graduation ceremony which was attended by the institution's Chancellor His Majesty King Mswati III.

The live broadcast was handled by students and the lecturers were just there to oversee the operations of the station. The raw talent which was on display got many applauding. We caught up with TakaNgwane Dlamini a Journalism and Mass Communication student who was a presenter on UNISWA radio to talk about her experience. Senior Producer and News Writer Sibongiseni Zondi also shared his experience with us.

We also bring you more pictures from the UNISWA graduation ceremony which was held at the main campus, Kwaiuseni. The ladies especially, put their best fashion foot forward.

Till next week. Bless!!

"DREAMS DO COME TRUE"

The low down on UNISWA radio presenters

■ Sibongiseni Zondi
B.A Journalism and Mass Communication
Final Year Student
Member of Planning Committee of
UNISWA Campus Radio
Senior Producer and News Writer on
UNISWA Campus Radio

It began as just a dream and ended up as a turning point in Swazi journalism. When the next chapter of Swazi journalism is written, it surely will include the amazing story of UNISWA Campus radio; the country's first campus radio station and I'm glad to have been part of the team that rewrote the history books.

The University's administration called it 'history in the making,' while some listeners told us they felt like they were listening to South African radio. But before I even go there, let me go back just a little. When our HOD Dr Maxwell Mthembu presented this idea to us, it felt like a pipe dream. The feeling was, we were not ready or even capable to pull off a three-day non-stop broadcast. But doubts soon turned to hardwork as we started to plan on how we'd go about doing this.

I was lucky to be part of the Planning Committee chaired by our Lecturer Mrs S. Mohammed and made up of representatives from each year of study in the Journalism department. It was no joke. Here we were, with barely two weeks to go, having to plan on how we were going to create content to use for three days of broadcasting. How were we going to pull this off exactly? But, with God on our side, programme ideas were quickly developed and soon turned into reality. We didn't want just any programmes, but programmes that were tailor made for our audience; the Kwaluseni community.

It didn't just end there. The community had to be involved even further. Therefore, we opened our doors to students outside of the Journalism department to audition for presenting, news reading and hosting shows. We invited student musicians to bring their music. People duly

obliged. We had four presenters, and two of them, Melusi 'Melz' Simelane and Mkhulisi 'Switch' Khumalo came from outside departments.

On the eve of our first broadcast on Friday, on October 14, my colleague and I, fellow senior producer Mndeni Mavuso never went to bed. We were getting ready our running orders, cue sheets, editing some pre-recorded programmes and doing many other things. We left the studio at around 4pm to go freshen up and were back there less than an hour later to get ready to go live at 6am. TakaNgwane Dlamini, a second year Journalism student, made history by being the first to go live on air on UNISWA Campus radio. The rest of the day went well as did Saturday where much of our focus was on the graduation. On the eve of the last day of broadcast on Sunday, we went to bed at 3am-for an hour- again, getting ready for the day's broadcast. In the end it was worth it. This experience, no one will ever take away from us. We had news bulletins' every hour, a first in Swazi radio.

My biggest highlight was producing the Live Sports Show we had on Friday and Sunday, hosted by my good friend and fellow student John Molelekeng. It was really nice planning and then delivering the show to the audience.

A big thank you should go to the Swaziland Communications Commission for giving us the licence. Also, our lecturers, Dr M. Mthembu, Dr A. Uyo, Mrs S. Mohammed and Miss T. Dlamini, who was our Executive Producer, deserve a lot of credit. This is what they taught us and what they continue teaching us. They empowered with knowledge and they were there to guide us through the three days. We are ready to go out to the Journalism industry because of what they have taught us.

In the end, history was rewritten. UNISWA Campus Radio was a resounding success and the names of the students and lecturers who brought it to life shall never be forgotten. The future of Swazi journalism is bright.



■ TakaNgwane Dlamini
B.A Journalism and Mass
Communication Second Year
Student
Prime Time English News
Reader and Show Host

I was very excited about the whole broadcast because I was the first person to actually speak on UNISWA Campus Radio. I am happy to have been part of history in the making. I learnt a lot of things during this wonderful journey and I will share a few below. Firstly, I learnt to work under pressure and I found out that I actually enjoy working under pressure myself. I am happy that UNISWA Campus Radio became a reality and we as Journalism students as well as the

students from other departments, all had various roles to play in making it a success. Personally, I was a news reader and a show host. I hosted a show called 'I am an Entrepreneur' which aired on Saturday. In this show, I hosted two UNISWA students, one male and one female, who are also entrepreneurs and the aim of the show was for them to educate fellow students on how to start and manage their own successful businesses. When it comes to reading the news, I learnt it is important to project my voice in a certain way and also to maintain some sort of formality when reading. In terms of hosting, I learnt that when interviewing people, it is important to make conversations with them. This

requires you to follow what the interviewee is saying and then being able to ask follow up questions based on what they tell you. I also learnt it is important to try and ask as many questions that are open ended in order to create a conversation with the interviewee and to make the interview flow.

Another thing I learnt is that, our field of Journalism requires a lot of determination. There is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes in preparing for broadcasts, for example. Therefore, it is important to give enough time to preparing, for example, by arriving at the studio early to rehearse your script if you will be reading the news. This is important because you can't afford to make

mistakes once you go live on air. I learnt it is not as easy as it looks but if you are prepared and determined, it almost becomes easy. Lastly, I really appreciate the feedback I have been receiving from people. I am happy that people listened and were actually tweeting us and calling to send shout-outs. Even though it was my first time on radio, people have been telling me I have a great voice for it and even our strictest lecturer, Dr A.Uyo, told me I did a great job. This has only pushed my determination levels further. I want to continue improving and learning more in this field of ours and I am grateful for the opportunity we had this past weekend to showcase our skills and talents.





Recently at a conference, George Clooney was questioned by marketers for a comment he made a while ago about Twitter. Clooney said he hated Twitter.

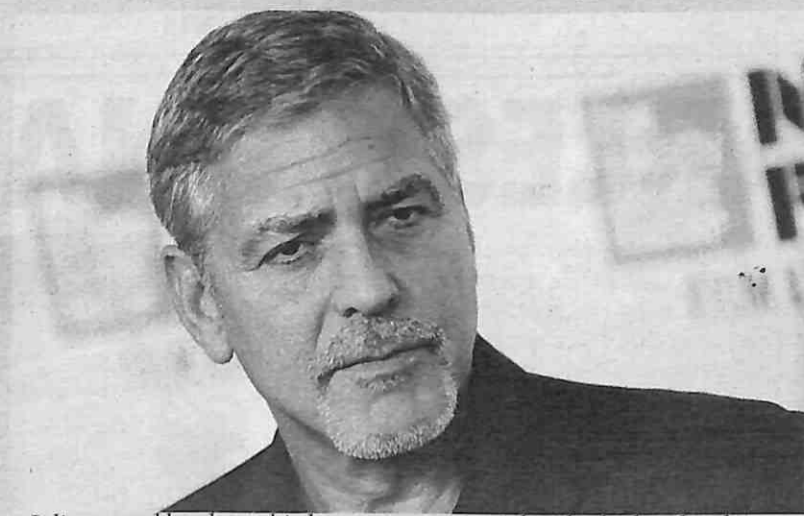
The marketers questioned these utterances. Clooney however did not back down from these questions and stated exactly why he wasn't a fan. He further went on to say followers on Twitter did not reflect on your talent.

But he admitted that social

media had changed the world for the better.

I personally agree with him. Twitter and other social media are not always an indication of your talent but of your relevance and impact.

In a country as small as Swaziland, where many people believe they are celebrities, social media has helped us journalists separate the deal from the chaff. It helps see who is relevant and isn't in our social circles.



I discovered local songbird Landokuhle Dlamini has over 2 500 followers and she follows 278 on Twitter.

Married

See I have heard of the likes of Mr Clooney who have over a million followers and follows none and that was before he was married.

Kanye West was quoted saying he only follows his wife. After this dis-

covery I then looked up local celebrities and socialites and I discovered none was close to Lando. She surpasses the lot. I know everyone on Twitter would like to have more followers than we are following.

Relevance

I have less than five followers and I follow a whole lot of people. Lando must tell us how she does it.

The thing is such things are now used to measure your relevance and impact, especially if you are in the public eye. Lando, ladies and gentlemen, is still our IT girl.

The thing that makes us here at SCENE admire Lando is her staying power and resilience; she is the type of person that you can never write off. Her strength is there for all to see and she is our social media sweetheart.

On another note, can we condemn the spirit of local entertainers and celebrities distancing themselves from everything that doesn't involve them and then after bad mouth whatever it is they weren't invited to.

I was disappointed when I saw comments about the newly-crowned Miss Swaziland. People who are supposed to be leading by example came down on the young women who had joined.

We will not publish their posts but will only speak against such.

RAPPER KG DROPS MUSIC VIDEO

Up-and coming rapper KG, real name Kgagiso Tsabedze yesterday dropped the music video for his leading single 'Now or Never' from his upcoming EP, which is due to be dropped before the end of this year.

We recently met up with him at 80 Script's - The Soiree show and he told us that the EP will be out very soon. Now, he has decided to release a music video for the lead single 'Now or never' which is what he describes as 'Just the tip of the iceberg'.

The St Mark's High School alumnus who also juggles as co-owner of his music stable 'Phalafala Gang', with close friend DJ Brown, revealed that the stable has been spreading its wings with new signings.

"I haven't just been focusing on my work, because you know that as a leader you have to put in the work more than everybody on the team so that you inspire the rest. You are also obligated to help them with their craft too. You need to motivate them, and help them tackle hurdles they might face. We have been working on spotting young talent that can be added to the team."

The youngster has also added SOS high school pupil, the phenomenal young boy himself - Ninja Kid, and The Definition.

"Im very, very, happy about the addition of these talented artists. Especially the fact that people will finally get to hear the youngest member of the team - Ninja Kid. Bra, trust me this kid is something else. Make a n***ga twice or even thrice his age quit."

The music video introduces the crew to the masses, and Kg says they believe it's about time.

"The song, talks about what is going on. That includes things with the squad. It's the right time for the masses to listen to the

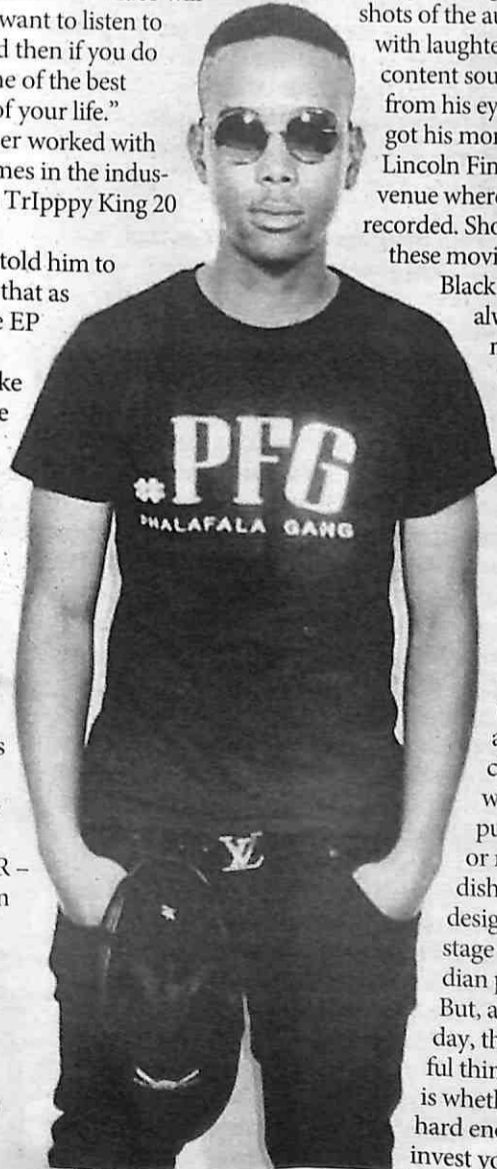
work that we have been cooking for so long. It's not right to keep telling people that you are working on something, but you keep them in the dark, at the same time we shouldn't forget that rushing does not help either. It compromises the quality of the product.

So, with that, I had to make sure that the video includes some of the people I'm talking about. This people I work with are beast. In fact to be quite precise, they are bombs waiting to be unleashed in due time. Soon. The video will make you want to listen to the EP, and then if you do that, it's one of the best decisions of your life."

The rapper worked with a lot of names in the industry such as Trippy King 20 and NR.

We then told him to make sure that as soon as the EP drops, he should make sure that he hooks us up. But better be wary son, because we are expecting a lot from you. Don't pull some stunts. This is crunch time. More like NOW OR NEVER - as your own track says. There's no room for mediocrity chief!

BY SBUSISO DLAMINI



Movie Review

WHAT NOW?

The problem with reviewing a stand-up comedy movie like "Kevin Hart: What Now?" is that I don't have very much to tell you.

From a visual standpoint, these types of movies are rather minimalist.

There are shots of the comedian prowling the stage intercut with shots of the audience howling with laughter. I noticed one content soul wiping tears from his eyes, a clear sign he got his money's worth at the Lincoln Financial Field venue where this film was recorded. Shots of women in these movies—especially

Black women—are always the same mix of "you know that's right" posturing and bemused looks at the trifling man she brought to the show. I can't tell you the jokes because I wouldn't do them justice. I could talk briefly about editing choices and where the director puts the cameras, or maybe I could dish on the set design of the massive stage where the comedian plies his trade. But, at the end of the day, the only truly useful thing I can tell you is whether I laughed hard enough for you to invest your time and



money. The star rating above informs you that yes, the jokes in "Kevin Hart: What Now?" are funny enough for a favorable review. You should go see it, especially if you're a fan of Mr. Hart's brand of self-deprecating observational comedy.

My work here is done. Thank you, America! Good night and God bless!

Um, hi. Me again. The stern but kind taskmasters here at Roger's beloved site have graciously informed me of something called "a minimum word count." So I've got to come up with something else to discuss.

Here's where my mellow gets harshed, because I've such goodwill for the stand-up comedy portion of "Kevin Hart: What's Now?" that I didn't want to mention the uninspired spy movie skit that opens this film. It's a chore to sit through, despite boasting Halle Berry, Ed Helms, Don Cheadle, car chases and faux-graphic violence that mocks Denzel Washington's "The Equalizer."

Hart is a gifted comic actor, as the excellent "Central Intelligence" and

the enjoyable "About Last Night" remake proved, but he's given little to do in this section but kill time. As an ominous onscreen countdown clock reads "20 minutes til show-time", we're stuck with Berry arguing with Hart while Cheadle finds uses for the word "motherf---er" that he didn't employ as Miles Davis in "Miles Ahead." The after-midnight Times Square audience I was with grew rightfully restless as we awaited the feature we came to see.

At least this skit is more seamlessly integrated into the film than the interminable one that opened "Kevin Hart: Let Me Explain." It has a better ending too, with Hart being shot like a bullet through an opening in the stage at Lincoln Financial Field in his hometown of Philadelphia, PA. The crowd that enthusiastically greets him is the largest number of people to ever attend a stand-up comedy event. Director Leslie Small gives us an idea of the scope of such a feat; a shot from Hart's perspective reveals the otherworldly glow of thousands upon thousands of cell phones in the audience.

THE FEARLESS, UNAPOLOGETIC



He is the synonym of both fearless and courage. He is not afraid to speak his mind and fight for what he believes in and will firmly stand for his truth.

Melusi Simelane is the young LGBTI activist, the unapologetic young man who has taken the struggle of the LGBTI people and has made it his mission to fight for their rights and to change the mindset of the media about them. He says nothing will ever come between him and his activism until the government and all other stakeholders change their attitudes on the matter. Melz, as he is affectionately known, argues that like any other human being the rights of gay people must be protected by the powers that be.

He wonders why it is hard for a government to protect the rights of the LGBTI persons when they, like everyone else, pay taxes and do everything that everyone else does to show that they are fully fledged citizens of the country.

The second year University of Swaziland humanitarian is definitely a force to reckon and his work doesn't go unnoticed. Melusi's star shines bright just from the get go of the conversation. The ever so passionate and lively humanitarian speaks about everything, from the importance of the church in the fight for the rights of all persons.

"We cannot deny that the church is powerful and as an LGBTI advocate I know the significance of the church in our quest for acceptance and freedom to fundamental rights.

From a psychosocial perspective, the church is the best support structure one would ever ask for hence we will not stop engaging the church," he pointed out. We sat down with the intelligent young man and this is what he had to say:

Tell us more about your sexual orientation..

My sexual orientation is not as easy as text book explicable. I mean to begin with, we need to understand that sexuality is fluid, so don't be alarmed when you find me engaging in practices you may think aren't 'homosexual' enough.

I suppose I have already given out the fact that I am a homosexual, who believes little of the binary of gender expression -masculine and feminine-. I believe we all have our own descriptions of what sexuality is.

Therefore I am a homosexual who is masculine and happy about it.

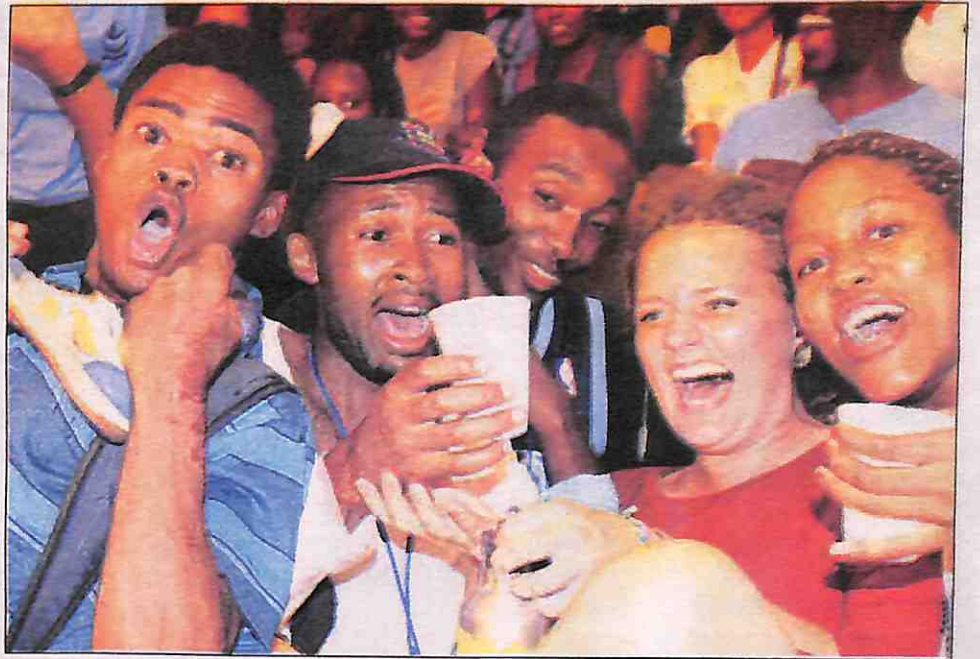
When did you discover you were gay?

This is an interesting one. Is it permissible to say, at about the same age you realised you are black.

When did you decide to come out of the closet?

The day someone comes up to me and explains to me why only those who are not heterosexual are said to be in closets, and then I shall find this question worth an answer.

The honest truth is, I find it oppressive of society to associate the otherwise, not



heterosexual, with closets, like who we are deserves to be hidden. I have never, personally, been "closeted" because I find no reason to be in the closet to begin with. We are who we are, in and outside this closet.

So it never even appeared to be an issue to me, owning to who I was, soon as I read about it and understood, what these differing affections, from my peers were and meant.

Is your family supportive?

My family is my pillar of strength, as they should, they are my relatives and I love them ever so much. However, if you mean in relation to my sexuality, I suppose one would have to ask the question, "does your family support your heterosexuality?"

I am cognisant of the fact that, homosexuality seems a bit foreign to some societies, even though history dictates; it has been a reality for lifetimes now.

Nonetheless, I refuse to believe that my sexuality makes me any different from my brother or sister, or cousin at home. We are all children of our parents and we all have a collective responsibility to love and support each other in preserving our family beliefs and legacy.

What challenges do you face on daily basis because of your sexual orientation?

Where does one begin? For one people think by association, ones sexuality can be altered. Forget the fact that sexuality is fluid; one can feel attracted to one sex today, and another tomorrow. The mere fact that I am seen in the corridors walking with a certain man, it is assumed the man is gay, forget that a majority of my friends are heterosexual men. It is so sad that even the LGBTI persons have fallen victim to this syndrome, because if one is seen walking with a gentleman, it is assumed I am dating them or even sleeping with them. Which is unfortunate because as is, am single and happy about it.

The female friends and acquaintances are the most disheartening with their stereotypes. I mean they expect me to have all the fashion advice they have, why because I am homosexual? I mean I would know a Chanel from a Gucci.

Then there are senior folks, who I can never mention for obvious reasons. They assume I am not worth much, only because I am homosexual. Forget the fact that I am a hard worker, with my shortcomings, but I always give a hundred per cent to all I do.

The boys I stay with in my block do not even talk to me at times, they fear they might be associated with my sexuality. At times it bothers me and at times I am cool with it.

There are those of course that really do not

care about my sexuality and only care for the person I am.

Otherwise, the long and short of it is I love my life; it wouldn't be as fabulous as it is, if I was any other person other than myself.

Do you consider yourself religious?

What is religion? Who came up with it? What purpose does it serve? Save for misogyny, patriarchy, oppression, division, hate, slavery, suffering judgmental attitudes, et al.

What do you think is the role of the church in having gays and lesbians accepted in the community?

The sad reality is that the church has been set to be the core of all human existence in our societies. And to say the church has no role would not only be a lie, it would also be folly. The church plays a vital role in all that pertains to humanity. It was the church that made society see condoms as a means to prevent the virus, it is the church that helps sustain the governance of the state, or any other state, to be quite honest.

If the church continuously denies the LGBTI persons in the place of worship, they perpetuate state funded stigma and discrimination in the sense that the state will find no reason to protect us from any form of oppression.

I believe the church can show the love that Jesus showed all those that He lived amongst.

Once the church shows that love, then society will begin to see the LGBTI as a people themselves, like any other.

PS; I mean clearly, paying taxes is not enough for states to realise that we are citizens deserving of the same rights, freedoms and protections in the constitutions of our respective countries.

Do you consider yourself different from straight people in any way?

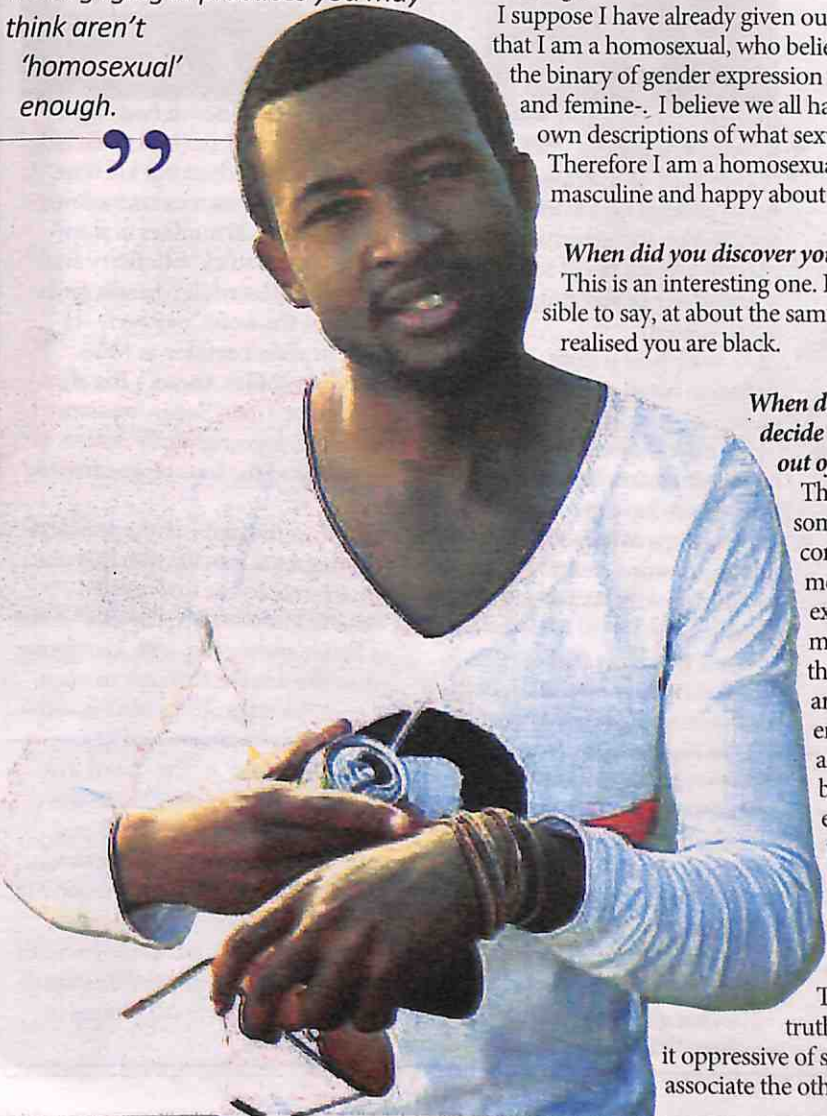
But of course I am different. For one I am attracted to the same sex and they (heterosexuals) are attracted to the opposite sex, that is the difference. Another difference is that, they (most of them, not all of them) are not willing to accept homosexuals for who they are, and homosexuals are willing to accept heterosexuals for who they are.

There are a lot of differences in the way we do things and view life in general.

However, these are only small differences that are as good as similarities. We are all humans and we all have the same traditions and belong to the same societies and communities.

We all pay the same taxes (maybe we pay more, since most of us are contributing real tax, in terms of VAT, Pay as You Earn. If you question this, do your research, you shall find

“
My sexual orientation is not as easy as text book explicable. I mean to begin with, we need to understand that sexuality is fluid, so don't be alarmed when you find me engaging in practices you may think aren't 'homosexual' enough.”





REBECCA SHARES HER LIFE STORY

The queen of gospel is about to bare her heart and soul in a performance that will require her to act, sing and dance.

Rebecca Malope will perform in a musical about her life.

The musical is titled 'Angingedwa: This Is My Story' and will be staged at Carnival City, Ekurhuleni on December 3.

Rebecca told SunBuzz she has always dreamt of acting.

"I wanted to publish a book about my life because that is what my fans wanted. However, my daughter gave me the idea to stage a musical.

"I instantly fell in love with the idea because I knew I would have the chance to act," she said.

The multi-award winning singer, who has been in the music industry for 30 years, will reveal everything about herself in the musical.



Despite her remarkable achievements and awards, her life has not been easy. It has been filled with great heartache and struggles.

The musical will cover everything from her humble beginnings in Lekazi, Mpumalanga, to the highs and lows of her career.

"I'm looking forward to reliving all these moments in my life.

"I hope telling my story in this way will change people's lives and inspire them."

Rebecca is passionate about young talent from the townships.

She will act alongside a cast the audience has never seen before and is excited about working with fresh talent.

She told the People's Paper she feels nervous about acting on stage, but hopes the audience will enjoy her performance.

The musical will debut at Carnival City and the production company plans to take it to venues around the country.

Zahara slays in street style

Singer and songwriter Zahara has been under major scrutiny these past months for her fashion sense but it looks like that is all about to change.

The *Loliwe* hit singer debuted her funky new look on social media a few days ago and her fashion sense seems to also have improved.

Zahara posted a Street Style snap titled "Bang on trend. #countrygirlinternational meeting done and dusted. Businesswoman on the move. #ZaharaArmy" on her Instagram rocking a casual look that looks simple but stunning and has been getting a lot of thumbs up for it and one of her fans even suggested she keeps it.

Babes, bae fly together for the first time

Wololo hit-maker, Babes Wodumo and her fiancé, Big Nuz member Mampintsha, both have a fear of flying.

Babes had never been on an airplane before Monday.

And even though Mampintsha has flown before, Wednesday, was their first time on a plane together. How cute!

The couple posted a video of themselves at the airport getting

ready to board a plane to Cape Town.

Upon landing at their destination, Mampintsha posted a video where he is asking Babes "hows it felt being on an airplane for the first time?"

Babes responded by saying: "It felt like taking Mercedes", which is the name of a deadly drug known in Durban as "umgwinyo" or "data" and it is also the title of her new single.



Unathi reveals she gets asked to fix her teeth

On Wednesday morning, singer and Idols judge, Unathi Msengane took to Instagram to set the record straight to all her haters.

The bubbly TV and radio personality made it clear that she loves the way God made her, and she loves herself with her flaw and all.

Questions

In her post, Unathi mentioned that she gets asked questions like 'why is your hair natural?' and 'why don't you fix your teeth?'

She further went on to say: "how do I teach my daughter that she is beautiful and enough if I look nothing like her. You are enough queen."

You go girl!

Ntando is proud of her man

TV personality Ntando Duma shared a heartfelt post on Instagram about how proud she is of her bae, Junior de Rocka.

She wrote: "Since we met, you have always challenged me to better myself and aspire for more. You had a dream, you reached for it, and you got everything you wanted. You inspire me daily. And today, you're launching your amazing work, showing me and the rest of the world that anything is possible.

Congratulations, sweetheart. Your strength and ambition make you the man I love. You are an incredible man and I have no



doubt that you'll go on to huge success. You're smart, hard-working, and appreciative of every opportunity that comes your way. Anyone would be lucky to have you; I know I am. Never stop dreaming, and never stop reaching. Well Done!"



Victoria Beckham to collaborate with high street brand for the first time to sell childrens wear inspired by Harper

She has the most stylish daughter in showbiz so it was only a matter of time before Victoria Beckham branched out into childrens wear.

The pop star-turned-designer has created a limited-edition spring collaboration with US retailer Target and it includes her first foray into childrens wear. The mother-of-four has created apparel and accessories for women, girls, toddler and baby as a part of her Victoria, Victoria Beckham range - and it's as chic as every other collection she's unveiled. The perennially stylish mother's new range, which will be available in-store and online in April, is inspired by her everyday life and the shared experiences between mother and child, she says.

'It was a slap in the face'

King Cairo was spoiled for his fourth birthday over the weekend with two lavish parties.

But according to a new report, the tot's mother Blac Chyna thinks her ex Tyga, King's dad, stole her idea for a Ferrari-themed bash leading to back to back identical parties. TMZ claim the doting mom believes a production staffer on her reality show with fiance Rob Kardashian told Tyga and his girlfriend Kylie Jenner of her plans. The report alleges that Chyna spent two months planning her party for King, which took place last Saturday. But she was reportedly livid when she found out her son's father had chosen the same party theme for the next day, with the rapper's bash notably more lavish. The report says Chyna was happy her son was spoiled, but the copycat party 'was a slap in the face.'



Kim not doing great after Paris robbery - Kourtney

Kourtney Kardashian has spoken out about her sister Kim following her dramatic robbery at gunpoint in Paris earlier this month.

The 'Keeping Up With The Kardashians' star was asked about Kim during an appearance on Australia's Today Extra show on Thursday, however the interview began on a slightly awkward note.

As co-host David Campbell began interviewing the 37-year-old beauty, she began speaking to members of her team - appearing not to hear him. Eventually, what appeared to be technical troubles were restored and the segment proceed without any further issues.

Kourtney revealed that Kim "is not doing great" following the jewellery heist that saw the 35-year-old robbed of over \$10 million. "You know, she's not doing great. I think we're all really still shaken up," she explained. Kourtney's comments about her younger sibling came after a brief technical glitch on the show, with the socialite claiming "we just had a bad connection" when she was first asked about Kim.

MELZ

that most of us are vital economic drivers. We do a lot of shopping and are hard workers).

So the answer is our differences are our similarities.

When did you decide to advocate for the rights of gays, lesbians and bisexuals?

The first day I learnt of the reality of 'being in the closet' and what it entailed.

That moment I got to learn about what other people went through in their families, in their communities, and in their lives as a whole.

I had always been bullied verbally and as I grew up to realise whom I was, I got raped (which I discussed before) to the detriment of my opinion about society towards LGBTI persons.

All this made me want to make a change, no matter how marginal, in the lives of the LGBTI people.

What does being gay mean to you?

It shouldn't be a label. To me, it is merely the person I am. I mean it is as good as asking what being a woman means. The truth is, there is a lot that comes with it in the societies we live in. I just decide to view life with the vision 2022 attitude. One can only be who they are and nothing more or less. And that way, one is able to contribute to social cohesion and also contribute, especially, to the economic stability of the kingdom.

How do you feel when people refer to gays/lesbians as a 'community'?

This is exactly where the segregation and prejudice begins. Selectively distancing us from the rest of society is wrong. I'll be the first to admit that one finds himself calling the LGBTI persons a community one too many times, only because it is what society has made common. However, I find it to be detrimental to the struggle for social cohesion; we all should be a community of Swazis. Period.

How is it like living in a world that is still very judgemental?

Isn't it an exciting thing though, knowing that half the people in your class are judgemental or

half the office reckons you are not even worth the oxygen you are inhaling?

I draw inspiration from the very hate and misconception that people have towards me and the things I am involved in.

It gives me the platform to become a better person, to grow and say, look where I have come from.

Personally, I find it stressful; however I then look at it in the long run. I will be able to one day say, I did it all, and in spite of the judgement I received I managed to conquer.

What is the one thing in the country you would like to change?

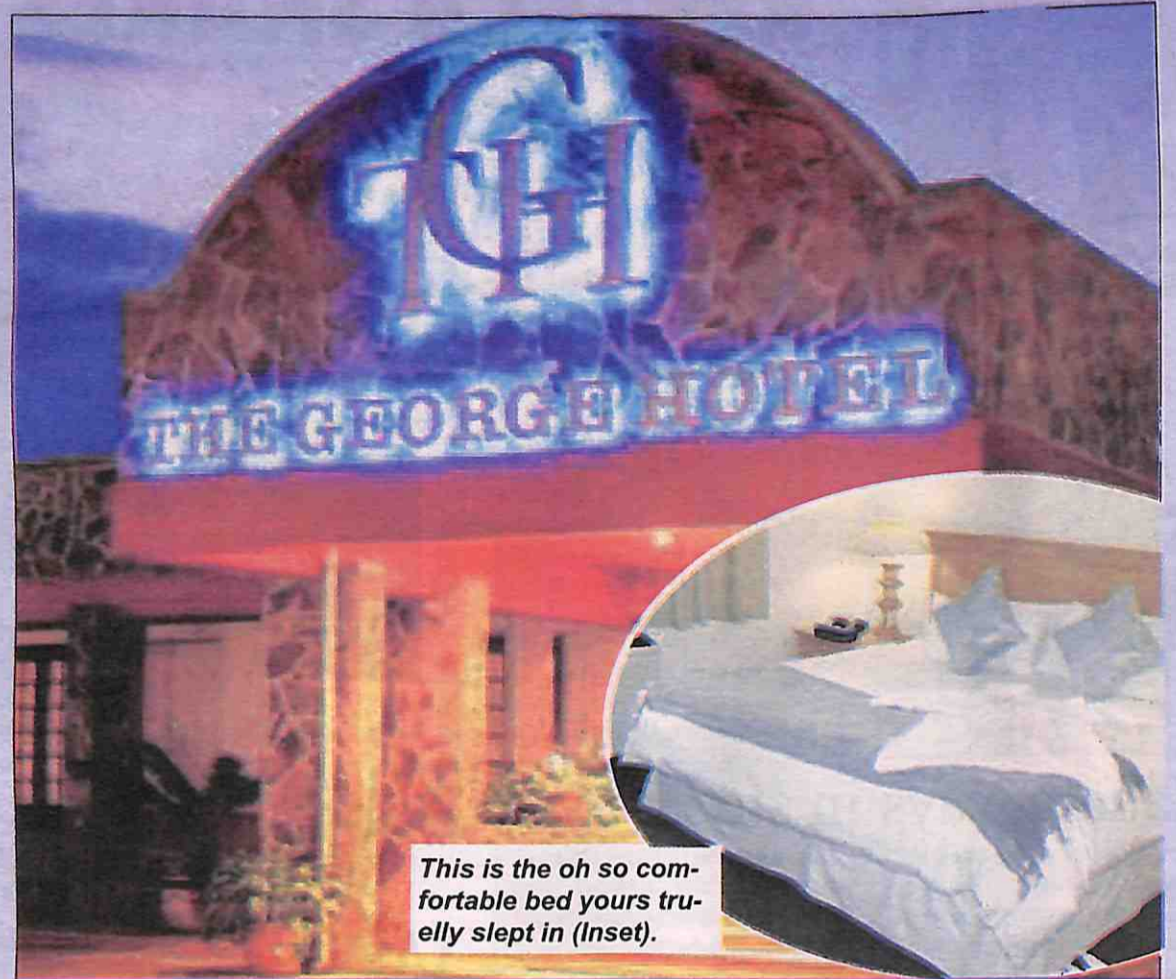
Believe you me; there is a lot I would love to see change in my beloved country. However, I made it a motto never to make political statements when I am trying to advocate for LGBTI rights, which are human rights. So I digress.

How old are you and what are you doing currently?

I am very old. Old enough to own my own house and perhaps a couple of cars and dating a loving man whom I could be living with, I imagine.

But because of life, I am currently studying at the University of Swaziland, doing my second year in Commerce. I just recently featured on the historic UNISWA 3-day radio broadcast during the graduation weekend. My shift was in the morning and the feedback from the students was tremendous. Working on UNISWA Campus Radio, was quite exciting and we can only hope the broadcast will be on again next year. Outside of that, I am an activist for the LGBTI person, through and through and nothing will come between me

and my advocacy. Not a single thing.



This is the oh so comfortable bed yours truly slept in (Inset).

The George Hotel glorious experience

Have you ever felt like a queen king at least for one evening?

Have you ever been welcomed with nothing but the most sincere smile and been treated to a luxurious feeling, at least for a night?

Sit back and have a good read as I bring to you the glorious The George Hotel experience. Media houses personnel in the country were treated to such last week Tuesday and yours truly also fell into that mercy trap. It was such a glorious experience for all.

The George Hotel feeling escapes all the 'grammatically major' words to explain greatness. The George Hotel situated in Manzini knows better what taking care of clientele is.

Kshiiiee! I did not mention just as yet there are plans underway for 'a casino' that will have world class gambling facilities. Yes, Bremersdorp will have its own Casino, by Swazis for Swazis.

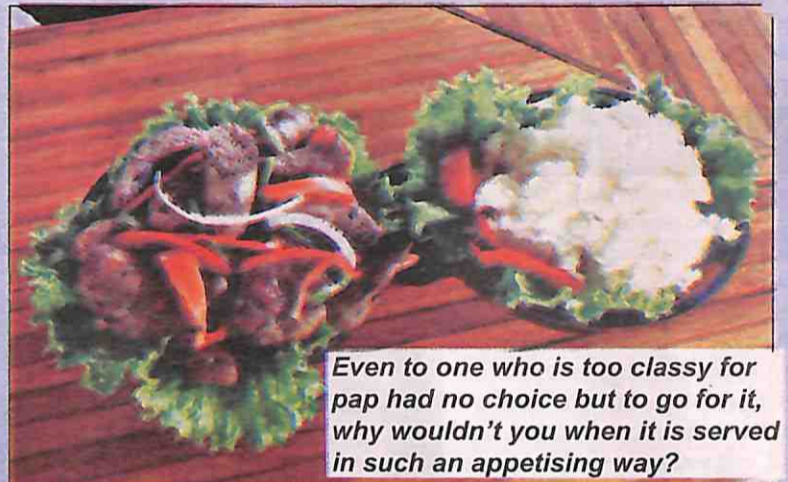
Well, I digress; the subject at hand is the amazing atmosphere experienced at The George Hotel. Nothing more feels any more 'good for business' better than a hotel General Manager as humble as Tholie Mayisela.

The down to earth power-woman, I call her power-woman because she is doing big things and I mean big things at the hotel. Something to market even by word of mouth in the neighbouring countries.

The George Hotel is literally the first recommendable accommodation facility to tourists who have jetted off from the KMIII airport.

Upon arrival at The George Hotel, we were ushered into absolute posh rooms that blew my mind away. The hotel boasts of a total number of 114 rooms all neat, tidy, smell good and have the home away from home feeling.

Then next stop was the Coffee



Even to one who is too classy for pap had no choice but to go for it, why wouldn't you when it is served in such an appetising way?



Oh but of course, time allowed us for a selfie moment with the managing editor Mbongeni Mbingo and songbird Nomalungelo Dladla. Photocred goes to Swazi TV's Bongani Matsebula.

shop which has the best bakery ever, oh the cakes, biscuits and doughnuts were absolutely out of this world. Too scrumptious. The hotel has the kind of food you just want to keep indulging in until your tummy can't take no more.

Now for clarity once and for all; The general manager made the important announcement that it is

now called 'The George Hotel' not Tums George Hotel as some still call it.

Mayisela said the name confusion serves as a challenge in their marketing department as guests go online to search for the latter when in actual fact they are looking for The George Hotel.

By Nomfundo Sifundza



REBECCA SHARES HER LIFE STORY

The queen of gospel is about to bare her heart and soul in a performance that will require her to act, sing and dance. Rebecca Malope will perform in a musical about her life.

The musical is titled 'Angingedwa: This Is My Story' and will be staged at Carnival City, Ekurhuleni on December 3.

Rebecca told SunBuzz she has always dreamt of acting.

"I wanted to publish a book about my life because that is what my fans wanted. However, my daughter gave me the idea to stage a musical.

"I instantly fell in love with the idea because I knew I would have the chance to act," she said.

The multi-award winning singer, who has been in the music industry for 30 years, will reveal everything about herself in the musical.



Despite her remarkable achievements and awards, her life has not been easy. It has been filled with great heartache and struggles.

The musical will cover everything from her humble beginnings in Lekazi, Mpumalanga, to the highs and lows of her career.

"I'm looking forward to reliving all these moments in my life.

"I hope telling my story in this way will change people's lives and inspire them."

Rebecca is passionate about young talent from the townships.

She will act alongside a cast the audience has never seen before and is excited about working with fresh talent.

She told the People's Paper she feels nervous about acting on stage, but hopes the audience will enjoy her performance.

The musical will debut at Carnival City and the production company plans to take it to venues around the country.

Zahara slays in street style

Singer and songwriter Zahara has been under major scrutiny these past months for her fashion sense but it looks like that is all about to change.

The *Loliwe* hit singer debuted her funky new look on social media a few days ago and her fashion sense seems to also have improved.

Zahara posted a Street Style snap titled "Bang on trend. #countrygirlinternational meeting done and dusted. Businesswoman on the move. #ZaharaArmy" on her Instagram rocking a casual look that looks simple but stunning and has been getting a lot of thumbs up for it and one of her fans even suggested she keeps it.

Babes, bae fly together for the first time

Wololo hit-maker, Babes Wodumo and her fiancé, Big Nuz member Mampintsha, both have a fear of flying.

Babes had never been on an airplane before Monday.

And even though Mampintsha has flown before, Wednesday, was their first time on a plane together. How cute!

The couple posted a video of themselves at the airport getting

ready to board a plane to Cape Town.

Upon landing at their destination, Mampintsha posted a video where he is asking Babes "hows it felt being on an airplane for the first time?"

Babes responded by saying: "It felt like taking Mercedes", which is the name of a deadly drug known in Durban as "umgwinyo" or "data" and it is also the title of her new single.



Unathi reveals she gets asked to fix her teeth

On Wednesday morning, singer and Idols judge, Unathi Msengane took to Instagram to set the record straight to all her haters.

The bubbly TV and radio personality made it clear that she loves the way God made her, and she loves herself with her flaw and all.

Questions

In her post, Unathi mentioned that she gets asked questions like 'why is your hair natural?' and 'why don't you fix your teeth?'

She further went on to say: "how do I teach my daughter that she is beautiful and enough if I look nothing like her. You are enough queen."

You go girl!



Ntando is proud of her man

TV personality Ntando Duma shared a heartfelt post on Instagram about how proud she is of her bae, Junior de Rocka.

She wrote: "Since we met, you have always challenged me to better myself and aspire for more. You had a dream, you reached for it, and you got everything you wanted. You inspire me daily. And today, you're launching your amazing work..showing me and the rest of the world that anything is possible. Congratulations, sweetheart. Your strength and ambition make you the man I love. You are an incredible man and I have no



doubt that you'll go on to huge success. You're smart, hard-working, and appreciative of every opportunity that comes your way. Anyone would be lucky to have you; I know I am. Never stop dreaming, and never stop reaching. Well Done!"



Victoria Beckham to collaborate with high street brand for the first time to sell childrens wear inspired by Harper

She has the most stylish daughter in showbiz so it was only a matter of time before Victoria Beckham branched out into childrens wear.

The pop star-turned-designer has created a limited-edition spring collaboration with US retailer Target and it includes her first foray into childrenswear. The mother-of-four has created apparel and accessories for women, girls, toddler and baby as a part of her Victoria, Victoria Beckham range - and it's as chic as every other collection she's unveiled. The perennially stylish mother's new range, which will be available in-store and online in April, is inspired by her everyday life and the shared experiences between mother and child, she says.

'It was a slap in the face'

King Cairo was spoiled for his fourth birthday over the weekend with two lavish parties.

But according to a new report, the tot's mother Blac Chyna thinks her ex Tyga, King's dad, stole her idea for a Ferrari-themed bash leading to back to back identical parties. TMZ claim the doting mom believes a production staffer on her reality show with fiance Rob Kardashian told Tyga and his girlfriend Kylie Jenner of her plans. The report alleges that Chyna spent two months planning her party for King, which took place last Saturday. But she was reportedly livid when she found out her son's father had chosen the same party theme for the next day, with the rapper's bash notably more lavish. The report says Chyna was happy her son was spoiled, but the copycat party 'was a slap in the face.'



Kim not doing great after Paris robbery - Kourtney

Kourtney Kardashian has spoken out about her sister Kim following her dramatic robbery at gunpoint in Paris earlier this month.

The 'Keeping Up With The Kardashians' star was asked about Kim during an appearance on Australia's Today Extra show on Thursday, however the interview began on a slightly awkward note.

As co-host David Campbell began interviewing the 37-year-old beauty, she began speaking to members of her team - appearing not to hear him. Eventually, what appeared to be technical troubles were restored and the segment proceed without any further issues.

Kourtney revealed that Kim "is not doing great" following the jewellery heist that saw the 35-year-old robbed of over \$10 million.

"You know, she's not doing great. I think we're all really still shaken up," she explained.

Kourtney's comments about her younger sibling came after a brief technical glitch on the show, with the socialite claiming "we just had a bad connection" when she was first asked about Kim.

SOCIETAL ATTITUDES TOWARD HOMOSEXUALITY

Societal attitudes toward homosexuality vary greatly in different cultures and different historical periods, as do attitudes toward sexual desire, activity and relationships in general.

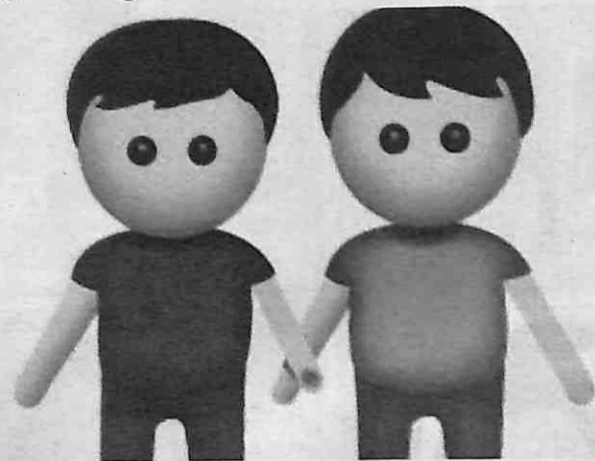
All cultures have their own values regarding appropriate and inappropriate sexuality; some sanction same-sex love and sexuality, while others may disapprove of such activities in part. As with heterosexual behaviour, different sets of prescriptions and proscriptions may be given to individuals according to their gender, age, social status or social class.

Many of the world's cultures have, in the past, considered procreative sex within a recognised relationship to be a sexual norm — sometimes exclusively so, and sometimes alongside norms of same-sex love, whether passionate, intimate or sexual. Some sects within some religions, especially those influenced by the Abrahamic tradition, have censured homosexual acts and relationships at various times, in some cases implementing severe punishments. Many countries have also seen rising support for LGBT rights in modern times (including the legal recognition of same-sex marriage, anti-discrimination laws, and other such rights).

Since the 1970s, much of the world has become more accepting of same-sex sexuality between partners of legal age.

The Pew Research Centre's 2013 Global Attitudes Survey "finds broad acceptance of homosexuality in North America, the European Union, and much of Latin America, but equally widespread rejection in predominantly Muslim nations and in Africa, as well as in parts of Asia and in Russia". The survey also finds

All cultures have their own values regarding appropriate and inappropriate sexuality; some sanction same-sex love and sexuality, while others may disapprove of such activities in part. As with heterosexual behaviour, different sets of prescriptions and proscriptions may be given to individuals according to their gender, age, social status or social class



"acceptance of homosexuality is particularly widespread in countries where religion is less central in people's lives. These are also among the richest countries in the world. In contrast, in poorer countries with high levels of religiosity, few believe homosexuality should be accepted by society.

Age

Age is also a factor in several countries, with younger respondents offering far more tolerant views than older ones. And while gender differences are not prevalent, in those countries where they are, women are consistently more accepting of homosexuality than men."

Contemporary scholars caution against applying modern Western assumptions about sex and gender to other times and places; what looks like same-sex sexuality to a Western observer may not be "same-sex" or "sexual" at all to the people engaging

in such behaviour. For example, in the Bugis cultures of Sulawesi, a female who dresses and works in a masculine fashion and marries a woman is seen as belonging to a third gender; to the Bugis, their relationship is not homosexual (see sexual orientation and gender identity). In the case of 'Sambia' (a pseudonym) boys in New Guinea who ingest the semen of older males to aid in their maturation,[6] it is disputed whether this is best understood as a sexual act at all. In recent times, scholars have argued that notions of a homosexual and heterosexual identity, as they are currently known in the Western world, only began to emerge in Europe in the mid to late 19th century. Behaviours that today would be widely regarded as homosexual, at least in the West, enjoyed a degree of acceptance in around three quarters of the cultures surveyed in Patterns of Sexual Behaviour (1951).

Countries that have legalised gay marriages...

These are five Muslim countries where being gay is not a crime. What do they have in common? None of them were colonised by the British Empire. Many countries in the Global South, whether Muslim or otherwise, are generally using colonial laws that pre-date their local penal codes to criminalise romantic love between consenting same-sex couples. Whether in West Africa, or Southeast Asia, in the heart of Europe or the Middle East, these countries remind us that the conversation on gay rights is not as clean cut as some might have imagined it to be.

1. MALI

Gays in this African nation might face local homophobia, but the law is on their side. In 2010, a Malian volunteer for the Peace Corps wrote that she looked up the laws dealing with sexuality, and saw that Article 179 of the Malian penal code did not specify heterosexual or homosexual sexual activities, but instead decried public indecency. She said that she was relieved because most "countries in Africa, 38 to be exact, have laws against homosexuality and some with the death penalty."

2. JORDAN

Jordan was under the Ottoman Empire, where homosexuality was decriminalised 75 years earlier, but between 1922 and 1945 the country was a subject mandated by the League of Nations. However, in 1951 the new nation made homosexuality legal. "Jordan is considered an open minded country, and when coming to cities, the tolerance is even higher," said the editor of My. Kali, a gay magazine that is based in the capital, talking to the Italian-based e-Zine Il Grande Colibri. "And considering the fact that it's an Islamic country, the morality of the culture could be a huge pressure to many people to remain discreet, but it never stopped many of my friends and other LGBTQ people to come out and show who they are," he added.

3. INDONESIA

In Indonesia being gay has been legal since, well, forever. No, really, the country never had any legal prohibitions against homosexuality, at least since its founding as a nation. Further, the country has the longest running LGBT organisations in Asia.

Despite having the largest Muslim population, Indonesia has remained a great example of the importance of the separation of religion and state. On the other hand, Singapore (non-Muslim) and Malaysia (Muslim), who are neighbors to Indonesia, have laws that make it illegal to be gay. The latter two have both been colonised by the British Empire.

4. TURKEY

In 1858, the Ottoman Caliph decriminalised homosexuality. This affected many countries in three continents. When Turkey became a solo nation in 1920, it didn't see a need to change this law. Omer Akpınar, who is with KAOS LG, which is one of the largest LGBT organisations in Turkey, told Mashable that their organisation was never censored. Jack Scott, a British writer who moved to Turkey with his partner and who is the author of Perking the Pansies: Jack and Liam Move to Turkey, said his "obvious union with Liam has never attracted bad publicity from any Turk," talking to the real estate company Quest Turkey.

5. ALBANIA

Being gay has been legal in Albania since 1995. This predominantly Muslim nation has been in the forefront of gay rights in the Balkans. In 2013, ILGA Europe said the country was the friendliest nation to the gays in the area, as it has a welcoming government and an anti-discrimination law. Kristi Pinderi, who is with the LGBT organisation Pink Embassy, says that the anti-discrimination law is "important because in theory a teacher, for example, who is transgender, and decides to go and teach wearing a dress, I can't imagine what the reaction would be, but the law protects that need, if there is a need like that," talking to the organisation International Day Against Homophobia.

Other countries with a large Muslim population and where homosexuality is legal include Abkhazia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Chad, Djibouti, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Niger, Northern Cyprus, Palestine, and Tajikistan.

All of the above mentioned countries, like the entire world, have various challenges for LGBT people.

However, because the law is on their side, living in these countries create an atmosphere where one can imagine a fight, a possibility of freedom, and the dream that one day being gay is not any different from being straight.

Other countries where gay marriages have been legalised. The Netherlands (2000), Belgium (2003), Canada (2005) Spain (2005), South Africa (2006), Norway (2009) Sweden (2009), Argentina (2010), Iceland (2010) Portugal (2010), Denmark (2012), Brazil (2013) England and Wales (2013) France (2013), New Zealand (2013), Uruguay (2013) Luxembourg (2014), Scotland (2014), Finland: (signed 2015, effective 2017), Ireland: (2015)

SACelebrity Gays



Sthembinkosi 'Buji' Junior Bikwa.



Somizi Mhlongo.



Vusi Nova.



Robert Whitehead.



David Tlale.

Behind the Scene

STYLE AT UNISWA GRAD

UNISWA Graduates last week converged at the graduation arena at the Kwenene Campus. The event was graced by the Chancellor Festy King Mswati III. Fashion was the order of the day and the ladies as always were the ones turning heads. We bring you more pictures from the event.



SUNDAYCOMMENT:

SADC University
yindzaba yetfu sonkhe

His Majesty King Mswati III's chairmanship at Southern African Development Community is not one to be taken lightly.

In fact, the position he holds is one which will determine the country's legacy for years to come. The undertaking to create a SADC University is one of the legacies which His Majesty has nurtured as he introduced the concept during the Ordinary Summit.

To ensure that different sectors recognise their roles, His Majesty has gone further and given them their roles which in essence will be one of the drivers of development in the country.

There were fears of the university being tagged with Limkokwing University of Technology as naysayers predicted this to be the death of other institutions such as the University of Swaziland which has over the years produced the same calibre of workers who struggle to find employment despite being highly qualified.

However, His Majesty has clearly defined how this institution will contribute to the change in the education sector of the country and ensure the success of the SADC University. UNISWA is well respected, despite the decline in its rankings internationally, and with the ever changing face of the labour market calling for innovation, the institution will do well to employ a strategic plan which will see it contributing to the new university.

He noted the aim of the regional university is to promote the socio-economic and political regional integration and development agenda of the SADC region. He highlighted the role of UNISWA during the summit and further called for it to be part of the change that comes with the establishing of the SADC institution.

To be a guide means to come in to contact with that which is being guided hence the conclusion that UNISWA is also being called on to change its curriculum and become innovative in its approach so as to be able to mould the university according to that which has been learnt in years past. Change is a good thing and the SADC university should be able to complement the institutions found in the country.

The call for William Pitcher Training College to produce lecturers can only mean one thing, that the college is ripe for change. It is time the college ventures into producing degrees and masters all the way to doctorates.

It is not only institutions which have to buy into the university's success, it is everybody. Recall how people used to flock into the country for their education, the university will be the yardstick which the world will measure the country's will.

The country's education system after all produced success stories such as Botswana President Ian Khama, former South African Public Protector Thuli Madonsela and Patrice Motsepe, to name but a few. What will stop the SADC University producing more of such fine minds?

All that is needed is for the nation to buy into the idea and 'make Swazi education great again.

BY THEMBEKA
DLAMINI

Analysis & opinion

EXPEDITE COURT
CASES, YESTERDAY

The country's courts grind too slow. So slow that most witnesses and their accused die before trial. The backlog is just too shocking and disappointing for those in remand and those out on bail whose reputation has been ruined by allegations yet to be proven as untruths.

Sadly, everyone who is arrested is guilty until proven otherwise instead of being treated as innocent until proven guilty.

Hence anyone who has ever been arrested and is yet to go on trial has a reputation ruined way after being found innocent of whatever charges they faced.

The accusations hang above their heads like a sword held by a piece of string, like an albatross.

The unfortunate thing, however, is the nature of our courts allow for the parading of suspects and the fact that after their arrest, they get remanded without a chance to respond to the allegations other than indicate their plea. It doesn't matter if they are remanded in or out of the correctional facility, the charge always manages to ruin lives, always.

Perceptions are always created based on the first story one hears. Once told with conviction, any other version will not be accepted so easily. This is so with the nature of the legal system, it labels a person guilty and shuts him up from denying any culpability by setting remand appearances for a later date.

Suspects have died with the 'Accused Number' tag on their names and will forever be remembered as 'criminals', stripped of a chance to exonerate themselves.

The call by the chief justice to stop the arrest of former minister Gideon Dlamini was viewed with some sort of relief by some of us who are not legal eagles. My take was, "About time!"

The legal arguments one can make against the decision by the CJ are immaterial to me right now. I will not try confuse myself and by extension the reader by pretending I understand the legal jargon. The one thing that stood out from his pronouncement was the stern warning that the urge to uproot corruption in the country should not be done at the expense of fundamental human rights and freedoms of individuals guaranteed by the constitution.

This has given justification to my mental unease at the way things take place once a person is arrested.

Recall the arrest of former Ludwala CEO Phiwayinkosi Ginindza and others for fraud? Several councillors were paraded as having defrauded a fund created to purchase the country's authorities a gift.

To their 'luck', the case was heard at the

magistrate's court which resulted in it being completed in less than a year. The arrest and having his name linked to fraud whereas he worked with a financial institution called for him to resign than to drag his employer in the mud with him. With his previous employment having been with highly recognised institutions such as the Swaziland Investment Promotion Authority (SIPA) as well as the African Development Bank to mention a few, Ginindza's reputation was completely ruined. Despite him being 'lucky' to have his case concluded so soon and him being proven innocent of any wrong doing, his name will forever be linked to fraud diminishing his chances of rising again within the echelons of financial institutions. Doubt that? Just Google his name. Granted his LinkedIn account comes out tops then the fact that he was not found guilty and then the fraud case.



Who is to blame here?

The arresting officers for hastening to get their suspects?

The court system for allowing this to happen?

Friday saw a lot of speculation and excitement around more possible arrests. To what end?

Are people being arrested to stop them in their tracks and ruin them for life? The obiter dictum by the CJ made sense to a lot of people. Ask the over 100 people who have been arrested by the ACC. It is disheartening! The reasons the CJ brought forward are so valid and make sense to average Joe.

While in the habit of making sensible calls, can the CJ intervene in the case backlog in the high court? Can lawyers work with him in trying to reduce it? After all is said and done average Joe will appreciate whatever ends that justify the means.

PRESENTING THE TOP 10 COMPETITORS FOR THE UPCOMING JA NATIONAL EXPO



NOKUKHANYA GAMEDZE

JA BOARD CHAIR

The top ten schools that shall be battling it out on October 27, 2017 at the Kwaluseni Sports Emporium to claim the National Expo 2016 championship has been officially announced. I took the time to meet all 10 teams and hear from them as to how it feels to be a part of the top ten and what we can expect during the competition and beyond. Here is what they had to say;

DVOKOLWAKO HIGH SCHOOL

Dvokolwako High School came up with a unique recycling idea where they bring back to life old shoes, bags and earrings using African fabrics. They saw an opportunity in assisting ladies reuse their worn out shoes, bags and earrings through placing a layer of newer fabric on top. The pupils revealed they feel honoured to be a part of the best schools to participate in this programme. "As first time participants in the competition, our goals are to present a fresh business idea in a way that will have lasting effects in the minds of the audience and hopefully guarantee us first place. We believe in our business idea hence we want to pursue it even after high school therefore having the opportunity to showcase it at regional level would truly launch our business idea to the rest of the continent," said Nxumalo Sihlelelwe, the General Manager.

EKUKHANYENI HIGH SCHOOL

Learners from Ekukhanyeni High School became the creative minds behind the production of fire blocks made of recycled material and floor polish. Their business idea emulated from their passion of recycling what other perceive as waste material into reusable items. As is, the environment we live in seriously needs more ideas that will assist in minimising the accumulating number of waste material which provides a breathing ground for poisonous substances to our natural environment.

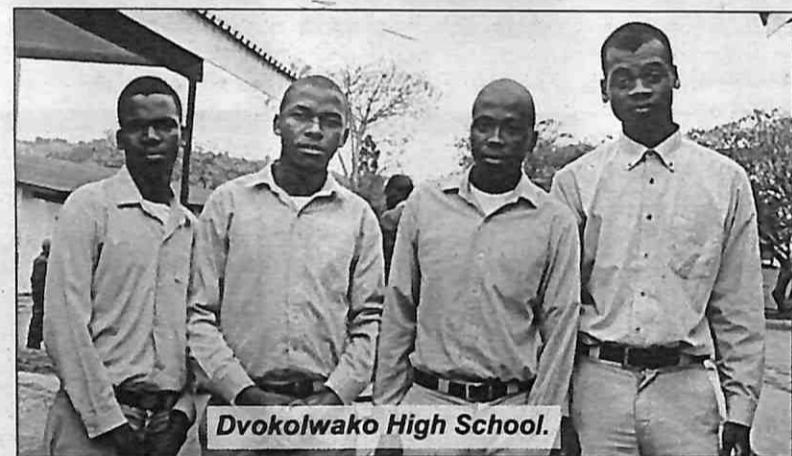
"The fact that we made it to the top ten has been the best news we have received all year. We just cannot believe we were able to make it knowing some of the schools we were competing with come from urban areas. This has established a new found confidence in ourselves that indeed our level of thinking does matter after all. We are determined to do our level best to win



Mjingo High School.



Swazi National High School.



Dvokolwako High School.

and represent the country which I believe can motivate our rural counterparts that it does not matter where you come from, your ideas and hard work can be recognised across the continent as well," said Temaswati Dlamini, the General Manager.

ETIMPHISINI HIGH SCHOOL

Etimphisini High decided to go into the handicraft business. Their innovative business idea is the production of table mats and deco utensils. This proves some of the soft skills young people learn while their parents produce handicraft gets picked up by these young people and later on in life can become useful.

Etimphisini learners view themselves as young and successful entrepreneurs and going forward to the competition, they aim to display hard work, commitment and determination to succeed in business which they believe will earn them the first position.

"Our mindset is not solely on the competition but we view this chance as a platform to launch ourselves as the intended successful entrepreneurs we aim to be. We are already way beyond the competition stage as we are focused on living entrepreneurship," narrated Japhtha Magongo, the General Manager.

LUSOTI HIGH SCHOOL

Lusoti High School decided to tailor their focus into agri-business. Their product is cow fodder made of discarded cane stalks and molasses.

Their motivation to pursue such a business idea stemmed from the fact that our country has been currently faced with the serious effects of draught hence losing a lot of livestock. These young people found a solution that can be an immune booster for livestock dealing with the effects of draught.

"As we go forth into the competition, our aim is to prove young people have the ability to think cre-

atively and provide solutions for the economic challenges our country is faced with.

What better way to do that than providing a solution towards rehabilitating drought stricken livestock?" said Lindile Dlamini, the General Manager.

MANZINI NAZARENE HIGH SCHOOL

Manzini Nazarene learners decided to produce reusable coolants and deco mats. The reusable coolants allows one to have a modified version of ice cubes that last up to 14 hours and can be placed back into the fridge once melted and be reused. These young people never cease to amaze with the level of creativity they bring about. "We have so much belief in our product as it brings about panacea to the impediments faced by the country hence speaking of the competition, our duty is to present this product in a way no one can deny it's the best of its kind," said Siyanda Madonsela, the General Manager.

MATSETSA NAZARENE HIGH SCHOOL

Matsetsa Nazarene High School produced cattle reflector belts and fire briquettes. The cattle reflector belts are a product developed from recognising the increasing night accidents caused by stray livestock. They designed a reflector belt that will make motorist identify cattle from a distance especially at night. I personally feel this is one product the Road Safety department should pay close attention to. Perhaps a partnership can be formulated between the students and this institution.

"Our duty during the upcoming competition is to launch our product to the nation. We believe in our idea and we see the potential it has in the market and we can only hope judges will identify it as such. Post the competition we aim to develop our products and find a market for them as such our lives as entrepreneurs has just began," said Thembekile Nkambule, the General Manager.

MJINGO HIGH SCHOOL

The only girl's school in the competition brought a unique twist to art when they developed handcrafted deco boards that can formulate maps, human faces, company logs and many more art through the use of strings held together on a board using nails. The creativity and calculations that it takes to produce the precise desired image is unimaginable.

"All we can say is this year the ladies are bringing in the girl power and we aim to take the tittle home. We have managed to prove girls

can put their brains together and with hard work can produce something impressive," said Neliswa Bhembe, the General Manager.

OUR LADY OF SORROWS HIGH SCHOOL

Representing the south district, Our Lady of Sorrows managed to turn discarded animal hide into beautiful floor mats. This is a clear indication that one man's waste is another man's treasure.

"As a matter of fact we are looking forward to the competition because competition to us means we challenge ourselves to chase perfection. The fact that we have made it to the top ten means we are a competitive group and our business idea is valid and cutting edge. To us the journey to the African competition has just begun," said the confident Nothando Dlamini holding the position of General Manager.

SWAZI NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

I have to say it was my first exposure to filter art this year. This was through a product developed by students from Swazi National High School. The learners decided to recycle all kinds of material to produce filter art photo frames.

"The speed at which resources are consumed in the life that we live calls for humans to find ways in which unused material can be brought back into the cycle and be reused. This will assist us sustain our living as we minimise the rate at which we discard material. This year to the competition, we bring forth the inspiration of what recycling can produce through beautiful photo frames we hope will inspire our nation to engage in recycling," said Siyabonga Vilakati the General Manager.

VULAMASANGO HIGH SCHOOL

Art is the order of business at Vulamasango High School. These young people have produced portrait paintings, clothing artwork as well as cleaning detergents. Their work is so impressive to the extent of professionalism.

"It has been so humbling to us being a part of the top ten schools. For us winning would restore a sense of hope in our lives and will further motivate us to believe anything is possible when you work hard at it. We perceive it would transform the mentality the community has with regard to our school. We have something positive to offer to our communities and we can transform our lives given the right opportunities," said Lihle Nkambule the General Manager.

As I conclude, I truly believe we have been able to come up with the best of the best schools in our top ten. At this stage I wish all our young people the very best and may the entrepreneurial spirit that has been cultivated in their lives continue to bring forth positive results. As young people are the premise of a better future, I believe we are nurturing future billionaires of our country.



MULTI-FAITH DIALOGUE - USEFUL RULES FOR ENGAGEMENT

The Constitution of the Kingdom of Swaziland provides for Freedom of Religion in Section 23. Swaziland is no longer a Christian country but a Multi-Faith country.

All faith formations are recognised and affirmed by the country's Constitution, and no one can deny them space to worship and enjoy their sacred worship.

I still recalled how Christians protested when this clause was inserted and I was there, but then that is history now as Swaziland has embraced all religions as equal. The genesis of this article is founded on the reality human beings by nature are all a religious lot and as such they tend to pursue many religions and dogmas in their quest to search for meaning. We are better off therefore if we begin to engaging each other because at the end of the day we live within a context saturated by religious pluralism.

HURISWA in partnership with CANGO will be hosting a Multi-faith dialogue on Tuesday at the Royal Swazi Spa Convention Centre.

This is prompted by the recent exchange of words between the leaders of some faith formations and realised we are sitting on an explosive theme needing proper handling. The reality on the ground says there are many Swazis who have embraced different faiths in Swaziland.

LOVE MUST BE SEEN

I am not a prophet of doom, but let me express my regret that some of the known religions are not willing to engage other faiths. This has a potential to cause more tensions as these faiths are gaining ground and need to be managed well.

Religious tolerance seems to be a far-fetched dream and reality as people are not willing to learn and

increase their knowledge about other faiths we now have.

Well if it is not your own relatives that are converting to these faiths, your children might choose them, even before you wake up to that reality, you will be compelled to engage that religion they so choose.

I think we are all guilty for having labelled other faiths as religions or perpetrators of violence that should not be engaged at all. What a sad thing to discover the followers of Christ for an example are not behaving like their Christ, who showed love and compassion to all people.

Are we not guilty of standing on a higher ground and looking down on the adherents of other faiths, what a tragedy? We should all be extending love to these faiths and engage them further because they are already operating in Swaziland.

Whether by default or design we now live in a multi-faith society - *sesimhibahiba*. So long as these faiths value human life and dignity, then we should engage them and show them love

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR

When Christ said we should love our neighbours as we love ourselves, he was certainly aware that people are a migrating lot and sooner than later, we now live with people who are different. Our schools have enrolled children whose parents belong to these faiths. How do you reach out to these people because they are our neighbours and we need to engage them? We better start healthy dialogues and find each other, because religious pluralism is here with us. Who is your neighbour then, you may be wondering, well its time we find out more about their beliefs. Reach out to the people of other faiths you will surely be doing yourself a favour as part



of growth even in human relations. It is a tough decision each one of us will have to make, the world is changing and we need to adapt to the realities we are finding ourselves in.

TEN POINTS FOR ENGAGING DIALOGUE

As things stand, if we are to live in peace and harmony with people who are members of other faiths let us engage ourselves with them. We are not saying people should denounce their faiths and beliefs, but we find ourselves in a context where we must engage the adherents of these faiths.

We certainly will avoid any tensions and fears if we reach out to each other. It is time we embrace the reality Swaziland is a Multi-Faith country and therefore we must prepare ourselves for more interactions and healthy dialogues. We hereby give some guiding principles that can enrich these discussions. We are all religious species and as such one is bound to get a lot of reactions but still religious pluralism and tolerance needs to be embraced.

1. Religious pluralism: The Constitution of the Kingdom of Swaziland provides for Freedom

of Religion in Section 23. All Faith Formations are recognised and affirmed.

2. Religious pluralism is an experienced reality for many today: Not only are ideas migrating but persons too, and we need to open ourselves to interact and learn from followers and adherents of other faiths.

3. In pursuing peace and ensuring we all live in harmony: We need to realise religion plays an integral part in people's world and life view. It becomes regrettable when people's faiths are perceived wrongly and falsely blamed for inciting violence and tensions. Ordinarily, people will stand up and defend what they believe and if not engaged accordingly we are bound to create strife and animosity between adherents of these faiths.

4. "Unitive pluralism" of religions is based on philosophy, sociology-psychology, and politics-economics: There is an attempt to advance possibility and necessity of unitive pluralism of religions, because religion is such a sacred thing and at the forefront of character regeneration of people.

5. How does one account, theologically, for the fact of Man's

religious diversity? The world has become a global village and as such we will be doing ourselves good to get to know the belief systems and how people's faiths shapes their views about reality and their relationships with others.

6. All religions are relative: There are strong views once you publicly claim that one religion is better than the other- you are creating religious fights and possible clashes with them. Rather promote your dogma and defend them in your own space. It is called religious accommodation and respect.

7. Religious tolerance: It is advisable to appreciate people have a constitutional right to practice their faith and religious convictions. When we engage each other, it must be based on mutual respect.

8. Missiological truth and principle: Any religion that has a missiological propagation agenda must realise it will confront people's cultures and traditional beliefs. Before condemning people's cultural beliefs, one is advised to engage, learn and appreciate them. Dialogue is preferred in advancing and promoting one's Faith.

9. When we propagate our different faiths: We should always be aware God is already at work in sensitising people about His existence, love and justice. The foundational conviction is God's revelation is at work and as such embrace the reality all human beings are religious beings.

10. Respect religion's sacred writings and dogma: Especially when it comes to worship and observing their religious rights. Each faith has sacred writings, ensure you respect them as others are so devoted to these inspirational writings and if you do fail to respect them it certainly closes doors for engagement.

Congratulations graduates!



We saw the new UNISWA graduates in town and in the papers sashaying in their best clothes and academic regalia and getting capped after a few years of toiling for that very moment.

What a proud moment for the graduates and their families! Of course, there were also the lecturers that guided the students through their studies. Dups would like to congratulate all the newly capped gradu-

ates and wish them the best for the future.

Graduation time is very gratifying. It is a time to look back and smile at how sacrifices made for a few years have finally reaped rewards. It is possible some families had to do without certain basic or luxury items so that one member could be put through university. Some students had to grow up really fast and take holiday jobs to supplement their income. Now it has all come together and it is a good reason to celebrate.

Graduating from university is some sort of being weaned off. It's transition from one point to the next higher one, not backpedaling. With that process, a certain level of responsibility is expected. Most people have a bucket list that they need to gradually

tick off once they start earning their own salaries. Some want to travel, visit exotic destinations they only ever so on television, buy the latest fashion or car, and so on. There is absolutely nothing wrong with having a wish list. Actually, the sooner you get all those things out of the way and move towards the next big things, the better.

Those that have secured employment will be getting their own pay cheque at the end of the month. This is not pocket money that mom and dad will dictate how you are supposed to spend. Without intending to burst anyone's bubble, Dups will play aunt to all the new graduates and remind them that now is the time to start making important decisions in life. Don't wait until you are "a little older" before you can start being responsible. There is no time like the present to start cultivating

good habits. Take care of the most important things first. Find out about investments that you can make for yourself so that you don't just squander money on fleeting things.

One of the most important investments you can make is to get a Dups funeral policy. There are many options to choose from, depending on the dynamics of your life.

What a wise move it would be if you decided, so soon after graduating, to get cover for yourself and your whole family! You can also get an individual cover from as little as E7 per month for a payout of up to E50 000. We know the last thing you want to think of now when your independent life has just begun is death. It is not the most entertaining topic, but it is real. Sometimes it comes when you least expect it.

After you have attained your degree and start working, in the

event of death, you are no longer just one of the kids sitting around waiting for adults to make decisions. You are one of the adults and would be expected to also contribute substantially to the cost of the funeral. It makes more sense to just make a small contribution monthly towards a Dups funeral policy than to one day be unexpectedly confronted with a huge expense and have to run to friends and family, who will tell you they also don't have money. Then you would have to rush to loan sharks, and from that point your life will never be the same again.

Call us on 2505 2028 or visit our offices in Manzini, Matata, Matsapha, Simunye, Nhlanguano, Mbabane, Pigg's Peak or Siteki. Alternatively, you can send queries to info@dupsgroup.com, www.facebook.com/dups or on Twitter @dupsinsurance.



**LETHUMUSA
SIMELANE**

CELL: 7606 7049/ TEL: 2416 1278/9

It is in my belief the instauration or fundament of life is *Mvelinchanti* being God and *Nomkhubulwano* being the goddess. Ancestors act as the mediator between the dead and the living.

It is very agitating to realise how the influence of Christianity has changed our perception on our ancestors.

Ancestors are now reckoned as demons and anyone who consults with them is considered to be unholy, we have been deluded and forsaken our own way and adapted to the 'holy way'.

No nation will ever be successful without its ancestors. It is vital people connect to their ancestors for the sake of their spirituality. Culture enhances our spirituality and the bases of ancestors is culture. It is a playground where the connection between the living and death is consolidated.

A nation without culture is a nation in darkness without direction and purpose. Once we neglect our culture then our ancestors have no respect for us as humans, calamities starts following us and sense of purpose, direction, evades us.

It is very agonising to learn Africans have forsaken their true self and contaminated culture, traditions and values. Mostly we are living in ignorance and that has resulted into so much turmoil in Africa.

We are so short sighted not to even see we are being spiritually, culturally and even economically destroyed with the veiled curtains of technology and development. Now get me right, there is nothing wrong with such things as the World is revolving, but there is something wrong when we allow it to influence our past as well as our future. Most of us don't know our roots, where we really come from or at least know who we are.

All we know is what we have been told to be by other people, technically our oppressors. It is a gravely a mistake to think your suppressor can teach you how to survive, imagine if a cat would teach a mouse how to run fast! The cat would starve and die a slow painful death and if the mouse would listen to the cat, it would be signing its very own death warrant.

I am of the view that our culture is enough to sustain our spirituality. The construction of a Swazi home stands to revive the spirituality of a person. It is in my deepest knowledge and profound I have numerous and emphatically cited the importance of *endlini kagogo* and Sibaya, to my surprise, the grandness of this sacred house is infinite.

Take on with me to exploring the vitality and crucial aspect of this house. We have

SESAMEMA LITJE!



Culture enhances our spirituality and the bases of ancestors is culture. A nation without culture is a nation in darkness without direction and purpose.

deliberated mainly on its importance as a whole but let's deliberate on the little puzzles that completes its usefulness.

Umsamo, this is a place found inside *endlini kagogo*. It is a sacred place where things that are of inheritance to the family are kept. To be precise, it is where the most valuable things of the family are kept, this things are inherited from generation to generation and once lost, they can never be replaced nor restored.

Such things include the white cloth that is used *nakugezwa phindze kunyuswa umuntfu*. During this ritual, a white cloth is bought and the rightful family members go to the graveyard moving from *endlini kagogo*, going through *inshungushu* and lastly the main entrance of Sibaya.

The chronological order of the construction of these structures are emphasised to be of great importance. When they arrive at the graveyard, they cover the grave of the person *labamenyusako* with the white cloth and then uncover it again, taking the white cloth to *endlini kagogo* and place it at the place of treasure (*emsamo*)

Again, the importance of *litala* is elucidated during such rituals. It was of great integral to us Swazis that every family owns a graveyard (*litala*) this would prevent in fight among the dead. To be precise, during *kugezwa nekweyuswa* ritual, it is easy for opportunistic *kutsi achakele bese nitsi ninyusa umuntfu wesibongo saka* Simelane

bese b' Dlamini, Nxumalo, Sibandze bayachakela then the problem begins as they will all want to enforce their way of doing things. Confusion and mayhem becomes the order of the day. It is also for that reason *nangabe uyolandza umuntfu lapho kufele khona bantfu labanyenti, inhlamlambo yakho awuyibeki phansi* to avoid similar problems. It is needless to say we as Swazi people show respect for death. It is in our knowledge that regardless of race, religion, geographical location area, time period, you name it.

Termination

Every human has wondered about one fact that unifies us all; death! Death has no boundaries nor does it have respect or observe gender, age, nationality or anything else. Death is the termination of all biological functions that sustain a living thing. It is for that reason *emaSwati* bury a person with his or her head facing the direction where the great ancestor lies.

Another treasure that can be kept *emsamo lijazi lelinikwa lona lokhiphe umnumzane welikhaya nakaya kuyongwatjwa*.

Culturally, *bogogo nabakhumula, batsenga lijazi balinike lona lokhiphe umnumzane, bamunika kanye netindvuku temufi*.

This coat is greatly prized hence it is only wearable in limited events. For example, during *kuphahla* to name a few. Many of us if not all, don't even know that *uma kushone umnumzane welikhaya* the eldest

son should be the first one to arrive back home, if it happens by any chance the younger one is the first to arrive then the older one *akasangeni ngelisango kepha sewuyafohla*.

Moreover, it is believed the eldest should be the first *kubona umufi* and if it happens the younger one see him first then the eldest is not supposed to be insight with *umufi*. Many people in our present day are seen quarrelling over positions in families because they have overlooked such things.

It is only after the above observations that are considered during the positioning of *inkhosana*. It is through this virtue a person can be made *inkhosana* regardless of the birth order. It is not always by inclination that one is entitled to be *inkhosana*.

It is a commiseration to construe with the fact that our people are bewildered and have totally lost their identity.

They are negligent to the fact that according to culture and traditions, peculiarly a young person has certain things he or she should observe in life and save herself or himself the agony and predicaments that may unforeseeably befalls him.

Let me jog the memory of those who pledge to contemporaneousness erstwhile it does not mean unfit and therefore it is folly and absurd to hurl our way just because it is 'old' I also hold the view those who assert that what is ours is old are in error.

A number of our fellow sisters have what

The broad effects of failure to liberalise trade



No country has developed successfully in modern times without harnessing economic openness to international trade, foreign direct investment, and the movement of people. We live in a globalised environ-

ment where the pace of technological change is staggering.

The extent and speed with which innovations in one country cross borders through exchanges of goods, capital, and ideas is unprecedented. We cannot stop this process.

The dilemma that Swaziland faces is if we cannot export more and more goods, we will directly and indirectly end up 'exporting' more and more people and losing out on valuable expertise and innovative ideas. For these reasons, the factors of globalisation cannot be ignored; it carries with it the prospect of

improving the lives of people in all countries. As a country we need to manage the factors and dynamics of globalisation so it works to our advantage.

Opportunities

Chief among the opportunities that globalisation gives is the prospect of higher growth and higher living standards.

By promoting free trade, Swaziland can exploit to the maximum, the laws of comparative advantage, leading to higher incomes for their citizens. By encouraging financial inflows, we can make use of savings

from outside, increasing the potential for Domestic Investment.

By encouraging Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) we can gain access to newer technology, knowledge, and managerial expertise from other continents, and trigger vertical integration and the development of supply chains.

Notwithstanding strong theoretical and empirical support for the benefits of openness, trade liberalisation and globalisation have not been embraced with enthusiasm in all quarters of our economy.

A primary concern has been the

poorest countries may not be able to benefit from a more open trade regime and will lag even further behind successful economies. This concern is justified, but it does not imply that poor countries should not liberalise trade.

Liberalisation

Rather, it implies poor countries may not realise the full potential benefits of trade liberalisation unless trade liberalisation is complemented by other policy measures such as investment in infrastructure and deregulation of key infrastructural services sectors, including finance.

What then are some of the policies necessary to support investment, and promote growth? Based on the expe-

we call *imfelwa*. This is a situation where by every male that intimately engages himself with this women mysteriously dies or it could be a case where all her children go the same route, (*utalela phansi*).

There could be a number of reasons that could lead to this. There is a necessity that *ummuzane atsatsa zuka nasheleni ayewuhloa*. It could be generational curses that chains the family.

Result

Another thing that could result in to such adversity could be that along the blood line, they killed *inzunza*. *Inzunza* is a very delicate creature that solely survives under water, it aids those *labat-fwasa ngephansi kwemanti*.

This can be the worst and most difficult curse to break once it sinks its claws on you. However, I believe that it wouldn't be as much difficult if we stick by our culture and tradition, be proud of who we are.

In conclusion, I am very agitated by the realisation of how much we, not only Swazi people but black people hate our true selves. We even hate our skin colour such that we try to change it. I am very ashamed of our 'black sisters' as we are politically called. We are the only continent that imports hair. Brazilian hair, Indian hair, you name it. We have desolated what identifies us.

Distinguishes

Kwashonaphi kukhehla sicholo kubomake, sihlutfu kuwo emadvodza sesashonaphi ngoba phela bebanikina sona sihlutfu sabo ebhudlweni. Ngabe asaphela yini emadvodza lakhela bafati bawo sicamelo? Siphilintfu sakitsi maSwati? Nangabe nisengiwo yini vele emaSwati? Just look around you and identify one thing that distinguishes you as a Swazi. Your guess is as good as mine.

We run around like headless chickens, busy searching for solutions to our misery and yet we know the solutions lies within us. Finding ourselves is the only solution. I would not like to believe we don't have elders who will educate our young boys that respecting our country starts at home, to the community and at national level.

I believe at least we still have one elderly person who will educate our young man that *sigcoko asitfwalwa ekhaya* not alone *endlini* and further educate clueless people that *inkwela ayishaywa ekhaya*. Can we have just one man who will boldly stand up and install *kwelusa* in our young boys as we have previously pointed out the importance of *kwelusa* on one of our articles?

Livuke lisango kanjalo neliguma sakhe nalilive, we have failed kwakha umliba loya embili but we can try kwakha umliba loya emuva so that we can connect with the past? Sesamema litje!

THE TOURIST GAZE ON SWAZILAND:



TOURISM & TRAVEL

BY BONGANI DLAMINI
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BLINK, BUT DO NOT MISS A VISIT TO SD

Today we bring you an outsider's perspective of the tourist gaze on Swaziland courtesy of an incidental visitor, tourist and blogger, a Malaysian travel writer Cynthia Ee. This beauty seeker also had her post published in The Star, which was distributed by the Asian News Network (ANN) to various platforms. We highlight Ee visited the country independently (was not hosted), indicating how genuine and non-aligned her piece is.

She writes: "Just a speck on the map of Africa, Swaziland could easily be missed when one is planning a safari or trip to this region.

Despite being one of the smallest countries in Africa - with a land size of 17 363 sq km, it is smaller than Johor - Swaziland boasts a rich culture and traditions, stunning landscapes and abundant wildlife. We would have overlooked this landlocked monarchy in Southern Africa had we not been planning our route from St Lucia to Kruger National Park in South Africa. Driving through Swaziland proved to be an attractive option and a few days would allow us to experience Swazi culture, wildlife and natural scenery. (By now we had seen quite a bit of South Africa, after spending a week in Cape Town and another in the Eastern Cape, exploring the Drakensberg region and St Lucia estuary. We would wrap up our last week in Kruger).

We set off from St Lucia shortly before 6am and reached the border at around 8am. It was the most efficient border crossing ever, probably because traffic was thin at the South gate of Golela. With our documents all checked out, we were on our way to our lodge in Mbabane. Flanking the main road are community farms and clusters of villages with circular-shaped huts and thatched roofs made of grass. We saw villagers, both young and old, transporting buckets of water either on wheelbarrows or balancing huge containers on their heads.

Upon seeing us driving past, they would break into smiles and wave cheerfully. Upon checking into our hotel, the slower pace of life in Swaziland kicked in as we sauntered over to the restaurant overlooking thick forest reserve. A family of vervet monkeys surfaced and skirted around the edge of the veranda and entertained us while we ate our brunch leisurely.

With black faces and silver hair, they remained oblivious to our interest and attention. At a distance loomed a striking moun-



tain with its exposed granite peak. The Nyonyane Mountain with its peak called Execution Rock was the place where ancient execution rituals were held. At spear point, criminals were forced to walk off the edge to their deaths. Now it is a popular trail, with hikers striving to reach its 1 110m peak. We left for Mantenga Cultural Village to watch a performance shortly after.

A living cultural village displaying the life of the Swazis in the 1850s, it has its own permanent troupe that performs twice daily at 11:30am and 3:15pm. We read that the troupe has toured Europe and the Americas, and even performed at global festivals and events such as the 2010 FIFA World Cup. We had high expectations and felt great excitement as we sat in a small, tiered, open-air arena, awaiting the arrival of some 20 bare-footed performers clad in traditional wear and colourful embellishments.

Adornments

The women were dressed in two-piece outfits featuring red, white and black bold prints called *emahiya*.

The top is a large piece of cloth securely tied at the shoulder, with another piece of cloth wrapped around the waist like a sarong. Additional jewellery and adornments would dictate an individual's marital status, socio-economic status as well as lineage to Swazi royalty. The rhythmic drum beats, melodious chants and shrill catcalls from the performers added to their spellbinding performance of high-kicks and stomping.

The *sibhaca* dance was strenuous and fast-paced, with each group of maidens and men coming forward to execute high-kicks above their heads, accompanied by chanting and singing in the background. After the performance, we followed a group of 10 and a guide for a tour of the village, which holds 16 "beehive" huts and other structures such as kraals and byres for cattle and goats, and reed fences that serve as windbreaks.

We went inside the hut of the matriarch - Grandmother's hut - all 15 of us, standing inside comfortably. The hut was surprisingly

airy and cool in the sweltering heat of summer. The adjacent Mantenga Falls provided cool respite as we hiked down the trail to the largest waterfall in Swaziland in terms of volume at 95m high.

As it had not rained in three months, the water volume was low. Still we found the area serene and tranquil, being the last few to

arrive. Now, no visit to Swaziland would be complete without picking up its fine handicrafts. Manufacturers such as Ngwenya Glass and Swazi Candles are synonymous with world-class quality glassware and candles, respectively.

Since 1987, Ngwenya Glass has been making glassware in Swaziland from 100 percent recycled glass. We found a vast range of quality tableware and African animals in their showroom. We adjourned upstairs to their viewing gallery for the glass-blowing process. We stood on a deck overlooking the glassblowers and marvelled at the skilled transformation of recycled glass bottles into wild animals and glasses. Swazi Candles also boasts fine artistry in candle-making since 1982.

Colourful

We were spoilt for choice, gawking at their colourful handmade displays of wax-encased LED lights and African animals. We observed artisans crafting animals from blocks of paraffin wax at the workshop located in Malkerns Valley. Everywhere we went, we saw artisans engaged in wood or stone carving by the roadside in their makeshift stalls beside major roads.

At the popular Ezulwini Craft Market, we chatted with an elderly woman stringing beads who told us stories of how she honed her skills from her mother. Needless to say, we bought her beaded bracelets! Two days certainly did not do justice to Swaziland. We opted out of game-viewing as we were going to Kruger. Swaziland is also renowned for its beautiful wildlife reserves, such as Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary and Hlane National Park, to name a few. Now that Swaziland is on our map, we don't have an excuse not to return when we're in South Africa! The trickling stream of Mantenga

Is Swaziland safe? We neither felt threatened nor unsafe in Swaziland. It felt safer compared to other areas of South Africa, such as Johannesburg. Just exercise the usual caution on personal safety and with your belongings."

Wow! From this piece Swaziland makes the claim, which was made by Professor Ernie Heath, that today, consumers increasingly desire neither goods nor services but sensation filled experiences that engage them in a personal and memorable way. We are proud that our landscapes, our flora, fauna and our people did just that to Cynthia Ee and her troupe.

Have a blessed week ahead.

rience of other counties in the world, the following are highlighted.

- Macroeconomic stability is essential if investment is to grow. investors must be confident they will not lose out due to inflationary surges and investors must be confident there will not be any crisis that produces sudden reversals of policy. A continued political commitment to prudent fiscal policy and control of inflation is therefore the first condition for increasing investment and promoting sustainable growth.

- A stable and predictable legal framework is essential. Since many investments only pay off over a long term, it can be costly to investors if the rules of the game are not only

frequently changed but also in an arbitrarily manner. Stability of commercial contracts and a well-designed dispute resolution process are particularly important for investors.

- It is imperative to have a special set of policies which have the potential to increase investment and growth, and which also address issues of poverty and inequality. For example, investment in human capital through improved primary and secondary education helps develop a skilled labour force, capable of responding to shifting labour demands. The availability of skilled labour is one of the key considerations by investors. But it also pro-

motes equality of opportunities and lifts people out of poverty.

- Labour market reform will help promote a skilled labour force. And it can produce the additional benefit of bringing the poor into the formal system of employment, thus improving their legal benefits and protections.

Integration

Of note is the country has continued to be a big and active player in promoting regional and continental integration. We will recall in August, Swaziland hosted the thirty-sixth SADC Heads of State and Government Summit, under the theme "Resource mobilisation for investment in sustainable energy

infrastructure", which focused on inclusive industrialisation. Furthermore, Swaziland is a signatory to a number of trade integration arrangements, ranging from the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) to the Tripartite Free Trade Area. These arrangements have opened up preferential market access opportunities to maximise trade at the regional and international levels.

Overall, a number of economies in the world have benefited enormously from globalisation. However, because the adjustment required to attain the benefits of increased globalisation can be costly to individuals, it is appropriate society as a whole,

which stands to benefit, shares in the costs of those who lose out as a result of globalisation.

Trade Adjustment Assistance programmes have benefitted other countries and economies who have opened up their trade borders and policies and Swaziland cannot be left behind.

The current round of WTO trade negotiations, the Doha 'Development' Round, provides an opportunity by creating larger potential markets to exploit trade liberalisation, which in turn can result in increased trade income and wages and subsequently reduce the effects of poverty in low-income countries such as ours.



Teachers and human trafficking

October 5, 2016 was World Teachers Day. World Teachers Day was created by the United Nations in 1994 to celebrate the educators of the world in recognition of the special inter-governmental conference convened by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in Paris that adopted the UNESCO/ILO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers on that date in 1966.

The recommendation declared education a fundamental human right, acknowledged the essential role of teachers in society, set international standards and defined teachers' responsibilities.

We would therefore like to take this opportunity to encourage teachers to teach their students about human trafficking.

As teachers become more informed about human trafficking they can creatively teach students about its dangers both here at home and abroad.

Human traffickers prey upon youth and children. When teachers are equipped with knowledge about labour trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, they can be the first line of defense against human trafficking in their schools, families and communities and in turn the students they protect and educate can become empowered to fight human trafficking in the future. Awareness is the key to fighting this modern slavery.

Once modern slavery becomes understood it will no longer be invisible and teachers, students, parents, and entire communities will know what to expect, where to look, who to help, and how to join together in the fight against human trafficking.

HOW CAN HUMAN TRAFFICKING AFFECT OUR SCHOOLS?

Trafficking can involve school-age youth, particularly those made vulnerable by difficult family situations, and can take a variety of forms including forced labour, domestic servitude, and commercial sexual exploitation.

The children at risk are not just high school students—pimps or traffickers are known to prey on victims as young as nine years old. Traffickers may target minor victims through social media websites, telephone chat-lines, after-school programs, at shopping malls and bus ranks, in nightclubs, movie theatres or through friends or acquaintances who may recruit students on school campuses.

Reasons children may be trafficked:

- Commercial sex: children may be trafficked and forced into prostitution
- Gentlemen's (Strip) Clubs: Traffickers may recruit high school going girls promising to make them famous yet they want them to



Nompumelelo Lukhele, Head of the Secretariat of the Prevention of People Trafficking and People Smuggling.

- perform in strip clubs.
- **Pornography:** Children may be recruited under the guise they will become movie stars but will be forced to act in pornographic movies or videos.
- **Forced begging:** Sometimes children are forced by family members or relatives to beg for money on the streets or from house to house
- **Nannies or maids:** sometimes children are trafficked internally to work as nannies and are made to look after younger children.
- **Restaurant work:** Children may be recruited and trafficked to work in restaurant kitchens. They are normally hidden in the back of restaurants so people cannot see them lest they discover they are underage
- **Hair and nail salons:** Children may be recruited and trafficked to work in salons as cleaning staff
- **Agricultural work:** Young boys may be recruited and trafficked to work on farms or as cattle herders
- **Drug sales and cultivation:** Some children are trafficked to sell dagga or work in dagga fields, especially in Southern Africa.

HOW CAN TEACHERS IDENTIFY A CHILD WHO MAY HAVE BEEN TRAFFICKED?

Indicators that teachers, school staff and administrators should be aware of concerning a potential victim:

- Demonstrates an inability to attend school on a regular basis and or has unexplained absences;
- Frequently runs away from home;
- Makes references to frequent travel to other cities, towns or even countries;
- Exhibits bruises or other signs of physical trauma, withdrawn behaviour, depression, anxiety, or fear;
- Lacks control over his or her schedule and or identification or travel documents;
- Is hungry, malnourished, deprived of sleep, or inappropriately dressed (based on weather conditions or surroundings);
- Shows signs of drug or alcohol addiction;
- Has coached or rehearsed responses to

questions

Additional signs that may indicate a child has been sexually exploited include:

- A sudden change in attire, personal hygiene, relationships, or material possessions;
- Acts uncharacteristically promiscuous and or makes references to sexual situations or terminology that are beyond age-specific norms;
- Is picked up from school by different cars;
- Has a "boyfriend" or "girlfriend" who is noticeably older;
- Attempts to conceal recent scars;

Additional signs that may indicate a child has been forced into employment or labour include:

- Expresses need to pay off a debt;
- Expresses concern for family members' safety if he or she shares too much information;
- Works long hours and receives little or no payment;
- Cares for children not from his or her own family;

Look-out

However, protecting students from human trafficking extends beyond simply being on the look-out. In the classroom teachers must teach children reporting incidents is important. Above all it is critical for parents to be educated too.

Speaking directly to parents may be more effective. Teachers should always communicate with parents. Parents need to make students aware of child predators, both online and in real life.

It is up to parents to monitor their children's use of social media, such as Facebook, WhatsApp and Twitter because most of these transactions happen online. Online is the new street.

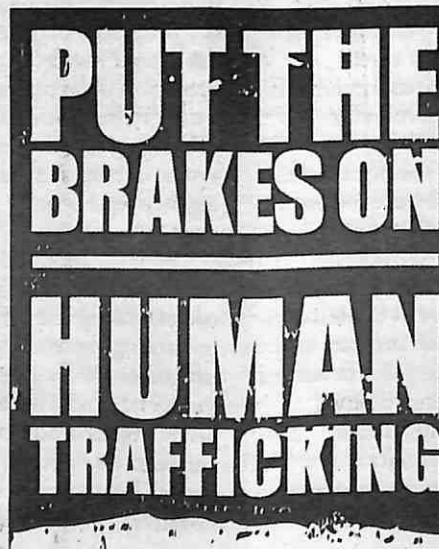
Parents must know who their children are friends with. Parents should not leave all their responsibilities up to teachers.

If you suspect or know of a child who has been trafficked report this immediately:

- Call 975 Anti-trafficking toll free line
- Call 999 or 99 99 police emergency numbers

Contact your nearest police station For further information and assistance contact:

The Prevention of People Trafficking and People Smuggling Secretariat
C/O Prime Minister's Office
Tel: 2404 1759



JOY NDWANDWE'S ZONE LEADERSHIP

In commemorating world teacher's day, I reflected on my first grade teacher Mrs Habhuhabhu Dlamini of Luyengo, who struggled teaching me handwriting as I was under age. Today I write on the fourth Biennial Conference, held end of September, perfect timing for ushering world teacher's day, the implementers of curriculum. At the conference, organising committee representative Phinda Simelane, explained the consultative processes during preparations of this conference, engaging all sectors. Hence early childhood development children and learners are participating including elders who are not part of the national curriculum, to allow all voices to be heard and recognised during this conference.

Director of National Curriculum Centre (NCC), Dr Ntombenhle Dlamini in her welcome remarks, explained this conference is about information gathering from participants. To enable the enriching of implementing the National Curriculum Framework that has been validated through extensive consultative processes within the country. Thus, reflecting how in the 2014 Conference the curriculum reforms were introduced, there were uncertainties and a lot has been achieved to date. Hence Competency Based Education (CBE) is within the Education policy, thus requiring collective responsibility in implementation.

The theme of the conference: Making the Connection; Linking SD's CBE to vision 2022 for the realisation of sustainable futures by Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's).

MAKING THE CONNECTION

The opening speech by the principal secretary representing minister of education and training, recognised NCC's efforts in organising this conference. Thus, provided space for deliberating on educational issues and challenges, with the view of enhancing the initiative of transforming towards CBE. This conference was in line with global and SADC initiatives within which government participates, hence making the connection.

Particularly as two weeks before this conference the ministry launched SDG 4 on inclusive and quality education. This curriculum through the national framework creates excellent linkages with SDG4. The government through SADC ministers of education, health and sports affirmed CBE should prioritise life skills. Within the curriculum as a response to the high pregnancy, HIV/Aids and STI, and most significantly in support of the HIV free generation.

Thus, life skills be part of the curriculum, without appropriate education development will remain a pipedream. CBE ensures students have the appropriate skills to perform particular tasks. A long process requiring accessible and quality education as the new focus, considering access in terms of affordability within secondary remains a challenge. Thus, requiring quality and equality in education be a national priority including relevancy within the context of global education, hence CBE by 2019. Therefore this conference must engage education challenges towards a knowledge based society, through sharing and networking in order to achieve CBE.

LINKING SD CBE TO VISION 2022

The guest speaker Professor Musa Dube, made an intriguing and thought provoking presentation. The visibility and accessibility of the National Curriculum Centre as a leader and key player in curriculum transformation. A statement that provoked my

2016 BIENNIAL CURRICULUM CONFERENCE



Mama wa Ndlaludlaza with family.

thought during the first visit to this institution, it felt like I was visiting the Nxumalo family, Eticantfwini. This also provoked my thoughts on whether NCC is strategically positioned to lead this curriculum transformation towards Vision 2022, when its location is obscure. I began imagining whether the budget reflects the same message as the location for linking CBE to vision 2022.

Professor Dube presented an interactive model, asked six fundamental questions of where is NCC coming from, its history; what is its status; where is it going; is it part of the vision 2022; how will it monitor this curriculum and how will it know it has reached its target destination? His proposed strategy was NCC requires a communication strategy; regularise consultative meetings; review traditional functions, capacity, vision and mission, staff moral and job satisfaction, policy agenda, visibility, innovate and know their customers.

The response to this critical analysis was from Dr Mazibuko, who critically engaged the role of NCC within this transformative process. Indicating how, if we do not know who we are, we may lose who we are during this transformative process. Irrespective of where you are within the interactive model, its introspection time on the questions raised by Dr Dube. This interactive model with the ministry at top, on the sides' partners and NCC who are all interacting towards review, testing, implementing, in-service training, policy and SDG's for linking CBE to vision 2022.

Dr Mazibuko stated this marks the end of silos thinking, as this model is applicable to all partners including the strategic partners, teachers, the implementers of CBE. This model probes the role of higher education council as all institutions must ask these questions stimulated by Dr Dube. For this transformation impacts on all education service providers, as CBE has an important role in Swaziland. CBE speaks to skills and content that imparts knowledge and content is critical. Hence there need for continuous professional development, pre and in-service training, skills that support teachers in the implementation of CBE towards vision 2022.

Sustainable Futures Promoted by SDG's The National Curriculum Centre (NCC) director in her welcome remarks thanked all donors, sponsors and supporters of this conference and the national curriculum reforms. The first remarks were from the representation of EU Ambassador, the head of operations. She highlighted how the national curriculum framework which is currently being populated with content is

supported by EU within the ministry. Through financial and technical support as this curriculum reforms will have a positive impact of the future citizens, hence they are happy with the implementation of SDG4 on inclusive and quality education.

The EU is committed to supporting this reforms as curriculum is a pillar for education and this transformation must address market trends, as education must respond to the job market. The relevancy of curriculum to the job market is evaluated through learner's absorption within the job market. This is development, and this process must be inclusive through active participation for extensive curriculum reform buy-in. The UNFPA representative thanked the organisers for inviting them as they wish to contribute to the conference comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) or life skills. As an organisation that advocates for age and medically appropriate whilst being culturally sensitive sexual education, as an investment for curbing HIV, teenage pregnancy, early sexual debut, early pregnancy, gender based violence and access to sexual reproductive services.

The UNICEF representative emphasised the importance and significance of information gathering from stakeholders, particularly the children. This has been proven through the children's Parliament and two weeks earlier there was a launch of the SDG4. Evidence on how the ministry is collaborating in partnerships that enable active participation, and this will translated into required reforms within education. UNICEF is committed to access to quality education, and the education sector must achieve this to curb the HIV risky behaviour. Hence the investment in life skills towards HIV free generation, and this conference provides opportunity to align curriculum with SDG's. She applauded the ministry on children with disability as inclusive education ensures children with special needs are included. Let us ensure the curriculum responds to the needs of children of Swaziland, and congratulations to NCC.

In conclusion Andres Schott, reflected the global quest for relevant learning that prepares children for the changing world. Such as respect for tradition and cultures, indigenous education institutions embedded with knowledge on how to be effective adults. Thus, suggesting a breath of skills that connect learners with the world, enable them to effectively work within technology domains. Evidently cognitive social and emotional characteristics, transformative education, learning to know, do, be and live together.

NAMCOM – Healthy competition for the Swai nation

It's ploughing season once again and the Ministry of Agriculture along with the National Maize Corporation (NMC) and National Agriculture Marketing Board (NAM-Board), are geared up for the National Maize Competition (NAMCOM) and National Vegetable Competition (NAVECO).

These are competitions that were initiated by the Ministry of Agriculture and have been continually supported and sponsored by both the NMC and NAMBoard over the years.

The National Maize Corporation remains the main sponsor for the NAMCOM, which is in its 25th year, this year.

The National Maize Competition was meant to inspire competitiveness amongst farmers whilst simultaneously imparting technical knowledge and skills for continually improving maize yields per unit area in the country.

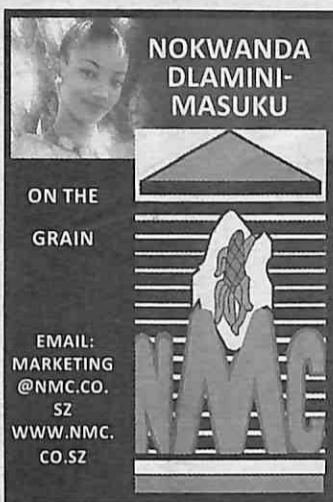
Although this may not necessarily have been the motivating factor to initiate the competition, it can be noted in such times as the current, where the country is not producing enough maize to sustain itself and where a bulk of the maize consumed in the country is actually imported from other countries, one can say this competition has occurred at an opportune time.

Increasing

The National Maize Corporation has initiated and developed several innovative programmes all aimed at ultimately increasing maize production in the country to such a point that by 2020, the country will be producing enough maize to sustain herself. Food security is not an easy feat to achieve, but the NMC is geared for the journey and plans on tackling each challenge head on, as it comes. There is no stopping the NMC now.

In light of the new developments and initiatives undertaken by the NMC, the NAMCOM will serve as one of key platforms to educate local farmers and equip them with technical knowledge on best grain farming practices as well as provide incentives to give them a much needed boost, what with all the challenges currently being faced by the Swazi nation.

Through the NAMCOM, it has been noted farmers on Swazi Nation Land can produce up to 14 tonnes of maize per hectare under rain-fed conditions. The average yield of



maize per hectare is anything between three – six tonnes per hectare. Generally, on average, Swazi farmers are producing two tonnes per hectare. This is way below average.

Therefore, competitions such as the NAMCOM will go a long way in ensuring that information on best farming practices is shared amongst farmers and that farmers remain encouraged and inspired to continue the struggle first towards self-sustenance through maize farming and then towards

food security for the country.

In previous years, during the NAMCOM, the overall winner of the NAMCOM often signified a certain level of maturity of the farmer in terms of maize production, hence this farmer would then be excluded from competitions to follow, as a way of opening up the competition to newcomers to the industry as well as allow the competitors to compete on level ground.

This, though, compromised the levels of continuity in terms of monitoring the production of that particular farmer as well as in ensuring steady growth; hence the NMC introduced the CEO's awards in 2015.

Inspired

The CEO's awards were initiated by the current Chief Executive Officer of the National Maize Corporation, Sabelo S. Msibi and this was inspired by the fact that even though NAMCOM awarded the best yields, it didn't necessarily recognise those that brought large volumes of their yields to the NMC.

Therefore, CEO's awards are meant to recognise the good yields and efforts made to ensure the maize is sold to the NMC.

This year, the CEO will go one step further because the NMC will look into creating a database of the winners to ensure continual improvement is achieved in the long run. These farmers will be in close contact with NMC farmer development officers and extension officers who will continue equipping them with technical know-how as they go about their farming activities.

The Swazi Nation is invited to join us as we celebrate and encourage these farmers to continue producing for the country.

You too dear reader, are encouraged to do your bit towards food security. As the saying goes: "agriculture is our wisest pursuit because it will, in the end, contribute most to real wealth and happiness."



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TESTIMONIALS

Before I joined Mastermaths (Report Mark 82% Maths) After joining Mastermaths (Report Mark 99% Maths)

Mastermaths has helped me in an unbelievable way. I was behind in fractions, and Mastermaths put me ahead. Now I have started to learn things the rest of my class at school have not learnt. When I am in grade five, maths will be easy because I have Mastermaths on my side.

Vuyiswa, Grade 4C, Khanyisile Primary

Vuyiswa was developing a negative attitude towards maths because she felt like it was becoming difficult. She was not able to understand how to do certain sums.

I felt she needed special attention and from someone who would be patient with her. Her marks were between 90 & 100% in Grade 1 to 2, although they started dropping a bit in grade 3 to the 80's. It was the only subject that spoiled her overall aggregate.

She started hating the subject coz she is a kid that gets between 90 & 100% in all her subjects. Right now she is so happy, and is got close to 100% in her maths exams. Also her attitude towards maths has really changed. She now loves it more, and is always telling me she was explaining something on the board in class because the other kids did not understand.

Zani, Parent

Shop #14, The Hub Mall, Manzini.
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French Ligue 1
15:00 Caen v St Etienne
17:00 Metz v Nice
20:45 Paris Saint-G v Marseille

German Bundesliga
15:30 RB Leipzig v SV Werder Bremen
17:30 FC Schalke 04 v 1. FSV Mainz 05

Italian Serie A
12:30 Udinese v Pescara
15:00 Atalanta v Internazionale
15:00 Cagliari v Fiorentina
15:00 Crotone v Napoli

Adriatico
15:00 Empoli v Chievo
15:00 Torino v Lazio
18:00 Bologna v Sassuolo
20:45 Roma v Palermo

National First Division
15:30 U of Pretoria v Witbank Spurs
15:30 Jomo Cosmos v Cape Town All Stars
15:30 AmaZulu v Stellenbosch FC
15:30 Milano United v Real Kings FC

Premier League
14:30 Manchester City v Southampton
17:00 Chelsea v Manchester United

Spanish La Liga
12:00 Celta de Vigo v Deportivo de La Coruña
16:15 Sevilla v Atlético de Madrid
18:30 Málaga v Leganés
18:30 Villarreal v Las Palmas
20:45 Real Madrid v Athletic Club

Telkom Knockout Stadium
15:00 Orlando Pirates v Golden Arrows Orlando
15:00 Baroka FC v Platinum Stars

ABRAMOVICH NEVER MY FRIEND - MOURINHO

LONDON - Former Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho says he has "never" been friends with club owner Roman Abramovich, but will not over-celebrate if Manchester United score against his old side today.

Russian billionaire Abramovich twice hired Mourinho, in 2004 and 2013, and watched him become the club's greatest manager over his two spells at the helm, notably winning three Premier League titles.

But he has also sacked him twice, most recently last December, and ahead of the Portuguese's return to Stamford Bridge with United, Mourinho revealed his relationship with his former boss was only ever professional.

"He was never my friend. We had always the relation of owner-manager, a very respectful relation," Mourinho said.

"We were never friends,

we were never close to each other. So no, he's just a person I respected."

Despite Chelsea's dismal title defence last season, which saw them slump to 16th place in the table, Mourinho is likely to receive a warm reception from the Stamford Bridge faithful.

But with United two points below Chelsea and five points off leaders Manchester City in seventh place, Mourinho says he will have more important matters on his mind.

"I'm more focused on the game. I try to

prepare myself for the matches, so I cannot say I care. What can I expect? I don't know," he told reporters after United's 4-1 Europa League win over Fenerbahce on Thursday.

"They (Chelsea fans) can think about me and remember our great relation and have a great reaction.

"They can look at me and say, for 90 minutes he's Man United manager and he's playing against us, so he's not someone we like

in this moment."

But he added: "If you ask me if my team score a goal, am I going to celebrate like a crazy kid? No, I think I can control emotionally that situation."

'EASIER FIXTURES'

Mourinho has admitted he will no longer feel a sense of invincibility when he returns to the Bridge.

He avoided a home league defeat in his first three-year stint at Chelsea and prior to a 1-0 Champions League win there with Inter Milan in March 2010 he said the stadium was "lucky" for him.

But having presided over four defeats at the Bridge last season prior to his dismissal, he concedes some of the magic has faded.

"When I played there with Inter, before that I never lost a match at Stamford Bridge because I had that home record that is still in the Guinness (World Records)," Mourinho said.

"Now I lost already a few matches at the Bridge. Last season I lost two or three matches, so I cannot use the same words because now I lost there." AFP



Former Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho and Roman Abramovich.

Drogba fined over Impact no-show

NEW YORK - Didier Drogba has been fined an undisclosed amount by Major League Soccer chiefs after his refusal to play for the Montreal Impact last weekend.

Former Chelsea and Ivory Coast star Drogba stunned the Impact by demanding to be left out of the squad for their game against Toronto FC last Sunday after discovering he was not in the starting line-up.

Although Impact President Joey Saputo said on Tuesday the club had settled its differences with Drogba, the 38-year-old's no-show has brought a league fine.

"Consistent with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, Drogba has been fined an undisclosed amount for his failure to appear for the Montreal Impact's match against Toronto FC on October 16," the MLS said in a statement.

In a separate ruling, the MLS said it had fined New York City FC player Diego Martinez for an undisclosed sum after he was found to have sworn at a DC United ballboy last Sunday.

However, the league said an investigation involving interviews with multiple witnesses had found no evidence Martinez used a homophobic slur against the individual. AFP



Didier Drogba.

China names Lippi national team coach

BEIJING - Former World Cup-winning coach Marcello Lippi has been named to lead China's national side following the resignation of Gao Hongbo, the Chinese Football Association announced yesterday.

The appointment comes after World Cup qualifying losses by the men's team to Syria and Uzbekistan left the Asians with virtually no chance of qualifying for Russia 2018.

Lippi travelled to Beijing to accept an official offer for the post, according to a statement on the CFA's website.

The decision was made "according to the CFA's coach selection and hiring process and through friendly consultations on both sides", it said.

No details were announced. The organisation said it will hold an

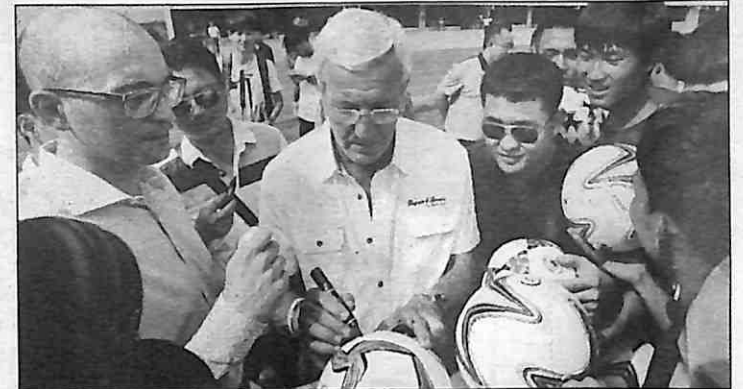
official press conference on Friday. The announcement follows rumours earlier in the week the Italian maestro would take over the struggling squad.

Former China coach Gao resigned on 11 October following a 2-0 World Cup qualifying defeat to Uzbekistan, leaving the team with almost no window to qualify for the event.

Sitting a lowly 78th in Fifa's rankings, China have claimed just one point from four games and dropped to bottom place in a group A which includes Iran, Uzbekistan, South Korea, Syria and Qatar.

Lippi, who steered Italy to their fourth and most recent World Cup triumph in 2006, is not new to working in China.

The 68-year-old coached Chinese top flight side Guangzhou Evergrande to three



Former World Cup-winning coach Marcello Lippi has been named to lead China's national side.

consecutive Super League titles between 2012 and 2014.

Often a source of national embarrassment, improving the level of football at club and national level has been one of the priorities of China's President Xi Jinping.

Even before taking office, Xi underlined his ambitions for Chinese football in 2011: to qualify for the World Cup, to host the

event and to one day win it.

China have qualified only once for the World Cup, quietly departing the 2002 edition without scoring a goal.

Last year officials declared football a compulsory part of the national curriculum, with pledges to open 20 000 football-themed schools by 2017 with the aim of producing more than 100 000 players. AFP

Guardiola resolute despite Barca mauling

MANCHESTER - Manchester City Manager Pep Guardiola says he would rather quit his post than change his footballing philosophy.

City have gone four matches in all competitions without a win and head into today's Premier League clash at home to Southampton on the back of a 4-0 thrashing at Barcelona in the Champions League.

It was suggested to Guardiola this week that he might consider a more pragmatic approach to games in the future, given City's

recent run. But the former Barcelona and Bayern Munich boss insisted he would remain true to his attacking principles and style of play that requires his goalkeeper and defenders to play the ball out from the back.

"No, no, I'm not going to change," Guardiola said. "First, it's going to happen that if it's not going well in the future, next season isn't going well in that way, I will go home."

"I won 21 titles in seven years. So it's three titles per year playing in that way."

"The way we want to play, the

way the academy plays for a long time, is the way I think is good because, I'm sorry, in the past it was going well until two weeks or three weeks ago."

City will be without right-back Pablo Zabaleta, who sustained a knock against Barca, for the visit of Southampton, while fellow defender Bacary Sagna remains on the sidelines with a hamstring injury. Guardiola also revealed City captain Vincent Kompany has been mentally scarred by the injury problems he has suffered over the past two seasons. The Belgium international, 30, was

left out of City's squad for the loss to Barca at the Nou Camp but is expected to be available to face Southampton.

"I thought a few weeks ago maybe Vincent can come back now with his personality, maybe he can do that," Guardiola said. "But one day after the training session here, he said, 'I didn't feel like this'. At this moment his head is not ready after what happened the last two years to keep him out."

"Vincent was not perfectly fit for Barcelona. We appreciate him a lot. Normally Kompany would be on the bench, but he was not fit. AFP

ALL BLACKS BEAT WALLABIES

EDEN PARK - New Zealand successfully broke the record for consecutive wins after claiming a 37-10 victory against Australia at Eden Park yesterday.

The win means they finally broke the 17-match streak that was only held by themselves and South Africa previously and extend it to 18. The All Blacks were on the cusp of making the record last year before Australia beat them 27-19 in Sydney.

New Zealand scored six tries in an uncharacteristically error-ridden game from them. They seemed to stutter through a lot of the game instead of demonstrating their usual silky play. Australia didn't create too many opportunities on attack but looked in control as soon as they started moving.

In classic All Black fashion though, they pulled their performance together in the second-half, turning a fairly close game into a blow-out.

The half-time score was 15-7 to



New Zealand clinched a record-breaking 18th consecutive victory with a bruising 37-10 win against Australia at Eden Park in Auckland. Julian Savea scored a pair of tries as the All Blacks were made to fight for the record win, despite the size of the margin, in easily their most difficult test of a hugely dominant southern hemisphere winter. (Daily Mail)

New Zealand after three tries from the home side and Australia were creeping into the game with a solitary five-pointer from second-row Rory Arnold.

After Julian Savea scored his two tries he rose to fourth on the

all-time New Zealand try scoring rankings with 45 five-pointers to his name.

Australia had the chance to draw first blood but Bernard Foley's kick for goal was carried away by the wind. Australia's

missed opportunity was New Zealand's gain as the home side counter-attacked immediately and sent the ball quickly down the backline for Israel Dagg to score in the corner.

The All Blacks struck again after the Australian defensive line came up too quickly which gave centre Anton Lienert-Brown a gap, which he took astutely and scored his side's second try of the match 10 minutes in, making the score 10-0 to the home side.

Australia were close to scoring after a great run from Samu Kerevi who broke the All Black line and was close to the try line before being tackled. He just got a pass away but the offload went forward and Australia lost the momentum.

Australia finally got on the scoreboard after some great work from Dane Haylett-Petty and Reece Hodge, whose searing runs took the ball right up field before the ball was swung to Arnold who stretched over the line, making the score 10-7. **AFP**

Coe backs Brisbane bid for 2028 Olympics

BRISBANE — IAAF President Lord Sebastian Coe has described a potential Brisbane bid to host the 2028 Olympics as "a very attractive proposition."

Visiting the Gold Coast to outline reform proposals for athletics' governing body with Oceania officials, Coe said Australia had the "bandwidth of experience" to deliver major events, including the Olympics and the track and field world championships.

Coe said delivering top international sporting events was in Australia's DNA.

He said "anything in Australia is a credible thought because you have, in the past, proven you not only deliver Games effectively, you deliver them extremely well. I don't have any sleepless nights over the operational ability of Australians to deliver great sporting events."

AP

Federer hopes to play beyond next season

BASEL - Roger Federer has indicated he has no plans to bring the curtain down on his decorated career at the end of next season.

Federer has been out of action since undergoing knee surgery in July and the former world number one will not return to the court until 2017, as he continues his rehabilitation.

After turning 35, there are question marks over how much longer the 17-time Grand Slam winner will continue to compete.

But when asked if 2017 was likely to be his last season, Federer made it clear he is still looking to be competing in 2018.

"Stopping for a such long time after 20 years of tennis cannot be anything but positive," Federer told Tennis World USA.

"Playing in 2018? It's a year away but I clearly still hope to play."

"Retirement is still far away, I only hope I will decide it and not my body."

Federer is wary of rushing his comeback, although he is pleased with how his recovery is gradually gathering pace.

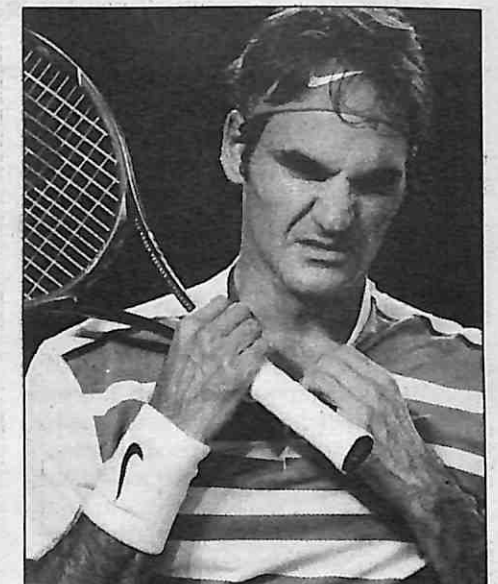
"I am practicing well, we are going step by step although we could do more," he added.

"We are practicing 90 minutes per day and I am almost 100 percent. Now we will increase the intensity both in the gym and on the tennis court."

"In the last two months I played less tennis, maybe 10 or 12 times and three times I played more than an hour."

"For the rest, half an hour and sometimes hitting against the wall. I did not want to take risks after all the physical practice I did."

AFP



Roger Federer.

'F1 title win for Hamilton would be better'

NEW YORK - There is a shell around Nico Rosberg that he has painstakingly built.

His mantra equates to 'one race at a time'. No thoughts of the title. Declining to answer questions about the topic.

He knows the approach is not exactly fun or high on repartee in press conferences, but that is not his concern. The pronounced psychology looks likely to turn him into a world champion, given he leads Lewis Hamilton by 33 points going into Sunday's American Grand Prix, the fourth last race of a marathon season.

However, the Rosberg style — not just the careful answers but the understated family-man persona — has not won him plaudits from the man whose job it is to sell the sport around the world: Bernie Ecclestone.

The artful puppeteer turns 86 next week and his verdicts are drawn from a lifetime in Formula One. He thinks Hamilton's free-rolling manner, the bling and the attitude, is better for business.

"If Nico won the title it would be good for him and good for Mercedes but it wouldn't necessarily help the sport because there is nothing to write about him," said Ecclestone. "Even in Germany it wouldn't help. You need someone like Lewis."

Referring to Ferrari's monosyllabic Kimi Raikkonen, Ecclestone declared: 'Kimi's doing a better job than Nico! The drivers now earn a lot of money, which is good except that doesn't necessarily keep them on their toes. They don't live in fear. Maybe the financial structure should be changed. They should get a cheque after each race. We must take a look at that. They have an easy life today.' Imagine the idea of ripping up fat contracts worth £30million and telling the stars in the cars if they bin it at the first corner they will not get paid. Can anyone see Toto Wolff having that conversation with our Lewis? **Daily Mail**

Zabivaka the wolf unveiled with help from Ronaldo

MOSCOW - Believe it or not the preparations for the next World Cup are well underway and now Russia 2018 has a mascot for the global show-piece event.

Designed by student Ekaterina Bocharova, Zabivaka the wolf has been chosen to represent the tournament.

The wolf stormed to victory with 53 percent of the one million strong Russian public vote ahead of a tiger (27 percent) and Cat (20 percent), before being congratulated by Brazilian World Cup legend Ronaldo.

The FIFA website claimed the new Mascot, unveiled on TV on Friday night, 'radiates fun, charm and confidence.'

Local Organising Committee Chairman Vitaly Mutko, who attended the live broadcast that crowned the wolf the victor, emphasised the key role of a mascot.

"I am sure Zabivaka will be a massive hit among fans at the



World Cup legend Ronaldo (left) greets the new 2018 mascot Zabivaka the wolf. (AP)

FIFA Confederations Cup 2017 and the 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia. However, his role goes far beyond simply being popular among spectators," Mutko told FIFA.com.

"Our Mascot is tasked with inspiring supporters, getting the wider population involved in football and inviting them to the stadiums in order to experience memorable and positive emotions. Millions of Russian football fans took part in the vote and this means Zabivaka will do a worthy job representing our country around the world."

Two-time World Cup winner Ronaldo, who also scored 15 times in the prestigious football event, added: "Mascots are great ambassadors for promoting the event and bring so much joy to the stadiums. I can see it happening already in Russia with Zabivaka just by seeing him on stage tonight. He will surely be remembered for a very long time by football fans all over the world."

Daily Mail

Radwanska hoping for luck, pluck in WTA Finals

SINGAPORE - Agnieszka Radwanska returns to the scene of her greatest triumph next week when she opens the defense of her WTA Finals title and the 27-year-old Pole is the first to admit luck can be as important as skill to emerge victorious in Singapore.

Radwanska becomes the first player in the history of the elite eight-woman tournament to lose two of her three round robin matches before claiming

the title after she made the most of her good fortune to secure a surprise victory.

Seeded fifth, Radwanska lost to Maria Sharapova and Flavia Pennetta and looked all but out of the tournament before a straight-sets win over Simona Halep sneaked her through to the semi-finals with a 1-2 record on sets won.

The Pole then displayed all of her usual resilience to rally past Spaniard Garbine Muguruza in three sets before she held off

Petra Kvitova to claim the title with a 6-2, 4-6, 6-3 victory.

"I definitely had couple of great matches," she told reporters yesterday as she recalled last year's triumph.

"Obviously not a great start but I think it's a tournament that you can come back and a tournament that you don't need to win every match just to win the title," the world number three added.

Reuters



BARCLAYS

ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



BOURNEMOUTH HOLD SPURS IN ENTERTAINING STALEMATE

LONDON - Tottenham missed the chance to move to the Premier League summit after being held 0-0 by Bournemouth in an entertaining clash at the Vitality Stadium.

Spurs could have climbed above Manchester City and Arsenal with a victory in the weekend's early kick-off but the Cherries were more than a match for their visitors and they could arguably have taken all three points.

Erik Lamela and Moussa Sissoko were both fortunate not to be sent off for Spurs in a feisty match that yielded six yellow cards while Jack Wilshere completed 90 minutes at club level for the first time since September 2014.

Bournemouth goalkeeper Artur Boruc endured a day to forget in last season's 5-1 mauling here and he almost started where he left off as he sliced a kick straight to Dele Alli, who played in Son Heung-min but the South Korean was off-side.

Both sides hit the crossbar in the early stages, the visitors caught napping by a low corner that found its way to Dan Gosling's feet



AFC Bournemouth's Adam Smith, front, and Tottenham Hotspur's Christian Eriksen compete for the ball during the English Premier League soccer match at the Vitality Stadium, Bournemouth, England, yesterday. (AP)

at the near post but Charlie Daniels' finish from five yards was brilliantly deflected by the feet of Hugo Lloris.

Spurs then went close after Alli skipped clear with two successive nutmegs before Lamela drove a long-range shot around the rooted Boruc, only for the woodwork to

intrude again.

That was as close as the visitors came in the opening 45 minutes as Bournemouth beat Tottenham at their own game with the sort of aggressive, turbo-charged pressing that Pochettino's men deployed to such great effect against Manchester City three weeks ago.

It flustered Spurs, who picked up four bookings before the interval and Lamela was fortunate not to collect a second after sliding in late on Gosling.

Half-time, however, came at the wrong time for Bournemouth, who struggled to regain the same urgency after the break while Tottenham emerged calmer and more controlled.

Vincent Janssen replaced the ineffective Son and Spurs created some openings, Lamela firing over from the angle and Danny Rose's shot saved at the near post by Boruc.

With just under quarter of an hour to play, however, tensions boiled over again as substitute Sissoko landed an elbow in the face of Harry Arter, but despite a large scuffle and referee Craig Pawson consulting his linesman, no further action was taken.

Bournemouth's sense of injustice only grew when they felt they should have had a penalty late on after Victor Wanyama's heavy challenge on Wilshere, but Pawson again waved away the protests. **Goal**

Giggs 'learned from Van Gaal than I thought possible'

LONDON - Ryan Giggs has opened up on his tenure as Manchester United assistant manager under former boss Louis van Gaal.

The Welshman served as assistant to van Gaal when the Dutchman was appointed as David Moyes' replacement in summer 2014.

Giggs was still playing by that point - although he was not a regular fixture in the first team as he was under Sir Alex Ferguson.

In his first column with the Daily Telegraph, the 42-year-old has explained how Van Gaal, who left the club after two years last summer, essentially forced him to retire from playing.

"When I first met Louis we got talking and he asked me to be his assistant after just 30 minutes of conversation," Giggs writes. "I accepted and then he told me he had one condition. I had to retire."

"In fact, he said he had made the decision for me. I was officially retired as a player as of that moment. As soon as he said so, it felt right."

"I learned more about coaching from Louis over the next two years than I thought possible."

"He was completely thorough. Everyone in the team knew their role exactly and in the first season we made good progress."

"It was only last season that we lost our way although it would be wrong to say that was all Louis' fault. We must all take our share of the blame." **Goal**

'Man City should sign Carrick in January'

MANCHESTER - Manchester City should launch an audacious January swoop for Michael Carrick, according to Tim Sherwood.

The midfielder, who has struggled for starts under Jose Mourinho this season, was described as "Manchester United's Andrea Pirlo" by Owen Hargreaves after impressing alongside Paul Pogba in a 4-1 win over Fenerbahce.

Teams

Sherwood, who was acting as a pundit for ITV following United's win in the Champions League, feels Carrick should be first name on the teamsheet for "every Premier League side" and would be an upgrade on City's midfield options.

"If he needs one touch, that's all he takes - there is no self-indulgence with Michael," Sherwood said.

"Michael Carrick would be the first

name on the teamsheet on every single Premier League team. Manchester City are crying out for a Michael Carrick.

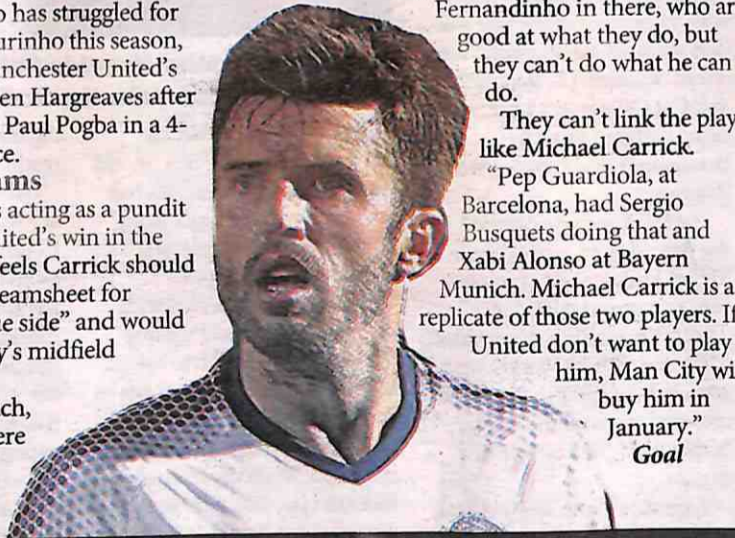
"They have Fernando or

Fernandinho in there, who are good at what they do, but they can't do what he can do.

They can't link the play like Michael Carrick.

"Pep Guardiola, at Barcelona, had Sergio Busquets doing that and Xabi Alonso at Bayern Munich. Michael Carrick is a replicate of those two players. If

United don't want to play him, Man City will buy him in January." **Goal**



Michael Carrick.

'Everton must not only rely on Lukaku'

LONDON - Manager Ronald Koeman has urged Everton to find a way of avoiding over reliance on striker Romelu Lukaku in front of goal, but praised the club's defensive record this season.

Belgium international Lukaku, who struck 18 Premier League goals last season, has continued his impres-

sive form under Koeman, netting six of Everton's 12 league goals.

Koeman's side, who are sixth in the standings and have conceded just six goals after the opening eight league games, boast the second best defensive record in the top flight after leaders Manchester City.

"Of course, you'd like many players to score more goals.

The players around Lukaku need to show more productivity. There is no pressure on Lukaku. It's one of his best qualities," the Dutchman told a news conference on Thursday.

"On the other hand we haven't conceded more than one every game but we need to create more and we need to score more goals." **Goal**

Mkhitaryan 'confused, unhappy' over Man Utd role

MANCHESTER - Manchester United summer signing Henrikh Mkhitaryan has been left 'confused and unhappy' with his start to life at Old Trafford.

Mkhitaryan joined the Red Devils for £26.3million from Borussia Dortmund, but has struggled to establish himself at United thus far.

He has started just one game, but was substituted at half-time in the Manchester derby defeat in September.

Recent

The Armenian has been left out of recent match day squads as he continues his comeback from a thigh injury sustained on international duty last month.

However, there is confusion over why Mkhitaryan was left out of United's side to face Fenerbahce in the Europa League on Thursday, as the 27-year-old claims he "was fully fit."

According to The Times, he "was stunned to hear that he would not be taking part in Thursday's match."

Paul Hirst adds that: 'It is understood that Mkhitaryan feels he was fully fit and has told friends he cannot fathom why he was not in the 18-man squad.' **eamtalk**

I didn't make Ronaldo, he made himself - Ferguson

MANCHESTER - Sir Alex Ferguson believes he can take little credit for Cristiano Ronaldo's development into one of the finest footballers of all time.

Ferguson brought a teenage Ronaldo from Sporting to Manchester United in 2003 and oversaw his development to Ballon d'Or winner in 2008 before a then world-record move to Real Madrid a year later.

The 74-year-old Scot made his share of records tumble during a trophy laden reign at Old Trafford which lasted 27 years and he feels Ronaldo stands a cut above other stellar names he oversaw during 26-and-a-half years at the helm.

"Ronaldo is a perfect example of someone who made himself. It's easy for me to say, 'yeah, I made Ronaldo'," Ferguson said when he was honoured with the Walther Bensemann prize, which is awarded for outstanding work in football.

"Many coaches might say I made this player and I made that player, but Ronaldo made himself."

"We just gave him the tools and the platform to excel. His practice ethic was incredible. He was a fantastic player, he was the best."

"We had fantastic players in [Paul] Scholes, [Ryan] Giggs, and [Eric] Cantona. We had some fantastic footballers, but Ronaldo was just something else." **Goal**

South African SOCCER

ZAMALEK LEGEND ISSUES STERN WARNING TO SUNDOWNS

CAIRO - Mamelodi Sundowns have received a stern warning from Zamalek legend Hazem Emam ahead of today's CAF Champions League second-leg clash in Egypt.

Sundowns enjoy a 3-0 first-leg advantage and go into the tie with a chance to make history - if the Brazilians were to secure the title, it would be their first honour on the African continent.

In 2001 the side from Chloorkop reached the final but were thumped 4-1 by Al-Ahly.

With that said, Emam has warned that the contest today is far from over in what is sure to be an intimidating environment in Alexandria.

Close to 100 000 fans are expected to



attend the match, which no doubt further adds to the pressure Pitso Mosimane's men are facing.

In addition, in the lead up to the encounter, certain players in the Downs squad were said to have received death threats on social media. Nonetheless, the former White

Knights attacking midfielder believes Zamalek could still win the Champions League trophy.

He told Sada El Balad: "Final matches don't require talking about plans and tactics. They're about players playing with spirit."

"Any African team that plays in Egypt collapses after conceding an early goal in the first 10 minutes of the game due to pressure from fans attending the match."

"Sundowns' defence line is their weakest link and we need to take advantage of this through passes from Ayman Hefny and movements of Bassem Morsy and Stanley (Ohawuchi)." *Sport24*

Highlands ease into TKO quarters

JOHANNESBURG - Highlands Park booked their place in the 2016 Telkom Knockout Cup quarterfinals after defeating Chippa United 2-0 on Friday night.

The Lions of the North and the Chilli Boys had locked horns in the last-16 clash which was played at the Makhulong Stadium in Tembisa.

Chilli Boys goalkeeper Daniel Akpeyi made an awful mistake just 12 minutes into the game and Collins Mbesuma

was there to make it 1-0 to Highlands.

It should have been level seven minutes later, but Highlands keeper Tapuwa Kapini produced a brilliant point-blank save to deny Chippa star Menzi Masuku. In the 35th minute, Theminkosi Lorch tried his luck from range and his attempt was easily saved by Kapini as the Chilli Boys searched for the equalising goal.

However, the Lions of the North managed to contain the Chilli Boys until the match referee blew the half-

time whistle. The home side were leading 1-0. With his side trailing, Chippa coach Dan Malesela made a tactical change by introducing attack-minded Paseka Mako eight minutes into the second half. Mako was presented with a golden chance to level matters for the Chilli Boys in the 61st minute, but his effort was well-saved by Kapini from inside the box.

However, Highlands substitute Edwin Sitayitayi made it 2-0 to his side against the run of play in the 76th minute much to the delight of the home crowd. *Backpage TXT*

TKO quarter-final spot at stake as Bucs host Abafana Bes'thende

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates will be eyeing a place in the 2016 Telkom Knockout Cup quarterfinals when they host Lamontville Golden Arrows today. Kick-off is at 15h00.

The Buccaneers are hoping to go all the way and win the league Cup for the second time. They won the 2011 Telkom Knockout.

Muhsin Ertugral's side are winless in their last three competitive matches. They have recorded three consecutive Premier Soccer League (PSL) draws. In their league game, they fought back to hold Polokwane City to a 1-1 stalemate away. Tendai Ndoro snatched a late

equaliser for the Buccaneers. Ghana international Edwin Gyimah is set to miss today's clash. The Pirates defender-cum-midfielder still has a London injury. Bucs will once again look to Ndoro to continue his scoring form and fire his side into the next round. However, the Zimbabwean faces a late fitness test. Meanwhile, in-form Arrows will be seeking nothing but revenge when they lock horns with Pirates in the city of Johannesburg.

Abafana Bes'thende have never won the league Cup before. However, the KwaZulu-Natal side are keen to go all the way and win it for the first time this year. *Goal*



Limbikani Mzava of Arrows and Tendai Ndoro of Pirates.

Stars dump Wits out of TKO

LOEMFONTEIN - Free State Stars progressed to the next round of the Telkom Knockout after defeating Bidvest Wits 3-1 in extra-time yesterday afternoon.

The Clever Boys enjoyed most of the possession in the opening exchanges, but they struggled to carve out clear-cut chances.

Wits were dealt a blow after 26 minutes when Thabang Monare went down clutching his knee from an earlier challenge. He was replaced by Ben Motshwari. Stars, meanwhile, got stronger as the game went on and started seeing a bit of the ball, although chances were hard to come by for the hosts. Wits had to wait until the 32nd minute for their first meaningful effort of the game, as Elias Pelembe cut inside, before rifling the ball against the crossbar from close range. The woodwork came to Stars' rescue once again as Gabadinho Mhango's looping header crashed against the



Wits Ben Motshwari.

upright with Thela Ngobeni well beaten.

The score remained goalless at the halftime break, as neither side registered an effort on target

in the first half.

With Wits struggling to break down Stars, Gavin Hunt opted for a change as Siyabonga Nhlapo replaced Mhango on the hour mark.

Unfortunately chances were hard to come by for both sides in the final 30 minutes and they were restricted to efforts from distance, as the game was forced into extra time.

Stars broke the deadlock three minutes into extra time, as Mooketsi Sekoal rose well to head home past a helpless Darren Keet.

The home side doubled their lead a minute later when Sekoal turned provider to tee up Sthembiso Dlamini, who volleyed home from close range, 2-0.

Stars sealed the win in the second half of stoppage time, as Danny Venter surged into the box, before calmly slotting the ball into the bottom corner in the 110th minute, 3-0. *soccerladuma*

However, the 54-year-old former Bafana Bafana skipper has made huge progress and should be with his family in the next two days.

"He underwent blood tests this morning (Saturday), for doctors to determine his progress. He took a shower and had a short walk," Mark Tovey told the SAFA website.

"The doctors have confirmed that he will be discharged either Sunday or Monday and that is a huge relief for the entire family. This is an incredible story and once again I would like to thank all South Africans for their prayers; this has been like a miracle," Mark concluded *Goal*

Neil Tovey to be discharged from hospital

JOHANNESBURG - South African Football Association (SAFA) technical Director Neil Tovey will be discharged from hospital either today or tomorrow, his brother Mark confirmed yesterday.

Neil suffered a heart attack last week Sunday, and spent the whole week in ICU.



Expression Of Interest

Background

The Ministry Of Health has put in place a National Health Research Review Board whose term of office extends over a period of three (3) years. The mandate of this Board is to carry out ethical review of all health research to be conducted out in the country for the purpose of protecting human subjects from harm as a result of participating in health research. The term of office for the current Board will be expiring soon.

Call for expression of interest

Qualifying professionals who are interested in being considered for membership of 2017/2022 National Health Research Review Board are invited to express interest. Interested individuals should possess graduate education in Research; Biostatistics; Epidemiology; Public health; Medicine; Clinical Laboratory Sciences; Human Rights and other related health clinical disciplines.

Submission

To be considered, interested individuals are expected to submit an expression of interest letter, copy of highest academic qualifications and an abridged biography which addresses the following:

1. Name and Surname of applicant
2. Contact details of applicant (mobile phone and email address)
3. Age and sex of applicant
4. Academic qualifications
5. Positions of service and respective years of service
6. List of research protocols developed directly by the applicant if any or towards whose development the applicant contributed significantly as Principal Investigator or Co-investigator.
7. Names of research review boards in which the applicant has served if any including years of service.
8. Names of organisations the applicant has served as a consultant if any and titles of related projects.
9. Names of governance boards the applicant has served in if any and related periods of service
10. Names of organisations the applicant has provided with social responsibility if any and type of service.

Submission deadline: October 28, 2016 at 1700 hrs

Submission details

Expression of interest should be directed to the Administrator, National Health Research Review Board at Email address: kaluamasi@gmail.com. Only soft copies will be accepted.

MANE, COUTINHO MOVE REDS UP TO SECOND

LIVERPOOL - Goals from Sadio Mane and Philippe Coutinho earned Liverpool a 2-1 success over West Brom at Anfield, although Gareth McAuley's late consolation denied Jurgen Klopp's side a place at the Premier League summit.

Earlier yesterday, Arsenal and Tottenham had been held to 0-0 draws by Middlesbrough and Bournemouth, respectively, while the remaining top-four side, Manchester City, host Southampton today.

As a result, Liverpool came into this clash knowing a victory by two goals or more would send them top - no easy task against a usually stubborn Baggies outfit.

McAuley's strike from a corner with nine minutes remaining meant Liverpool must settle for second, behind Arsenal on goal difference, but Klopp will surely be satisfied with a run that has seen them take 16 points from their past six outings.

The only blip in that run came last Monday when Klopp's side failed to break down a defensive-minded Manchester United in a drab 0-0 draw, but on this occasion they were

CELEBRATION: Liverpool team celebration their victory.



able to find a breakthrough and open the game up in the 20th minute when Mane finished off a superb sweeping move.

Coutinho added the second 10 minutes prior to half-time following a shanked clearance from Albion goalkeeper Ben Foster and although McAuley's goal set nerves on edge, the hosts' impressive opening to 2016-17 continued.

After the draw with United, Klopp suggested Jose Mourinho's men would be the ideal opponents to pre-

pare them for the visit of Tony Pulis' side and as expected, the visitors were content to drop men behind the ball in the opening exchanges.

But they were undone by a fine team move as James Milner's pass was dummied by Coutinho to Emre Can, who fed Roberto Firmino and the Brazilian's perfectly clipped cross was volleyed home first time at the back post by Mane.

The second arrived 15 minutes later on the back of Foster's miscue.

Goal

CONTE WARNS MOURINHO HE'LL BE THE 'ENEMY' AFTER KICK-OFF ON SUNDAY

LONDON - Antonio Conte wants Jose Mourinho to realise he is on enemy turf when Manchester United step out at Stamford Bridge today.

Conte expects Chelsea supporters to show Mourinho respect for his achievements, but the Italian reminded the fans he needs the crowd behind his team.

And the former Italy manager also promised he would never 'park the bus' and play for a point as Mourinho has been accused of doing.

"When you have won three titles you remain in the hearts of the fans," said Conte. "He was an important manager for Chelsea and a big part of the story. He deserves a good reception, but when the whistle goes he becomes

an enemy, like the other players of Manchester United.

"We have a tough game against a strong team - not against Jose Mourinho. It is important to focus on the pitch and see United as an enemy, as an opponent."

Mourinho left Chelsea last December after the club slumped to 16th but Conte insisted the players have nothing to prove other than to show they are better than they were in recent defeats by Liverpool and Arsenal. But he admits they do carry mental scars from last season.

"When there are these very bad seasons something remains in the players' minds," said Conte. "The risk is to lose the confidence. This season for Chelsea is very important. You must

change what happened last season, and that's not easy."

Conte's brief is to get Chelsea back into the Champions League playing attacking football.

"You must start the game with only one target: to win, not to play for a draw," he said. "I don't like this. It's not football." United were criticised for lacking ambition in a goalless draw at Liverpool on Monday and Conte expects a similar gameplan from Mourinho on Sunday afternoon.

"It will be a tactical game," he said. One player in the United ranks Conte will be very familiar with is Paul Pogba, whom he signed from United in 2012 when manager of Juventus.

Daily Mail

SUNDOWNS FORWARD BILLIAT GRATEFUL FOR CAF NOMINATION

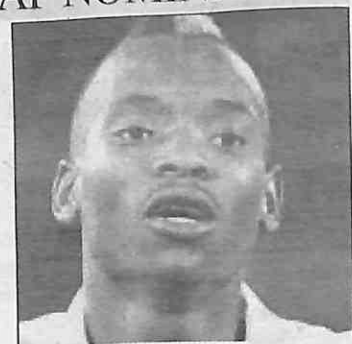
CAIRO - Mamelodi Sundowns star Khama Billiat says he's honoured to have been nominated among the continent's elite after being shortlisted for the 2016 African Player of the Year award.

The Zimbabwean shone during the 2015/16 PSL season, performances that earned him the PSL and KICK OFF Player of the Season accolades, with his displays now being recognised on continental level as well.

Having being shortlisted among the top 30 alongside superstar names such as Riyad Mahrez, Samuel Eto'o and reigning winner Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, Billiat says he's especially grateful to have received the nomination.

"I have to give credit to God - I've never been in a situation where I have been on the pitch for two years with no injuries, having gone through those setbacks before," he tells KickOff.com. "But by the glory of God I'm now past that stage."

"With a great coach like Pitso and the technical team and the players around me, anything is possible. They get the best out of you, and you always have to push to the limit and fight for your jersey. So it's good for the team, it



STAR: Khama Billiat.

strengthens the team ... things have been crazy my side, but all credit must go to God."

Billiat feels just being on the top 30 list is an achievement in itself. "The people I have worked with have brought the best out of me," he continued. "It's a privilege for me, just being nominated. God has taken me to a level where I can be recognised for my work, and it means everything to me. Everyone who was nominated deserves to be there, as they've managed to get recognised... but it really means a lot to me."

Billiat can add to his bulging trophy cabinet this year should Sundowns hold on to their 3-0 Champions League first leg advantage when they take on Zamalek in the second leg tie this evening.

kickoff



I BELIEVE: Diego Simeone

Sevilla can fight for title

MADRID - Diego Simeone believes his Atletico Madrid side are taking on a title rival when they face Sevilla today.

Atleti are top of the table, above city rivals Real Madrid on goal difference, with Sevilla are a point further behind in third.

Despite a close-season of upheaval, featuring significant player turnover - including star striker Kevin Gameiro joining Atletico - and Jorge Sampaoli replacing Paris Saint-Germain-bound coach Unai Emery, Simeone thinks Sevilla are capable of lasting the course.

"Sevilla is a team with tools, and looking at the numbers, it is a team that can fight for the title," he told a pre-match news conference.

"Sevilla and us, with Barcelona and Real Madrid, are on that path of hope. Sevilla always compete very well and are winning titles." They have changed many players and their game is changing and developing but they are still very competitive.

"In the Champions League they are doing very well and are strong in La Liga."

Former Argentina international Simeone began his career in Spain at Sevilla, spending two years at the Ramon Sanchez Pizjuan before signing for Atleti in 1994.

"Whenever I face Sevilla it is special," he said. "I always remember my passage in the team as a kid."

"The people, the atmosphere... I am very grateful for this first stage in Sevilla, which gave me some of the best memories. It is always exciting to visit the Pizjuan."

A youngster with his star on the rise in Simeone's current squad is Belgium winger Yannick Carrasco, who celebrated four goals in the space of a week against Granada and Rostov by penning a new long-term contract at the Vicente Calderon on Friday.

"Carrasco is growing and will be all that he wants to be," Simeone added. **Goal**

Messi fires home from spot to down

Valencia - Lionel Messi beat Diego Alves from the penalty spot with almost the last kick of the game to give Barcelona an incredible late 3-2 victory over Valencia.

The champions looked set to drop points after Luis Suarez equalised at the end of a breathless 10-minute spell in the second half, during which Munir El Haddadi - against his parent club - and Rodrigo had overturned Messi's opener.

But the Argentina star converted from the spot with almost the last kick of the game, prompting objects including a water bottle to be hurled at the celebrating Barca players from a furious home crowd.

Captain Andres Iniesta left the pitch on a stretcher after just 14 minutes following a challenge from Enzo Perez, with Barca later confirming knee ligament damage for the midfielder, which will have tempered cel-



SCORES: FC Barcelona's Lionel Messi, left, reacts after scoring during the Spanish La Liga soccer match between Valencia and FC Barcelona at the Mestalla stadium in Valencia, Spain, Saturday, Oct. 22, 2016. (AP)

ebrations for Luis Enrique's side.

Messi's fine finish had put Barca ahead after a feisty opening 22 minutes of Cesare Prandelli's first home game in charge of Valencia, and only some outstanding goalkeeping from Diego Alves kept the hosts' deficit at one before half-time.

Valencia responded after the break with two excellent finishes in the

space of four minutes, before Suarez pounced on another strong Alves save to fire Barca level just after the hour mark.

Suarez and Nani each missed late chances, but Messi fired just beyond the reach of Alves to give Barca victory and move them one point clear of Atletico Madrid and Real Madrid, who both play on Sunday. **Goal**

ARSENAL FRUSTRATED AS MIDDLESBROUGH

LONDON - Arsenal wasted a host of chances to toast Arsene Wenger's 67th birthday, labouring to a 0-0 Premier League draw with struggling Middlesbrough.

Petr Cech kept the toothless Gunners in the match too, producing three vital first-half saves as Arsenal extended their unbeaten run to 12 matches in all competitions.

Mesut Ozil thought he had stolen the points at the death, tapping home in the fourth minute of added time - only to be ruled clearly offside.

Wenger branded England's top flight a "jungle" in midweek, and here Arsenal's predatory instincts were sadly lacking.

The long-serving Arsenal boss admitted his birthday mood would be completely governed by the Gunners' result. Drawing a blank at the Emirates will no doubt have left the Frenchman hugely frustrated.

Alexis Sanchez wasted two fine chances as Arsenal missed the chance for a seventh successive Premier League victory.

Middlesbrough extended their



FAILS TO SCORE: Arsenal's Alexis Sanchez, centre, fails to score a shot during the English Premier League soccer match between Arsenal and Middlesbrough at the Emirates Stadium in London, yesterday. (AP)

winless Premier League run to seven matches, but still met their point with unbridled glee.

Cech's status as the man of the first half indicated Arsenal's frustrations and their fortunes to meet the interval with the game still goalless.

Mohamed Elneny blasted just wide from 25 yards, before Ozil fell in the area under Marten de Roon's challenge.

All credit was due to Cech for the double save, but former Manchester City striker Negredo should have buried the loose ball.

Gaston Ramirez whipped a free-kick against the angle of post and bar next as Arsenal continued to wobble.

Victor Valdes turned a Sanchez free-kick round a post as Arsenal punctuated Middlesbrough's purple patch.

But the Teesiders were quickly back on the attack, and again wasted a gilt-edged chance.

Cech rescued Arsenal once more, pulling off a fine save from Ramirez's point-blank header.

Negredo's effort glanced off Koscielny to fall kindly for Ramirez, only for Cech to produce another vital save.

Arsenal at least closed the half in style with their most eye-catching move to that point, Alex Iwobi racing on to a raking pass and laying off inside to Sanchez.

The Chile hitman clipped a clever pass across the box to Theo Walcott in the inside-right channel, and he duly fired square across goal for Ozil. *Teamtalk*

Foxes get back to winning ways

LEICESTER - Goals from Ahmed Musa, Shinji Okazaki and Christian Fuchs saw Leicester City record a 3-1 win over Crystal Palace at the King Power Stadium yesterday as the reigning champions' three-game winless streak in the Premier League came to an end.

Leicester were beaten 3-0 by Chelsea last week, having previously failed to beat Southampton (0-0) and Manchester United (4-1), but they returned to winning ways following a sublime strike from Musa in the closing stages of the first half and a clinical finish from Okazaki after the break. Fuchs added gloss late on with a wonderful, long-range effort before Yohan Cabaye netted an 85th-minute consolation.

Claudio Ranieri opted to make two changes to the team that beat

Copenhagen 1-0 in midweek in the Champions League, dropping Marc Albrighton and Jamie Vardy in favour of Musa and Okazaki and the Italian's decision paid off.

Leicester made a positive start and could have gone ahead when Okazaki nearly made the most on an error from Palace goalkeeper Steve Mandanda after just 90 seconds, but the attacker's chipped effort after the Frenchman's poor attempted clearance went just wide of the target. The visitors looked to hurt Leicester down the flanks as they tried to pick out striker Christian Benteke with high crosses and that tactic nearly paid off in the 12th minute. Martin Kelly sent in a superb cross from the left and Benteke beat his marker to the ball, only to see his header hit the crossbar. Riyad Mahrez caused the



CELEBRATION: Leicester City's Ahmed Musa, center, celebrates scoring during the English Premier League soccer match between Leicester City and Crystal Palace at the King Power Stadium, Leicester, England, yesterday. (AP)

Palace defence all kinds of problems down the right and the Algeria international seemed destined to open the scoring when he unleashed a shot after cutting

inside that was heading towards the top corner, only for Okazaki to inadvertently divert the ball over Mandanda's goal with his head. *Goal*

Shaqiri strikes brilliant brace as Stoke sink Hull

HULL - Xherdan Shaqiri's brilliant double secured back-to-back Premier League wins for Stoke, whose 2-0 victory sent Hull spiralling into the bottom three.

Shaqiri ran the show for Stoke, lighting up an otherwise ordinary game with two superb strikes in either half as Mark Hughes' side followed up last week's first league win of the season against Sunderland with their first league success on the road.

It was another chastening experience for Hughes' former Manchester United team-mate Mike Phelan, who on this showing

does not possess the calibre of player who can compete with the likes of Shaqiri and Marko Arnautovic.

Hull slipped to their fifth straight Premier League defeat and their second since appointing Phelan on a permanent basis.

Shaqiri fired tamely wide in the opening exchanges and Hull skipper Michael Dawson, making his first appearance of the season following a knee injury, was alert enough to head Erik Pieters' dangerous cross out for a corner.

Will Keane, preferred again up front instead of Uruguay international Abel Hernandez, had Hull's first effort, blocked by Stoke cap-

tain Ryan Shawcross, and then headed Ryan Mason's cross well wide.

The first 25 minutes had been so poor it came as a big surprise when, out of nowhere, Shaqiri lifted the tedium with a stunning opening goal.

The Switzerland international was not closed down quickly enough on the edge of the penalty area and took full advantage to curl a brilliant left-footed shot away from Hull goalkeeper David Marshall and inside his near post.

Stoke almost struck again three minutes later. Marko Arnautovic raced on to Shaqiri's ball over the

top and when his shot was blocked by Marshall's feet, the ball ricocheted on to Dawson and rebounded back over the crossbar.

Dawson's superb last-ditch tackle denied Wilfried Bony, on a season-long loan from Manchester City, his first goal of the season and Hull were grateful to head into the break just one goal down.

But Phelan's side fell further behind five minutes after the restart following defender Curtis Davies' foul on Shaqiri two yards outside the area.

There was little doubt who would take the free-kick and Shaqiri delivered, curling the ball up and over the wall and inside Marshall's left-hand post. *Teamtalk*

Arfield strikes last-gasp winner as Burnley beat Everton

BURNLEY - Scott Arfield grabbed a 90th-minute winner to earn Burnley a 2-1 victory over Everton in the Premier League at Turf Moor.

The midfielder, only restored to the starting line-up because of an injury to Steven Defour, rifled in after Johann Berg Gudmundsson had struck the crossbar to move the Claretts to 10 points, all of which have been achieved in east Lancashire.

Sam Vokes had earlier punished a Maarten Stekelenburg error - a week after his two penalty saves against Manchester City - to give Burnley a first-half lead before Yannick Bolasie equalised with his first Everton goal.

Visiting boss Ronald Koeman had recalled Ross Barkley after dropping him against City last weekend and, in front of watching England assistant Sammy Lee, his first pass was misplaced.

He was not alone in wasting possession and after Dean Marney had given the ball away, a mix-up between Ben Mee and Michael Keane was almost capitalised on when Kevin Mirallas drilled at Tom Heaton.

The Claretts' stopper came into this game having made a league-high 39 saves and he added another three inside 16 minutes by denying Romelu Lukaku and Barkley.

Goal

Late Reid winner piles more misery on winless Sunderland

LONDON - A 94th minute winner from West Ham defender Winston Reid nicked all three points for the Hammers in a 1-0 victory against Sunderland.

The Black Cats, still without a win this season, withstood an early Hammers onslaught and looked set to emerge with a point and a first clean sheet.

But, three and a half minutes into the four added on, New Zealand defender Reid fired through a crowded penalty area to snatch West Ham's second win at their new London Stadium. Sunderland began the match so deep that the Hammers merely set up camp in their half and created four clear-cut chances in the opening 10 minutes. Simone Zaza was close with two headers and Dimitri Payet curled one shot narrowly wide before the Frenchman slammed through Sunderland's defence and forced a fine save from Pickford.

Zaza, yet to score since his deadline-day switch from Juventus, was then sent through by Manuel Lanzini but Lamine Kone got back to make a crucial block and thwart the Italy striker. *teamtalk*



West Ham United's Winston Reid, second-right, celebrates with team mates after scoring his team's first goal against Sunderland during the English Premier League soccer match at the London Stadium, London, yesterday. (AP)

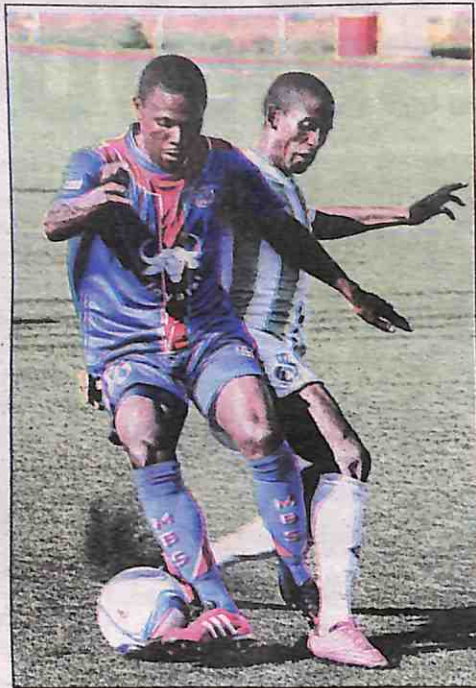


MTN Premier League 2016/17

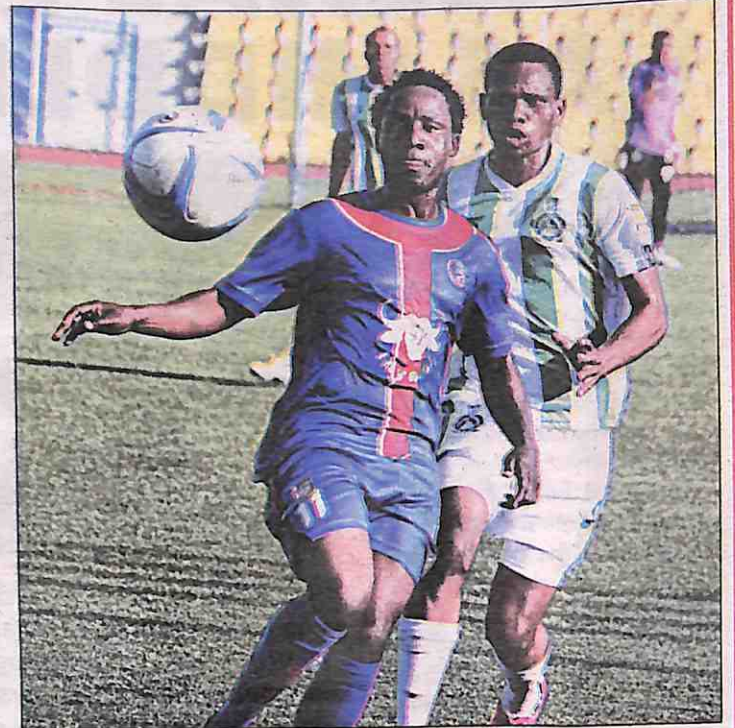
PICTURES



Green Mamba's Siyabonga Mdluli winning the ball from Mbabane Swallows' Sandile Hlatshwako during their MTN Premier League match at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. Swallows won 1-0. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



Swallows' Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko and Green Mamba's Civil Matsebula fighting for the ball.



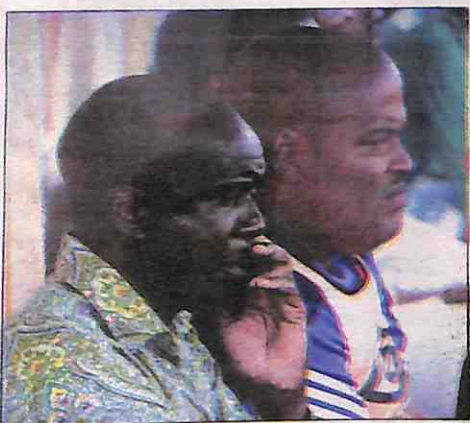
Banele 'Pupu' Sikhondze controlling the ball in front of Banele Dlamini.



Swallows lone and winning goal scored by Njabulo Ndlovu.



Sandile Hlatshwako blocked by Sanele Chauke.



Green Mamba coach Herbet Maruwa and manager Gcina Dlamini in deep thought.



Swallows technical bench and substitutes react after the referee denied them a goal.



Swallows followers Mbuso Sibandze and Malungelo Mndzebele gesture during the game.

MANZINI EXHAUST CENTRE
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Swallows coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati issuing instructions to Xolani Magagula and Siphamandla Mathenjwa.

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Also stockists of Tyres, Car Batteries and Shock Absorbers



MTN Premier League 2015/6

PREVIEWS

BATTLE OF THE TITANS AS WOUNDED BULL, LEOPARD FACE OFF

Stories by Sabelo Majola

Mbabane Highlanders vs Royal Leopard
Somhlolo National Stadium,
3.30pm

SOCCER - t's a difficult road for Royal Leopard in their quest to defend, for the fourth successive time, the MTN Premier League title. Usually they say the difficult the road is, the beautiful the destination but the statement doesn't apply to this kind of situation.

Seemingly, Royal Leopard have surrendered the league title and their recent losses attest to that. The defending champions have had the worst start to the campaign and today they meet Mbabane Highlanders in what will be a thrilling encounter at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

Leopards may pose a threat to the champions but they are not their biggest worry, unlike the rampaging Mbabane Swallows who are running



Mbabane Highlanders palers.

riot and defeating every opponent they come across, with the destination being snatching the title from them.

Separated by three points, Royal Leopard are occupying the fourth position while Highlanders are placed seventh on the log. Both teams go into this game wounded after suffer-

ing mid-week losses at the hands of Midas City and Manzini Sundowns, respectively. Even though Leopard have a better record over Highlanders in the last two seasons but the former's form is at the lowest and they could succumb to yet another loss if Highlanders are at their best on the day.



Manzini Wanderers

Manzini derby as 'Weslians' meets Red Lions

Manzini Wanderers vs Red Lions
Mavuso Sports Centre, 3.30pm

Football lovers should brace themselves for what will be an epic clash featuring two teams from the city who have pride to defend and maximum points to collect.

Both teams are level on eight points and their start to the season has not been that good.

Wanderers complete the top five while Red Lions occupy the sixth spot on the MTN league log.

Manzini Wanderers boast a compact defence as they have only conceded four times in their six games while Red Lions have conceded more than twice that number.



Red Lions

Red Lions defence should be on the alert for the pair of Aladeon Kola and Sifiso Matse upfront who can be dangerous when given too much space. Both teams have the

same capability in front of goal and the number of goals they have scored so far stand at seven, respectively.

BATTLE OF THE BASEMENT AS CITY, SEA BIRDS CLASH

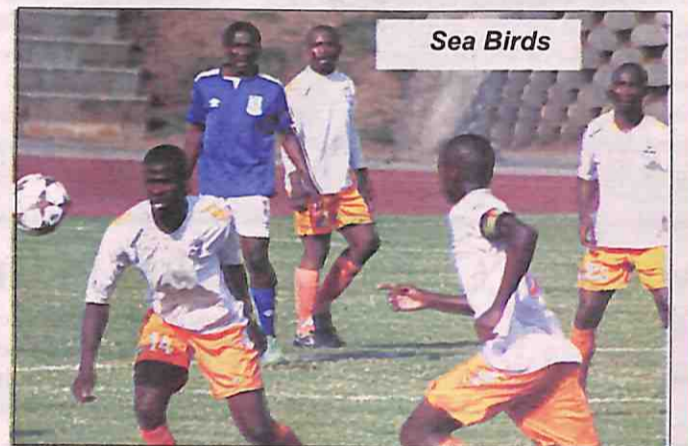
Manzini Sea Birds vs Midas City
Somhlolo National Stadium,
1.30pm

Soccer - Rooted at the bottom of the log, Manzini Sea Birds are desperate for a win to rescue the situation they are currently facing, that of being at the basement and they will be going all out for maximum points when they meet Midas City at Somhlolo National Stadium today.

Sea Birds' only victory came in the fourth string of games in the campaign when they beat Correctional side Green Mamba 2-0. The Gcina Dlamini-led charges are vul-

nerable at the back as they have conceded 10 goals so far in the campaign and only scored half of this Mbabane Swallows handed them their fourth defeat of the season on Tuesday night but they did come to the party as they gave the log leaders a run for their money.

Two points separate the two teams as City have half a dozen points following their first victory over Leopard in their last game in the campaign after a series of draws. They are third from basement and a loss in this game could land them in an even more awkward position.



Sea Birds

NFD RIVALS MEET AT ELITE STAGE

Moneni Pirates vs Tambuti
Mavuso Sports Centre, 1.30pm

SOCCER- If the dominance Tambuti had over Moneni Pirates in the lower division is anything to go by, the latter are in for a shocker as the two meet for the first time in the elite league and the action will unfold at Mavuso Sports Centre this afternoon.

If they are to avoid going back to the 'wilderness' all over again, Moneni Pirates have to start collecting points now before it's too

late. Their last victory was under sacked Mlamuli 'Sputla' Zwane when they defeated Sea Birds 2-1 in the second string of the MTN Premier League games.

Tambuti are also not spared in the struggle to get results coming. The National First Division champions have managed only two wins in six games but their victory over defending champions Royal Leopard brought a glimpse of hope for the Alou Badara-led charges who are fifth from basement.



SOCGA HONOURS MASWAZI WITH LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

STORIES BY SABELO MAJOLA

SPORTS - The Swaziland Olympic and Commonwealth Games Association (SOCGA) has honoured Maswazi Shongwe with a lifetime membership in the association.

This was revealed by SOCGA President Zombodze Magagula during the retiring sports ministry's Under secretary on Friday.

"With the approval of the board, we saw it fit that Shongwe, whom I have known since our playing days at Green Sea, be an advisor to the National Olympic Committee. He has been a warrior in many battles and is very good at solving problems.

"He is a man without enemies because he deals directly with issues and holds no grudges. If you want political advice on navigating sporting issues, he is the right man to consult. We believe he will be of great assistance to the committee," he said.

Shongwe is the first Swazi to be given a lifetime honorary membership by the association.



Maswazi Shongwe's wife Takhona (r) cutting the cake while her elder sister Nomusa Dlamini feeds the man of the moment a piece of cake. (Pics: Sabelo Majola)

Meanwhile Swaziland National Sport and Recreation Council (SNSRC) Chairman Lawrence Mtsetfwa said he knew Maswazi since he was 15 years old and he has

always been a father figure to him. He said they would continue seeking advice from Shongwe who was described a walking encyclopedia in sports issues.

Bishop Nash attends farewell

Bishop Nash Shongwe was amongst a number of high profile people who attended the farewell function of retiring Ministry of Sports Under Secretary Maswazi Shongwe on Friday.

The bishop described Shongwe as a hard working person and wished him the best in his future endeavours.

Also present during the event was SOCGA Vice-President Adam 'Bomber' Mthethwa who stated that the retiring officer was his best friend.

"I have known Maswazi for a very long time and he is my best friend. One of the few things I can say about him is we are both stylish but one highlight I remember about Shongwe is he once showed up to an occasion

wearing a suit and sandals, much to the amusement of the attendees," he said.

Others who attended the event included SOCGA board members, SNSRC CEO Darius Dlomo and staff members.

Some of Shongwe's achievements:

- *Facilitating the establishment of a fully fledged office of the Sports Council and transforming it to the now Sports and Recreation Council

- *Facilitating government intervention in saving the Sigwaca House from being sold and lost to football in 2000

- *Facilitating the establishment of a fully fledged ministry of sports in the country and providing the necessary cornerstones for its operations.



Maswazi joined by Bishop Nash Shongwe and others as he sang and danced after making his speech.

Minister 'Cruiser' partakes in Brickcon 65km race

STORIES BY SANELE JELE

CYCLING - Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala competed in the 65km race of the Brickcon Siteki Road Race at Magadzavane Lodge yesterday.

The minister competed with over 50 cyclists who took part in this category for the E450 prize money.

The minister could, however, not finish the race as he had national duties to attend to.

Interviewed before the race, the minister said he participated in this category in order to exercise and keep fit.

He said he was impressed with the number of children taking part in the race.

"I am happy with the number of kids partaking in this race. This is a sign there is a bright future for the sport as these youngsters will ensure continuity.

Also cycling does not only promote tourism but also help in maintaining a healthy lifestyle and keeping fit. It is rare to hear that cyclists suffer severe health problems and this is why I continuously encourage Swazis to join the sport. Lastly I want to thank the sponsors who made the event a success," said Ngcamphalala.

Meanwhile Cycling Association of Swaziland (CAS) President Mandla Simelane, thanked the minister and cyclists who took part in the event.

"We are honoured to have the minister attend our event. It is not a given that a minister attends every

sporting activity but in his busy schedule, he again availed himself. We also want to thank the sponsors and stakeholders, including RSP and EMS who also made the event a success," Simelane said.

He further congratulated the cyclists who excelled in the different categories.

"I was impressed with the younger riders like Muzi Shabangu who became the champion of the 90km, beating experienced riders in the process. We encourage clubs to focus on youth development so that we have more youngsters competing in such races," he said.

Sought for comment, MTN Khemani Team Manager Lincoln Motsa said they were proud that one of their own won the race.

"We are proud of Shabangu more



Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala in action during the race.

so because we had invested so much in the team in as far as training was concerned. We sent them to South

Africa twice to compete in the Clover Cycle race and they have done us proud today," he said

Panic as cyclists involved in collision

SOCCKER - There was panic during the Brickcon Siteki Road race when cyclists were involved in a collision which saw one of them being rushed to hospital.

The incident happened when one of the cyclists in the 65km crossed the path of Sicelo Phiri who was competing in the 90km race.

Narrating the incident, Phiri who was badly bruised said he was focused on finishing when the biker crossed in front of him.

"We were getting closer to the finish line when the

other cyclist got into my path and I lost control and fell off the tar and got bruised. Sifiso Mhlanga and a Mozambican rider also got injured during the collision. Others who were closely following us were not spared but they sustained minor injuries," he said.

Discharged

The Mozambican cyclist who was rushed to hospital was treated and discharged, something that was a huge relief to the cycling family.

Sought for comment on the incident, MTN Khemani coach Dr Futhi Dlamini said

he was disturbed by the crash. "It is such an unfortunate situation but it was not intentional. We just hope such an incident will not happen in future," he said.

CAS President Mandla Simelane apologised to all those affected by the incident.

"This was unfortunate and we are happy it was not as serious as we thought. We do wish those involved a speedy recovery. As an association we do try to keep such cases at minimum level and hope it won't happen in future."



The youngsters getting ready for the 12km race.

'BIRDS' FLY OVER 'MAMBA'

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

Green Mamba (0)0
Mbabane Swallows (1)1

SOCCER - A Njabulo 'D4D' Ndlovu's first half header handed the high flying Mbabane Swallows their seventh consecutive victory in the MTN League after beating Green Mamba 1-0 at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

The burly anchorman connected home a Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko corner in the 13th minute of the game played at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

The red and white glamour side which now leads the pack with 21 points, nine points ahead of now second placed Young Buffaloes is close to snatching the E300 000 first round incentive. Swallows were once again on fire and were all over the correctional services side, which has so far only recorded a single win in the current campaign. The rampaging 'Birds' piled pressure on the home team as early as the 4th minute and it was on form striker Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa but his shot inside the box missed the target by a whisker. The prolific striker was again denied by the impressive South African born Green Mamba



Green Mamba

Japtha, 'Makonese', Gumbi, Chauke, Msholozhi, Mhontfo, Phumlani, Mcebo (Njabulo), 'Phindrix' (Phathego), Phinda Ginindza, Civil,

Swallows

'Nkomishi', Tyson', Mkhweli, Palma, Siphamandla, D4D, Wonder (Mabila), Pupu, Sandile (Phindrix), 'Sikhali', Tony.

goalkeeper Japtha Mirase who swallowed his close range shot 18 minutes later. The green and white side struggled to threaten the opposition especially goalkeeper Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza who had a rather relaxed afternoon. Enterprising Swallows playmaker Banele 'Pupu' Sikhondze thought he had a doubled the score line in favour of his side two minutes before the breather but his blistering shot was ruled offside by referee Wandile Magagula. The two sides

failed to create chances in the better part of the second half and it was only until the 77th minute when bulky Green Mamba striker Phinda 'Phindrix' Dlamini missed a sitter inside the box after being set free by second half substitute Njabulo Tfwala. The busy 'Sikhali' almost registered his name on the scorers sheet three minutes before time but his powerful shot hit the upright with Mirase well between the poles.

We were unlucky- Maruwa

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER - Green Mamba Coach Herbert Maruwa has described their 0-1 loss against Mbabane Swallows as unfortunate.

In a post match interview with the coach at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday, the Zimbabwean mentor said they were unfortunate to lose the capital city giants.

"This was a game of two halves where we punished in the first half after we switched off during a set piece and we got punished. However, we did try to regroup in the second half but were not clinical in front of goals due to the fact our chief striker (Phinda Dlamini) is still rediscovering his form following an injury," he said.

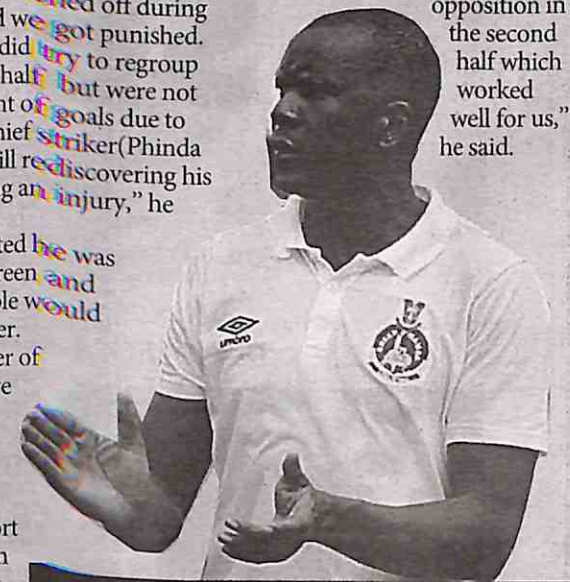
Maruwa stated he was hopeful the green and white ensemble would turn the corner.

"It is a matter of time before we get positive results and this will be through the collective effort from the team including my technical

members who have added more value to the department," he said.

Meanwhile, the winning coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati commended his charges for bagging home the maximum points. "This is good win for us. The league is a marathon and it is far from being over so we need to keep on pushing hard until the end. We were all over the for prolonged stages of the match and I had to make a tactical change by bringing Sifiso Mabila in the Middlefield, to try and contain the pressure from the

opposition in the second half which worked well for us," he said.



Green Mamba coach Herbert Maruwa.

Dominic praises his charges after victory against Sundowns

Soccer - Young Buffaloes coach Dominic Kunene was nothing but full of praises for his charges after their 2-0 win over Manzini Sundowns.

Interviewed after the game played at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday, Kunene said his charges showed character, a feat that earned them the much needed maximum points against the 'Kappa Boys'. "Credit should go to the boys for working hard throughout the match to snatch this hard-fought victory. It was not easy but they showed determination and commitment throughout the match. We will continue working hard for the upcoming matches and will take each game as it comes," he said. Meanwhile his Sundowns counterpart Godfrey Tamerepi said they were let down by poor lapses in concentration. "We had a bad day in the office and struggled to express ourselves in all the departments. I think fatigue is also getting the better of my players who seem to be struggling to cope with the tight playing schedule. Nonetheless, we have to pick ourselves up and prepare for the next match," he said.

MTN Khemani's Muzi Shabangu wins Brickcon Siteki Race

BY SANELE JELE

CYCLING - MTN Khemani's Muzi Shabangu is the champion of the Brickcon Siteki 90km Road Race.

The clocked an impressive 2:34:00 hours to win the race, breaking last year's record of 2:39:20 hours set by Mozambique's Miguel Duarte.

For his achievement, Shabangu went home with E600 plus a gold medal. Taking the second position was 4Eva Cycling Club's Calvin Louw who recorded a time of 2:35:17 hours. The fifth edition race saw over 80 cyclists in the 90km race go via Siteki to Mhlumeni Border and back to the Lodge. In the third position was Morgan Rudd on a time of 2:42:58 hours while last year's runners up Joseph Waring of Dig Deep Club fourth with a record time of 2:43:02 hours beating his personal record of 2:43:31 set in 2015. The equally forceful duo of MTN Khemani's Lungelo Mlangeni and William Kelly also made it to the podium with a time of 2:43:15 and 2:43:20 hours respectively. The battle among the ladies was equally fierce, with visiting South Africa CTM Cycling club Bets Oegenlenber

becoming the champion on 3:11:20 hours. She however failed to beat last year's record time of 2:59:39 hours achieved by Hellen Friedlander.

Interviewed after the race Shabangu who opened the lead at Maphiveni after trailing Louw for the better part of the race, said it was a tough race but he was happy with his performance on the day.

Strong

"I had to keep Louw's pace for the better part of the race and knew that he was not as strong in steep hills and I capitalised on that around Maphiveni, which worked to my advantage as he could not keep up," he said. Meanwhile the 37 year old Louw said he enjoyed himself despite losing it in the final round. "It was such a fantastic race. The young lad gave me some fair competition and I liked his stamina toward the podium" he said.

The lady champion, on the other hand, said she also enjoyed the race and would be back again next year to defend the title.

In the 65km event, MTN's Gcina Banda came first on a time of 1:48:20 hours while Nandine Stein won in the ladies category after clocking at 2:09:36 hours.

Bufs jump to second spot after beating Sundowns 2-0

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

MANZINI SUNDOWNS (0)0
YOUNG BUFFALOES (1)2

SOCCER - Young Buffaloes have jumped to the second spot of MTN Premier League after beating Manzini Sundowns 2-0 at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

Buffaloes are now sitting at 12 points in seven games played after humbling the Manzini based outfit yesterday.

It was goals from Ndoda Mthethwa and Sandile Gamedze that earned the army outfit the maximum points.

Maintained

After coming from 3-2 midweek victory over Tambuti, Buffaloes maintained their momentum, starting the game on a high. Mthethwa gave the side the lead eight minutes into the game when he tapped home a minute Linda Tsabedze floated free kick taken outside the box. The visitors continued piling pressure on Sundowns who failed to duplicate their midweek performance which handed them a 2-1 win against giants Mbabane Highlanders.

Sundown's keeper Sandanezwe Mathabela had to pull a daring save in the 22nd minute to deny Mthethwa a brace after saving a close range header.

The Godfrey Tamerepi led side just failed trouble a holidaying Buffaloes shot stopper Nhlhla Gwebu throughout the first stanza.

Promising Buffaloes striker Sandile Gamedze doubled matter for the side three minute into restart after landing straight into the net a Wandile Maseko free kick leaving Mathabela bemused at the poles.

Chances

The second goal seemed to be a wakeup call for the Kappa Boys as they created chances but were unfortunate not to score.

The side could have registered in the scorers chart in the hour mark but trusted winger Darren Christie's powerful shot missed the target and went for the crossbar.

Second half substitute, South African winger Sicelo Mkhwanazi, who rested Mongie Mavimbela, put Gwebu to the test but was unlucky as the Sihlangu goalkeeper pulled a daring to his header in the 69th minute.

I'm a God-father of sports in Swaziland- Maswazi

BY SABELO MAJOLA

SPORTS - Retiring Ministry of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Under Secretary (US) Maswazi Shongwe has labelled himself the God-father of sports in the country.

Shongwe made this assertion during his farewell occasion hosted by the Swaziland Olympic and Commonwealth Games Association (SOCGA) at the Olympic African Centre in Lobamba on Friday night. Shongwe who will formally vacate

office in the next three days thanked His Majesty's government for awarding the privilege of working in the Civil Service. "I am bowing out of government without any regrets and bitterness. I'm a happy man who went out hunting for rats and instead caught an elephant. I am not a theorist but a practical person who doesn't hide behind the desk in an office but goes out there and get things done. "As much as I will be officially out of the civil service, you are still in action and hear a lot about the God-father of

Swazi sport," he said. Shongwe thanked his wife Takhona Shongwe, his children and the entire Shongwe family in the country for their support and their understanding while he was carrying out his duties. "My wife and kids had to endure lonely and prolonged days without a husband and father due to the multiple international assignments I had to undertake. I would also like to thank my colleagues in the various organs of government that also guided me during my time in office," he said.

THE TEAMS

Sundowns

Sandanezwe, Ntokozo (Banele), Sandile, Paito, Phumlani, Mongi e (Sicelo), Mlaba, Sikhokho, Darren, Salam (Sandumuzi), Justice.

Buffaloes

Nhlhla, Linda, Wandile, Samkeliso, Siboniso, Mphile, Sandile, Timothy (Phiwa), Ndoda (Mshengu) Mzwandile, Sanele (Karas)

Premier League | RESULTS
Yesterday

Liverpool	2-1	West Brom Albion
Swansea City	0-0	Watford
Arsenal	0-0	Middlesbrough
Hull City	0-2	Stoke City
Leicester City	3-1	Crystal Palace
West Ham United	1-0	Sunderland
Bournemouth	0-0	Tottenham Hotspur

Telkom Knockout | RESULTS

Yesterday		
SuperSport United	1-0	Ajax Cape Town
Free State Stars	3-1	Bidvest Wits
Friday		
Highlands Park	2-0	Chippa United

SundayObserver

SPORTING

OCTOBER 23, 2016



Catch us if you can:

SEVEN PHEZULU!!!

DON'T FOLLOW ME, FOLLOW THE BIRDS



THE MENTOR



.... Mbabane Swallows record seventh consecutive win after beating Green Mamba 1-0 at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

Kaizer Chiefs pip Maritzburg on penalties

JOHANNESBURG - Kaizer Chiefs progressed to the Telkom Knockout quarter-finals after edging Maritzburg United 4-2 on penalties following a goalless draw at FNB Stadium. The best chance of the first half was created by striker Michelle Katsvairo in just the second minute of the game as he stole the ball off defender Bevan Fransman but then missed the target one-on-one against goalkeeper Bongani Mpandle.

It was an evenly contested game with Maritzburg creating arguably the better chances in the first half. Amakhosi's next best attempt being a disappointing Hendrick Ekstein shot over the bar from the edge of the area. Itumeleng Khune had to bail out his centre-back Erick Mathoho in the 31st minute when the Bafana Bafana international was dispossessed in his own area by hungry young striker Luyanda Ntshangase. Khune came out and spread him-

self wide, taking one in the face for the team. There minutes later Khune was called into action again as he produced a brilliant diving, fingertip save to keep out a thunderous long-range drive from Dennis Weidlich as the ball cannoned back off the upright. Chiefs were fortunate not to go behind just before half-time when Maritzburg bundled the ball goalward but Lorenzo Gordinho was on the line to clear the danger. Early in the second half Steve

Komphele's side showed more urgency to get a goal but were unable to fashion any more clear chances, with Lebesse failing to test Mpandle with two attempts and Sibusiso Khumalo stinging his palms with a shot from a tight angle. Khune had to be alert in the 66th minute to produce an acrobatic save to keep out Weidlich once again. The defender was somehow unmarked in the box at a corner but watched as his volley was tipped over the crossbar. Chiefs' best chance of the second half fell to Ekstein in the 70th minute when William Twala

found him unmarked at the far post, but Ekstein got the finish all wrong as the ball bounced comically wide off his knee. Thunder and heavy rain started to come down at FNB Stadium and the game looked to be heading to extra time until the 83rd minute, when the stadium's floodlights went out, forcing a temporary suspension. When play eventually resumes following various stadium security checks, neither side could create any further chances as they looked to break the deadlock, and the game went into 30 minutes of extra time. **Kick Off**



MTN Premier League log

Position	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Mbabane Swallows	7	7	0	0	16	3	13	21
Young Buffaloes	7	3	3	1	9	5	4	12
Manzini Sundowns	7	3	2	2	7	8	-1	11
Royal Leopard	6	3	0	3	7	7	0	9
Manzini Wanderers	6	2	2	2	7	4	3	8
Red Lions	6	2	2	2	7	9	-2	8
Mbabane Highlanders	6	1	3	2	7	5	2	6
Green Mamba	7	1	3	3	3	5	-2	6
Tambuti	6	2	0	4	4	10	-6	6
Midas City	6	1	3	2	4	5	-1	6
Moneni Pirates	6	1	3	2	5	10	-5	6
Sea Birds	6	1	1	4	5	10	-5	4

MTN League results

Sundowns	0	Buffaloes	2
Green Mamba	0	Swallows	1

Playing Today

At Somhlolo National Stadium			
Sea Birds	vs	Midas City	2.30pm
Highlanders	vs	Leopard	4.30pm
At Mavuso Sports Centre			
M. Pirates	vs	Tambuti	1.30pm
Wanderers	vs	Red Lions	3.30pm

National First Division log:

Position	P	W	L	D	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Matsapha United	7	6	0	1	15	4	11	19
Malanti Chiefs	7	4	0	3	15	3	12	15
Vovovo	7	4	1	2	12	6	6	14
Madlenya	7	3	2	2	8	6	2	11
Hlatikhulu Tycoons	6	3	2	1	8	3	5	10
Amalanda	6	3	3	0	8	6	2	9
Sikhalo	6	2	3	1	4	8	-4	7
City Warriors	7	2	4	1	6	12	-6	7
Hub Sundowns	7	1	3	3	7	7	0	6
Mbabane Citizen	7	2	5	0	11	14	-3	6
Bad Boys	6	0	1	5	6	8	-2	5
Ludzeludze Brothers	7	0	6	1	2	16	-14	1

MTN National First Division fixture and results

Ludzeludze Brothers	0	Mbabane Citizen	3
Hub Sundowns	1	Malanti Chiefs	1
City Warriors	0	Matsapha United	2
Vovovo	2	Madlenya	1

Today at Manzini Club

Bad Boys	vs	Sikhalo Se-Afrika	1:30pm
Hlatikhulu Tycoons	vs	Amalanda	3:30pm