

## TENSION AT SWAZI MTN

## MBABANE MAGISTRATE'S COURT TRANSFERS CAUSING UNEASE

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CAPABLE OF MANY  
GREAT THINGS'

INSIDE

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The Right Sunday



NOVEMBER 27, 2016

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## LEADERS OF THE FUTURE:



Mananga Centre  
for Regional  
Integration and  
Management  
Development  
graduates during  
their graduation  
ceremony at the  
Royal Swazi  
Convention  
Centre yesterday.  
(Pics: Simon  
Shabangu)

See more pictures  
and stories on  
Pages 5, 16



**EMPLOYEES  
TOLD  
LOGICO  
WAS SOLD  
3 YEARS  
AGO**

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## NEW CIRCULAR:

# CEOs TO GET SALARY INCREASE

- New PEU circular gives public enterprise CEOs 20% hike
- 32 CEOs better paid than PM



PAGE 2

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## CLARIFICATION

# 32 CEOs BETTER PAID THAN PM

...while only 16 paid less or equivalent to the country's premier

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

Christmas comes once a year and this rings true for the country's Chief executive officers, financial officers as well as executive managers at the helm of Category A enterprises.

The above stated will as from this Thursday receive increases estimated to be at about 20 percent of their pay for November.

The introduction of PEU Circular No. 3/2016 sees 32 chief executive officers of category A Public Enterprises earning more than the prime minister as well as their line ministers.

The PM currently earns about nearly E67 000 per month translating to over E800 000 per year before the deduction of taxes and addition of benefits. On the other hand, the country's 65 CEOs are set to earn between E666 212 and E1 800 991 with the 32 assured of earning over E941 722 which is their minimum. The other 16, although set to start at the lowest amount, should they notch to the maximum limit within their groups, the lowest paid could possibly get E901 346, nearly E100 000 more than the PM.

## According

This is according to the document referenced CF 80/A dated November 17 which reveals the revised pay structure for chief executive officers, financial officers as well as Executive managers at the helm of Category A enterprises.

The latest Controls on Pay Packages of Category A Public Enterprises states there had been concerns from a number of public enterprises on the current circular (PEU Circular 2013 No.4/2013) that resulted in packages being lowered to comply with set limits.

"Other enterprises have been unable to implement cost of living adjustments over the years as their packages had reached the upper limit of bands on the circular," reads the document.

With the circular having been

introduced in 2013 to supersede Circular No.4/2010, it is therefore understood that the parastatals have been unable to effect cost of living adjustments for the duration of three years.

"The other major challenge is that middle managers are now encroaching the executives and some already remunerated higher than the positions controlled by the PEU Circular No.4/2013."

Stating the shortcomings of the now revoked circular, the document stated how they necessitated for a holistic review of the current sizing and methodology and remuneration levels.

## Assistance

"As such, with the assistance of PricewaterhouseCoopers' services, the proposed framework has been developed in the view of preceding Circular No. 3/2010 and Circular No. 4/2013, in consultation with all category A Public Enterprises chief executive officers and in line with leading global practice and remuneration principals," the document states further revealing that SCOPE was revoking the previous circular, replacing it with the new one.

Describing the criteria used in the revised pay structure, the purpose of the framework was said to be for the provision of rational and consistent sizing, classification and remuneration model for the enterprises it aligns public remuneration to government objectives and ensures the application of consistent and equitable remuneration packages within public enterprises.

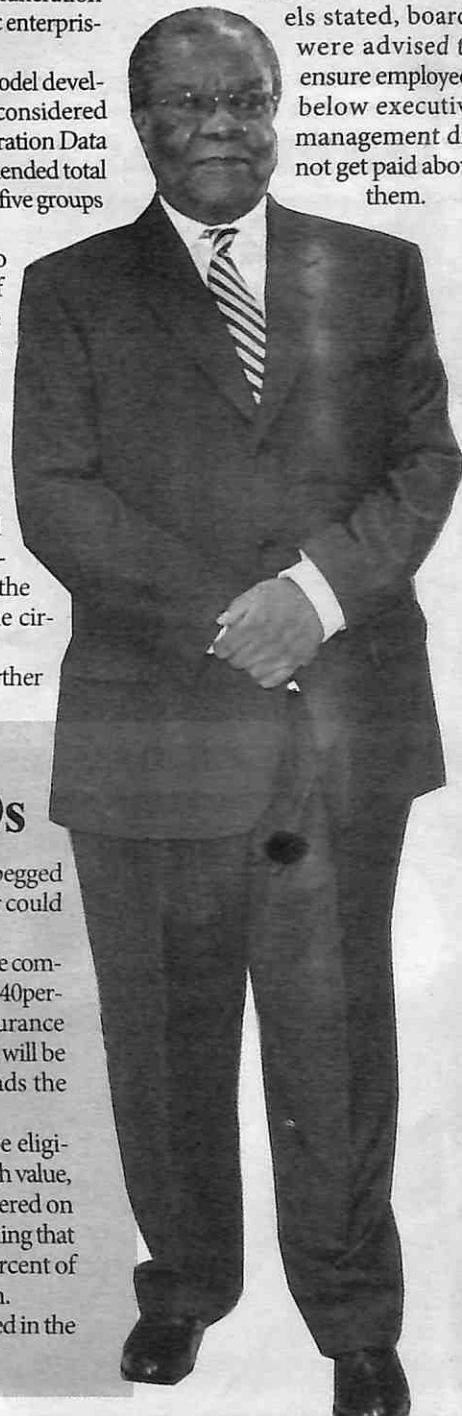
The remuneration model developed was said to have considered the Swaziland Remuneration Data and linked the recommended total packages to each of the five groups of public enterprises.

With the letter also addressed to boards of the parastatals, they were instructed to develop and adopt individual remuneration policies for their executive management and all other employees that must be consistently applied in determining remuneration in line with the limits contained in the circular.

The boards were further

advised to ensure that policies were designed in such a way that a clear relationship between key performance and remuneration was demonstrated.

With the circular setting limits on remuneration levels stated, boards were advised to ensure employees below executive management did not get paid above them.



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## E900 000 worth of vehicles for some CEOs

With the Category A Public Enterprises getting an increase on their remuneration this coming month, some are going to be eligible to get company vehicles worth close to E1million.

According to PEU Circular No. 3/2016, where the contract of employment offer some positions with a company car, the value thereof should be at most 50 percent of the total package as stipulated in their contract. With the highest paid CEOs set to be eligible to be paid a maximum pay packages of E1.8 mil-

lion, about 11 of them pegged at group 5 of the circular could get the vehicles.

"In this arrangement, the company will subsidise up to 40 percent of capital and insurance costs and the 60 percent will be borne by the user," reads the circular.

Not only will CEOs be eligible to get cars of such high value, their fuel bill will be covered on the 60:40 pro rata, meaning that they will only pay 40 percent of their fuel consumption.

Other benefits included in the circular.

## CEOs to share over E65.5m a year before benefits

The newly released circular will see chief executive officers at the helm of Category A Public Enterprises share a minimum of E65.5million. This is calculated on the premise that all positions are filled and that all get the minimum of their group's remuneration.

The different parastatals are grouped separately into five with those in group A paid relatively lower than their counterparts. Those in Group 5 earn the most at nearly double that of the first group.

Group 1 E 666 000-E901 000 consists of entities like Sebenta, Red

Cross, Swaziland National Sport and Recreation Council, Swaziland National Youth Council, Swaziland National Council of Arts and Culture as well as the Swaziland Youth Enterprise Revolving Fund (SYERF).

## Group 2 E792 000-E1m

Central Transport Organisation, Swaziland Standards Authority, SEDCO, Good Shepherd, National Disaster Management Agency, Swaziland Public Procurement Regulatory Agency, PPHC, Swaziland Tourism Authority, National Industrial Development Corporation of Swaziland

Group 3 E941 722-E1.2million Swaziland Nazarene Health Institution, SWADE, Southern Africa Nazarene University, Swaziland Dairy Board, Royal Swazi National Airways Corporation, CMAC, SERA, SIPA, Swaziland National Trust Commission, Swaziland Television Authority, NAMBOARD, Swaziland Environmental Authority, National Maize Corporation, Competition Commission, Swaziland

Group 4 E1.1-E 1.5 m SWACAA, Swaziland National Housing Board, Swaziland Motor

Vehicle Fund, FINCORP, Communications Commission, Royal Science Technology Park

## Highest earning CEOs found in group 5 (E1.3-E1.8 million)

Swazi Bank, Swaziland Revenue Authority, Public Service Pension Fund, Swaziland National Provident Fund, University of Swaziland, Swaziland Electricity Company, Swaziland Post and Telecommunication Corporation, Swaziland Water Services Corporation, Financial Services Regulatory Authority, Swaziland Railways, NERCHA.



# TENSION AT MTN ON THE EVE OF COMPETITION

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

The opening of the mobile communication industry to other players seems to have brought about tension at the MTN Swaziland, which has been enjoying a monopoly for over 10 years.

Four companies – locally-owned Swazi Mobile and Data Net, and international telecoms providers Viettel Group and Orange-backed Mauritius Telecom – have submitted bids for an individual electronic communications network and services licence in the Kingdom of Swaziland.

They are awaiting, with bated breath, the award of a technology-neutral licence. It is expected that Swazi Telecom will also join the fray

when they eventually take up the option to operate a mobile company of their own.

For Swazi MTN, this brings about a totally different territory they have not previously known, which has led to extra caution being taken in the way they do things.

This was confirmed yesterday by Corporate Affairs Manager Mandla Luphondvo who had been sent a questionnaire on Friday regarding the pending changes in the industry.

In particular, this newspaper wanted to know if the company was ready for the competition that is expected in the coming months, once the licence is awarded.

Having failed to respond to the email by yesterday afternoon, he was called

and asked to respond to it.

He said he was unaware of the message sent to his email account as he was unable to access his email account because he was far.

"Ever since our domain was changed to .com from .sz, I have been unable to access emails on my cellular phone," he said when reminded that emails can be accessed remotely and there was no need for physical presence in the office for one to open them.

He revealed that he would not be able to respond to the questionnaire which delved into several issues.

"Company policy dictates that questionnaires be perused by management and a consensus reached on responses prior to them being released," he said, something which is understandable in any event as this is standard practise in most entities.

He then revealed how there was ten-

sion concerning the latest media reports without stating which reports were causing the mobile giant sleepless nights. He further cautioned that if the questions had regulatory undertones, they would be unable to respond as they have been subjected to grilling following media reports.

"If they are regulatory questions, best ask the regulator as we have had problems recently when responding to such questions," he said.

Highly placed sources revealed how managers were cautioned about keeping company documents confidential at all times keeping in mind that they were in a vulnerable position.

This caution was allegedly issued to managers seeing as they had access to confidential documents and this has been largely translated to be as a result of the expose on their financial records by the Times of Swaziland



**MTN Corporate Affairs Manager Mandla Luphondvo.**

which reported that the company made E1 billion during their 2014/2015 financial year.

This was the first time in the company's history since inception in 1998 that their records were made public.

## Transfers within Mbabane Magistrate's Court cause unease

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

It's been a year of uneasy lull at the Mbabane Magistrate's Court since the appointment of Principal Magistrate Fikile Nhlabatsi into the position where she replaced Nondumiso Simelane who took an early retirement.

In a space of barely a year, the former registrar of the High Court, who was the apple of ousted former Chief Justice Michael Ramodibedi's eye, has cracked her whip as Principal Magistrate with magistrates being transferred within a flash.

However, she has been accused of having had a hand in the transfer of the four staff members which has raised eyebrows.

Two magistrates, one long serving whereas the other had recently been transferred to Mbabane, were affected by movements to other duty stations. Another transfer was that of a clerk as well as grounds man.

What grates workers is the verbal threats of transfers which are followed up with letters of immediate transfers without the affected worker being given reasonable time to leave the current duty station.

"The transfers have been with immediate effect in most cases," an employee alleged adding how this was much against labour laws.

"There are processes that need to be followed prior to a person being transferred and being told to vacate your work station on a Friday to go to a new one on a Monday has made everyone feel as though we are regressing to dark days when we didn't know what would



**Principal Magistrate Fikile Nhlabatsi.**

happen at any point in time," the employee said.

She alleged the affected people were not at anytime consulted about their impending moves or asked whether they had any reservations about being moved. "There is no enquiry into their lives on whether the transfers suit them personally, health wise or otherwise which makes us conclude they are being victimised," she said.

"It is common knowledge that the four who have been transferred had gripe with the principal magistrate of some sort and what has further dumbfounded us is how those hired by the Civil Service Commission have also been threatened with transfers yet we know her sphere of influence is with the Judicial Service Commission, only those who were hired by the JSC should be transferred because of having issues with her," the source further alleged while adding how there were alleged

attempts to have others transferred. The source alleged how there was initial sympathy for the principal magistrate who arrived after her alleged fall from grace after she was transferred to her current position following an arrest. However, charges against her were later revoked as she was made state witness.

When Ramodibedi was removed from his position, Nhlabatsi was relieved of her duties as JSC secretary during a tenure where she signed a letter stating that Ramodibedi refuted as 'blatant lies' a statement by the Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini that he requested immunity before travelling to his home country for the inauguration ceremony of then newly-elected Prime Minister Pakalithi Mosisili. Nhlabatsi later stated she had been allegedly made to sign the letter which said Ramodibedi was shocked by the PM's statement and labelled it as absolutely untrue and clearly meant to mislead the nation.

"We sympathised with her when she got here and now this," employees said about the alleged power wielding principal magistrate. When efforts were made to get comments from Registrar of the Supreme Court who doubles as Secretary of the JSC Lungile Msimango several times when called, the responder first requested to know who this reporter wanted to speak to. Thereafter responses were to the effect that she was driving and could not take any calls.

It is, however, alleged in some quarters that Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala issued a directive that the media should not be entertained.

## Burnt Mangwaneni man dies

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

The man who was reportedly set alight during a raid by rangers from the Municipal Council of Mbabane and security guards at Mangwaneni area has died.

Mfanzile Hlophe died on Friday evening at the Mbabane Government Hospital where he had been admitted since the incident. It was reported last week that Hlophe was allegedly set ablaze during the confrontation with the rangers and security guards, after he was doused with petrol.

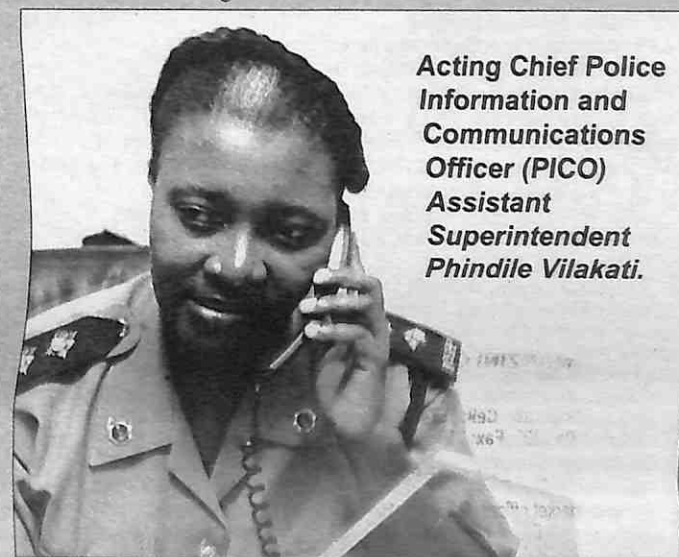
Hlophe allegedly constructed an illegal structure without a permit, which was the reason the rangers and security guards raided his home. Investigations on

the incident were still being conducted as there was another version that was given as to why he ended up being burnt.

The rangers were initially there to see to it that he had demolished the structure after he was served with a letter instructing him to do so and also informing him that failure to do so would result in the Council demolishing the structure for him.

It was also alleged that Hlophe's daughter watched in horror as her father was engulfed in flames. Residents are also fuming over the incident and are demanding answers from Council.

His death was confirmed by Acting Chief Police Information and Communications Officer (PICO) Assistant Superintendent Phindile Vilakati.



**Acting Chief Police Information and Communications Officer (PICO) Assistant Superintendent Phindile Vilakati.**

## Fidel Castro: Cuba announces 9 days of national mourning

JOHANNESBURG – Cuba has announced nine days of mourning following the death of one of the world's longest-serving and most iconic leaders Fidel Castro.

The former Cuban president and leader of the communist revolution died on Friday night from an unknown illness. Castro ruled Cuba as a one-

...The former Cuban president and leader of the communist revolution died on Friday night at the age of 90

party state for almost half a century from 1959.

He stood down as president in 2008, having handed over power to his brother Raul, two years earlier due to health reasons. His ashes will be laid to rest on December 4. At the same

time, Pope Francis has also expressed his sentiment of sorrow at the passing of Castro. He says the death of Cuba's revolutionary leader is 'sad'.

Pope Francis was one of the mediators between Havana and the United States for the 2014 agreement to cast

aside decades of hostility that began soon after Cuba's 1959 revolution.

News of the Cuban leader's death has triggered both celebrations and mourning across the globe.

Supporters grieved over the revolutionary while others welcomed his



death, further polarising the memory of the man who had led Cuba for many decades.



# PM URGES MANANGA GRADUATES TO LEAD BY EXAMPLE

STORIES BY SIMON SHABANGU

Prime Minister Sibiso Dlamini has urged graduates of Mananga Centre for Regional Integration and Management Development to always notice and compliment the employees they lead in their respective organisations.

The PM was speaking through Finance Minister Martin Dlamini at the institution's graduation ceremony at the Royal Swazi Sun Convention Centre yesterday.

## Admitted

A total of 25 graduates received their master's degrees in MSc Leadership and Change Management, Master of Business Administration and Master of business administration (Human Resources Management).

The Premier said understanding and communicating effectively with the people you lead are key, if the organisations are to realise growth and prosperity. He said it is important for the leader to interact with the employees at their respective work stations to find out about their challenges if there is and then assist them to do their day to day



Lindiwe Nxumalo receiving her certificate from Finance Minister Martin Dlamini who was representing the PM while Mananga Centre Director Dr Ranga Taruvunga looks on during the ceremony.

duties effectively.

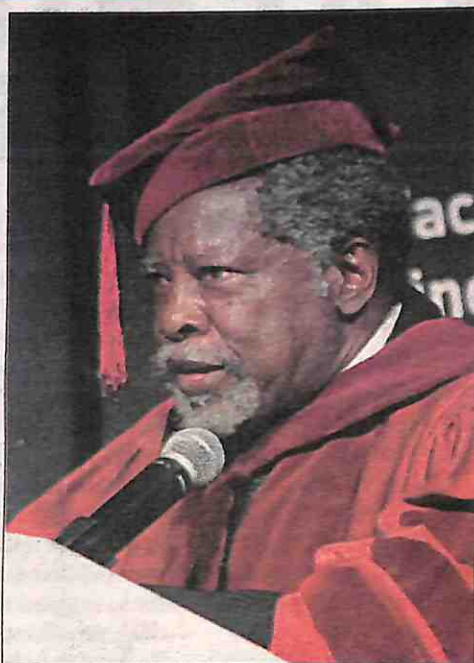
He said a motivated workforce is bound to bring about positive results to an organisation encouraging the graduates to always observe such things. The PM also commended Mananga centre for the innovativeness and partnering with other institutions to bring such good programmes to the country.

Meanwhile Mananga Centre Director Dr Ranga Taruvunga said as an institution they were proud to have been able to produce 250 graduates in the leadership and change management course which was a result of a partnership with

Leeds Beckett University from the United Kingdom.

He said this was the seventh cohort of students to graduate under the partnership.

"We also celebrate the graduates of the BBA and MBA degree from the Australian Institute of Business. We are proud as Mananga that we have been able to work together with our partners and students to achieve not only the student's personal career pursuit but also to contribute to the strengthening of the national and regional cadres of leaders and business executives. It is through this partnership that we have achieved so much.



Dr. Hugh Magagula making some remarks before closing the ceremony in prayer.



Futhi Sangweni speaking on behalf of the graduates.

## DPM Paul Dlamini graduates in absentia...

One of the prominent figures to graduate in the MSc Leadership and Change Management course was Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini who was however not present as he is currently out of the country on official government business.

The DPM was one of the 14 graduates who have successfully completed the course and have qualified to be awarded certificates for such. He was however not the only graduate who missed out on their special day as about three others could not attend for various reasons.

Other notable people among the graduates was

Steven Zuke, former CEO of the Swaziland Environmental Authority who is currently not in office as his contract expired six months ago and the ministry has not yet renewed it.

SAMKHO MD Sabelo Mkhonta also graduated as well as FINCORP staffer Lomkhosi Dlamini. SPTC MD Petros Dlamini's wife Gwen Celani Dlamini and Futhi Sangweni who is Musa Dlamini's wife also graduated. Notable also was that other graduates came from other countries one being Thami Zondi who is a civil servant from South African based in Durban.



## LET'S GO Zanzibar

### 1. About letsgozanzibar

Letsgozanzibar is a Swazi registered Travel and Tours Agency that specializes on classy, personalized and affordable Holiday packages for Swazi's and South Africans to go to Zanzibar Island for a holiday. We have offices in Swaziland, South Africa and Tanzania and our mission is to give you a memorable affordable Zanzibar Island holiday. We plan the entire holiday according to your interests and requests for individuals, couples, families and groups we are turning your dream holiday into a reality.

### 2. About Zanzibar Island

Zanzibar also known as 'Spice Island' is located in the Indian Ocean and just 25 miles off the coast of Tanzania. Its capital Stone Town is the old heart of Zanzibar and looks much the same as it did two centuries ago. It is a Heritage Site with its Arabian style stone houses reflecting its culture and surroundings. The beautiful un-spoilt beaches on the East coast of Zanzibar are the ideal place to relax and soak up the African sun after your safari. It offers powder soft sandy beaches shaded by palm trees and the turquoise blue waters of the Indian Ocean. There are plenty coral reefs also making it a great spot for diving, snorkeling and water based excursions or take a traditional dhow (sailing boat) and take in the beautiful coastline scenery. There are many fine hotels to choose from and letsgozanzibar have a selection of a few favorites.

### 3. Why chose letsgozanzibar holiday packages;

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- We pay special attention to individuality, safety and personal interest.
- We provide low prices but a quality holiday, we offer holiday packages that will suite your budget starting

from as little as R8 000/p sharing all inclusive on low season.

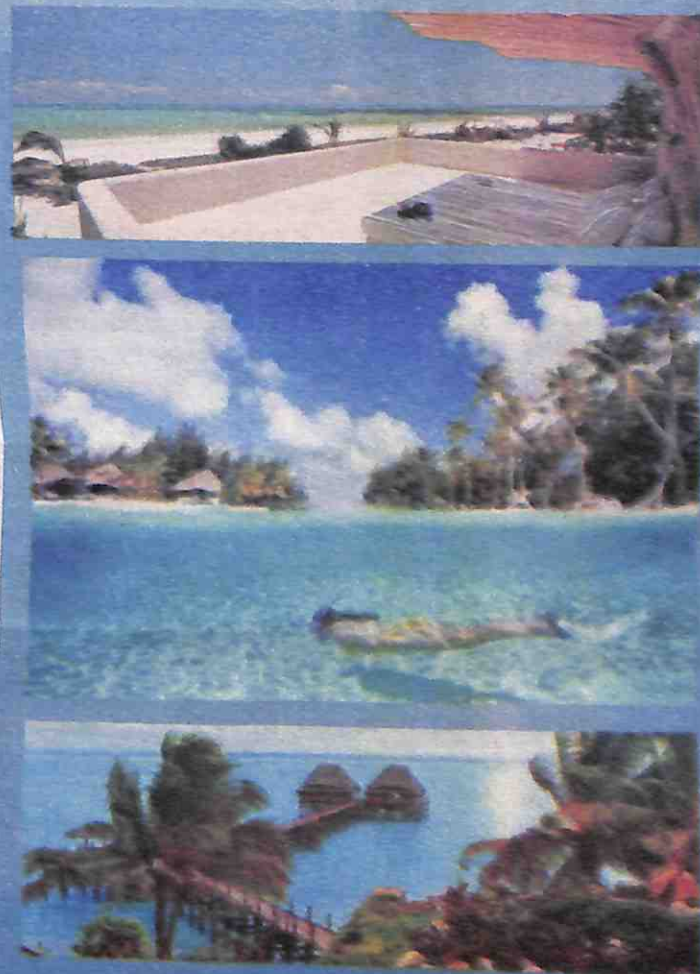
- Our Holiday packages are inclusive of Shuttle services from Swaziland to OR Tambo, Flights are included and Accommodation at a 3star or higher hotel, 3 Meals a day and 3 Activities of your choice from our list of Activities.
- The Activities you chose will be included in your package and these are safe and guided by professionals.
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### Behind the Brand

Is the founder Mr Vusani Matsebula a young business man based in Tanzania who believes that a persons mind grows through travelling and plans on bringing as many Swazis to Zanzibar as possible and when the time is write bring Tanzania to Swaziland too. We have offices and a team based in Swaziland, South Africa and Tanzania.

Letsgozanzibar 1st holiday

TIP: Holidays are not planned overnight, start working on yours.





# DATA NET CELEBRATES 10 YEAR OF EXISTENCE

BY LINDA JELE

**D**ata Net, Swaziland's renowned information technology (IT) company celebrated its ten years of existence in the country.

The celebration, a gala dinner held at the Royal Swazi Spa Convention Centre on Friday evening, was graced by senior government officials and prominent business leaders, IT experts and the company's clientele involving private and government ministries. The company boasted of having made huge contributions to the country, not only in IT services, but in corporate social responsibility.

The company was established in 2006 in the country and expanded to other countries like South Africa, Lesotho, Australia, Singapore and Bangladesh. Data Net Managing Director Moshtaq Ahmed shared the company's history during the event themed 'decade of innovation in Swaziland'. He said the company started as an ICT company offering traditional range of IT hardware, software and training products to the Swaziland market. He said the company grew in leaps and bounds and built a strong client base that began demanding much more from the company, ranging from strategic IT consultancy to advice on incorporating technology into business processes. Some of the clients walked away with gadgets won in a raffle draw that was conducted electronically and they shared their experiences with the company. The company further



**Data Net Managing Director Moshtaq Ahmed delivering a speech before proposing a toast. (Pics: Linda Jele)**

highlighted its CSR activities which included building an orphanage, providing food and blankets to the needy and donating educational material to children. Present during the event was Secretary to Cabinet Mbuso Dlamini, Mbabane Senior lawyer Sidumo Mdladla, FINCORP Managing Director Dumisani Msibi and many IT industry players. The managing director expressed gratitude to the company staff for the dedication they have shown in their work in the past decade. He further thanked the company's clients for their support.



**Swazi TV presenter Siphesihle Nkwanyane kept the audience entertained with jokes and music as she directed the proceedings.**

He said attaining the successes the company has had was not a walk in the park but it was through hard work and dedication from all stakeholders. He further urged all companies to be involved in corporate social responsibility (CSR).

The celebration was characterised by performances from cultural groups and music rendered by the company's employees Nhlakanipho Dlamini and Kamol Anowar as well as other local and upcoming artists. There was also music rendered by legendary disc jockey DD Cool.



**TEN YEARS. Datanet employees pose showing the ten years of the company's existence.**



**Moshtaq and his wife Noushna toast together with Vusi Dlamini during the dinner.**

## Siyakhula Kanye Kanye



iClub Savings Account yindlela lekahle futsi  
lephephile yekubhanga imali nilicembu

*Tsatsa sinyatselo namuhla uvule iClub Savings Account*

*\*Kubhanga nekukhokha imali kumahhala*





# PANIC AS EMPLOYEES LEARN LOGICO WAS SOLD 3 YEARS AGO

BY MLONDI MPANZA

There is panic amongst employees of the country's biggest fast moving consumer goods (FMCG), Logico after learning the company was sold three years ago.

Besides what seems to have been a 'shady' deal, the employees are particularly concerned about their gratuity packages which they seem to have lost following the change of ownership under questionable dealings. But, the Managing Director, Anthony Geldard disputes such allegations which he termed as false in a brief telephonic interview on Friday afternoon. According to sources that elected to speak on condition of anonymity, the aggrieved employees recently learnt that the company was sold in 2013 to a company identified as CA Sales Holdings in a transaction that was done without their knowledge. They apparently started raising eyebrows when the managing director claimed to be a chief executive officer out of nowhere.

"The employees claim to have noted the sudden change in the MD's identification and did not say anything about it until later on when they also got to learn that the company now had five directors in the shareholding as compared to the three they have always known," revealed the source.

This was subsequent to an article which Geldard claimed to have seen in one of the local newspapers and the clarification was in efforts to shed some light on his actual position at the sales and distribution company. It is then that the employees are



alleged to have started panicking as they claim not to have been informed about any changes in the company except for gathering their own rumours whenever they see any movements within the premises in so far as their investigations over the new owners are concerned.

## Awkward

"You can imagine how awkward it is for the employees not to be told of what was happening as they are human and have the right to be informed of any developments in the company."

"At least they deserved to be told how many shares have been sold and to who and those kind of details," said the sources. When asked where they get the perception the company had been sold, the employees are said to have pointed to a number of suspicious acts, one of which was an instruction to behave in a certain manner because certain people were coming to the company's premises by the MD. Such an instruction is alleged to be one that made them suspect there was something amiss happening at their place of work.

Another one is an end of year party

billed for December 10, 2016 which is to double up as a farewell function for the MD as well and that to some extent confirms their allegations that he too could be on his way out in light of the new owners who are bringing in changes, the sources allege.

One more and major suspicion is an email communication that was made by the MD to all employees on October 16, 2014 and December 31, 2014.

In the first correspondence, the MD states, "Please be advised there was an article in today's paper regarding CA Sales Holdings-Logico." He states that, for clarity's sake, CA Sales Holdings have been a partner in Logico since July, 1, 2013 and this transaction was them purchasing another small parcel of shares and "It is law to have this approved by Competition Commission."

However, the MD stated that nothing would change operationally in the business except for their financial year end.

Geldard maintained he was still the CEO and the Chairman of the board.

Two months later, the MD issued yet another communication where

he stated the year had been their best and the following one (2015) would be a great one all around as their pipeline was full, they had the 'best people' employed at Logico, as well as having settled well into their new facilities. He went on to share they would be implementing further systems to continue improving the service they provided to their customers, but would be changing their financial year to December for unidentified reasons as compared to the year ending in June.

## Bonus

"As you may be or may not be aware, your bonus every year is based on the company's performance, the bonus you received today was for the financial year that ended in June 2014. The good news is you will receive another bonus in February 2015 and this bonus will be based on the company's performance against the budget for the period of July-December 2014," reads the email in possession of this newspaper. Efforts to get a tangible comment from the director proved futile as he claimed all these allegations were false before saying he was out of the country and request-

ed that a questionnaire be sent to him, which was duly done. But he had not responded at the time of going to press. This was after contacting the Human Resources Manager, Marie Johnson who was said to be hands on with all these changes. But her response to this reporter was that this was not within her jurisdiction so she could not respond.

## ...About Logico

Logico is primarily a fast moving consumer goods (FMCG) sales and distribution business offering various solutions to its clients for the most effective solution for the Swaziland market. Aligning ourselves with "best of breed" manufacturers allows us to present a comprehensive collection of services to satisfy all supply chain needs. The company was established on 1 October 2003. At its infancy Logico employed staff consisting of two sales reps, three administration staff, two drivers and 24 merchandisers. Within a decade Logico are now the largest FMCG service provider in the Swaziland market, employing a total of 372 staff. It endeavours to deliver profit to all stakeholders through innovation, people empowerment and effective management systems. This positive attitude is shared throughout the company's ethos. Logico team members strive to live up to the mission statement of 'Proud, Progressive and Passionate People'. Our strategy is to offer a diverse range of services to every possible sector of the Swaziland market and, in doing so, ensure that each sector of the market has a focused and dedicated service approach. Logico supplies and delivers to all sections of the market. This includes wholesale to top end retail, general trade, pharmacy, out of home and bottom end markets. Our current principle base consists of 20 principles and our customer universe is in excess of 300.

## RENEWABLE ENERGY MORE SUITED FOR SWAZILAND

STORIES BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

The country is best suited to harness renewable energy if it wants to be seen to be serious in combating climate change.

European Union Ambassador Nicola Bellomo said Swaziland was well placed to produce electricity as it had an abundant potential to use biomass due to widely available resources of timber and sugar cane waste. Coupled with diverging to using the sun, wind and water, the country could be self-sustaining.

The ambassador said the EU was more than ready to support green electricity production initiatives as they were more sustainable and suited for the country which finds itself importing 80% of its demand from South Africa thus making it expensive for the ordinary person to afford.

He said they were willing to look at projects with the possibility of funding as long as they were of the renewable energy as there was an EU Sustainable Energy for all Initiative.

Bellomo said the current arrangement was not sustainable and means to look at sustainable energy production had to be quickened.

He stated that the real cost benefits of

...as EU offers support to projects pursuing green power



European Union Ambassador Nicola Bellomo.

looking into the alternatives of thermal power production would take a lot of money as well as several years till plants get operational.

"Using coal is not environmentally friendly," he said adding how setting up renewable energy power plants was usually cheaper not only in the short term but for the environment and future gen-

erations.

He reiterated support for the country as it implements the Energy Charter which Swaziland signed in December last year when it became the first country in Southern Africa to have signed the 2015 International Energy Charter.

The treaty, as signed by then ambassador to Brussels Joel Nhleko, was designed to provide a stable interface between the foreign investor and the host government.

This stability was particularly important in the global energy sector, where projects are highly strategic and capital-intensive, and where risks have to be assessed over the long-term.

The Energy Charter was based on the recognition that all countries stand to benefit from a balanced framework for cooperation in the energy sector.

Countries with natural resources get a means to attract investment, to protect their interests downstream, and ensure reliable transportation for their energy exports to consumers.

Ever since the charter was signed several companies have indicated interest to establish plants in the country.

## EU DESK OFFICER TOURS EU-FUNDED PROJECTS

This past week saw Brussels European Union Headquarters Desk Officer Responsible for Swaziland and Botswana Ana Gordon Vergara, tour some of the EU-Funded projects in the country, mainly those in Lubombo and Manzini regions.

Having arrived last Sunday, she was taken to different areas in the country such as Eswatini Kitchen in Sidvokodvo, home to the Woman Farmer Foundation which runs the Woman Farmer Competition.

She also visited a feedlot in Madlenya, a pilot project by Swaziland Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (SWADE) which is supported by the EU. The success of this feedlot can be replicated throughout the country which was adversely affected by drought.

She was able to see the high level bridge which was recently open

for use at Siphofaneni. According to the EU Facebook page, the construction was funded by the EU as part of the upgrading to bitumen standard of the St Phillip's road.

## Toured

Vergara also toured Nkilonko with World Vision as well as Lwandle where a women's centre was funded for the empowerment of young girls and women about knowledge in order

to improve their daily lives and homes. She also go to familiarise herself about the socio-political environment in the country as she met members of the media, non-governmental organisations and different sectors of society. Ana was accompanied on this visit by the Head of Cooperation at the EU Delegation to Swaziland, Ariane Labat, and EU Press and Information Officer, Michael Motsa.



# SCHOOLS STRUGGLING WITH POSITIVE DISCIPLINE

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

Schools around the country, which have until recently been using the rod as a disciplining tool, are struggling to come up with meaningful ways to punish delinquent children.

The ministry of education recently banned the use of corporal punishment and called for the engaging of children in order to find solutions in their waywardness.

Several parents have complained about the treatment of their children by schools which have turned pupils to labourers while trying to avoid the age old straightening effect of the rod.

Recently, a parent complained after finding children painting one of the schools located within the capital's urban boundary in the name of punishment. "I found primary school children painting the school. Who does that? How safe are they from the paint's toxicity because they are children," he asked.

Another parent revealed how his son missed two weeks of classes

after being told not to return without his parents in tow.

"I did not see reasons for going to the school seeing as the 'crime' my son had been accused of was found to have been committed by somebody else," the parent said further stating how this issue of calling parents to schools for minor incidences was time consuming and tiring.

"Our children have a different nature when they go to school and have certain behaviours which they dare not exhibit at home so it is therefore shocking to be called because a child was found standing with a boy by the corner. Why can't teachers solve that matter? By the time that child arrives at home, they usually have forgotten the escapades they got into and it is best to nip it in the bud and discipline the child immediately." Another parent revealed how his child was suspended from

school for two weeks after being found with dagga which he bought within the school. When asked about the struggles that teachers seem to be having in terms of discipline, Swaziland National Association

**"It takes a village to raise a child and society has lost this ideal," he said adding how there was need to return to the Swazi way of doing things where every parent was a guardian to every child.**

of Teachers (SNA T) Secretary General Z w e l i Mndzebele said they were not given meaningful guidelines on

how to discipline children under their care. He called on the ministry to give them proper guidelines which should have been given them prior to the banning of corporal punishment.

Agreeing that teachers were shoddily prepared prior to the revocation of corporal punishment, Salesian High School Principal Petros Horton, said they were only taken to a workshop where they were told to only engage children and talk them

through their disciplinary issues and make them see that what they were doing was wrong.

Championing for the phenomenon, he said stopping corporal punishment protected them from acting unreasonably while also protecting children from being victimised. He however said effecting it properly took a lot of time. "It needs time and when you have 800 children and their disciplinary issues keep coming in, time is needed to deal with each and everyone of them," he said.

Horton said there was need for the parent to also play a huge role in ensuring that the discipline meted at school gets supported. "It takes a village to raise a child and society has lost this ideal," he said adding how there was need to return to the Swazi way of doing things where every parent was a guardian to every child. "We have lost this sense of community and our children are banking on this lost responsibility whenever they do something wrong. In the past, when a child did something wrong, any member of the

## MAKE CHILDREN STAND IN THE CORNER

The ministry of education has called for teachers to find ways of making pupils realise they were being punished, in a constructive manner.

Recalling how children would be hit and knew the pain of a raised stick, Principal Secretary Pat Muir called for teachers to come up with constructive ways of encouraging them to do the right thing.

"Let's take it to the opposite end. Whenever a child used to be beaten, that child knew to expect pain from the raised stick. So each time a stick was raised, inwardly the child expected the pain and felt it before it came," he said.

He stated how making a naughty child stand alone by the corner made him miss out on being with others and this could motivate him to want to be with other children. "Find ways to motivate children to realise that if they have done wrong, the teacher will make me stand in the corner away from my friends and this should encourage him to strive to do better," he said.

community would curb it with a strong word, however, nowadays whenever a child is reprimanded, the parent returns to castigate the one who tried to set his child straight and tell him to mind his own business," he said reiterating that the plot was lost a long time ago. He said unless the community returns to parenting every child under its care, waywardness in children will continue unabated.

## FORMER SCOT LECTURER'S SON WANTED OUT OF HOME

...home sold at E350 000 and rent set at E4 000 per month

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

Having failed to pay rent for the last two months as instructed by the estate agent who bought his father's house, an application of eviction has been sought against Sifiso Ronnie Nkambule.

The young man is son to late former SCOT Lecturer in the Electrical Engineering Department Henry Boy Nkambule and the property is situated at Dark City in Sidvashini in Mbabane. The application by Bandile Phathizwe Edwards comes after Sifiso failed to move out of the home recently purchased by the former. Sifiso's failure to move out

emanates from a long running estate battle where Sifiso was at pains trying to prove that his stepmother was never made executor for the former lecturer's estate.

Last week, Edwards sought recourse from the High Court and called upon Sifiso to defend his decision not to move out of the property despite having been informed of the change of ownership. According to an annexure in the application, the house was sold for E350 000 and Sifiso was advised by the estate agent Rainbow Properties' Emmanuel Mkhwanazi to cooperate with Edwards who would want to carry out renovations to the property towards the end of September in a letter. Prior to Edwards seeking legal

recourse, Sifiso had sought the intervention of the Master of the High Court where he stated his concerns on the alleged abuse of his father's estate. He reiterated his dispute of the appointment of his step-mother Happy Simelane-Nkambule and pleaded for a meeting to be called where the issue of the estate would be ironed out. In the letter dated November 15, Sifiso made several allegations against his stepmother and further alleged that the marriage between her and his father was not recognised as they were not invited. The seeking of intervention was despite the fact that he had been advised to leave the property by the Assistant Master of the High Court in a letter addressed to him dated 5 April.

The Assistant Master Temantimandze Shongwe, in the letter stated that they had given

Nkambule a certain amount of time to vacate the property if he did not have an interest to buy it. "The time has elapsed and the reasonable assumption is that you are unable to buy the property to keep occupying it," reads part of the letter. Shongwe then stated, "Kindly vacate the said property to allow the executor to complete winding up the estate." Edwards resorted to seeking recourse after informing Sifiso in a letter dated October 10 after the transfer of the property to Edward's name three days earlier. He was initially given ten days to vacate the premises and advised that failure to comply would result in appropriate legal action being taken against him. By his insistence to stay in the house, Sifiso is said to be owing rental fees of E8 000 calculated at a monthly rental of E4 000.

## POLICE OPERATION CRACKS WHIP IN MBABANE

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

The Royal Swaziland Police (RSP) is already cracking the whip this festive season on criminals, from petty offenders in the city to serious offenders.

The police in partnership with the Municipal Council of Mbabane and other stakeholders arrested a number of people in the capital city following the crackdown on illegal vendors, traffic offenders, drug dealers, to mention a few. On Friday afternoon the Mbabane Police Station was abuzz with police assisted by security officers leading offenders who had been apprehended within the capital city, some nabbed red handed.

Worth noting is that a number of these offenders were arrested for petty crimes such as jay walking and were led to the station where they had to pay fines. Every corner of the capital city streets had a heavy police presence who were armed and ready to pounce. Acting Chief Police Information and Communications Officer (PICO) Phindile Vilakati confirmed that a number of people were arrested on Friday as part of the operation that was being enforced. She said however they were yet to compile statistics of how many people were arrested on the day. "The police together with stakeholders had an operation that saw a number of people apprehended who had committed different offences ranging from illegal trading, pedestrian behaviour, and illegal possession of drugs, to mention a few things. We are still to compile the statistics and only then can we know how many people were arrested exactly," she said. This comes after the National Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula also unveiled a new slogan for crime prevention this festive season. The new slogan is "Together let's create a barrier against crime and road accidents". In Siswati it translates to: 'Vuka Ngwane Sibambane sakhe lubondza lwekuvikela Bucala Netigoti Temgwaco'.

## 'HAVING A DOMESTIC WORKER NOW TOO COSTLY'

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

The improved Regulation of Wages (Domestic employers) Order 2016 which has since been published in the Swaziland Extraordinary Gazette by the Ministry of Labour and Social Security has caught some employers off guard.

If the reactions on social networks are anything to go by, some employers are distressed with some of the things they would have to provide for their employers, apart from the salary increments which were expected.

Some of these things which are to be provided by employers include two sets of uniforms for workers, salary payslips, 13 days paid leave



Minister of Labour and Social Security Winnie Magagula.

after working for a year, as well as paid maternity leave. Employers took to social networks to express their concerns over this, some arguing that some of the helpers showed up on their door steps desperate and begged for work even though they could not afford a domestic help. "What does this mean for some

of us lesacasha bomakhelwane who were begging to do our laundry, even though we were coping with balancing house work, we hired them out of compassion knowing their backgrounds, should we now send them home," posted one user.

The debate on the topic has been whether or not they would still be able to afford the domestic workers with all the requirements that come with it. The topic has also been off interest on the national radio, where it has been discussed at length on the ministry's weekly programme. A user identified as Dumsile Shivakati posted that she was saddened that she would have to ask her domestic help to do less work for her in order to afford to

keep her, as the gazette states that if a worker is doing different chores in the household they must be paid an additional 25 percent on top of the salary. This means if a worker is employed to clean and there is additional work of cooking, the worker is required to pay the quarter for the additional work. An issue which has also risen from this was from employers who say they have been paying their employers more than the outlined minimum wage salary. However, the wages council has urged employers who were paying their domestic workers above the minimum not to decrease what they had outlined was the minimum requirement for all, and not the limit.



STORIES BY MANQOBA MAKHUBU

# SEC BAGS THREE AWARDS AT SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC) bagged three awards during the inaugural Swaziland Service Excellence Awards.

The company won under State Owned Organisations, Corporate Responsibility and call centre of the year. It emerged number one under State Owned Companies, number three under corporate Social Responsibility and number two under the Call Centre of the Year category.

The awarding ceremony of the inaugural Swaziland Service Excellence Awards was held on Friday at Happy Valley Hotel, Ezulwini.

The event was attended by Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini, who represented Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Jabulani Mabuza and Acting Principal Secretary Albert Chibi, Chartered Institute of Customer Management (CICM) Chief Executive Officer Ricky Harris, industry captains, companies and staff members.

Corporate Service Manager Sifiso Dhlamini said winning the three awards reflects the company's effort behind the scenes to improve its customer service.

"We are working very hard, running a corporation as big as SEC is not easy.



**First place company winners under the different categories in a group picture with Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Jabulani Mabuza, CICM Chief Executive Officer Ricky Harris and Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini who represented Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini (Pics: Lucky Simelane)**

The rate of connection is increasing at a very fast rate, which further stretches our efforts to please all these people," he said.

The company currently has over 173 000 customers, they were recently sitting at

over 164 000. Not long ago, about five years ago the company had only 50 000 customers.

"We are trying hard to keep up with the increasing demand which obviously comes with additional expectations and

we feel very honoured for the recognition," said Dhlamini.

He said amongst other things, the company had introduced a customer relationship management system and has been rolling out strategic imperatives to improve service delivery to its clients. He said this was to ensure that customers were assisted at first point of contact with SEC. Dhlamini said they also set up a call centre as a feedback mechanism to enable customers to either lodge their complaints or get any required assistance.

## Result

As a result, he said they have hosted a number of both local and regional companies who had come to learn from the company with the most recent being companies from Tanzania and Mozambique.

The awards were organised by the Institute of Research Management and Development (IRDM) in partnership with CICM, a growing global customer services and call centre professional board with a presence in over 14 countries.

CICM Chief Executive Officer Ricky Harris said they were so proud to bring

the event for the first time in the country.

"This could not have come at the right time when the entire Swazi population, business and individual citizen are jealously clinging on the Vision 2022 towards becoming a developed nation," she said.

She said one of the ingredients of development was excellent customer service. "Indeed we need to motivate these entities to excel so that they keep improving and most importantly inspire others to follow suit," she said.

## Delivery

The purpose of the awards was to honour and reward organisations and individuals who have excelled in good customer service and service delivery.

MTN won two awards with the third being an individual executive award for Chief Executive Officer Ambrose Dlamini. The other two were for first position under corporate social responsibility and call centre.

SwaziBank topped the banking sector, FNB came second and Standard Bank came third. Pick n Pay also topped the retail sector and Parmalat came first under the manufacturing sector.

## SWSC crowned third best, but crowd mumbles

The crowd showed a sign of dissatisfaction after the Swaziland Water Services Corporation (SWSC) was crowned the third best company under state owned organisations.

The category had three finalists, Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC), Swaziland Revenue Authority (SRA) and SWSC. The audience would occasionally clap their hands and shout congratulatory remarks when each award recipient was called out. But the situation was different with the water utility, instead there was silence and mum-

bles from the crowd. It seems the water supply crisis, especially within the Mbabane corridor has strained the corporation's relationship with consumers as most of the attendants referred to that incident.

## Awards

On the contrary, Institute of Research Management and Development (IRDM) Director Oliver Museka said the awards were the result of public voting amongst other adjudication measures. This was also affirmed by the awards adjudication committee chairperson who is also CICM Forensic Auditor, Proctor Nyembe.

"We have approved the results and we are happy with them.

"There was no bribe and we have confidence in them," he said. Nyembe has also been part of the adjudication committee in Zimbabwe, Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania.

## Adjudication

He said he will also be part of the adjudication team in Zambia. Local judges of the awards were Chairman of the National Consumer Association Bongani Mdluli and Junior Achievement (JA) Board Chairperson Nokukhanya Gamedze.



**Nedbank Head of Strategy, Marketing and Corporate Affairs Lomkhosi Dlamini receiving an award on behalf of Managing Director Fikile Nkosi.**



**The event ushers posing for the camera.**



**Swaziland Royal Insurance Corporation Manager Marketing and Corporate Communication Sizwe Shongwe receiving the company's first runner up award under insurance companies.**



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A section of the attendees following the proceedings.

#### SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARDS TOP THREE WINNERS

Hospitality	Courier
Royal Swazi	DHL
George Hotel	Triton
Bethel Court	Eliang
Pharmacies	Retail (Clothing)
Philani	Truworths
Linkmed	Edgars
Clicks	Mr. Price
Banking	Automobile
SwaziBank	Kia Motors
FNB	Mbabane Motors
Standard Bank	Carson Motors
Hardware	Fast Foods/Restaurants
Build It	Spur
Cash Build	Ocean Basket
Buy Cash	Galitos
Local Authorities	Service Station
Matsapha	Total
Mbabane	Engen
Manzini	Galp
Funeral Assurance	State Owned
Dups	Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC)
B3	Swaziland Revenue Authority (SRA)
Mbabane Burial	Swaziland Water Services Corporation (SWSC)
Healthcare	Corporate Responsibility
Clinic Group	MTN
Baylor Clinic	FNB
Mkhiwa	Swaziland Electricity Company
Manufacturing	Call Centre of the Year
Parmalat	MTN
Swazi Beverages	Swaziland Electricity Company
Tee and Jay	Swaziland Water Services Corporation (SWSC)
Retail (Grocery)	Executives with best Leadership (no ranking)
Pick n Pay	Fikile Nkosi-Nedbank
Spar	Ambrose Dlamini-MTN
Shoprite	Zakhele Lukhele-SwaziBank



Swazi MTN Chief Consumer Officer Sam Shongwe accepting an award on behalf of his CEO Ambrose Dlamini who was crowned 'Executive with best Leadership'.



## IMPROVED CUSTOMER SERVICE CAN ATTRACT FDI - PM

Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini says a fundamental objective of government is to achieve a level of friendliness that will make the country the investment destination of choice.

He said this could be either for domestic or foreign direct investment. The prime minister was represented by Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini during the inaugural Swaziland Service Excellence awards held at Happy Valley Hotel, Ezulwini on Friday.

He congratulated the Chartered Institute of Customer Management (CICM) for staging the event together with the Institute of Research Management and Development (IRDM) and further congratulated the winners of the awards, "this places an emphasis on the importance of high quality customer service and raises its profile in our economy and our society." "In uncompetitive conditions, we often see businesses pre-occupied only with making money

and growing their enterprises, overlooking the crucially important culture of prioritising the needs of the customer. That is not satisfactory and creates a lop-sided economy and society," he said. Therefore, he said there was a need to ensure that the culture of service excellence remains the core of business values in the country.

This was also alluded to by Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Jabulani Mabuza.

#### Perish

He said in a business environment where customer service was taken for granted businesses perish.

"The current economic environment shows that hundreds of businesses are failing, downsizing, or restructuring every day. It helps a business to win clients in an extremely competitive environment and also facilitates cost saving," he said.

Mabuza said service excellence was increasingly becoming a differentiator for both private and public organisations.



Swaziland Service Excellence Awards Public Relations Officer Nonhlanhla Dlamini making closing remarks.

## Winners set to compete in continental awards

The winners of the first Swaziland Service Excellence Awards are now set to compete with their continental counterparts next year, according to Chartered Institute of Customer Management (CICM) Chief Executive Officer Ricky Harris.

Similar competitions have been held in various countries within the region. Zimbabwe and Malawi held them the same day with Swaziland while other countries are yet to host theirs.

In her own analysis, based on her experience with the country's inaugural awards, Harris said local companies stand a good chance of winning not only regionally, but globally.

#### Winners

She encouraged the winners to continue working hard to improve service delivery. "I hope next year we will have a truly red carpet awards event."

To those who couldn't get the awards she said nothing was lost, "your presence is a great testament of your commitment to service, with such we are all winners by merely our presence today."

The awards Public Relations Officer Nonhlanhla Dlamini also thanked the business community for embracing the awards, though some were skeptical at first. She also thanked the event sponsors and everyone who supported the awards. "Next year we hope the event will be bigger and better," she said.



Musa Manana receiving an award on behalf of Spur.



Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Jabulani Mabuza making his address.

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- Rose Heaven Supermarket
- KwikSave - Eteni
- Wouji Wholesalers
- London Supermarket (Manzini)



# MOZAMBICAN ARRESTED FOR PIRATED SANDS CD

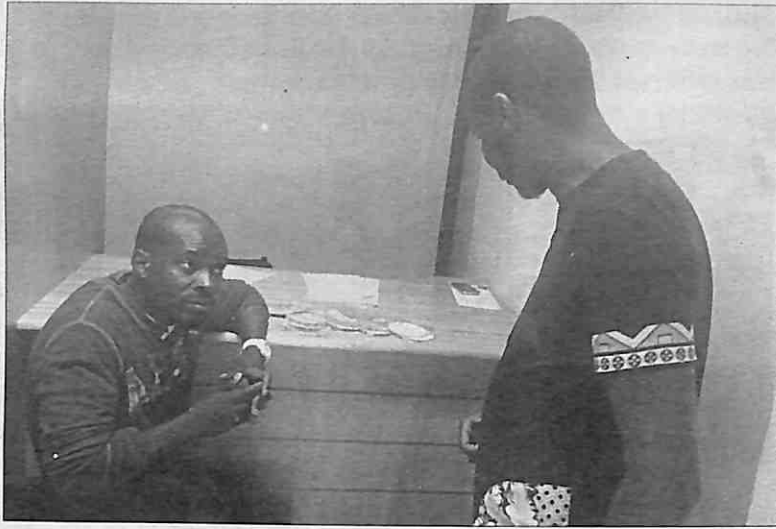
...Larry Mhlanga locks suspect in car while SWAMA president calls police

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

A local musician Sandziso 'Sands' Matsebula was hard at work in neighbouring country South Africa promoting his newly launched album 'Sands of Time', a Mozambican nationality who was selling a pirated version of the album for a mere E20, was arrested in Mbabane.

The suspect was arrested on Friday morning in Mbabane after he attempted to sell the 'newly released' album to Larry Mhlanga who immediately notified Sands' management, SWAMA President Lutfo Dlamini as well as posting it on a WhatsApp group for local artists where he was urged to take action. SWAMA is an acronym for Swaziland Arts and Music Association. According to Mhlanga, he then resolved to lock the suspect in his car while Dlamini called the police.

Mhlanga said all this unfolded after



The Mozambican man (l) being questioned about selling a pirated version of the album for a mere E20.

the man approached him while he was at a car wash and informed him he was selling CDs and had all different genres. The irony in this case was when

the man proposed to sell Sands' album to Mhlanga, he was playing the same album in his car which he claimed to be selling.



Mhlanga, who has been in the arts industry for a number of years, successfully purchased the 'album' for only E20 which he wanted to keep as proof.

The man was arrested when the police arrived and was taken to the Mbabane Police Station where he is still being held. Meanwhile, Sands' Manager and Director of IconPB Music Phila Dlamini, commonly known as Phila Koshini, thanked Mhlanga and the SWAMA president for acting swiftly in nabbing the suspect. "I want to thank Larry and Lutfo for showing concern. I was just in shock. We were sold out in four days and were not ready to get such response. Honestly I was angry and I was

helpless because I am in Durban and 'Sands' was in Nelspruit doing an interview with DJ Sbu on his breakfast show. We did not have people on the ground but Larry, who is a great friend, was willing to take it up."

## Share

Koshini said they both shared the same vision with Mhlanga of taking Swazi talent to the world and he believes this is why he was able to understand his frustration.

Acting Chief Police Information and Communications Officer (CPICO) Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed the arrest. The suspect is currently in police custody and is expected to appear in court tomorrow.

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

With the festive season fast approaching and benevolence abound, 120 families in Manzini will receive food hampers from the Rotary Club of Manzini. According to the club's Past President Busisiwe Manana, they have been selling raffle tickets at the Hub Pick n Pay and Moneni Spar since the beginning of November.

"We sell raffle tickets to the public, the money raised is used to purchase food stuffs which we pack into 120 hampers which are then donated to a selected community in the Manzini region," she said.

Commending Select Management Services, she revealed that the organisation donated a television set as the first prize for the raffle.

"On the 3rd December we will then distribute the 120 hampers to a community in Manzini North.

She, however, revealed that their projects were not confined to the season of giving as they were fresh from sending a teacher to Texas for training.

Manana said, "In October, we sent Ms Penny Lulane, a teacher at Khuphuka Primary, for training in Texas on how to manage a library. This was enabled by a grant received from the 2nd Wind Foundation in Texas which has been sponsoring our Book Centre Project.

## Training

The aim of the training is for her, through the Club, to provide training to other teachers in the Lubombo region so that schools can know how to operate their libraries."

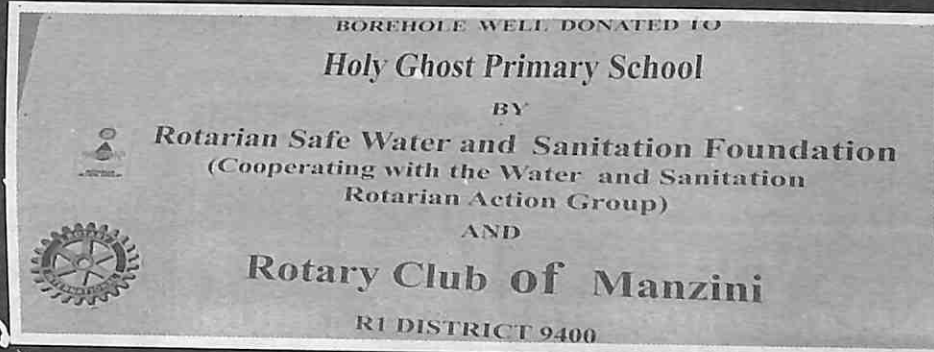
She explained that sending Lulane was part of their ongoing Book Centre Project worth nearly E2million which saw the Club receiving freight containers, books and furniture.

On receiving the containers filled with books for their Book Centre they distribute them to schools, "When empty the containers are converted into libraries and donated to schools

# 120 families to have a merry Christmas courtesy of Manzini Rotary Club



Seven boreholes were donated to schools in 2014.



throughout Swaziland. We have donated containers to Khuphuka Primary and Bersheba Primary this year. We also gave them school furniture which also comes with the book and is donated by schools in Texas."

Recalling their international project which took place in September, she revealed how the Rotary Club of Phalaborwa donated over E20 000 and their time when they came for a second joint project which was held at Mafutseni Community.

"An optometrist did free eye testing and reading glasses were given to 200 patients, a few were referred to Ekululameni Eye Clinic where they

were tested for need of spectacles. We thank the RC of Phalaborwa for their amazing support to our projects."

Manana recalled how Scorpion Legal Services donated E20 000 towards a project at St Joseph's.

"We used the money to purchase handheld magnifiers for the visually impaired for use by the pupils to read. Unfortunately the devices are very expensive and we only managed to give them two so we are trying to fundraise to buy more to enable each pupil to have one device for their use during class instead of having to share the two."

Manana explained how they were

blessed to have a yearly project which was supported by the Michelo Outreach Global Grant worth about E490 000.

"The Michelo Project was inspired and created by Dr. Lois Wilson and Meesh Peters after their Rotary Group Study Exchange to Swaziland in Africa in 2007.

## Funds

We received a Global Vocational Training Team Grant. Funds came from RC McLean E70 000, RC Bailey's Crossroads E70 000 and RI E350 000."

She stated that the team included Dr. Lois Wilson a Dental Outreach Leader, Meesh Peters an Education

Leader, Lindsay Mulcahy a Special Education teacher, Amy O'Malley a Physical Therapist, Nancy Cappel a Music Education Teacher and Lisa Scott who was responsible for Sports and Physical Activities).

"We added Amy to the team as a request was made from the school for a Physical Therapist (PT) as a room filled with PT equipment was found and not used.

Our mission goal to raise awareness to the need for an in-country support process with free dental health services, and physical therapy services to be provided for the children of St. Joseph's was realised."



2016 Manzini Rotary Club President Harry Nxumalo, Past President Busi Manana and Past District Governor Kobla Quashie.



# THE HOSPITAL THAT HAS COME TO PREVENT BLINDNESS

STORIES BY MLONDI MPANZA

People who have visual impairments in the country have no reason to worry anymore. This is because one of the world's best eye specialists, 'Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospital' has landed in the kingdom to bring solutions to all visual problems.

Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospital is the same high technology hospital where earlier in the year, His Majesty the King and Inkhosikati LaMasebula were given the rare opportunity of witnessing a five-minute eye surgery.

This was subsequent to the hospital impressing the country's Ambassador to Mozambique Christian Nkambule who also went through the eye surgery and so did a few among the king's delegation.

They have since honoured the King's invitation to come into the country with this month marking the fifth since they arrived as they seek to 'prevent blindness, rather than curing,' as said by Krishna Sundaresan who is the Senior General Manager.

Sundaresan shared this on Friday during a visit to the newly set-up department at the Philani Clinic in Manzini where he also said that losing one's sight was irreversible and therefore people should make sure they do regular eye check-ups before it's late. "The hospital is here to prevent the Swazi nation



**Members of staff from Dr. Agarwal Hospital that specialises in eye care posing for the camera. After impressing His Majesty King Mswati III during a visit to Mozambique early in the year, the hospital has finally opened shop in the country where they seek to provide solutions for every eye problem. (Pics: Mloni Mpanza)**

from going blind and from the little time we have been around, we have had a lot of terminal cases who come here with the hope to get cured. However, it is not possible to cure eyes especially after the optic nerve has been damaged. Basically, this is to say that eyes are very important and they deserve to be treated with proper care," said the senior manager.

In fact, he said they were not here to cure blindness but to prevent it.

Nkambule who was found at the hospital on Friday told this newspaper that

normally people came to the hospital when it was very late to treat them and now with the hospital boasting of high technology in eye care he advised the public to do regular check-ups.

He said eyes were one of the most important parts in a human body as he made an example that it was even better to lose an arm rather than eye sight which can be basically described as being the pivot of one's life.

The ambassador said, "Previously, the government through the different organ-

isations has been taking eye patients out of the country for treatment and with the set-up of this facility, there is no longer a need to do so particularly because this one comes at a cheaper rate as compared to these external trips."

He said with this hospital, government could pay for three people at the rate of one in a foreign facility in that way the government would save lots of money in such surgeries or better yet more patients can be treated at lower rates.

Further, Nkambule said he had noted

that for most of the patients who had benefited from these external trips to foreign facilities there were only a few of them who had come back with improved conditions as he urged the public to make a stop at this first of its kind eye facility in Swaziland.

Giving a brief background of where it all started, he said that he got to learn about the hospital back in 2014 when he first went to Mozambique's capital, Maputo to assume his duties there.

He said he engaged them to come to the country upon which he was told previous efforts to do so had hit a snag.

"At that time, they wanted to open a facility only for check-ups then refer the patients to Maputo for treatment but I advised them to go for a fully-fledged hospital instead," said Nkambule.

As if God was on their side, such negotiations are said to have taken place at a time when the King was about to visit Mozambique where he was then taken to the facility in that country.

It is then that the eye specialists were officially invited to the country by His Majesty who had previously met them during the previous year's Swaziland Trade Fair exhibition. In a month's time, the hospital was then commissioned in

the country by the Minister of Health, Sihongile Ndlela-Simelane, as according to the ambassador. On another note, the hospital group comprises of the Agarwal family of doctors and have won national and international awards for their work while specialising in cataract, cornea conditions, retinal conditions, Computer Vision, UVEA, pediatric care, Cosmetic Oculoplasty among others.

They have branches in India and several parts of the world and three of these are in Mozambique.

## ...People think services are free

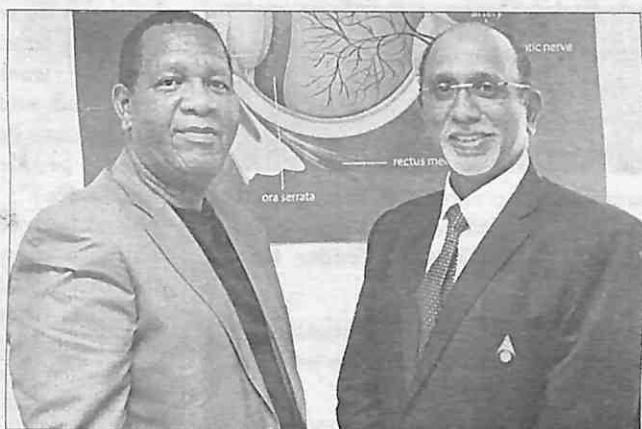
The country's Ambassador to Mozambique, Christian Nkambule has said that one of the major challenges faced by the hospital was that members of the public thought these services were free.

He said this was because the public was used to the belief that most facilities brought to the country through His Majesty came at no fee.

"People get shocked when told of the bill they have to settle after going through the processes at the hospital and that is one of the major problems they face currently," said Nkambule.

However, he said with that said, prices from the hospital were not as bad as compared to other facilities people normally go to out of the country. He made reference to the fact that for the price of one patient somewhere else, the bill for three people would be settled if they had been brought to Dr. Agarwal Hospital.

Nkambule added that the facility in the country was the most recent one to be set-up in the continent with the hospital being present in 10 countries across Africa with 16 hospitals.



**Swaziland's Ambassador to Mozambique, Christian Nkambule with Dr. Agarwal Eye Hospital's Senior General Manager, Krishna Sundaresan during the interview on Friday at the hospital.**

## ...Awareness reveals cabinet ministers are 'blind'

During an awareness carried out in one of the countries in Africa, specialists from Dr. Agarwal Eye Hospital discovered that most cabinet ministers had visual impairments

This was revealed by Nkambule during the tour of the facilities in Manzini where he also stated this was subsequent to prior check-ups of the minister's chauffeurs.

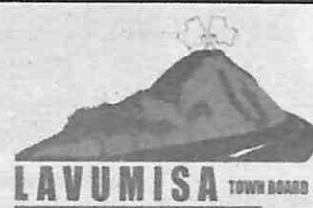
"The chauffeurs had been invited by the hospital as part of their awareness campaigns in this country where they were treated to free check-ups. Results came bad and they were not good to an extent that they almost lost their jobs as their bosses were shocked how they had been risking their lives," he said. Thereafter, the ministers were also invited for these check-ups and shockingly their results

are said to have been worse than those of their drivers.

This then saw the hospital further pledging to do check-ups for truck drivers in that country and equally their results were shocking as well.

Nkambule said the last time he checked, the awareness was now focusing on public transport drivers as they seek to make that country an accident free one, particularly from accidents that could be caused by eye problems.

The hospital is further said to be trying to treat every possible ailment related to the eyes, as well as stop any further damage. As for such, the ambassador urged the public to visit the hospital so they could get help and for all. To those with diabetes, he said there was no better time to visit the hospital other than now.



P. O. Box 6 Lavumisa S410 Swaziland  
Tel: (+268) 2304 6014 Fax: (+268) 2304 6204  
Cell: (+268) 7602 4523 / 7602 3953  
Email: ltb@swazi.net

### TENDER NO. 02 OF 2014/2015

#### INVITATION TO RE-TENDER FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES – TENNIS COURT, VOLLEY BALL PITCH / BASKETBALL PITCH FOR LAVUMISA TOWN BOARD.

Tenders are invited from locally registered Building Contractors under the Swaziland Industry Council for the proposed Construction of Recreational Facilities for the Lavumisa Town Board. This is an open Tender and only firms that can clearly demonstrate that they have previous experience and capacity to execute similar works will be considered. As part of this outstanding initiative, Lavumisa Town Board wishes to engage the services of a construction company to provide for the construction of the Recreational facilities of Lavumisa town Board.

The collection of Tender Documents from the Lavumisa Town Board will be given to the tenderer by buying the tender documents for the sum of **Three Hundred Emalangeni, (E300.00)** from the accounts office of Lavumisa Town Board. Tender Documents will be collected during working hours from the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016, onwards.

A Compulsory Site Visit and Briefing Session will be held at **12:00 midday, on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2016** at the existing Town Hall and Swimming Pool of Lavumisa Town Board. Tenderers failing to attend, by this date, shall be deemed none responsive.

Tenders must be enclosed and sealed in a closed envelope and clearly marked as follows:  
"Tender No. 02 of 2014/2015 of the Construction of Recreational Facilities for Lavumisa Town Board"

They must be marked and delivered to the office of:  
**The Town Clerk**  
Lavumisa Town Board  
P.O. Box 6  
Lavumisa

Completed tenders must be returned by **12:00 midday, on Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2017**. On this date by which the submission of the tender documents will be opened.

Tenderers are to provide the following information and documentation together with the tender submission:

- Priced bills of quantities and form of tender
- Construction Guarantee either from a bank or any other Financial Institution
- Copy of registration with the Construction Industry Council
- Copy of Ministry of Labour Compliance Certificate
- A valid Trading Licence
- Form J
- A valid tax clearance certificate stating that the tenderers taxes are not in arrears
- Original government general receipt as proof of payment for the tender Documents
- Tender Security of an amount, in local currency of **Five Thousand Emalangeni, (E5,000.00)**, Bank guaranteed cheque.

Late telegraphic, electronic (e-mailed) and faxed tenders will **not** be considered. Tenderers may attend the opening procedure. Any action or tendencies that will be interpreted as an attempt to interfere with or influence the tendering process will result in immediate disqualification of the tenderer. For further enquiry please contact the undersigned  
Please note: Lavumisa Town Board does not bind itself to accept the lowest tender and/or assign the contract for any reason whatsoever.

**MANZI MTUPHA**  
TOWN CLERK





Mankayane Town Board  
Tel/Fax: (+68) 25388001  
PO Box 388, Mankayane, M206  
Old Mr4 Main Road,  
Government Complex, Block 1, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Email: [townclerk@mankayane.org](mailto:townclerk@mankayane.org)

### INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Swaziland Local Government Project IBRD80030.SZ  
Rehabilitation of Titandini Road, Mankayane  
Tender No.: MANKAYANE/SLGP/WRK/001/2016

1. This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in Development Business, Issue No. of 13 December 2010.

2. The Government of Swaziland has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development toward the cost of the Swaziland Local Government Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the Contract for The Rehabilitation of Titandini Road – Mankayane. Tender No.: MANKAYANE/SLGP/WRK/001/2016

3. The Mankayane Town Board now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Rehabilitation of Titandini Road in Mankayane. The delivery/construction period is Four Months.

4. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits, and are open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the Bidding Documents.

5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Mr Wandile Thwala, Mankayane Town Board, [townclerk@mankayane.org](mailto:townclerk@mankayane.org) and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 08h00 to 16h30.

6. Qualifications requirements include:

1. Valid Tax Clearance Certificate
2. Copy of Trading License
3. Labour Compliance Certificate.
4. Proof of CIC registration

7. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written Application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of E500. The method of payment will be **cash or direct deposit to the Employers Account**. The Bidding Documents may be collected directly from the Employer.

8. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before **19 December 2016**. Electronic bidding shall not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened physically in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person.

9. All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of **E10,000.00**

10. The address referred to above is:

The Town Clerk  
Mankayane Town Board  
PO Box 388  
Mankayane  
M206  
Swaziland

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Capital Investment Programme  
Supervision of the Rehabilitation of Titandini Road,  
Mankayane Tender No.: MTB/CIP/Cons/001/2016

1. The Mankayane Town Board intends to do the Rehabilitation of Titandini Road – Mankayane. Tender No.: MTB/CIP/Cons/001/2016 on the present financial year,

2. The Mankayane Town Board now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Supervision services. The supervision period is Four Months of the construction period and the subsequent twelve months' retention period.

3. Bidding will be conducted through Request for Proposals as per Public Procurement Act, 2011 and Public Procurement Procedures 2016,

4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Mr Wandile Thwala, Mankayane Town Board, [townclerk@mankayane.org](mailto:townclerk@mankayane.org) and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 08h00 to 16h30.

5. Qualifications requirements include:

1. Valid Tax Clearance Certificate
2. Copy of Trading License
3. Labour Compliance Certificate.
4. Proof of CIC registration

6. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders upon cash payment of a non-refundable fee of **E300**.

7. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before **10:00am** on the **20<sup>th</sup> December 2016**. Electronic bidding shall not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened physically in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person.

8. All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of **E5,000.00**

9. The address referred to above is:

The Town Clerk  
Mankayane Town Board  
PO Box 388  
Mankayane  
M206  
Swaziland

### INVITATION TO TENDER (ITT)

Capital Investment Programme  
Office Partitioning of Mankayane Town Board Offices  
Tender No.: MTB/CIP/WRK/003/2016

1. The Mankayane Town Board intends to apply part of its Capital Investment Programme towards The Office Partitioning of Mankayane Town Board Offices – Mankayane. Tender No.: MTB/CIP/WRK/003/2016.

2. The Board invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the Office Partitioning project. The delivery/construction period is **One Months**.

3. Bidding will be conducted through Open Tendering processes as per Procurement Act, 2011,

4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Mr Wandile Thwala, Mankayane Town Board, [townclerk@mankayane.org](mailto:townclerk@mankayane.org) and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 08h00 to 16h30 from **Monday 21 November 2016**.

5. Qualifications requirements include:

1. Valid Tax Clearance Certificate
2. Copy of Trading License
3. Labour Compliance Certificate.
4. Proof of CIC registration

6. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **E300**. The method of payment will be **cash or direct deposit to the Employers Account**. The Bidding Documents may be collected directly from the Employer.

7. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before **12:00pm** on **20 December 2016**. Electronic bidding shall not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened physically in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person.

8. The address referred to above is:

The Town Clerk  
Mankayane Town Board  
PO Box 388  
Mankayane  
M206  
Swaziland

WANDILE THWALA  
TOWN CLERK

## DESPERATION TO FIND SOLUTIONS MAKING PEOPLE GULLIBLE

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

The desperation to find solutions for problems is giving rise to absurd 'miracles' performed by ever rising pastors in the name of solving them.

This past week saw headlines of a pastor who used an insecticide, Doom, to heal people. Controversial Limpopo based Prophet Lethebo Rabalago was pictured spraying congregants with the toxic spray under the guise they were getting healed of their various ailments.

Responding to the furore that erupted after pictures of the spraying of people were posted on Rabalago's Mount Zion General Assembly Church Facebook page, a young woman called for people to understand those being sprayed were driven by desperation.

Nomzamo Bothma (21), on Facebook (post used with permission) said, "As much as I giggle about the 'Prophet of Doom', as much I 'haha' and choke on my coffee at everyone's jokes, I will never call the individuals who allowed themselves to be sprayed 'dumb'."

She called for people to feel for the victims of dubious pastors because, "This is what desperation looks like, and if you cannot see this then you do not know what hell-hole it is to truly be that desperate."

She admitted to have laughed at the Doom jokes, "But I know. 'I know what I was once willing to do when some prophet held my crumbling father and looked at our pain and loss the week Kyla died and dared to say he raised people from the dead.'"

She said people will never know what they would do, what they would consider doing when they get that desperate, that broken.

"Until your mind has reached the point where there is no space for logic, just you, your pain, and your I-will-do-anything desperation - you do not know," she said. On the other hand, Holy of Holies Interdimensional Church (HHIC) Apostle Sdumo 'Unquenchable Fire' Vilane said, "Such practices and more that are yet to come across are diabolic and the cause is people are desperate yet their scripture wallet is empty."

He said he blamed his fellow men of God for not offering the real 'makoya' power to counter the fake.

"The Bible only prescribed laying on of hands, calling the name of Jesus Christ and anointing with oil all mixed with faith. Lokunye angikwati ngoba akukho evini manje mine ngisime evini," he said.

He noted how in the absence of the original the fake became recognised as the thing.

"A sound seasoned servant of God will not subject God's people to fumigants thus humiliating them."

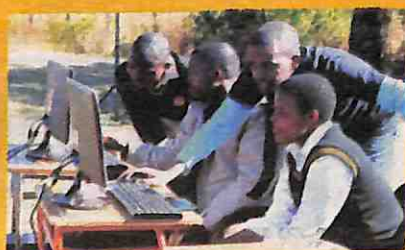
"The desperation is too enormous, to a point where false prophet toss Christians about." He called upon Christians to search their scriptures and have faith in God, not people. He cautioned would-be copy cats that Doom is a health hazard and should not be used on human beings.

Vilane further cautioned men of God to respect their calling to encourage the desperate seek out the churches which preach the living Word.





# MTN's Y'ello Page



## MTN gives much more Data

Swazi MTN, the leading telecommunication network is passionate about making our customers' data experience a daily delight. Over the last few months we've been working on improving the network experience and pricing to ensure seamless connectivity at competitive prices.

This journey began in July this year when MTN gave its customers an average of 57% additional megabytes (MB) of data at the same price. As already announced, effective 1st of December, MTN customers will enjoy up to 40% additional volume of data.

During these adjustments, prices have remained the same to ensure our valued customers can measure the value Swazi MTN gives them.

For example, before July this year, a 500MB was sold at E299 (approximately E300). With the current Wow offer, the same E300 gives customers 750MB. In the new Wow Reloaded, this volume has gone up to 1GB of data. This is a 100% increase in volume at the same price of E300. MTN Wow Re-loaded offers are designed to ensure that our customers enjoy fastest speeds on our ultra-modern 4G LTE as well as 3G and 2G networks at no extra cost to them.

One of Swazi MTN's objectives for reviewing our prices is to align them to the SADC regional prices. With this price change Swazi MTN has come very close (and almost at par) with most of the mobile operators in the region. In addition to the Wow Reloaded, Swazi MTN has also reviewed the prices / packages below with much more value;

- " Social package
- " Night package

### What is a data bundle?

A data bundle gives you a set amount of data for a set price. This means there's a fixed cost for a certain quantity of data - for example 100MB, 300MB, 500MB or more.

The principle is the same as buying items in bulk. If you walked into a shop to buy a bottle of water, you could be paying anything between E7. However a 6pack of the same water will cost you about E32 saving you E10.

When you buy a data bundle, you benefit from highly discounted rates versus simply using your airtime. If you use 500MB out of bundle data, it could cost about E570. The MTN Wow Reloaded, you can buy 500MB data bundle for only E130, saving you a whopping E440.

“ Currently, all our customers can buy data on our short code \*686#. From 1st December, Customers can buy MTN Data bundles directly from any VTU vendor. ”

To even save more on your bundles, know how much data you need for a day, week or month and buy bundles that give you much more value.

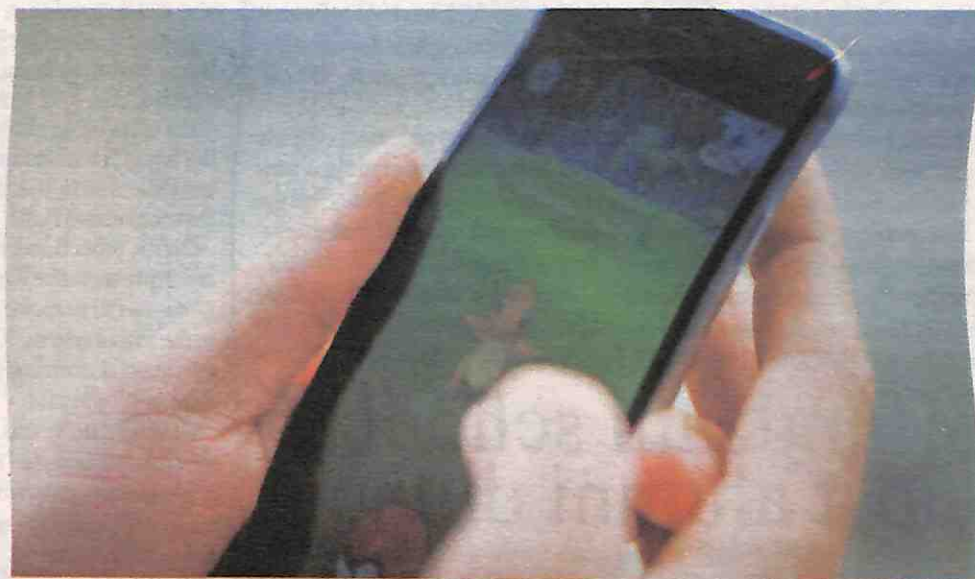
### So how much data do you need?

Choosing the right amount of data for your needs depends on how you use your phone.

If you're simply using your phone to check email and use instant messaging services like WhatsApp (text only), you won't need huge amounts of data. If you receive 100 emails and spend 10 minutes a day chatting, you'll probably work through about 175MB each month. However, if you like downloading music, taking and sharing photos and watching videos, you'll need more. To put this into perspective, with 500MB of data, you'll be able to download 12 music tracks as well as 44 photos and watch about an hour of video. How do you buy a data bundle?

Currently, all our customers can buy data on our short code \*686#. From 1st December, Customers can buy MTN Data bundles directly from any VTU vendor. They do not have to buy a recharge, load and then buy a bundle, they can now buy directly at the same price from every corner of the street.

Get hooked onto MTN Wow Reloaded and save. Enjoy endless possibilities on the fastest mobile network



## Connect, share and surf more for less with MTN Wow Reloaded bundles.

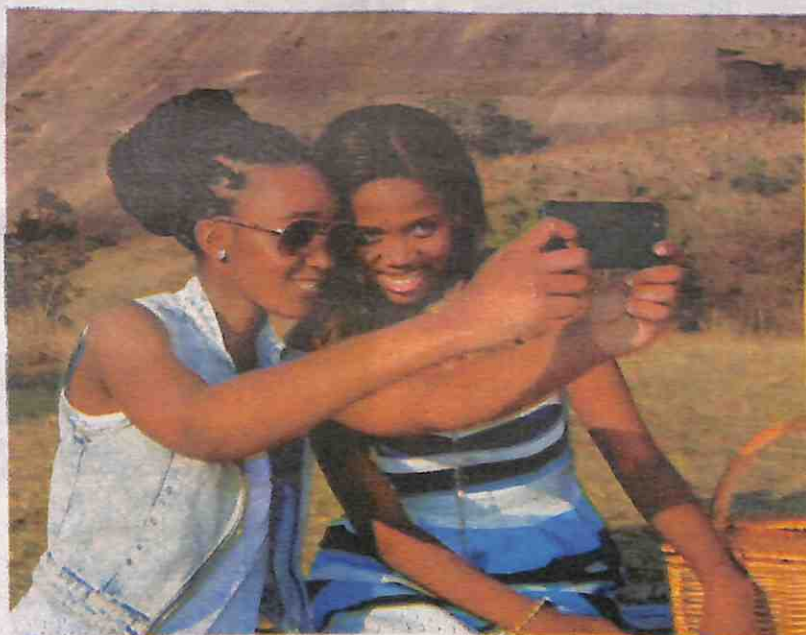
From 1 December 2016 your Internet experience will never be the same with more data and choice on MTN Wow Reloaded bundles. Share more exciting moments for less.

Dial \*686# to select your bundle.



mtn.co.sz

Prices & values include VAT. MTN Swaziland and MTN Service Provider Terms and Conditions apply. See mtn.co.sz. All bundles will expire at the stipulated time. Daily bundles expire the following day at 12 midnight. There is no carry-over of unused data bundle value. Once a data bundle has been depleted, the out-of-bundle rate of E11.14 applies. Customers will not be able to extend validity of an existing bundle by purchasing another one. Data share is only available on MTN Standard Data Bundles. EBOE.





## Govt does not require lamination of birth and marriage certificates - PS

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

Legitimate business people have to compete with government employees who use government resources to run their side ventures.

So rampant is the practise that some of the initial services are no longer offered as stand alone, but people have to pay for complementary services as well without which they do not get any assistance.

A disgruntled resident of Siphofaneni revealed how he was forced to pay for the price of laminating his child's birth certificate at one of the satellite home affairs offices by the workers who told him he would not receive it without the lamination.

"I was told under no uncertain terms that the certificate would not reach my hands in its naked state as I would be returning in a few years to request a new one thus wasting government's time," Mcolisi Ngcamphalala said.

He revealed how he was told to pay E10 extra despite having paid for the certificate to be issued. "I had the government receipt showing I had paid for the certificate but was denied the opportunity to take it with me before it was laminated," he said.

Further, he revealed how an affidavit on a lost identity document was said to have been faulty and was told he should have a new one printed on the spot, at a price.

"I had the affidavit typed at a reputable secretarial service in Manzini and when I reached the home affairs offices, they said it was the wrong format and I had to start afresh," Ngcamphalala said.

He said on both occasions he had to struggle and source the money which he had not budgeted for.

Responding to questions on whether there was a need to laminate certificates within home affairs offices, Principal Secretary Anthony Masilela said he was shocked that people



Ministry of Home Affairs  
Principal Secretary  
Anthony Masilela.

could be coerced into having this done.

"It's criminality at its highest order," he responded during a telephonic interview.

He said lamination was not only not required by government, but the service was not supposed to be offered in their offices as it was of no use to government. "Government does not benefit anything as the money made from this does not go into its coffers. I don't even know how much it is to have a certificate laminated," he said.

He called for this act to be curbed at all costs.

On the issue of writing affidavits, he said there could be a reason for officers to request they be rewritten. "In the past, affidavits were written by lawyers so there is a certain format which has to be adhered to make it binding. But for officials to then demand payment, that is not allowed."

He called for government officials to at best assist with typing a new one with corrections if they feel the need to, without charging members of the public.

"Akusho kutsi kufanele siwale lama affidavits leta nebantfu. Masilungisa asentele kusita," he said.

## Sifundzani school to host alumni dinner

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

Sifundzani High is calling upon all former pupils to participate in the inaugural alumni dinner that will be held at the school on Saturday. The former pupils have formed an association which will be launched officially at the dinner.

Chairperson of the newly-formed association Heleny Heenan said all former pupils who completed at the school were welcome to be a part of the event. The dinner is mainly aimed at raising funds which the association hopes to utilise to assist under privileged deserving pupils with tuition. "We have just formed the alumni association and will be hosting the dinner for the first time. We hope all former pupils of the school will participate and hopefully we will be able to raise enough

funds for the good cause," she said.

Sifundzani High is known for its consistency in producing outstanding results, placing it in the list of top performing schools in the country. Some of the Sifundzani alumni include:

**Simphiwe Nxumalo** - Manager PMT Swaziland, **Muzi Manyatsi** - Stanlib, **Helder da Silva** - Central Bank of Swaziland, **Rick Holloway** - Standard Bank Swaziland, **Mveli Sibandze** - African Alliance, **Jonathan Magongo** - Tibiyo Takangwane, to mention a few.

Heenan said they would also have surprise entertainment for the guests as well as delightful meals to be prepared by Byren's Catering Company. Tickets to the dinner cost E250 and can be obtained at the school or from Heenan who can be reached at 7802 115. The event will start at 18:00.

# GOVT DOES NOT RESPECT

STORIES BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

"Teachers take a blank person, educate them, equipping them to contribute to society and in the end are not respected."

The Swaziland National Association of Teachers Mbabane Branch said this through their Chairman Victor 'Mavikane' Dlamini on Thursday during a farewell function held at Mqolo Primary School. Two long serving teachers, Absalom Tfulilempi Shabangu and Jellinah Bhembe were being recognised for their contributions during the 30 and 25 years they worked at the school.

Dlamini said it was sad to note how teachers were not important in the country despite their hard work. "Government does not respect teachers and this pains us as an association."

He stressed how teachers continued to be lowly paid despite their contribution to society.

"Some of us have been trained for many years yet are paid less than those who train for six to nine months," he said without referring to any entity.

"On the other hand, some teachers started with diplomas and proceeded to do their degrees as well as their post-graduate certificates in education, yet they remain underpaid," he said while asserting that government was failing to take education seriously.

He said it was time that teachers took action and demanded what was rightfully theirs. "Sikhatsi sekuhlonipha sesiphelile," Dlamini said adding SNAT would fight with teachers.

He said teachers, with the view of improving their dissemination, went to upgrade their education and on return, were not upgraded in their pay. "They upgraded themselves from diploma to degree and they found that their posts were not changed. Instead, the government is running away from looking at the issue," Dlamini said further adding how the union was ready to fight for their collective right.

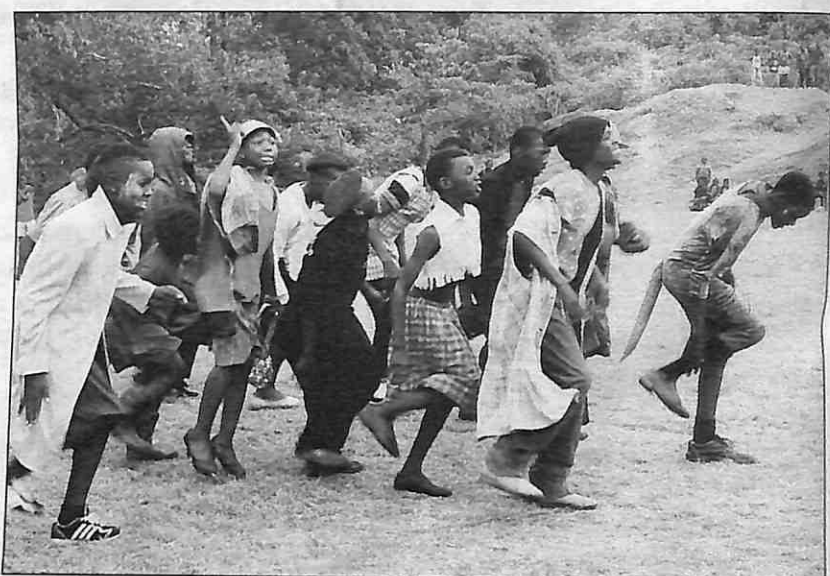
On the other hand, the school's teachers' representative Khulile Mavuso said it was sad to note the regularities within the school system. "One degree teacher gets paid accordingly while the other does not," she said.

Mavuso said it was pathetic to note how newly graduated teachers were able to get promotions whereas those who graduated years ago with their degrees were overlooked.

● time for going about respectfully over



Jellinah Bhembe with her husband Almon and sons Nkosinathi and Bongumusa after receiving a gas stove from the school as a parting gift.



Mqolo Primary School pupils entertained the audience with their gum boot dance using some of the traits of the retired teachers.

Assuring the retiring teachers that they had contributed immensely, she said, "You are not among the most famous, but among those who have promoted all those who have brought you down and thought of you as less important and deserve to be paid the least."

Adding, she said, "Somewhere in life every successful big shot has to answer this question: Name three teachers who contributed to your education. Your names are written in bold in some hearts."

Encouraging them further, she commended them for having in the past ignored available opportunities of greener pastures while they remained loyal to the less privileged indigenous Swazi

child.

"We still anticipate your full participation in the celebrations of the pupil's future regardless of your unfortunate position in your own careers. You have determined the impact of teaching on your brand, that is, the children, and most of them are now out in the market place as your products and somewhere in tertiary or high school because of what you deposited in them," Mavuso continued.

She said their instilling values in the children they taught resulted in them giving the school a good reputation. "The history of the school can never be complete without the mention of your

## ...Sour porridge keeping children at school

The provision of sour porridge in the morning by schools gives learners from impoverished families something to look forward to.

Mqolo Primary School Principal Archypold Thwala said he noted that children started arriving early when the morning meal was commenced as they did not want to miss it seeing as most did not have anything to eat from home.

"We want to commend government. Please note that not all things done by government are bad," Thwala said, adding how the rate of absenteeism had dropped and there were no late comers as children wished to sleep at school.

On the other hand, Swaziland National Association of Teachers Mbabane Branch Chairman Victor 'Mavikane' Dlamini

cautioned teachers about the use of corporal punishment.

"Granted you might be trying to discipline a child for the sake of his future and the school as well as the community; however, teachers please note that should anything go wrong, you are the one who faces the music."

Alone! So please exercise caution in this regard," Dlamini said further advising parents to monitor their children's work instead of relying on teachers to do everything.

"Hulumende akatali namuntfu akhe bantfwana. So it is your duty as parents to be responsible and look after your own children. Make sure they are dressed properly and attend classes as well as study in order to succeed," he said.



Principal Archypold Thwala called upon government to look at the number of issues which hinder success of their schools.



# TEACHERS - SNAT



**Senator Ndumiso Mdluli called for teachers to be passionate while executing their duties. RIGHT - SNAT Mbabane Branch Chairperson Victor Dlamini warned parents to take an active role in their children's education and not leave everything to teachers.**

## 'Give plane money to elderly'

The Swaziland National Association of Teachers has questioned the reasoning behind having purchased a commercial plane. Mbabane Branch Chairperson Victor 'Mavikane' Dlamini said it was unfortunate that government's priorities seemed skewed as they were of no benefit to the populace.

"Very few of us make use of planes and yet government went ahead and bought a plane which is of no use to us," he said, adding, "The plane will drain us and will not be of any benefit."

He said the country seemed to be ignorant of struggles which developed countries faced with their national airlines.

"Look at SAA (South African Airlines) and their struggles when it comes to money.

This money should be given to the elderly so they live better lives," he said.

He called for the money used to purchase the plane to be retrieved and used to pay elderly grants which have been lamented about by the majority of people, including parliamentarians.

Currently, the elderly get E240 per month which is disseminated quarterly at different centres such as post offices and tinkhundla centres.

The grant was inceptioned several years ago with elderly receiving E200 which increased twice by E20 at each instance.



**Pupils performing a dance to Cultural Spear's Kulenyane.**

## Increase FPE grants

"There is no special shop for head teachers for you to tell me that prices have been the same since the advent of FPE (Free Primary Education)."

Mqolo Primary School Principal Archypold Thwala said it was disheartening to note how government was failing to consider increasing the grant which has remained stagnant since inception.

"Look at the prices and how they have increased over the years whereas we receive the same amount," he said.

He revealed how the pupils in his school used about 10 litre at every toilet break each, resulting in the school having to pay E50 000 per year toward

water.

"Rural schools are better placed to use the FPE grant as they have the option of building pit latrines whereas we have stringent measures to follow within the urban area," he said adding how principals were the most stressed as they had to stretch the little money they get in order to run their schools.

He said it was distressing for them to open schools in January whereas the money would arrive later whereas they had bills to pay as well as salaries of support staff.

"The money finishes in December and we operate on nothing when schools open. There is no profession as stressing as this one," Thwala said.

## Donations made towards the school for farewell

- PMT Contractors E800
- Tandoori Restaurant - Chicken portions as well as drinks
- MNX Investments 10 pairs of shoes to be delivered in January
- Parents brought what they could
- Neighbouring Primary schools - Nkwadini, John Wesley, SAGM, Mangwaneni, MDS and Msunduzi Primary

## Teachers should place children's interests above own

"The teaching profession is primarily a mission to serve humanity and less about the pursuit of self-enrichment interests."

Senator Ndumiso Mdluli said this during the delivery of his key-note address at Mqolo Primary School. Recounting his professional career, he revealed how he started out as a teacher, went on to be a lecturer after attaining his masters. While working as a lecturer, his businesses grew and he quit the classroom with the intention of pursuing his doctorate, something which was a non-starter as he felt it would compromise his businesses.

Having pursued a political career, Mdluli said he was fortunate to be placed in the portfolio committee concerned with education, which remained his passion.

He said it was on the premise of his experience and love for teaching that he called for teachers to be change agents who keep sowing knowledge and know-how in a child's life with the hope these seeds would germinate and bear bountiful fruits later in the child's life.

"Teachers are a launching pad for all professionals that end up playing various critical roles in the socio-economic development of the country," he said adding how it was the teacher's fundamental duty to churn people that would make a difference in nation building.

He further commended the government for giving priority attention to the education sector, especially in the allocation of budgetary resources.

He also wished the retiring teachers well, "We are elated that the sole purpose of our gathering here is to celebrate achievement. Indeed Make Bhembe and Babe Shabangu you have been accorded this golden opportunity to pause for a moment and reminisce about your record of achievement during your tenure as teachers at Mqolo Primary School."

The senator further called for them to count their blessings as they took stock of their accomplishments over the many years of faithful service to the school and the people of the area.



**Nanile Nxumalo wished the retiring teachers well on their new journey of life.**

## I followed parents' instruction - KaMkhweli Primary principal

BY NOXOLO NKABINDE

KaMkhweli Primary principal has come out to speak since incidents that made headlines about her school that has been engulfed by drama after some pupils were denied to write exams after failing to pay E95.

A group of parents demonstrated and picketed at the school when this occurred, and the Principal, Zanele Dlamini, was bashed for this. The Sunday Observer sat with the principal this week, who narrated the ordeal that led to the parents baying for her blood.

According to Dlamini, the decision that pupils who fail to pay E95, which was to be used towards the purchasing of new printers, was agreed on at a parents meeting held at the school in July.

This was after the school had lost the printing machinery in a fire that was ignited by unknown people, which gutted down the deputy principal's office where the machinery was housed. The school summoned parents to the school for a meeting, where 155 of them attended.

"It was at this meeting that the parents agreed that each pupil would pay the E95 and all this money would go towards the printers.

This money was reached after we made quotations from different companies and used the cheapest company. As the principal, part of my job is to implement resolutions taken collectively," she said.

The minutes that were compiled at the meeting in July which this publication has seen, show that parents who fail to pay the agreed E95, their children should not have access

to the use of machines. To avoid bank charge, the money should be paid to the office then it must be deposited in bulk to the school account.

"The principal started by passing her sympathy to the parents for the damages. She went on to state how painful she was about what happened which will affect innocent children, especially those in Grades One and Two.

Parents were informed of the burnt items as follows; Duplo machine, photocopier machine, 30 boxes of Typek and inks, as well as deputy's shoes jacket and all items that were in her cupboard and table," reads part of the minutes.

It was also stated at the meeting that writing mock exams would be near impossible without the printers.

The meeting was chaired by an inspector from the Ministry of Education and Training, while the Lubombo Deputy Regional Education Officer (REO) Musa Dzabulase was also recorded as present in the recorded minutes.

As part of the resolutions that were taken, it was agreed the principal would go and borrow a machine from neighbouring schools to photocopy the mock exams although she explained to the parents it may be impossible since all schools were writing exams.

Parents then went on to instruct the principal to get a supplier who would allow the school to take the machines on credit while they paid the money.

All parents were expected to have paid the money by beginning of term three.

## Joggers, adhere to traffic rules

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

The increase in health awareness in the country has seen thousands taking to the road on a daily basis as they try to keep fit.

This has, however, presented some danger to some as they have to share the road with motorists, sometimes in the wee hours of the morning or at dusk.

Several months ago, a lone jogger was run over in a hit and run incident which left some joggers worried about their status with the Swaziland Motor Vehicle Accidents (MVA) Fund should they be involved in such cases.

"Jogging to us presents the cheapest form of exercise as we don't have to pay membership fees at the gym and instead take to the road at will and at a time best suited for us," Mphumlelo Simelane said.

But he said they were worried about using the road as they had to use the smallest part of it while trying to keep away from vehicles. "Residential areas present a danger of vicious dogs as they sometimes charge at us so we stick to the highway, which does not have pavements in most parts," he said.

He relented that they wore



**MVA Corporate Strategy and Communications Manager Makhosi Magongo.**

reflector jackets as well as mining headlights while going about their daily routine but were still worried about their safety.

"There is nothing wrong with running along the road as long as the person is outside of the yellow line," MVA Corporate Strategy and Communications Manager Makhosi Magongo said.

He said it was key though that joggers be vigilant of vehicles and the only way they can do this is by facing oncoming traffic as opposed to the opposite.

"The Fund does not pay out in instances where the victim was the one at fault. So it is imperative that joggers use the road properly and keep vigilant," Magongo said.



# MANANGA CENTRE GRADUATION CEREMONY @ CONVENTION CENTRE



Guest Speaker Martin Dlamini, who is Finance Minister, joined by Mananga Centre leadership and representatives of the Leeds University as they pose with graduates after the ceremony at Royal Swazi Sun Convention Centre yesterday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



Mananga Centre leadership with their guests awaiting the arrival of the guest speaker.



Minister Dlamini presenting Lomkhosi Dlamini, who won the best student award, with her prize. She presented the best research paper to earn the prize.



Also graduating on the day was SPTC Managing Director's wife Celani Gwen Dlamini.



Thami Zondi, a South African civil servant under the department of economic development in Durban, was also one of the graduates. He won the best student award for presenting the best research paper in the MSC group. He was presented by Dr Rick Holden from Leeds University while PM's representative Minister Martin Dlamini and Mananga Centre Director Dr Ranga Taruvinga look on.



Master of Business Administration (Human Resource Management) graduate Nhlanhla Friction Mayisela receiving his certificate from the minister.



MSC leadership and Change Management graduates celebrating their success in style.



Musa Dlamini and family came through to support his wife Futhi Sangweni who was one of the graduates.



Thami Zondi's family travelled all the way from Durban to support him on his special day.



Gugu Sibanyoni flanked by Tsepo Nzuza and Celani Dlamini who were as elated with her achievement.



Futhi Sangweni all smiles as she received her certificate.



Zanele Mdluli's family also came out in numbers to provide moral support for one of their own.



Graduates lining up for commencement of the day's proceedings during their graduation ceremony at Convention Centre.





# BLACK COFFEE HAS THEM DANCING ALL NIGHT...

BY LUNGELO NKAMBULE

In a rare occurrence fun lovers were forced to dance a week night away after the Good Safe Sound crew decided that renowned South African born international deejay Black Coffee would play in the country on a Thursday. The award winning deejay on Thursday had funlovers of all ages dance the night away at the Déjà vu Night Club. Black Coffee who in recent weeks has been making headlines for not so good reasons gave a sterling set and kept the crowd on their feet and dancing throughout his set. The deejay who proclaimed his love for his Swazi fans took to the decks at exactly 11:45pm and he played

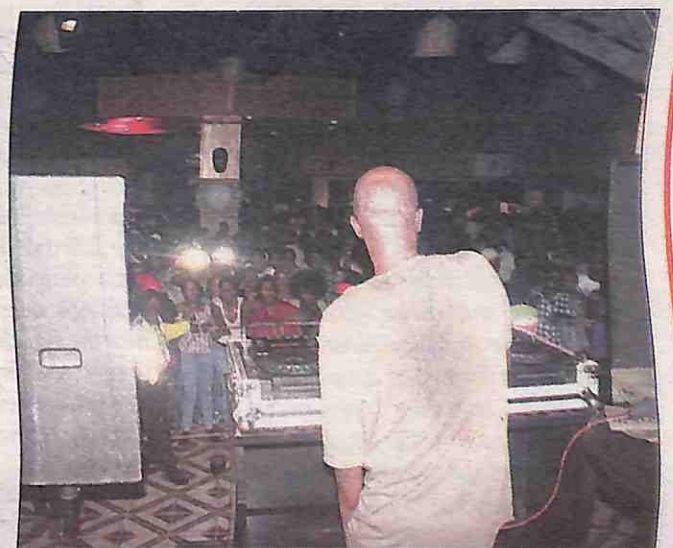
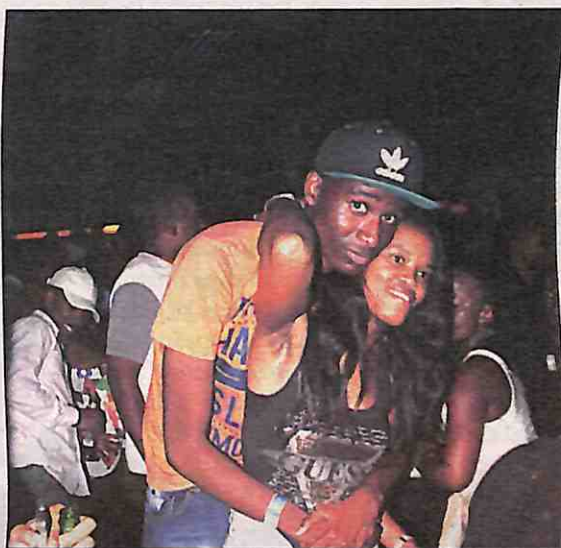


until the early hours of Friday morning. Black Coffee who was expected to play for an hour at most kept asking for an extension telling those that were to perform

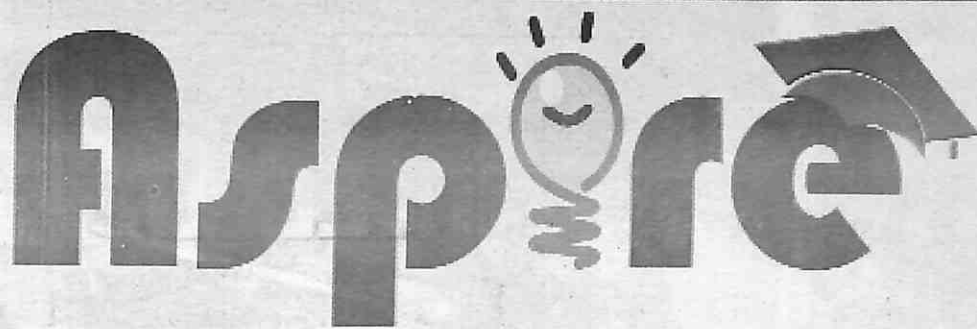
after him that he was playing one last song and getting carried away in the music much to the amusement of all in attendance. The deejay's set was characterised by all

club bangers and tracks that have been labelled as December songs. The deejay it seemed was reminding Swazis why he was referred as the best in the whole of Africa. Before leaving the stage, the lanky deejay reminded the crowd that he loved them and he put all confusion to rest about his availability for the Mdabula Festival. "love you, you have a special place in my heart I will be back on the 1st January. I hope I will see each one of you there," he said. He further said he wanted people to believe with all their might and know that they each had the power to be great. "Africa is great; I want you to always believe that. Africa is great and we are great," he said. The deejay that was recently named best in

Africa when speaking to this publication said it was always an honour to come to Swaziland and he would always try to make time for Swaziland. "I love Swaziland, I am always guaranteed a good time when I come here. The crowd is amazing, the love too. I have always felt welcome here, I am always going to come," he said. Worth noting is that during the Swaziland boycott Black Coffee was one of the few South African artists who did not take part. Even after threats from political activists who had called the boycott, Black Coffee kept coming for the soulistic nights which were every month. Black Coffee was not the only act of the night, local man of the moment Sands also performed. He was first to take to the stage and he performed his two hit singles Vuma and Tigi, he was followed by one of Swaziland's best Mr Las Vegas, Dj Mbo who played at his usual best. Master P and DJ Lolo played after Black Coffee and they found the crowd still yearning for more.







# A Youth Section On Youth Issues By The Youth



## WRITER'S NOTE...

You will never taste success till you stop chasing your friend's young people. Think for yourself and make your own plans because who will you follow once your friends turn their backs on you or they get swallowed by the consequences of their deeds?

Greeting ladies and gentleman. We meet once again in your favourite youth section—where we ASPIRE to motivate and inspire you to be the best you were meant to be. Unfortunately, that's as far as we can go. We can only educate, inspire and entertain you but that's just around where our road ends. YOU are the one who has to work hard to make sure you fulfil your goals.

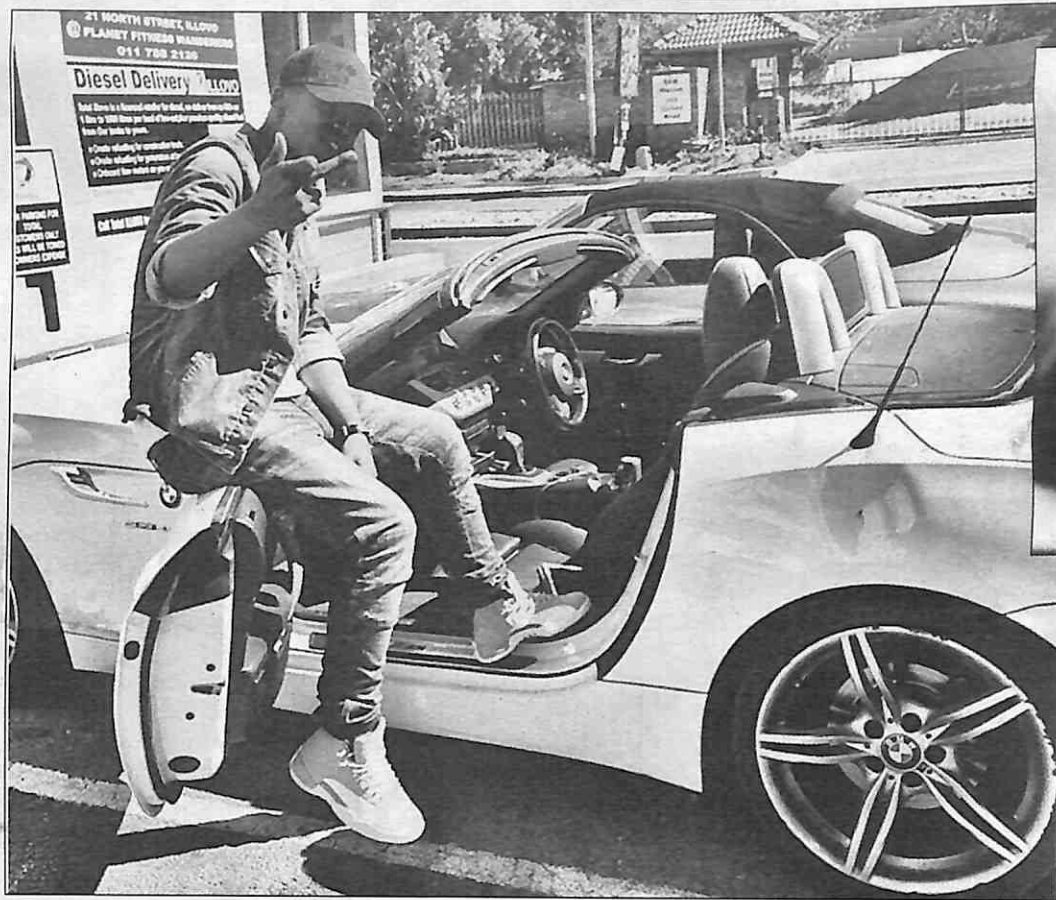
In today's issue, we have a South African Hip Hop Award nominee Kid Tini. This youngster is the new gem in the SA hip hop game, mark my words! He ain't in it for the fame but to make music that changes lives. A few hours after being nominated, he took unto Instagram, posted a picture and this was his caption – 'Just a reminder of why I do this thing. Is it to make a name or to scoop awards?' On the next page, we have an interview with new kids on the block in the entertainment industry – Swarvy Entertainment stable and they are about to reinvent the whole thing. They are bringing Okmalumkoolkat this week in Manzini. If you read ASPIRE, then you know how we've been raving about the timeless Mlazi Milano project of late, and now we have an opportunity to see him just a few weeks before he drops. I foresee "litness" at its best in this show. Anyways, let me not digress any further – the youngsters tell us about their stable, their dreams and aspiration, whilst also introducing a couple of gifted youngsters. On page 20, we have *Itsayelasyalahlela*, and guys has this been a good year or what for SA hip hop music? The youngsters brought in the buzz, the style and most importantly the music. We just got albums from Nasty C, A-Reece, and Maraza. Now, this week, we shall be blessed with reloaded versions of 'Bad Hair' and 'Paradise'. What a life!

Instagram, is certainly now one of the best social media platforms. You wanna know how to be a hit on the gram? Relax, take a chill pill, and read page 21.

With this week marking the first week of December, its exactly 35 days before we kiss goodbye to the year 2016, and I'm not really one for the festive hype and all. Please, take this time to do a proper introspection and contemplate on what you have been able to do with the 365 days this year before you go all out on a spending spree.

Be blessed and spread love!

Sbusiso Dlamini



"Moving to Pretoria has helped a lot because there are more resources this side that could help me take this further"

## OUR GENERATION IS CAPABLE OF MANY GREAT THINGS - KID TINI

I do enjoy good trap music now and then, especially for a turn-up. But basically, I'm still one of those staunch hip hop fans.

You know, the few remaining ones who still believe in the power of a pen and a pad. To me, hip hop, in fact music as a whole should have a powerful message, and of course the skill that the music is conveyed with counts a lot. When you go back and look deep into the history of how the Hip Hop genre came about, then you really notice how many people have deviated from the main purpose. Anyways, that's a story for another day.

When I heard Kid Tini's music, 'The Coming of Age' EP, I came to the conclusion he made the kind of music that changes lives. The kind that you listen to when you need to learn something.

Life ain't really all about flashy cars, fresh clothes, the latest gadgets, and expensive liquor as it is mostly conveyed in some of the media forums. Life is about happiness for goodness gracious! Do you know how many people have all these materialistic things you so desire to have but are so miserable they don't enjoy them?

That is why I had to share Tini's story with you young people. His music is about inspiration and motivation, hence it is with the utmost privilege and honour that I present to you ladies and gentlemen the next biggest thing in the South African hip hop industry;

Kid Tini grew up in Butterworth, a small town in the Eastern Cape. "I spent my childhood in Butterworth, 1960 as we refer to it. It is situated between uMthatha and East London in the Eastern Cape."

He says he got inspired after jamming to songs that his elder brother and friends had done. "I realised from quite a young age that I loved music, but I hadn't gone as far as thinking about rapping. And then after listening to my brother's old mix-tape that he and his friends had compiled, I knew it's what I had to do. That's what inspired me to rap."

Before he got into rapping, he wanted to be a soldier.

"I know it may sound kinda funny, but I wanted to be a soldier before. But after my mother told me what I'd have to go through to become one, and also discovering myself into music, I completely forgot about it and gravitated more

to music." Unlike some parents, Tini's were cool with him making music as a hobby as long as his school work wasn't affected.

"My parents were fine with me making music as a hobby, but of course I had to get my grades up as well because education is very important. Even my teachers were 100% behind me because I would always participate in school functions like talent shows, reciting poems or covers of popular songs."

After finishing his Matric, Tini moved to Pretoria, and he says it played a tremendous role in his career.

"Moving to Pretoria has helped a lot because there are

more resources this side that could help me take this further."

The youngster reveals the reception from fans has been amazing, and the fact that his fan base seems to grow with each and every single passing day.

"The people have been loving the music. I am surprised every day how many people keep discovering and connecting with my music."

Currently, the young man is pushing his Mix-tape titled 'Coming of Age'.

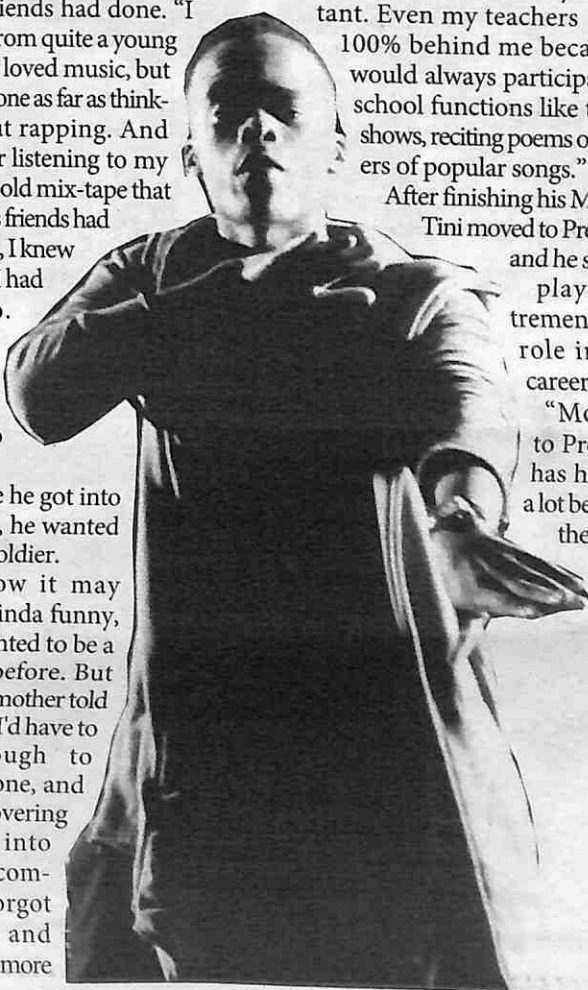
He will be dropping a new video soon for the next single titled 'Dreaming Out Loud' and of course creating new music.

When talking about aspirations he simply says – "I aspire to be the best at what I do."

### ADVICE TO YOUNG PEOPLE

■ **ON DRUGS** – Dear peers, you have to know and get it crystal clear that there's always a better way of dealing with problems. You don't have to resort to taking drugs. Don't cut your story short. You have a lot to give.

■ **ON PASSION PAYING THE BILLS** – We are a generation that is capable of many great things. One of those things is making it a norm to pay the bills by doing what you love. Look at all the youngsters that are currently making it through what they love. Believe in yourself! Don't let anyone tell you that you cannot live by doing what you love for a living.





## SWARVAY ENTERTAINMENT:

## WE ARE ALL ABOUT GOOD MUSIC, PEOPLE AND VIBES

Young people are always complaining about prejudices, lack of prospect and propaganda in the entertainment industry.

This is why some even choose to stay away from an industry that they love. Now, Swarvay Entertainment has decided to take it upon themselves to change that. They are bringing in the one and only Okmalumkoolkat this week Saturday at popular Manzini chill-out spot – Ocean Waves.

We caught up with their leader Rico Alighieri earlier this week, to get to know more about the new kids on the block.

Firstly I wanted to know what Swarvay is all about.

"This is a stable whereby we want to give people an entertainment experience that is worth the money they pay, if not more. We want to throw an event which patrons will remember forever. We've got a story to tell and a dream to fulfil," said Alighieri.

That's a whole lot from the youngster, and you can see the enthusiasm and passion in his eyes, so I quiz him on how they are planning on convincing the public that they aren't just big dreamers, but that they can action too.

"We know very well that once people see the work, that's when they will start supporting whole heartedly."

That's exactly what we want to do with the 'Malumz' show. We are creating a platform whereby we will be able to bring good international artists to meet with good local counterparts and have fun. It's about time, we do away with that propaganda thing that's been going on for years. You know, the fact that you need to be someone's friend to be able to do something."

This stable is oozing confidence, so I want to know where they get their inspiration from.

"Hey, it's Swazi Jive bra. Annually, they host arguably the biggest hip hop show in the land and it's always going

down for real. Then there's Toxic Entertainment. Toxic has really been the guy to show us the ropes in this industry, because we had to understand it before we start working. He understands us and the dreams we have."



The Okmalumkoolkat show has quite a number of established acts in the line-up such as MBO, Toxic, Stitch and 711,

but then there's youngsters, so I request them to tell us more about the youngsters.

"These are hella talented youngsters my guy. You shall be the one telling me this after the show, trust me."

## Party

Okay, we have Harrison. Hmm, the first time I actually met Harrison was during 80 Script's – The Soirre

after party at Pub n Grill. You were there during that show, I remember very well, but I don't think you watched his performance because you were quite busy going about with your job.

"I was watching his performance with my cousin and we were both blown away. A few weeks later, I had a meeting with the graphic designer we've been



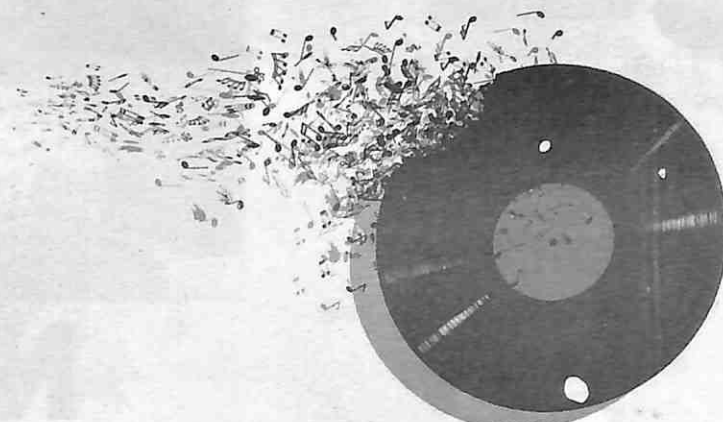
working with on the show, and I found out that he was close friends with Harrison, so he introduced me to him.

And honestly, I really wonder how such a talented rapper can be an unknown to a lot of people, so that's how we got to work with him.

Then there's Lance Dubber who goes by the stage name 'Unorthodox'. He was suggested by one of the guys in my team who was adamant that he deserved a spot in the line-up. I listened to his music and that's when I realised he is a gifted young man. He has been working very hard in the studio, albeit on the low, low.

He just ticks all the criteria for a superstar, from style to the voice, to the lyrics – he is destined for big things. He will

# HEADPHONES ON. WORLD OFF.



IT'S CRAZY  
HOW MUSIC  
CAN CONNECT  
SOULS.  
THEGOODVIBE.CO

SOME OF  
MY BEST  
FRIENDS  
ARE  
PLAYLISTS.  
KUSHANOWIZDO

be dropping his single this week, and man, I can already imagine his music video. Uyaswenka lomfana and his bars are on another level.

We also have Sandi. That boy has BEEN dedicating himself to his craft. I knew him back when he was 13, and he was already beams. That should tell you everything! Watch out for him too! Then last but not least, we have MK, who I think is one of the best hip-hop deejays in the land. I can't wait for him to show that to the whole nation this coming Saturday." They then gave me their aspirations.

"We see ourselves hosting more events with bigger artists, and working with different brands."

The boys have dedicated themselves towards this show, and personally, I can't wait to sing along to Ntwana Yam, '100k Macassette', 'Holy Oxygen', and that jam he did

with Ricky for the Mlazi Milano project, oh my God, the list is endless.

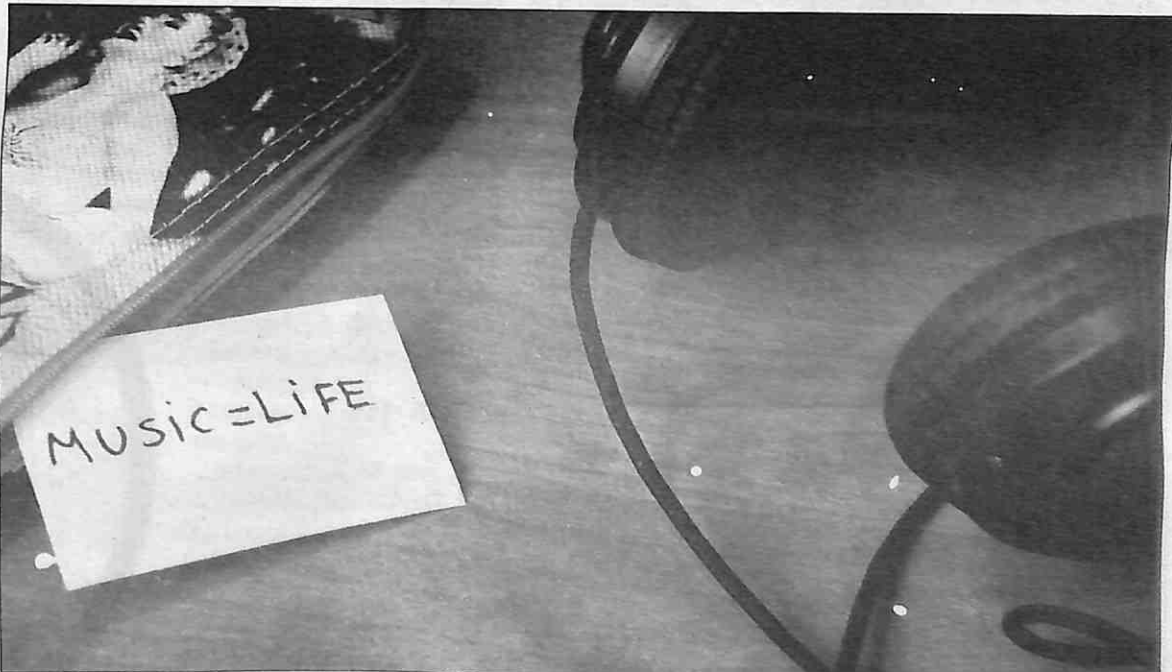
And we all know that a club is more like Malumz's second home. He is undoubtedly one of the best performers in the game, and he hasn't been in the kingdom for two years since that memorable Hipnotik 2014.

## Familiar

Sadly, a lot of Swazis weren't familiar with him at that time.

Whilst a few of us were taxi-driving to Bhutyangchaza, people stood there and he was so sad, but he still gave the performance his all. Now, if you were one of those people who didn't know the Zulu Michael Jackson, then this is your chance this week. If you knew him, here's another chance once again.

Ishuu, this show has lit written all over it!





## POETRY...

## BEST OF FRIENDS

There's a quality of  
friendship  
That is deep, pure  
and strong  
It brings about the  
special peace  
Of knowing that we  
belong

For friends accept  
us as we are  
Friends don't pre-  
tend  
They are good  
They ignore the bad  
and love till the end  
They share dreams  
Encourage each  
other until worries  
lift  
They are special  
treasures  
They are each  
other's cherished gift

I can just relax and  
be myself with a  
friend  
As we enjoy a visit  
or something that  
we plan to do  
I'm glad we don't  
need words some-  
times

For things our  
hearts would say  
For you and I are  
the best of friends  
And friends are just  
that way

## ISTAYELA SYALAHLELA



# NASTY C, MAGGZ TO DROP AGAIN THIS FRIDAY

**1. NASTY C TO DROP** - This week, I just discovered that my boss is a fan of Nasty C. Seriously! He even told me that he thought Nasty is better than Rae Sremmurd. That is when I knew that the boy deserves respect for real. Last week, he revealed he would be dropping another project - 'Bad Hair extensions'. And guess when it's coming out - this week Friday!

The 'jiggy jigga' has had an absolutely great year and we are so happy to see such a talented, humble and dedicated artist doing so well. Remember he was ASPIRE's cover boy not so long ago, and we hope you are inspired by him.

The extensions project will have tracks that weren't in the album, such as ALLOW featuring French Montana, UOK, Asleep and represent.

Albeit the fact that it wasn't his original plan to release the album digitally, he has taken advantage of the situation to give us more music. That's the beauty of releasing an album digitally, because you can keep tweaking it, just like Kanye did with his 'Life of Pablo' album. He has been nominated in three categories for the South African Hip Hop Music Awards; namely;

- **SONG OF THE YEAR** - Hell Naw
- **BEST REMIX** for - Juice Back (Remix) - Nasty C ft. Davido and Cassper Nyovest
- **BEST LYRICIST**

**2. A REECE IN IT FOR THE RICHES!** - This week, MTV had the Cypher's for South Africa, a great platform indeed, and oh my

gawd, some of the Ambitioz niggas did their biggest mistake - letting A Reece go first. Yes, Sjava also came though, but Reece was flames.

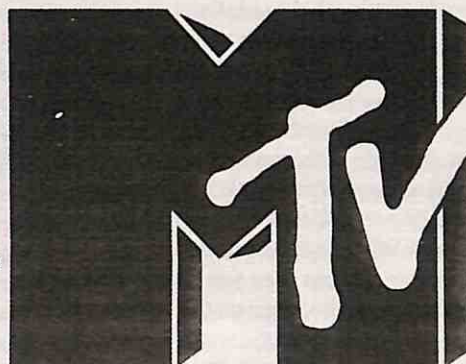
Stogie T couldn't keep quiet once again about the young man. Although we haven't heard a lot about it, Reece is supposed to drop 'Paradise' reloaded this coming Thursday featuring international artists from Jamaica, Canada and the United Kingdom. We will wait and see if the project will be on time, but there's one thing for sure, this young man is beams! Even the legendary, Khuli Chana revealed he would be quite happy to work

on a track with the young boy doing great things. He has also been nominated in two categories for the South African Music Awards namely;

- **BEST LYRICIST**
- **BEST VIDEO** FOR 'Couldn't' featuring squad member Emtee.

### 3. MTV announce round table panel -

It's that time of the year once again. MTV has over the past two years spurred controversy with their round table discussion on who the hottest MCs of the year are. They have announced their panel



MUSIC TELEVISION®



of Judges this year and they include legend - Arthur Mafokate, radio host and former club 808 presenter DJ Mo Flava, radio deejays Amu, Tinashe Verge and Manstoe Pout. Personally, I think they could have done better. We know the comments that come after this discussion, and it's always better when you have the right people.

No offence to the legend Arthur Mafokate, but what does he know about bars, style and buzz?

The only thing he can probably comment on is sales.

**4. Maggz to finally drop long awaited album -**

Maggz has been in the game for over a decade now. This is one artist who hasn't failed to demonstrate his consistency to the game. Maggz has been showing off his consistency by jumping on features every now and then, although this year the rapper just gave us a few joints he's now ready to unleash his new album. Maggz took to Twitter to announce the release date of his album. Although the rapper hasn't announced the album title yet it's confirmed that it's coming out this summer. He will be dropping it today.

**5. Stogie T releases single ft Nasty C** - Tumi Molekane who now goes by the name of 'Stogie T', has released one of the singles featuring the young King Nasty C. The legend has been going in hard and he is always vitriolic when it comes to whack rappers. I can wait for the album, because we all know that Stogie is the god. The single is called 'Clean stuff', and it is on REPEAT!





# THE PERFECT INSTAGRAM FORMULA

Just the other day, a couple of friends and I were debating on the importance of the gram and the perfect formula for it.

We had this long talk on the importance of it. I for one don't believe in a person who does something because everyone else is doing it.

I don't believe in doing anything to impress either.

Whilst I do acknowledge the fact that Instagram is a great place to visually share a brand's style and even your own personal lifestyle through beautiful pictures, I think it is of great importance that you don't lose yourself.

Before you go on and share pictures, you have to make sure that it's what you want, and not just because it's something you have seen from someone else. Or maybe because it's something you assume everyone is doing, hence you follow the trend.

While they might not be the PERFECT formula for growing your personal brand on the gram, we shall share a few tips with you today, which will help you enjoy the gram and further have many followers and likes.

**1. Originality** – This just doesn't apply to Instagram alone, but life as a whole. Stay authentic. Give people a chance to meet the "real" you. You don't need to have a Canon or a Nikon on an iPhone, to have a great Instagram.

Styling your favourite things, your beautiful breakfast, lunch or supper, your outfit of the day, or a great night out with friends, is great for giving your personal account, but make sure that it's YOU.

Nobody said it was not allowed for you to take cues from your friends or favourite celebrities but give your personal twist to your shots.

If selfies are not your thing, then it's okay. If you love posting foodie snaps, it's still okay, if you are a gym fanatic and love posting "swolefiles" then go for it! There is no such thing as a 'wrong' post for your personal account, as long as it is authentic. Do whatever you feel like doing.

Only if it's your thing! Remember, the goal here is to let people into your life, yes your life, not Drake's or Nicki Minaj's photocopied lives. If you are yourself with your Instagram posts, the right people will like and follow.

**2. Have ideas to your posts – Have sort of a theme to your picture**

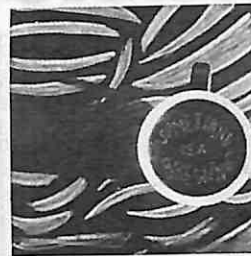
It doesn't really matter how you keep your page harmonious, what matters is that you keep it harmonious. You can post off-topic pictures every once in a while, but try to tie most of your posts to one of your main themes.

**3. Regular Posting – Sticking to a posting frequency is a great idea.**

We recommend posting one to two a day, every day. Use the icon square to see your statistics. Then go to 'Optimisation' and look for the biggest circles to see when your community interacts with your Instagram posts the most.

**4. Use hash-tags, but use them wisely- Do what you feel is right**

Most importantly, be yourself, just



## @ALEXFACTION



**ALEXANDER RIVERA**  
**25 YEARS OLD**  
**CHICAGO, IL**  
**245k+ FOLLOWERS**

### ASPIRATIONS

Founding a school or executing some form of education.

### HOW MAKEUP MAKES ME FEEL

Confident.

### FIRST BEAUTY JOB

Wedding makeup artist.

### ON MY FIRST WEDDING:

To this day, I don't think there has been anything scarier and I've been fortunate enough to work with some pretty big celebrities. Still, nothing compares to the pressure of that small town woman and her backyard wedding. She loved it though.

### CHILDHOOD DREAM

When I was a kid, I always wanted to work in a zoo. I always wanted to be a zookeeper. I was fascinated by animals.



like we said earlier! Firstly, answer these few question with hash-tags... are yours usually long and funny? Are they a lot? Do you only stick to one? Do you never use hash-tags? Just do what feels right.

If your goal is just more followers, feel free to add #follow, #followme, to make more Insta-friends. They are by far one of the best ways to get your content in front of new eyeballs. But please make sure you don't overuse them.

You know those crazy pictures that have 20 plus hash-tags that are completely irrelevant to the photo? Don't be part of that crew.

**6. Use apps, not filters, to improve your photos**

Beautiful photos are THE KEY to

success on the gram. No amount of clever hash-tagging, geo-tagging, or even authenticity will help you succeed with Instagram if your photos are wack.

However, what is worse than a sucky photo is one that has been covered up with a worse filter.

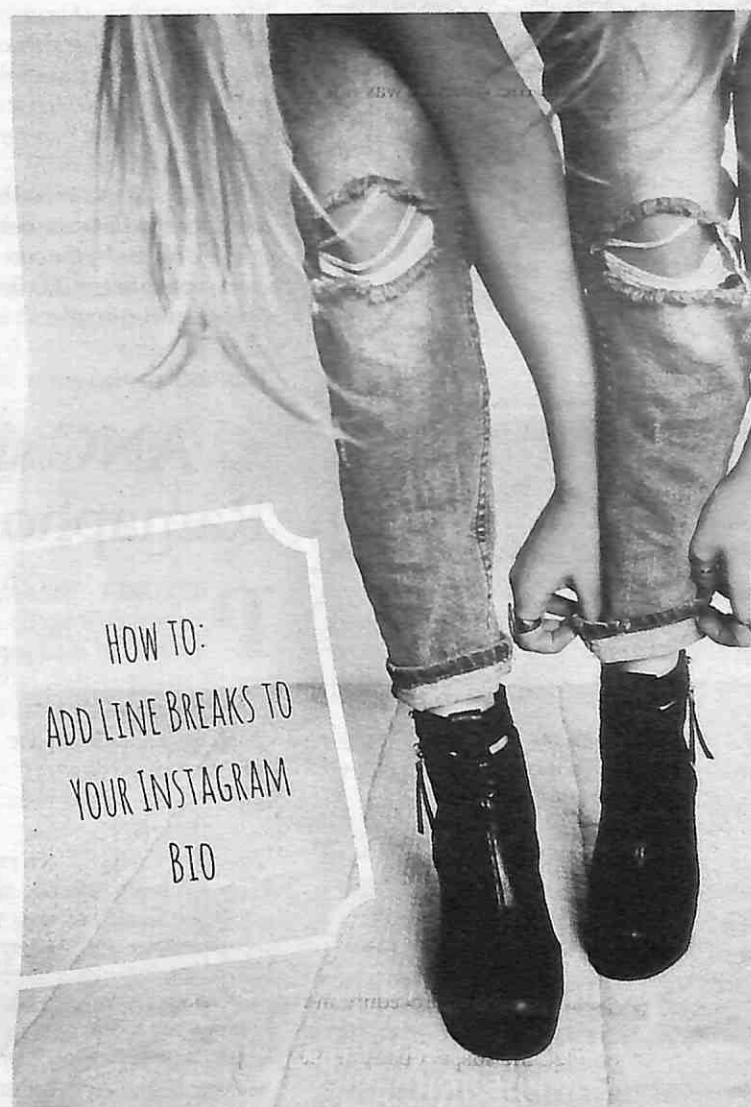
It's like getting a bad tattoo and then covering it up with a worse tattoo. Don't try to make bad photos better or ruin good photos with a filter.

Instead, you can download a few apps that will improve the quality of your photos while making things appear "natural."

**7. Reply to all comments**

This piece of advice may not be doable for those of you who have thousands, or millions of followers.

*Styling your favourite things, your beautiful breakfast, lunch or supper, your outfit of the day, or a great night out with friends, is great for giving your personal account, but make sure that it's YOU.*



If you're generating a reasonable number of comments, which I think is somewhere between 40 to 50, then I recommend that you respond to all comments.

Okay, it's totally acceptable to leave those that have ugly pictures, yet you don't even know them, and to top everything off, have a lousy number of followers.

Even if it just a simple "thanks" it will work wonders for you, trust me.

**8. Tag other brands with large followings.**

Don't be selfish when it comes to promoting other people on Instagram, especially if they have a large following. It really doesn't matter how many likes you get from the post.

If your photo is good, the other person may re-gram it, hence helping you increase the number of eyes who see your content. With that you grow your follower base, and stamp authority.

(Additional information sourced from different blogs)



# Focus on SA scene

## Fees Must Fall leaders plead for release of last remaining student in jail

**D**URBAN - A group of Fees Must Fall leaders in Durban are appealing to authorities to grant bail to a fellow leader who was arrested two months ago during protests. Bonginkosi Khanyile has been behind bars since September 27 and the movement says he is now the only student countrywide who hasn't been granted bail following the most recent wave of protests.

He has been charged with public violence, gathering illegally and inciting violence.

Khanyile last appeared in the Durban Magistrate's Court in November and is expected to appear there again tomorrow.

Student leaders on Friday called for his release from custody ahead of tomorrow's appearance.

Leading the calls for his release on bail was EFF and Fees Must Fall leader Gazuzu Nduli, who said denying Khanyile's release was an attempt by authorities and government to intimidate students.

"Why is it that people like Oscar Pistorius, who kills his girlfriend, are allowed bail? We have hardened criminals being set free pending trial, but this student is still in prison. They are trying to send a message to students that if you protest, you will be arrested."

When asked about the charges levelled against Khanyile, Nduli said the violence was not as serious as it was made out to be.

"They caught him on camera using a sling shot. When we grow up in the farms and townships, this is a common thing. There is an agenda to keep him there because he is vocal about giving the black child free education."

Nduli said the government was using apartheid-style tactics.

News24

## Joburg mayor wants cop probed

**JOHANNESBURG** - Johannesburg mayor Herman Mashaba wants a senior Johannesburg police official probed for possible protection of a drug suspect during an arrest in Braamfontein last week.

This was after an SA Police Services captain allegedly demanded that the city's newly launched K9-Narcotics Unit hand over a man they found in a room in which 56kg of dagga was stored, he said this yesterday.

"Of great concern to me, I have been informed that during the gathering of evidence and investigation, a higher ranking SAPS captain mysteriously arrived and demanded the return of her suspect," said Mashaba in a statement.

"Despite proper investigation procedure and reasoning, the lower ranking officers had to comply and handed the suspect back to the SAPS captain."

Mashaba wants the provincial commissioner to urgently investigate the relationship between the police captain and the suspect.

"The suspect is believed to be the head supplier of dagga in Braamfontein and there is a legitimate risk that he is being protected. In our war on drugs this is completely unacceptable."

The unit was launched last Monday with member of the mayoral committee for safety Michael Sun and made its first big bust on Friday, valued at around R1.2 million, following a tip-off from an arrest on Wednesday.

Mashaba said that following Wednesday's bust, a sergeant got a tip-off that a large amount of dagga was being off-loaded in Jorissen Street, Braamfontein.

News24

## ESKOM DOWNGRADE PLACES SOUTH AFRICA AT RISK - DA

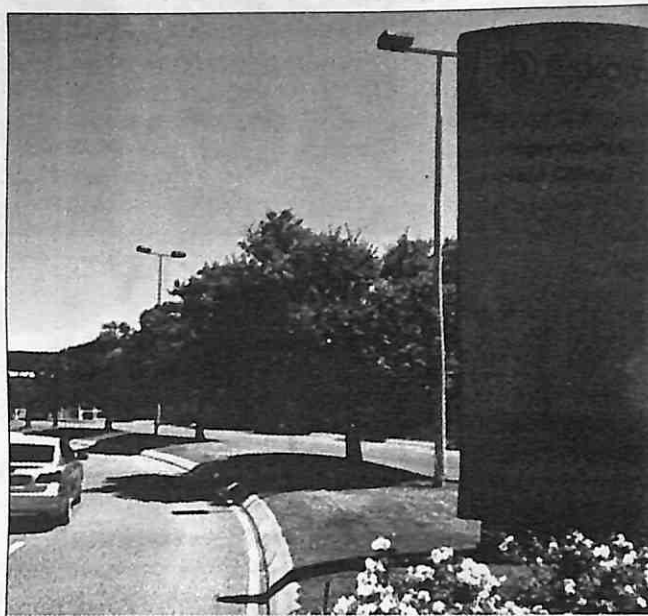
**C**APE TOWN - The decision by ratings agency Standard and Poor's to downgrade Eskom's corporate credit from BB+ to BB is a vote of no confidence in Eskom and its leadership, specifically and in the relatively weak corporate governance of state-owned entities in South Africa, the Democratic Alliance said yesterday.

"This will only serve to place further pressure on the fiscus due to the R350-billion in government guarantees that has been extended to Eskom," DA spokeswoman Natasha Mazzone said.

"This is sadly proof that Eskom has a severe lack of leadership both at board level and through the main Eskom stakeholder, the government, which is represented by Public Enterprises Minister Lynne Brown."

Conditions at Eskom had been going from bad to worse despite repeated claims by the current board, soon to be ex-CEO Brian Molefe, and Brown that all was well at the entity.

This state-owned entity was



The decision by ratings agency Standard and Poor's to downgrade Eskom is a vote of no confidence in its leadership.

of crucial importance to the well-being of the South African economy. If Eskom was not run efficiently it had the potential to bring the country to its knees, as happened during the load shedding period. This downgrade was dreaded but virtually inevitable due to conditions

at Eskom. It was more obvious than ever that urgent intervention in the leadership of Eskom was required and that Eskom was in no position to contemplate the mammoth multi-trillion rand nuclear project, Mazzone said.

Africa News

## ANC slams Cosatu for backing Ramaphosa to take over from Zuma

**P**RETORIA - The African National Congress has taken a jab at its tripartite alliance partner, labour union federation COSATU, which on Thursday called for deputy president Cyril Ramaphosa to take over as the leader of the ANC.

This week COSATU resolved to support Ramaphosa to take over from Jacob Zuma as the next president of the party in 2017 and to take over as president of the country in 2019.

COSATU is the first in the alliance to pronounce on its preference and comes after the ANC last week released a statement urging its affiliates to steer clear of the leadership debate until the appropriate time.

## 'Castro dedicated his life to freeing the oppressed'

**C**CAPE TOWN - Fidel Castro identified with and helped South Africa in the struggle against apartheid, President Jacob Zuma said in a message of condolences yesterday after the Cuban liberation hero's death.

"The President of the Republic of South Africa, His Excellency Jacob Zuma, has on behalf of the Government and the people of



South Africa President Jacob Zuma.

The South African Communist Party has not expressed its views yet. "The right to elect the lead-

ership of the African National Congress including the right to elect its leader, is a right reserved for members of the African National Congress, the branches of the ANC in good standing, and that right is not transferable to the alliance partners; it's not transferable to the leagues, it's only for the members of the ANC in good standing," said party spokesperson Zizi Kodwa.

### Addressing

He was addressing journalists on Friday afternoon at St George Hotel in Irene, where the party is holding its second meeting with party veterans, who want to discuss concerns about the ANC and Zuma's fitness to hold office as party and country president.

sowetanlive

South Africa, conveyed a message of condolences to the government and the people of Cuba, following the passing on of former President Fidel Castro," a statement said.

### Revolution

Zuma said Castro, who died aged 90 on Friday, led the Cuban revolution and dedicated his entire life not only to Cuban freedom

and sovereignty, but also the freedom of other oppressed people around the world.

"He inspired the Cuban people to join us in our own struggle against apartheid. The Cuban people, under the leadership and command of President Castro, joined us in our struggle against apartheid," he said.

NEWS24

## DA to challenge Zuma's application to review Public Protector report

**P**RETORIA - The Democratic Alliance on Friday said it would be challenging President Jacob Zuma's application to review former Public Protector Thuli Madonsela's "state capture" report.

"The Democratic Alliance notes the announcement by the Presidency that Jacob Zuma will be taking the State of Capture report on judicial review. We will therefore be filing papers to oppose President Zuma's application to review the remedial action required by the report," leader Mmusi Maimane said in a statement.

"While President Zuma is operating within the parameters of the law by taking the report on judicial review, we must remember that he has a long history of using the courts, which he has no respect for, to delay being held accountable for his acts of corruption."

The Presidency made the announcement on Friday.

"The President has considered and also sought legal advice on the contents of the report, as well as the remedial action to be taken," the Presidency said in a statement.

Madonsela recommended that Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng set up a commission of inquiry into the matter.

Maimane said it was clear that the president wants to use the courts to buy himself time while he plots his next move in order to again avoid accountability. "We will not allow him to get out of this crisis of his own making. President Zuma must be made to fund his own litigation instead of using public money for his personal benefit and political machinations," he said.

Maimane added that Friday's statement coupled with comments made by Zuma in Parliament, show that Zuma has no intention of complying with the remedial action recommended.

"The ANC and Jacob Zuma have no interest in accountability or advancing the hopes of the people of South Africa."

News24

## Man arrested in KZN for card fraud

**D**URBAN - A 29-year-old man from KwaMashu, arrested for alleged bank card fraud, will appear in the KwaDukuza Magistrate's Court tomorrow, KwaZulu-Natal police said.

The man was arrested in Stanger by KwaDukuza police who followed up information that he allegedly jammed his victim's bank card in an ATM. KwaZulu-Natal police spokesperson Lieutenant Colonel Thulani Zwane said the man then withdrew R5 000 from the victim's account.

The victim had been withdrawing cash at an ATM in a shop in KwaDukuza at about 7.30am on Friday when he was approached by the suspect who offered to help. The victim accepted the offer, only to find his card was jammed in the ATM. "The victim walked away and the suspect later withdrew cash from the victim's account. When the victim received an SMS about withdrawals, he immediately contacted the police and proceeded to the same ATM that he was using." A description of the suspect was given to the police and he was found at the ATM. When the suspect saw the police officers, he ran to his car and attempted to drive off, but the officers stopped him a few metres away. His car was searched and a card believed to have been used to block ATMs was found in his possession. Africa News Agency





# SundayObserver Scene



COMPILED BY: Lungelo Nkambule | SUB-EDITING BY: Mduduzi Matsebula

Email: [scene@observer.org.sz](mailto:scene@observer.org.sz)



**Lungelo Nkambule**  
**WRITER'S NOTE:**

This issue was one of the hardest issues to compile.

The intention was to put together a daddy-daughter issue and our cover would have been His Royal Highness Prince Masitsela. His Royal Highness was thrilled about taking part in the issue but because of his busy schedule we had a hard time setting a date but we remained hopeful, hopeful that eventually we could sit down a chat on the issue of daddy daughter relationships.

It was the mean hand of death that blew the whole issue apart. His Royal Highness is currently in mourning after losing a nephew. When we called him on Thursday he was still intent on doing the interview but there was just no time following this tragic event.

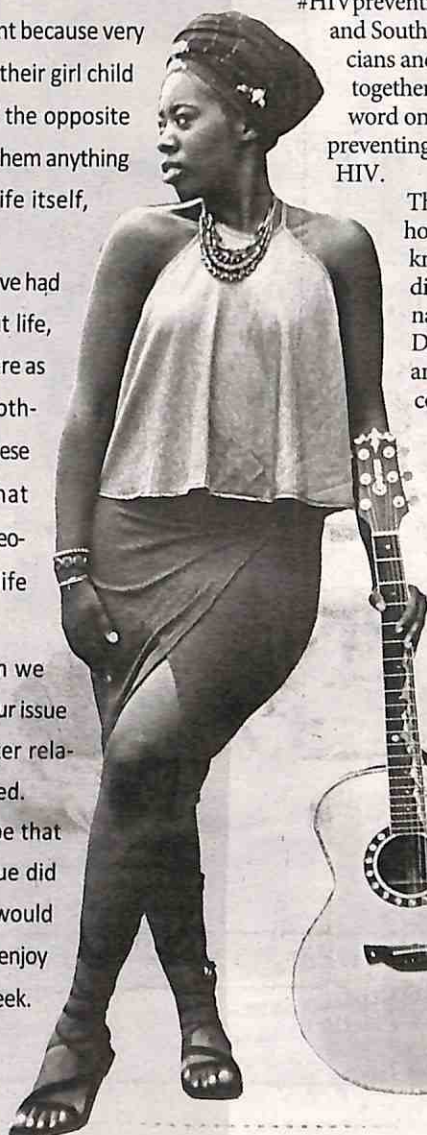
He had spoken to us about the importance of these relationships and he took pride in being very close to his daughters. Those that know the very stylish and good looking Prince will tell you that he is a hands on father and he will go out of his way to make sure that his daughters are okay.

It is also said that the daughters however old still run to the Prince when faced with difficulties. His relationship with his daughters fascinates us as SCENE and we remain hopeful that eventually we will get a chance to sit down with the humble prince and learn.

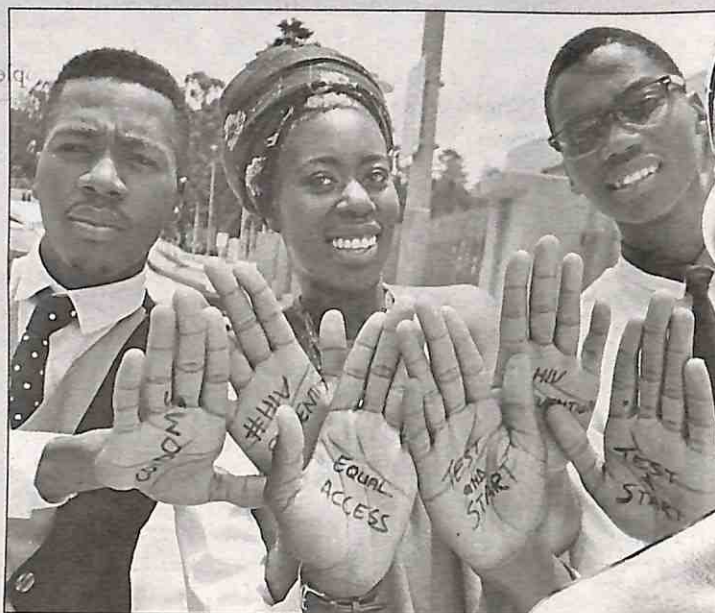
This issue is important because very often men 'neglect' their girl child because they are of the opposite sex they can't teach them anything about their sex or life itself, which is not true.

The conversation I have had with my father about life, womanhood and all are as important as my mothers. We do not need these dissenting views that these two important people in a girl child's life have.

We hope that when we finally put together our issue many daddy-daughter relationships will be saved. We however do hope that even though the issue did not come out as we would have loved it, you will enjoy your read. Till next week. Bless!!



## Fight against HIV/AIDS



# JAZZ AND JOKES TEAM UP AGAINST HIV/AIDS

The evening of Thursday, December 1, 2016 (World Aids Day) promises to bring an unforgettable experience when Swaziland hosts a first of its kind 'World Aids Day Comedy and Jazz Celebration' at the Woodlands Conference Centre in Ezulwini.

This year's World Aids Day theme – Hands Up For #HIVprevention – will see local and South African musicians and comedians come together to spread the word on the importance of preventing the spread of HIV.

The show will be hosted by well-known local comedian Mdura (real name Mduduzi Dlamini) alongside another popular comic Dr Shakes (real name Bonginkosi Dlamini).

Both comedians have promised nothing but a night full of laughter. "It will be a night of laughter. I do believe that those who will attend the show will

have fun and laugh their lungs out at the jokes. I will be there to make sure that there is no break in the laughter; I'll make sure to keep the momentum going. People will have fun on the night," Mdura has promised.

He encouraged Swazis to continue supporting local artists "because as artists we are ready and are at a level our product demands support, and we appreciate what our local audience has done for us so far".

Echoing Mdura's words, Dr Shakes urged every Swazi who has a good sense of humour not to miss Thursday's show.

"Comedy is another way of educating people, but in a funny way. On the night, people will learn about HIV prevention in a light and funny environment instead of being in a serious set-up. This will make the information and messages being disseminated to stick in their minds," Dr Shakes said.

On the night, he has undertaken to continue offering nothing but the best 'local content jokes' which he said can make any moment a memorable one.

"I'll talk about basic things and Swazis will easily relate because I talk about things that happen in Swaziland," he assured.

Headlining the show will be heavyweight South African comedians Ndimiso Lindi and Isaac Gampu as well as Jazz group, the Luyanda Madope Quartet.

Local superstar songstress Velemseni, whose music reflects an aesthetic of jazz, rock and neo soul will also perform.

Madope has guaranteed the audience a night never to forget.

"We are bringing a very interesting concept that fuses music and comedy.

So the audience should expect great music that will be delivered live with great artistry. Great seasoned musicians who have worked with great artists around the world. The Band is led by Luyanda Madope who has Produced McCoy Mrubata, Judith Sephuma Dumza Maswana and many others. So it's a stella band," Madope said.

On the comedy side, he stated: "The comedians are on top of their game, we are all gonna be in

Stitches.

These brothers; Isaac Gampu and Ndimiso Lindi, are part of the leading comedians in South Africa. They are involved in many concepts; Isaac is the traveling MC for Celeste Ntuli for her tour Blacktax and Lindi has done lots of TV commercials like Debonairs to name one."

Madope added: "HIV/AIDS is an epidemic that affects us all as people. We really need to stand together and fight as one. It's up to us to CHANGE. Know your Status Be Safe. To the people of Swaziland, it is always our joy to come to your Kingdom to entertain and learn from your rich culture. So we are really looking forward to see you all. Tickets to the show are obtainable presale as well as at the entrance on the night of the show and they cost E350 for the VIP section (E3 500.00 per table sitting 10 people), E200 each for the Golden Circle and E150 each for General. Presale tickets are available at Ocean Basket outlets in Mbabane and Ezulwini, and at the Bhunu Mall and River Stone Mall perfume kiosks.







We are still reeling from shock. We are still traumatised and we are still looking for means to get over all of this that has happened.

We are shocked by the level of social misuse that has been displayed by insensitive, small-minded people who continually misuse this platform given to us by technology. Just

a week ago we thought we had made a good point on the misuse of social media and in turn Swazis would heed to the kind advice but *dololo*.

Unemployment is a huge problem in this country.

From where I am standing it is a crisis, I know of graduates who have spent well over four years at home

**W**e have no problem with him questioning the organisers but we were however dumbfounded by the manner of approach and platform used. We would like to advise the guy to announce his comeback in another fashion because this one is distasteful.

because there are no jobs in the country but still people find humour in all of this, is it humour or madness? Just this week on Wednesday to be precise there was a message doing the rounds on social media.

The message which was targeting young people was alleged to be from AM Recruitment and it was looking for sales rep for the new mobile phone company. The recruiting agency tried to send a counter message refuting this message but it was a little too late. It is reported that people crammed the agency the following day.

This for me was really upsetting. I was

upset by the fact that people have the nerve to play around with something so serious.

When people start these games they are not mindful of the situation on the ground, Swazis are jobless. This is precisely what we have been trying to speak against all year round that social media needs to be treated with great care we need to be mindful of the impact of this type of media.

We need to also respect each other and not belittle social ills such as unemployment.

It is okay that we are chilled but unem-

ployment is real and can never be an issue to joke about. You do not give people false hope.

Whilst we are on that tip can we also register that we were disappointed by one of the has beens of the entertainment industry. X-stacy in his time was one of the best but like many others before him (after him) he didn't last that long. However, last week the (former) deejay decided to announce his return by throwing shade at the beachfest.

We have no problem with him questioning the organisers but we were however dumbfounded by the manner of approach and platform used. We would like to advise the guy to announce his comeback in another fashion because this one is distasteful. What Xstacy fails to appreciate is that much as he doesn't know PH and Lerato many of these young clubbers now, do not know him (Xstacy).

## Dad... A daughters First Love

**A**ll Girls Emporium has hosted two successful daddy daughter events and will this year host the third installment.

The event which celebrates the daddy-daughter relationship was brought about in a quest to encourage daughters and fathers to forge good relationships.

The two past daddy-daughter events were characterized by games which were mainly for forging and celebrating bonds that fathers share with their daughters. The beautiful concept mainly promotes the spending of quality time of the two which is rare considering that their interests differ.

In the past, All Girls Emporium would host dinners where daddies would come out with their daughters dressed to kill. This year however it will be a day event starting at 11 am. This is to have the daddies and daughters spend more time and engage in more activities.

This year fathers will be persuaded to listen and know as much as mothers do about their daughters through a series of games and challenges. This was gathered from the head of All Girls Emporium, Pearl Matse who is also the last born daughter of former Minister of Justice Pastor David Matse. Organisers of the event also pointed out to this publication that this year they would be running a competition. E2000 is up for grabs for any daughter that looks the most like his or her father," Matse mentioned.

Daughters are required to take 'selfies' with their fathers and send them to the WhatsApp number 76957547. "The winner will be announced on the day at 12 mid-day", said Pearl.

There will also be E3000 to be given away on the day, through a raffle draw. According to Pearl, by buying a ticket to the day one would automatically be entered in the raffle draw. Pearl said she was humbled during the first episode of the DDD by Prince Masitsela and his then, eight-year-old daughter Temsebe. "We put them

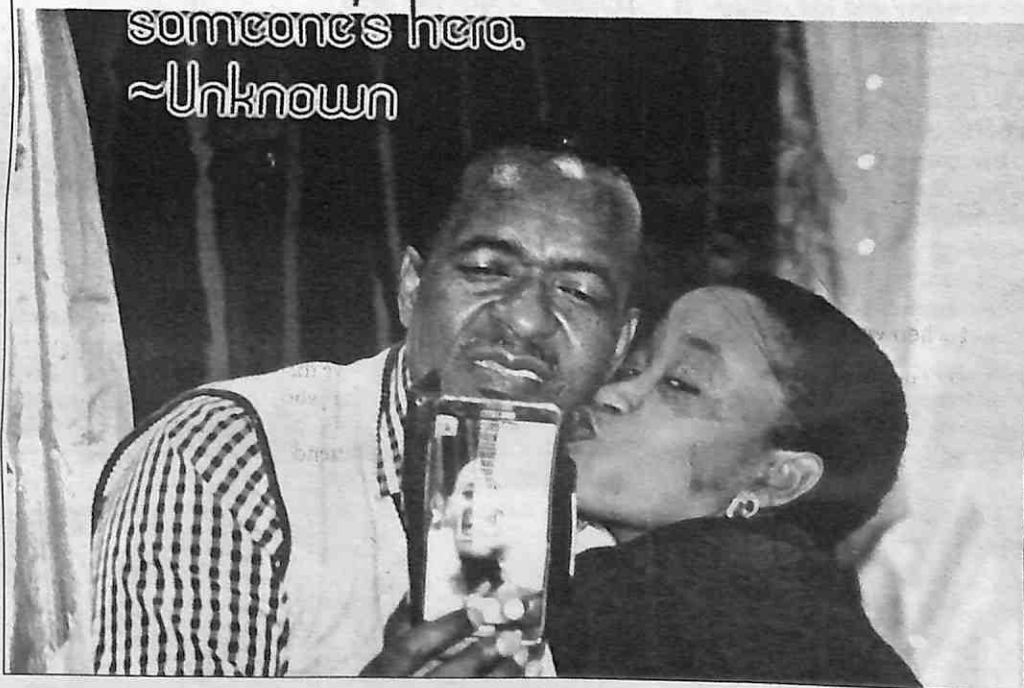
through a quiz of how well he knows his daughter and surprisingly there is not one detail he missed about his little girl. He even knew her best friend and her holiday destination. It was amazing" Pearl reckoned.

She further mentioned that thus, she was encouraged to keep on doing the DDD until fathers learn to listen to their daughters and are further involved in their children's upbringing.

"Society has taught our fathers that they must not do what mothers do for the girl child, which is absolutely wrong because you belong to both of them" Matse said. Your father should know how to tie your hair up when your mother is not around, he should take up the responsibility she concluded.

# DADDY DAUGHTER LOVE...

The smile on my daughter's face makes me know that in a world with over 7 billion people, I am someone's hero.  
~Unknown





## FATHER - DAUGHTER RELATIONSHIP



Conversations about the importance of fathers usually revolve around sons: how boys benefit from having a positive male role model, a consistent disciplinarian, and a high-energy roughhousing partner on their way to pursuing career and family success in adulthood.

The daddy-daughter initiative put together by the All Girls Emporium is an important one because it speaks to a social issue that many do not see as an issue.

The truth of the matter is that all relationships have a pivotal role in moulding a person.

The most significant relationships in a person's life are that of a mother and a father.

A mother and father have the power to shape you into the adult that you become. For whatever reasons, father's have somewhat downplayed

the role they have to play in their daughters' lives yet it is very important.

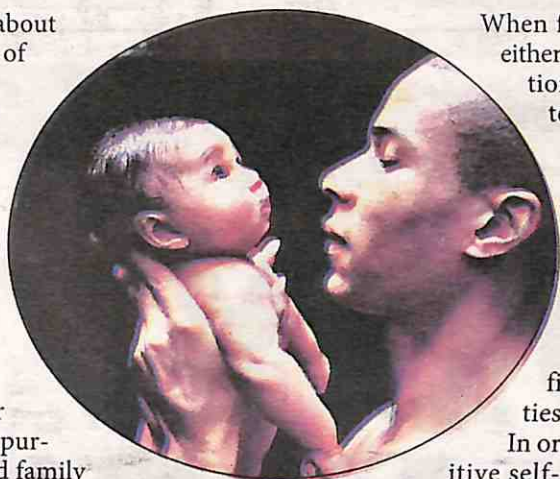
A girl's personality and life outlook is impacted by the relationship with her father on many levels hence there are girls with daddy issues. Because, we value the work and vision of the All Girl's Emporium we decided to put together reasons why it is important for fathers to play a very active role in their daughter's lives and our hope is that this will give fathers and father's to be an insight of why it is very important to have deep conversations with their daughters, to be as active in their lives as they are with their sons.

Girls need their fathers to sit down with them and have real meaningful conversations.

#### Fathers Shape Their Daughters Self Esteem

Fathers play a key role in the psychological development of their daughters from the moment they are born.

The difference between a loving father and an absent father makes a huge difference in how the child grows up.



When fathers are absent, either physically or emotionally, their daughters are affected in many negative ways.

When fathers are present, and loving, their daughters develop a strong sense of self and are more confident in their abilities.

In order to develop positive self-esteem, a healthy father-daughter bond is key.

#### Fathers Influence Their Daughters' Body Image

Separate from self-esteem is the body image of a female, however this aspect of a woman's personality is just as important, if not more so.

Our body image is how we view ourselves physically, and often has no bearing on the way we are portrayed by others.

Fathers who show their daughters and wives unconditional love have higher rates of fostering a positive body image to their daughters, which sticks with them for much of their life.

Fathers who berate

either their daughter or wife negatively impact the psyche of the daughter, which has been shown to foster a negative body image and can even lead to the development of eating disorders in the child.

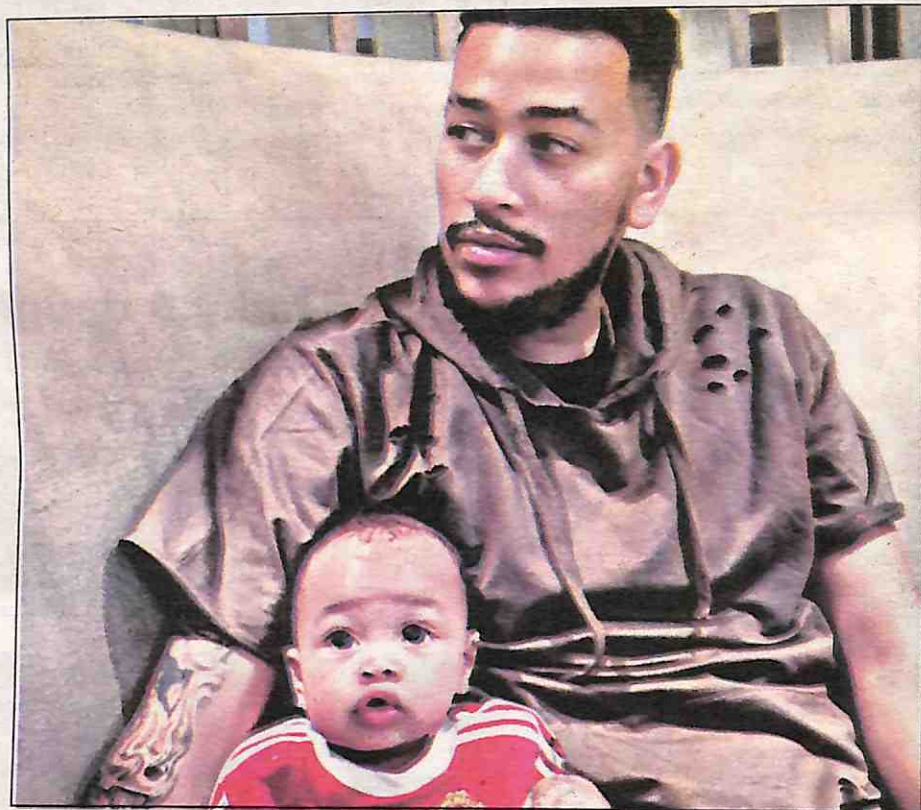
This negative body image can also develop if a father gives off verbal or non-verbal signs that the way a female looks defines her.

This can happen via body shaming comments, watching television that highlights



# DAD..

## A DAUGHTER'S FIRST LOVE



the importance of the way a woman looks, as well as the way a father views and talks about his own body image.

#### A Father Helps Develop Behavioural Traits in His Daughter

Psychology used to put a heavy emphasis on the bond between a mother and her children, but recent studies have shown that a father has even greater influence on his children than a mother when it comes to the development of behavioural traits.

Fathers who show love to their daughters and accept them as they are help foster a positive sense of self in the female. Neglectful fathers, on the

other hand, can send their daughters down a dark path of depression, substance abuse and psychological problems.

#### Fathers Impact Social Traits in Their Daughters

The father-son bond comes much more naturally to fathers than the father-daughter bond, especially as she ages. Unfortunately, a lack of communication between a father and his daughter can have lasting effects on

the way she interacts socially with others. Studies have shown that daughters who communicate regularly with their fathers, and in a positive way, communicate better with both males and females in their lives.

From when a child is conceived throughout her entire life, the level and quality of communication between a father and his daughter plays a heavy role in her ability to express her feelings, her emotions, and her thoughts.

#### Wise Words from a TV Dad

For those who watch Modern Family, you know Jay, the older man with two grown children he raised with his ex-wife, and two new children he has raised with his new wife. With years of experience on set and off the set as a father, Jay, played by Ed O'Neill, hit the nail on the head when he said during an episode that "90% of being a dad is just showing up."

#### Fathers Show their Daughters How Women Deserve to Be Treated

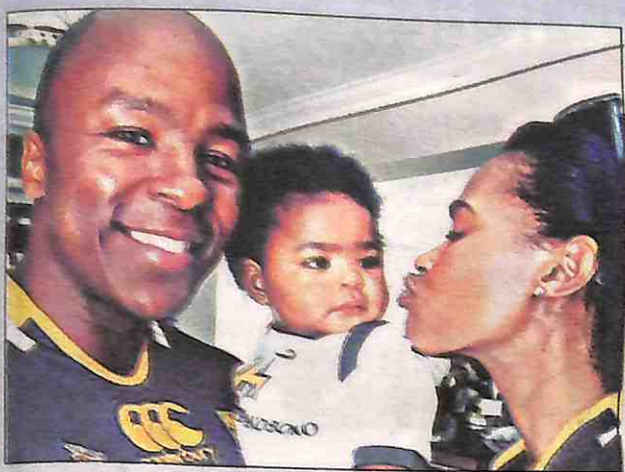
Although mothers play a critical role in the lives of their daughters, much of what women learn about life comes from their father. From an early age, daughters pick up on the way their fathers treat other women, typically their mothers.

Fathers who are abusive, verbally or non-verbally, neglectful or hurtful towards their spouses are unknowingly teaching their daughters how females deserve to be treated.

Most women who wind up in abusive relationships later in life report some form of abuse as a child, even if it is a minor occurrence.

Fathers who show love to their wives and daughters teach their girls that females





should be treated with respect, loved and cared for by others in their lives.

#### Fathers Help Define Future Romantic Relationships for their Daughters

Scientific studies have proven that the early stages of a female's life can shape her future through her conscious and unconscious perceptions of others around her, like her parents.

From an early age, a girl learns what to look for in a romantic partner by watching her own father's actions, behaviours and traits.

It has been proven that the healthier a relationship a daughter has with her father, the easier it is for her to find a loving, caring partner in the future.

#### Fathers are Role Models for Their Daughters, Whether They Like it or Not

Daughters don't choose to be born, but parents choose to

have children - this is an important distinction and a key factor as to why healthy father-daughter relationships are so important.

A father is supposed to be a role model in the life of his daughter.

As I have already discussed, studies show that daughters who don't have a healthy bond with their fathers have shown to be more likely to engage in aggressive behaviour, practice unsafe sex, perform poorly in school, develop unhealthy relationships with others, and even develop psychological problems compared to daughters who have strong bonds with their father.

Neglected, abandoned, and/or abused daughters also typically feel abandoned, depressed, and rejected. They often see themselves as failures because they never had a good relationship with their dad.



## M

ovie Review



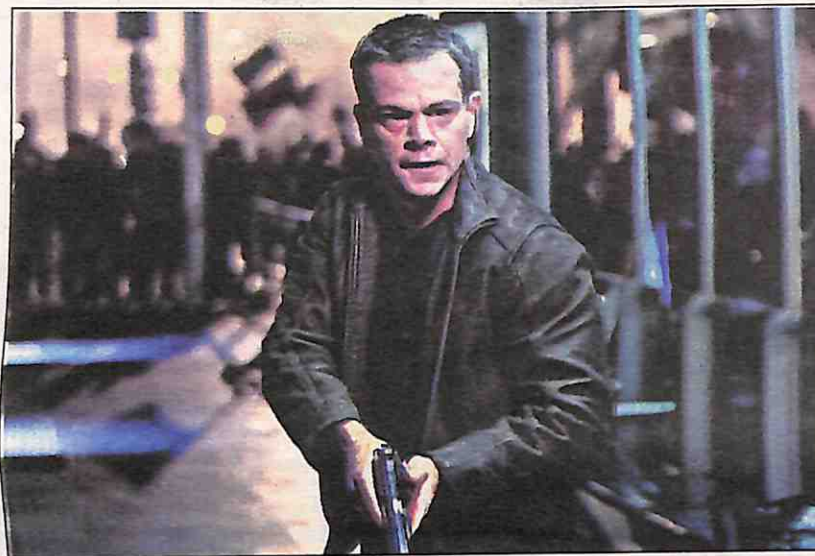
# Jason Bourne

“Jason Bourne” may entice ticket buyers with prospects of a creative and adrenalin-pumping reunion between Matt Damon and director Paul Greengrass, a duo that went beyond typical blockbuster expectations with “The Bourne Supremacy” and “The Bourne Ultimatum.”

Being a fan of both of those movies, I too had high hopes for a return to form for the character who shares a monogram with 007.

But it's mere minutes into “Jason Bourne” that something is wrong. Is it the stoic, nearly dialogue-less (25 lines in the entire film) take on Bourne? Is it the more-hyperactive-than-ever action cinematography and editing, designed to make every phone call answered and strident walk taken seem important? How about the familiarity of a plot that literally echoes questions these characters have already asked and answered? “Jason Bourne” is a film I kept trying to like. It just wouldn't let me.

After learning the truth of his progression from David Webb to superspy Jason Bourne in the previous two Greengrass films and, of course, Doug



Liman's “The Bourne Identity,” JB (Matt Damon) is essentially in hiding. Sure, he pops up for the occasional street fight, but he's a loner, the kind of guy with no current attachments, deeply off the grid. (It's worth noting that Greengrass and co-writer Christopher Rouse are just barely interested in setting up where Bourne has been and what he's up to in 2016.)

It's mere minutes before Nicky (Julia Stiles) drags Bourne back on the radar of the nefarious Powers That Be, this time personified by CIA Director Robert Dewey (Tommy Lee Jones). Nicky wants to give Bourne even more of the background behind the Treadstone project, particularly the details about what really happened to Bourne's father, Richard Webb (Gregg Henry).

## Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them

**F**antastic Beasts and Where to Find Them is a 2016 British fantasy film directed by David Yates and distributed by Warner Bros. Pictures.

A spin-off prequel of the Harry Potter film series, the film was produced and written by J. K. Rowling (in her screenwriting debut), inspired by her book of the same name. The film stars Eddie Redmayne as Newt Scamander with Katherine Waterston, Dan Fogler, Alison Sudol, Ezra Miller, Samantha Morton, Jon Voight, Carmen Ejogo, Ron Perlman and Colin Farrell in supporting roles. It is the first instalment in the Fantastic Beasts franchise, and the ninth in J. K. Rowling's Wizarding World.

Principal photography began at Warner Bros. Studios, Leavesden on 17 August 2015. Fantastic Beasts and



Where to Find Them premiered in New York City on November 10 2016 and was released worldwide on November 18 2016 in 3D, IMAX 4K Laser and other large format theatres. It received generally positive reviews from critics and has grossed \$261 million worldwide.

In 1926, a wizard Newt Scamander briefly stops over in New York City

while en route to Arizona. He encounters Mary Lou Barebone, a No-Maj (non-magical human) and the head of the New Salem Philanthropic Society, which claims that witches and wizards are real and dangerous. As Newt listens to her speak, a Niffler escapes from his magically-expanded suitcase that houses multiple magical creatures.



## CELEBRITY NEWS

## WILSON B NKOSI DIDN'T GET A CENT



THE Metro Fm presenter and DJ, Wilson B Nkosi, is ranting about the People's Paper. This is after a settlement was reached last week between his attorneys and Daily Sun's attorneys.

Nkosi took Daily Sun to the Ombudsman last year about the article headlined "Wilson B Doesn't Like Photos!" published on March 3 2015.

The Ombudsman ruled that the newspaper must apologise to Nkosi for neglecting to state that he did allow pictures to be taken after his show, and for causing him unnecessary harm by omitting the fact. Daily Sun published an apology and believed that any harm done to his reputation was thus repaired. But despite the apology being published, Nkosi decided to take the People's Paper to court.

## NANDI MADIDA HAS GIVEN BIRTH!



TV personality Nandi Madida has given birth.

According to Destiny Connect, Nandi and her Musician husband Zakes Bantwini have welcomed a baby boy into the world.

Although the couple have not officially shared the news with the public, Zakes yesterday shared an Instagram post of Nandi's Destiny cover with the suspicion caption, "Nandi Madida. Wednesday. Thank You." Three months ago, Nandi revealed her pregnancy at the Mercedes-Benz Fashion week.

In an interview with Destiny, Nandi spoke about having a child with Zakes made her pregnancy experience more exciting, at the time Madida thought she would be having a baby girl.

## CONNIE RETURNS TO GENERATIONS AGAIN!



According to TimesLive, veteran actress Connie Ferguson will be returning to popular SABC 1 soapie Generations: The Legacy next year.

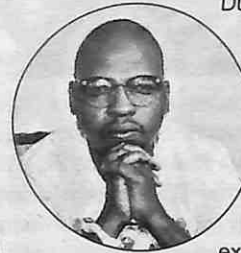
"Connie Ferguson has returned to Generations. She started shooting with the show recently and the cast and crew are excited by her return," Generations spokesperson Gaaratwe Mokhele told the local publication.

Connie's character, Karabo Moroka, is expected to appear on screens in January next year. It is uncertain how long Connie's role will be on the soapie this time.

"She will be on screens for as long as her story-line needs her. The character of Karabo has always been key to the show," Gaaratwe said to TimeLive.

## PROFESSOR EXCITED BY THE HEATWAVE PARTY!

Today, Metro FM is turning up the heat in Rusty Dusty!



The Heatwave Party will be hitting Olympia Park Stadium in Rustenburg, North West. People will be blown away by an all-day musical experience featuring the country's most talented musicians.

The line-up includes greats such as Professor, Oskido, Vinny Da Vinci, DJ Christos, Mo Flava, SPHEctacula and Naves, Nasty C, Dubois and many more exciting acts.

## AKA SAYS HE WILL APOLOGISE!

DID AKA break the number one copyright rule... not giving credit where it is due?

The composer is demanding the rapper acknowledge him!

According to Enos Lubisi, one of two surviving members of '80s group Future, AKA's One Time sampled the band's song titled Party Weekend.

"All I want is to be credited for my work," said the 66-year-old composer.

Lubisi said he wrote the song in 1984 after the band finished touring Gaborone in

Botswana.

He said he recently heard AKA's song while on his way to Kalawa Jazmee Records.

## PULANE DISGUSTED BY MEN WHO DON'T WEAR UNDIES!

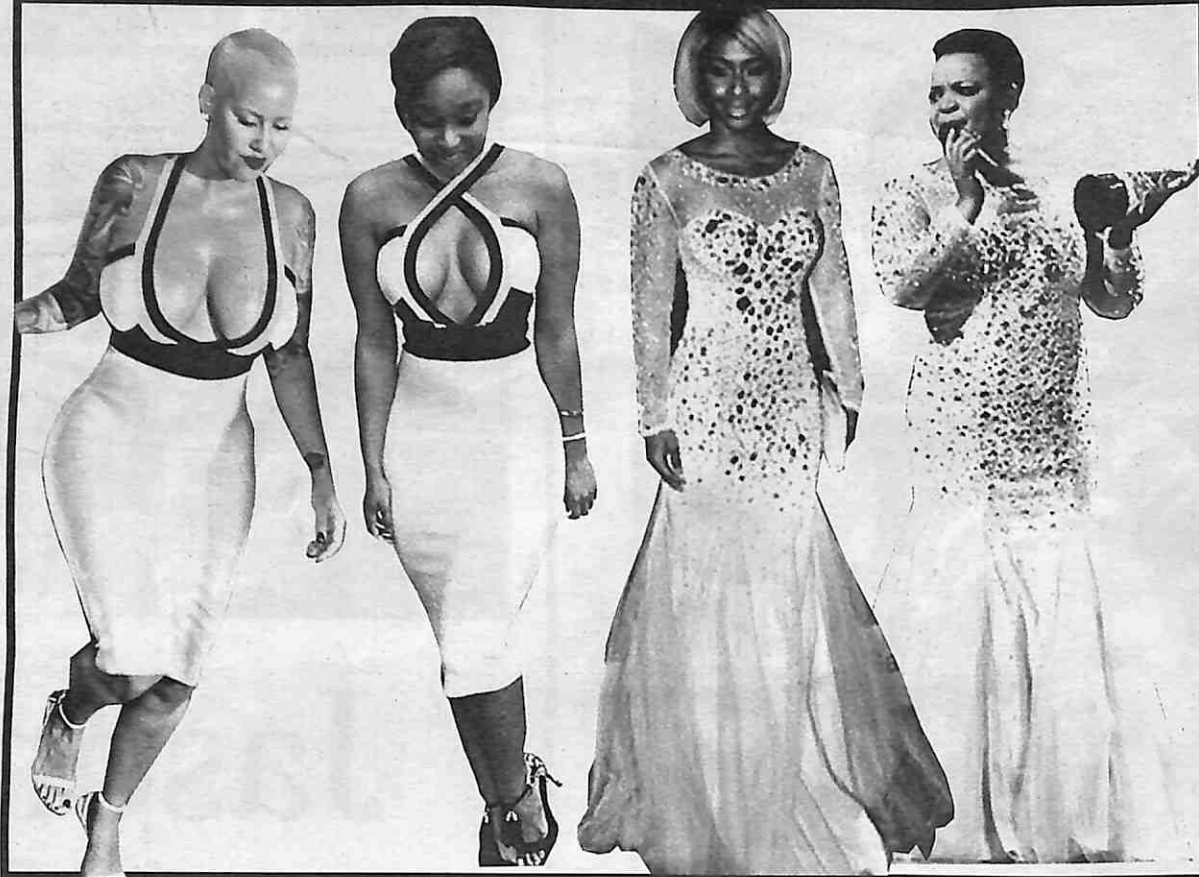
Pulane Lenkoe is not a fan on men who don't wear underwear, especially when wearing sweat pants.

Despite keeping a low-profile on social media since her leaked nudes, Pulane is not afraid to voice her opinion.

She took to social media to share her disgust about men who don't wear underwear. "Am I the only person who thinks guys who wear sweat pants without underwear, drawing all the attention to the D is totally disgusting", she tweeted.

With all the commotion stirred by her comments, Pulane made it clear to her followers that she doesn't care what people think about her and her opinions.

## Who wore it best



## JUSTIN BIEBER RETURNS TO STAGE IN MADRID

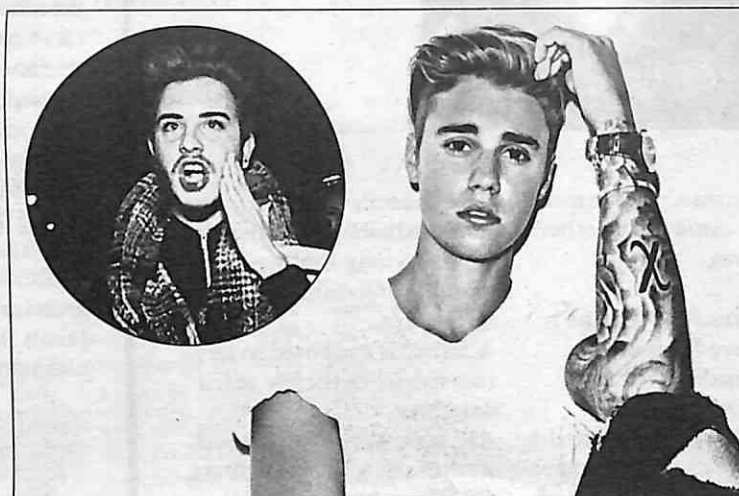
... as teenager 'punched' by the star says he has placed the matter 'in the hands of lawyers' after being left with a bloodied lip

Justin Bieber was back on stage on Wednesday night for his tour stop in Madrid, 24 hours after he punched a fan in Barcelona.

Kevin Ramirez, 18, said he felt 'disappointed' and 'very hurt' at the singer's actions after he put his arm through the star's chauffeur-driven car to touch his face and neck outside the Palau San Jordi concert venue on Tuesday night before Bieber's Barcelona gig.

Talking during a radio interview on Thursday, Ramirez called the Canadian's actions 'unnecessary', and added: "This matter is now in the hands of lawyers. They will deal with it. I can't give out any more information at the moment."

Bieber looked at ease as he entertained the crowds in Madrid the night after the incident, taking to the stage



at the Wiznik Centre in a checked shirt and glasses for the latest stop in his Purpose world tour.

Video footage taken on Tuesday night appeared to show the Canadian

pop star hit Ramirez through the open window of his car as he was driven by a chauffeur to Barcelona's Palau Sant Jordi.

Daily Mail

## Kanye West's condition way worse than sleep deprivation, dehydration

Kanye West's condition is worse than first feared according to new reports.

Although he was initially reported to be suffering from a temporary psychosis brought on by sleep deprivation and extreme dehydration, TMZ suggest that the rapper's problems 'go deeper'.

The 39-year-old was rushed to UCLA Medical Center after a

reported breakdown on Monday and is currently being assessed with wife Kim Kardashian by his side.

The website reports Kanye is in such a 'bad mental state' that his insurance policy for his 21 cancelled U.S. concerts is likely to cover him for lost profits due to illness.

And it's looking likely that the

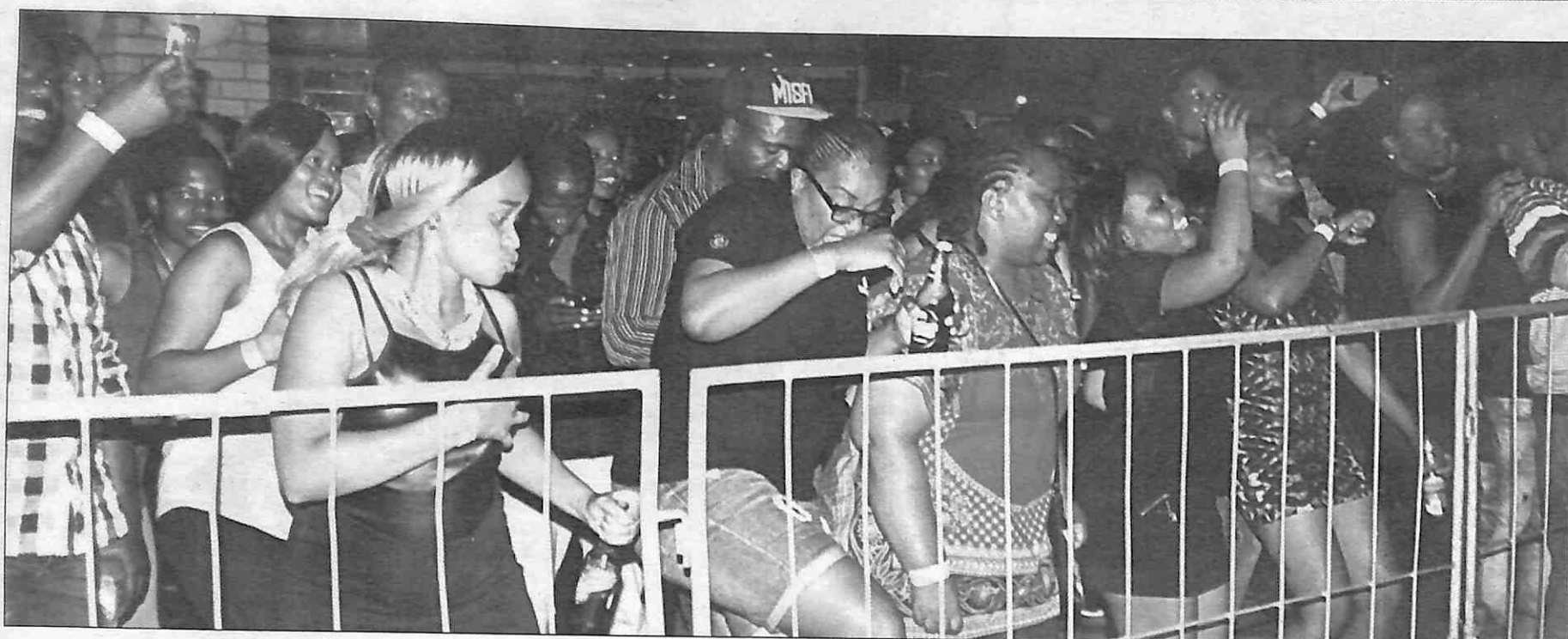
rapper will remain in hospital over Thanksgiving.

His family had hoped that he would be able to spend the U.S. holiday at home, but TMZ said this is looking unlikely.

People reported that his wife Kim Kardashian left his bedside for the first time late on Wednesday, with a bodyguard in tow.



## TIT BITS....



# SICK SHEET FRIDAY

**I**t was black Friday indeed for many employers after employees submitted sick sheets due to the Thursday night show headlined by Black Coffee.

The show which took place

on Thursday night at Deja Vu night club was headlined by the award winning deejay and had people from all walks of life in attendance. The show which started at 8pm and went on the entire night saw peo-

ple dance and drink the night away even though it was mid-week.

The dance floor was packed until the early hours of the morning. DJ Black Coffee took to the stage at 11:45 pm and



he was expected to play for an hour at most but the DJ went on for well over two hours. This delighted the audience

even more and people who had planned to be in bed at 1am found themselves staying for much longer.

## SUPPORT LOCAL MUSIC, STOP PIRACY



## Poetry without borders promises to be a thriller...

**S**OUTH African award-winning poet and renowned writer Vusimuzi Phakathi will be performing in the country with three other South African poets in an event titled 'Poetry Without Borders' at the Swaziland Theatre Club in Mbabane.

The other three South African poets who will be performing are; Nomashenge Dlamini, Zewakhe 'BK' Bhengu and Wazi Kunene. The Kingdom's four poets who will be performing are the main organisers Sbulolo 'Sbu J' Jele and Zwelonke Maseko joined by former T55 contestant Ngomane

Nkambule and Mxolisi 'Last Man' Radebe who has a book under his belt titled 'Akangacitwa Lamanti'.

Sbulolo 'Sbu J' Jele, said this is one of the best poetry line-up the country has ever assembled.

"To add on that, the South African poets have promised fireworks and I can assure people that the poetic arsenal we have assembled this side will make sure Swaziland is well represented.

And personally my set will prove I am ready to be up there with the best," said Jele.

'Poetry Without Borders' is a coalition show between four of Swaziland's

best poets and four of South Africa's finest.

It is a joint venture between independent Swazi poets, Sbulolo 'Sbu J' Jele and Zwelonke Maseko as well as South Africa poetry power house Current State of Poetry (CSP). He also said that his show dubbed 'Prisoner of Words' a month ago paved the way for him to collaborate with the South African poets to host this show.

The show will be on December, 2 at the Swaziland Theatre Club and it will commence at 7.30pm and tickets are available at Cuba Nora for E100.



## Sands Of Time album takes fans by storm

**T**he much awaited album by local afro soul sensation Sands arrived the past week and social media went abuzz.

The demand was so much the singer was overwhelmed.

Sands first album has sold 1600 copies in two weeks including those which were pre ordered at E120 per copy and the album is receiving positive response from the people.

The artist who is on everyone's lips at the moment said he had not anticipated the demand would be so high hence he is overwhelmed and a bit shocked, "I am still in

shock mode, the demand is unbelievable. I knew Swazis were going to support me but not to this extent," he said. He said he had been doing deliveries and signings in Mbabane the past two days and from time to time he had to pinch himself back to reality because everything was all so foreign to him.

"Sometimes you think you are preparing yourself for these moments but you can never be prepared enough. So much work has to be put into the CD distribution, yet I still have to rehearse for shows. So I am basically all over

the show, with no time to rest but I am not complaining," he explained. Sands further explained that he hadn't even started enjoying all the attention he was getting as well as the support. "I haven't had time to celebrate the success of the sales because we have so much work to do with the team, clamping the loose ends and making sure the fans are happy and get their CDs," he said. "For me, this is all new and mostly unexpected, there are so many loop holes and loose ends and my team and I are constantly trying to fix that," he said.



# SWAZI ARTISTS FOR GOSPEL CROWN AWARDS STAGE...

**E**arlier this week it was reported that Shongwe and Khuphuka will join South African artists on the Crown Awards stage.

Shongwe is not the first artist to perform on this stage as other artists like Phathwakahle have rocked this stage.

The full line-up of artists to perform on the stage tonight was released and it turns out Shongwe and Khuphuka will not be the only Swazi act. Nothando Hlophe of Khulugcobo Fame will also invade the Crown Stage Local hip-

hop rapper Switch will also perform. The 25 year old will share the stage with greats of the gospel industry like Khaya Mthethwa.

The

ninth SABC Crown Gospel Music Awards which will be broadcast live tonight promise to burn the house down with its out of this world line-up.

This glamorous and most celebrated event in the gospel music calendar is happening tonight at the ICC Hall in

Durban.

The stars of the night will be watched by millions of people from across South Africa and beyond as it will live in one of the SABC channels, SABC 2. This will be good mileage for the young rapper who unlike Shongwe is new on this stage. Switch is a local award winning gospel artist who is a member of the Mbabane Alliance Church who has walked the path feared by many by getting into rap gospel music which has always been an unpopular genre locally.

He has however made a name for himself which has seen him scooping a number of awards and now he will join S.A. heavyweights and perform at the awards which also attracts the who is who of the gospel industry as well as those from the political space.

This will not be the first for Shongwe to invade that stage as he did back in 2014 where he was also a nominee.

Shongwe during these awards killed his performance and left many green with envy. The SBC was even accused of trying to sabotage Shongwe because they went on a commercial break during his killer performance.

## Line-up

Khaya Mthethwa  
Dr Tumi  
Shongwe & Khuphuka (Swaziland)  
Switch (Swaziland)  
Melusi Mbokazi  
Takie Ndou  
Andile Ka Majola

Deborah Fraser  
Winnie Mashaba  
Lebo Sekgobela  
Dumi Mkokstad  
Sfiso Ncwane  
Tim Godfrey (Guest Performer - Nigeria)  
Mawot

Other artists who have performed on this stage include Phathwakahle.

Other artists on the line up with which the locals will share the glorious stage include Sfiso

Ncwane, Khaya Mthethwa, Dr Tumi, Melusi Mbokazi,

Takie Ndou, Andile ka Majola and Deborah Fraser.

Also featured on the night to be hosted by Thabo Mdlui and Perl Modiadie are Winnie Mashaba, Lebo Sekgobela, Dumi Mkokstad and Tim Godfrey (Guest Performer - Nigeria). Meanwhile voting closed on a high note with impressive figures this year, according to the organising committee.

There were six categories whose outcome is decided by the public through the voting system, four of those are a closed chapter already with only two still open for voting to be closed tonight.

Voting for Best Gospel Song and Best Gospel Artist categories continues until towards the end of tonight's programme.

Other category presenters include popular TV and radio personalities and also representatives from event sponsors. Locals interested to be part of the exciting night can still grab the few remaining tickets from Shoprite and drive down to Durban.

"Those who have already bought theirs, should ensure that their outfits are ready and those coming from far away areas, ensure they have accommodation and transport sorted," said Project Manager Zama Mkhize. *By Simon Shabangu*

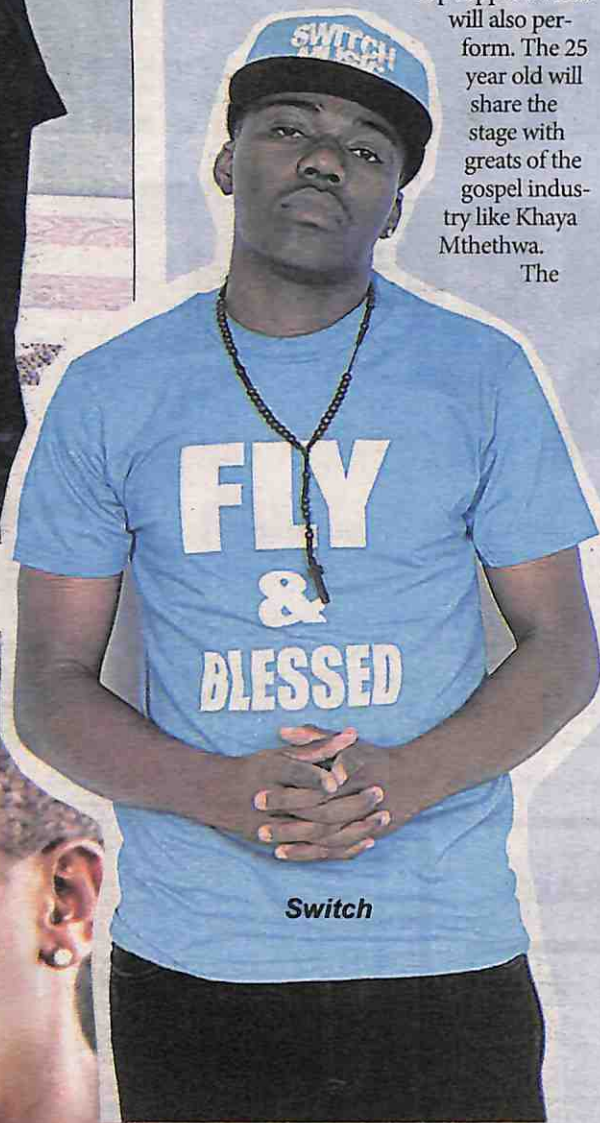


The hosts, Zanele Mbokazi and husband Bishop Mpendulo Nkambule.

Lebo Sekgobela



Khaya Mthethwa



Switch



Sfiso Ncwane performing with Shongwe and Khuphuka





# SUNDAYOBSERVER AFRICA NEWS

The right place | The right Sunday

## Chad opposition figures begin second week in detention

**N'DJAMENA** - Eleven Chadian opposition activists remain in detention a week after being arrested during a banned rally in the capital N'Djamena, a legal source said on Friday.

The arrests were made on November 17 during an attempt by the opposition to defy a ban by President Idriss Deby's government on a demonstration organised as public anger soared over the nation's growing economic crisis.

Those still detained include party leaders Mahamat Bechir Barh and Gapili Godebne, who are being investigated for "taking part in an unauthorised assembly", the source said.

### Placed

"They have been placed under a warrant and are awaiting trial but the legal clerks are on strike, which suspends everything," a spokesperson for the UNDR main opposition party, told AFP.

"They have the moral high ground and are determined more than ever to defend the will of our people," one of their supporters, Abdelkerim Yacoub Koundougoumi, said on Twitter.

The arrests were made last week when demonstrators tried to march towards a stadium after holding a public meeting at the UNDR headquarters.

The stadium was cordoned off by security forces, who stopped the protesters from entering. The authorities originally arrested around 30 protesters, according to another opposition leader. **AFP**

## Angola delays 'coup' trial of 37 suspects

**LUANDA** - Angola on Friday postponed the trial of 37 alleged former fighters from the main UNITA opposition group who are accused of a mysterious coup attempt in January.

The trial has been pushed back to December 2 "at the request of defence lawyers", Luanda court Judge Joao Pedro Fuanconi told reporters.

In a surprise announcement, the Angolan state news agency Angop reported Thursday that members of the former armed wing of UNITA had attempted a coup against President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in January.

They are accused of planning an armed assault on the presidential palace in Luanda, as well as plotting to attack public television and radio stations.

The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), which was the main rebel group during a 27-year civil war and is now the main opposition party, has denied the accusations.

Judge Fuanconi said 35 suspects were arrested and two others were still on the run.

They face charges of criminal association, attempted assassination of the head of state and illegal possession of firearms, said the judge. "After the trial everything will be clear, we will know whether or not they had political motives," he said. President dos Santos, 74, has ruled one of Africa's top oil-producing nations with an iron fist for 37 years.

The country holds elections next year and dos Santos is expected to stand again.

Angola's bloody conflict, which drew in Cold War rivals and South Africa, started after independence from Portugal in 1975 and ended after the killing of UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi in 2002. **AFP**

## 'EVERYONE DYING EXCEPT THAT ONE GUY'

**HARARE** - "That's the wrong one!" Zimbabweans yesterday looked over to Cuba, where Fidel Castro's death has just been confirmed, with (mainly) one thought in mind: when will President Robert Mugabe die too?

After all, Mugabe at 92 is two years older than his friend and ally Castro was. And the Zimbabwean leader's health has, like Castro's, long been the subject of speculation.

Tweeted one Zimbabwean, expressing a sentiment that was, apparently, widely shared: "Castro dies and God is just ignoring Zimbabweans' prayers just like that. Everyone dying except that one guy."

It was a regret that was echoed outside Zimbabwe, with @Munexy in Pretoria saying: "So Fidel Castro finally dies, time for Mugabe to go as well." Zimbabwe's long-running economic and political crisis has

...Long-suffering Zimbabweans react to Castro's death



President Robert Mugabe.

been felt well beyond its borders, with well over a million Zimbabweans (out of a population of between 13 and 14 million) now living outside the southern African country. Britain's Daily Mail writer Guy Adams tweeted: "Good news about Castro. One brings two, so how

about Mugabe?"

There were of course Zimbabweans who did not see Castro's death as an opportunity to hanker after Mugabe's. The longtime Zimbabwe leader (he has been in power since independence in 1980) still has many supporters inside the country: a by-election was yesterday being held in Chimanimani, a mountainous district in eastern Zimbabwe, that ZANU-PF is widely slated to win (though independent observers have noted intimidation of voters in this constituency). As Cuba did in the 1960s, Mugabe launched a controversial agrarian reform programme in Zimbabwe starting in 2000.

@TitusGwemende paid tribute to Castro's support for African liberation movements, saying: "Without Fidel Castro, many African countries would have found it harder to execute the liberation struggle." **News24**

## Tsvangirai to addresses 'shutdown' rally ahead of mega demo

**HARARE** - Zimbabwean opposition Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) leader Morgan Tsvangirai was expected to address thousands of his party supporters in Harare yesterday, News Day reports.

The rally dubbed the "Shutdown" was held at the Zimbabwe Grounds in Highfields, ahead of a "major" demonstration against President Robert Mugabe's government next week, the report said.

This would be Tsvangirai's first appearance in public after a lengthy absence due to ill-health.

Tsvangirai disclosed in June that he had cancer of the colon.

"We are going to have the rally, which we have called the Shutdown. It will be the last rally that will be addressed by our president in 2016," MDC Secretary General Douglas Mwonozora was quoted as saying.

Voice of America cited the party as saying that Tsvangirai was set to talk about the national crisis and also give an update on the coalition of opposition parties ahead of 2018. A demonstration by the National Electoral Reforms Agenda (NERA), which the MDC is part of, failed to materialise on Wednesday following a police ban.

**News24**



MDC leader Morgan Tsvangirai.

## Lesotho crisis: PM Mosilili takes his deputy to court

**MASERU** - Lesotho Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosilili and leader of coalition party Democratic Congress is suing members of his National Executive Committee (NEC) that include his deputy Monyane Moleleki, demanding they be suspended.

Mosilili and three other NEC members filed an urgent application demanding that the Moleleki-led faction of 10 NEC members stop acting on behalf of the party, and return the party stamp and letterhead.

Moleleki announced on Thursday that as Acting Leader he had signed on behalf of the

DC, a coalition agreement for a government of National Unity with former prime minister Tom Thabane's opposition All Basotho Convention (ABC).

Mosilili demanded in his application "that the first to 10th respondents (Moleleki, Secretary General Ralechate Mokose and eight other NEC members) be ordered to desist forthwith from communicating and making publications in the name of Democratic Congress pending finalisation of these proceedings".

The Moleleki faction issued statements on the party letterhead with the party stamp announcing, among others, a



Lesotho Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosilili.

decision to withdraw the party from the governing seven party coalition.

**News24**

## BRIEF

### Queen mother of Ghana's Ashanti kingdom dies, aged 111

**KUMASI** - Dressed entirely in black, Tina Owusu Panin joined thousands making their way to a Ghanaian palace to mourn their "mother" - the revered queen of the powerful Ashanti kingdom. Nana Afiya Kobi Serwaa Ampem II died on Monday last week at the venerable age of 111, plunging the West African nation into grief. Built on the wealth of gold reserves, the Ashanti empire was the richest in Ghana. At its peak it even extended into neighbouring countries. The empire has wielded power in the region for over 300 years and put up fierce resistance to British colonial rule. **AFP**

### S. Sudan government agrees to deploy regional force, again

**JUBA** - The South Sudan government has agreed to accept the deployment of a UN-mandated regional force in Juba after months of hesitation, a spokesman said. "I would like therefore to inform the people on behalf of the transitional government of national unity that your cabinet has resolved unanimously to allow the deployment of the regional protection force anytime from now," Deputy Information Minister Akol Paul Kordit said late Friday. His announcement came after lengthy deliberations during a cabinet meeting chaired by President Salva Kiir, but no details were given about when and where the force would be deployed. **TIMESLIVE**

### Rebels targeted ethnic Fulanis in Central African Republic town

**BIDJAN** - The United Nations' top genocide official said on Friday he had reports that militia fighters in Central African Republic hunted down and massacred members of the Fulani ethnic group during violence that killed 85 civilians this week. Clashes erupted on Monday in Bria, a town about 600 km (370 miles) northeast of the capital Bangui, between rival rebel groups the Popular Front for the Renaissance of Central African Republic (FPRC) and the Union for Peace in Central Africa (UPC). In a statement, Adama Dieng, the UN's Special Adviser on the prevention of genocide, said the FPRC reportedly singled out ethnic Fulani in the town, carrying out house-to-house searches, killing, looting and abducting residents. **Reuters**

### Suspected car bomb kills 10 people in Somali capital

**MOGADISHU** - A suspected car bomb killed at least 10 people when it exploded at a police checkpoint next to a busy market in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, yesterday, police and witnesses said. Reuters witnesses saw several bodies at the scene of the blast near the vegetable market in Mogadishu's Waberi district, where shops and stalls were wrecked and ambulances raced away with casualties. Pools of blood lay on the ground. The Somali Islamist group al Shabaab often carries out such attacks in the capital, although there was no immediate claim of responsibility by the group, which wants to topple the Western-backed government and impose its strict interpretation of Islam. **Reuters**

### 2 die in controversial Zim army recruitment drive

**MUTARE** - It's a story that shows just how desperate Zimbabweans are for jobs - and sadly for two of them it ended in tragedy. Around 6 000 youths turned out for an army recruitment exercise in the eastern city of Mutare last week. There were only 350 places on offer, according to the state-run Manica Post on Friday. Two youths collapsed and died during a run along a highway that was part of the selection process, the paper said. This army recruitment drive is not confined to Mutare but is understood to be nationwide. **News24**



## BRIEFS

## Indonesia police say militant was making powerful bombs

JAKARTA — Indonesian police said a suspected Islamic militant arrested earlier this week was making explosives more powerful than those used in the 2002 Bali bombings that killed 202 people. National Police spokesperson Rikwanto said yesterday that Rio Priatna Wibawa, 23, is believed to be linked to Bahrin Naim, an Indonesian militant fighting with the Islamic State group in Syria who has orchestrated attacks at home including a January attack in the capital Jakarta that killed eight people. Rikwanto, who goes by one name, said bomb-making explosives were recovered from a laboratory in Wibawa's home in Majalengka town, West Java province. "They could create bombs three times as powerful as the Bali bombs," he said.

AP

## Hundreds of thousands gather in South Korea for 5th week of protests against Park

SEOUL — Hundreds of thousands rallied in central Seoul yesterday for a fifth week of protests against President Park Geun-hye, in the largest ongoing series of demonstrations in the country since the 1987 movement to democratise South Korea.

Park's presidency has been rocked by allegations that a close friend used her ties to the leader to meddle in state affairs and wield improper influence. Prosecutors investigating the case have indicted her friend, Choi Soon-sil, and are seeking to question the president about her role in the scandal. AP

## Pacquiao says Philippines drug problem 'beyond imagination'

TOKYO — The Philippines' drug problem is "beyond imagination", boxing legend Manny Pacquiao said yesterday in Tokyo, defending his hard-liner president's controversial anti-drug campaign. "The problem in our country is beyond of our expectation, beyond of our imagination that these illegal drugs in our country is really bad," he said in English at a press conference held by the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan. "A lot of our government officials, elected officials are involved with this illegal drug," he said, defending Duterte's crackdown which has drawn global condemnation for alleged extrajudicial killings. Pacquiao, who was elected to the Senate in May, also supports Duterte's call to restore the death penalty for drug traffickers in the mainly Catholic nation. He himself is a convert to a conservative Christian sect. AFP

## Syrian troops capture east Aleppo neighbourhood from rebels

BEIRUT — The Syrian army says troops have captured a neighbourhood in the northern city of Aleppo 10 days after the government resumed its offensive on the besieged rebel-held eastern part of the city. Yesterday's capture of the Hanano district came days after government forces and their allies launched an offensive in the area in deadly street battles.

The army said troops "have seized full control" of the eastern district in Syria's largest city. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said troops now control most of the district, adding that Hanano was the first Aleppo neighborhood to fall into the hands of rebels in 2012.

News24



## SUNDAYOBSERVER WORLD NEWS

The right place | The right Sunday

## CUBAN LEADER FIDEL CASTRO DIES AT 90

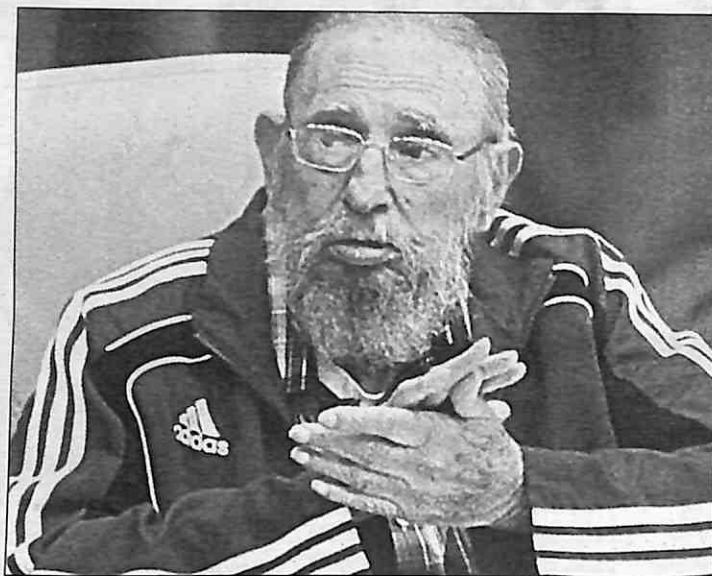
HAVANA — Fidel Castro, Prime Minister of Cuba from 1959 to 1976 and president from 1976 to 2008, has died, aged 90.

He was a key figure in the Cuban Revolution that overthrew Cuban President Fulgencio Batista in 1959, before he assumed military and political power as Cuba's Prime Minister, turning Cuba into a one-party socialist state.

He was lauded as a socialist, anti-imperialist and humanist, and played a key role in the South African conflict, supplying troops and support to the Angolan regime during their Cold War battle with South Africa in the north of what was then South West Africa, prior to Namibia achieving independence.

No one could have predicted his place in history when he launched his revolutionary career with a botched attack on Cuba's Moncada military barracks in 1953.

The 26-year-old lawyer was captured and jailed for the failed raid, which ended with dozens of rebels killed or executed by dictator



Cuba's former president Fidel Castro attends the closing ceremony of the seventh Cuban Communist Party (PCC) congress in Havana, Cuba in 19 April 2016.

Fulgencio Batista's forces.

Fast forward six years, and Castro was triumphantly rolling into Havana, having returned from exile to lead a guerrilla army that once numbered just 12 men to defeat Batista and his military of 80 000.

Alarmed, the US Central Intelligence Agency and Cuban exiles tried to assassinate Castro 634 times, his ex-intelligence chief, Fabian Escalante, has estimated.

Castro once told Spanish journalist Ignacio Ramonet he nearly

always carried his Browning pistol just in case.

But he denied reports he wore a bullet-proof vest.

"I have a moral vest. It's strong. It has always protected me," he told journalists in 1979, baring his chest to prove the point.

Castro defined himself in opposition to the American "empire," and the resentment lingers to his dying day. After Barack Obama sealed the two nations' historic rapprochement by visiting Cuba in March, Castro told Cubans not to be fooled by the US president's "syrupy words."

He recalled the island's long enmity with the US, including Washington's backing for the failed invasion of Cuba at the Bay of Pigs in 1961. His bitterness over that botched CIA plot played a part in pushing the world to the brink of nuclear war during the Cuban Missile Crisis the following year, when the Soviet Union agreed to his request to send ballistic missiles to Cuba.

eNCA

## Cuban exiles in Miami's 'Little Havana' celebrate

MIAMI — News of communist revolutionary leader Fidel Castro's death was greeted with solemn silence in Havana, but in its namesake Little Havana — a Miami neighbourhood home to many Cuban exiles — jubilant crowds waved flags and banged pots and pans.

Cars beeped their horns, while singing of the Cuban National Anthem 'La Bayamesa' and dancing continued after it started to rain, according to reports.

People shouted "Cuba Libre! (Cuba is free)" and "el viejo murió" (the old man is dead), while others chanted: "Fidel! Tirano! Llevate tu her-

mano!" (Fidel! Tyrant Take your brother with you!)

Under Castro's regime, thousands of exiles and refugees fleeing fearing poverty and persecution settled in the US — with Castro facing criticism for presiding over alleged human rights abuses.

Many travelled there as minors under programmes such as Operation Pedro Pan, or were part of the Mariel boatlift in 1980, which was triggered by a sharp downturn in the Cuban economy. Castro had declared: "Anyone who wants to leave Cuba can do so."

Relations between the two countries appeared to warm in recent

years, with US President Barack Obama conducting his first official visit to the country in 2015. Yet the scenes in Miami demonstrate that animosity between the nations remains. One journalist reported that many of those leading the music in Little Havana wore hats bearing slogans supporting US President-elect Donald Trump, while an inflatable effigy to the billionaire businessman was also seen at the celebrations. Meanwhile, those in Cuba reacted with sadness to the news that the leader, who had freed the nation from the clutches of dictator Fulgencio Batista in 1959.

Independent

## Trump ignoring recount focusing on new hires

MADISON — President-elect Donald Trump's transition team is ignoring questions about efforts to recount votes in key battleground states, focusing instead on the latest additions to his administration.

Trump chose Fox News analyst Kathleen Troia 'KT' McFarland to serve as deputy national security adviser and campaign attorney Donald McGahn as White House counsel.

In a statement on Friday, Trump cited McFarland's "tremendous experience and innate talent" and said McGahn "has a brilliant legal mind, excellent character and a deep understanding of constitutional law".

Having faced criticism about the



President-elect Donald Trump.

inexperience of his initial picks, Trump found in McFarland someone who had worked under three presidents, although none since

Ronald Reagan.

McGahn, a veteran Republican election lawyer, served as Trump's attorney during the campaign. Neither requires Senate confirmation.

Trump was spending the long Thanksgiving holiday weekend with family at his Palm Beach estate, Mar-a-Lago, and was expected to return to New York today.

He was scheduled to meet tomorrow with eight prospective administration hires, including several business leaders, Pennsylvania Rep Lou Barletta and Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, Sheriff David Clarke, an aggressive opponent of the Black Lives Matter movement, who is himself African-American.

AP

## Polls open in Kuwait as opposition returns

KUWAIT CITY — Polls opened in Kuwait yesterday for the oil-rich Gulf state's seventh general election in a decade, at a time of sharp disputes over subsidy cuts due to falling oil revenues.

Analysts are expecting a large turnout in the snap polls triggered by the return of the opposition, which boycotted the previous two elections to protest the government amendment of the electoral law.

Female voters were lined up to cast their ballots at the women's polling station in Jabriya, just south of the capital Kuwait City, as polls opened at 8 am (0500 GMT). Voting is taking place at 100 polling stations set up in schools, with separate centres for men and women, and some 483 000 people eligible to cast their ballots.

The government's austerity measures, mainly hiking petrol prices, were the top issue at election rallies.

A majority of the 293 candidates, which includes 30 opposition hopefuls, vowed during the election campaign to issue legislation to prevent the government from taxing citizens.

The OPEC member has seen its oil income, which made up 95 percent of public revenues, nosedive by 60 per cent over the past two years. AP



## SUNDAYCOMMENT:

## Throw the book at piracy thugs

There is something quite phenomenal happening in our music industry—local music is finally getting the support and appreciation it has craved for years.

Not only is this in appreciation of the talent that is being showcased, but it is in real tangible support with people purchasing CDs. Local music is finally coming alive, and this is not just gospel music which has dominated for years, but it is other genres such as hip hop and soul.

Such artists as 'Bholoja' have pioneered this kind of support, showcasing amazing brilliance and artistry to stake their claim in the industry.

When Sandziso 'Sands' Matsebula debuted his album, 'Sands of Time' last week, it was sold out in a matter of hours, although this is also a case of the artist underestimating the demand for his music. However, the point is that his album was sold out in a few hours. There is just such a demand for 'Sands' music, and people have been begging for it.

However, a few days after its release, pirated copies of the album were already available on the streets, being sold to the gullible public who are desperate for the album. This is daylight robbery! Thankfully, the Mozambican man who was selling the pirated copies at the bus rank was caught red handed and has been promptly arrested. The pirated copy was being sold for a mere E20 instead of the retail price of E120.

This is the cancer that has robbed many musicians a prolific career in music, and for years it has been difficult to bring to book those found in the bus ranks selling pirated music.

To think the album was just days old and had already been pirated shows the growth of the piracy industry that has robbed Swazis of their hard earned money. It is widely known that this is a thriving business in nearby Maputo, and the more it is not tackled, the more Swazis will be denied of a successful career.

However, the case of the Mozambican man who has been arrested should be used to set an example of dealing with piracy—lock him up for years! This should help us be able to rid ourselves of the thugs who have denied Swazis their potential, and obviously the economy of the country itself.

To put this to its context, many locals would have made money from music, but their music never sells in the shops, because people can buy from the street.

This is the final straw. We should all support local music, and not the black market.

## Analysis &amp; opinion



BY MBONGENI MBINGO

## TOUGH TIMES AWAIT



Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini.

A fortnight ago, government moved to confirm that which we had known for a while, or even, we had suspected for the better part of the year—that it was struggling to find the cash to pay suppliers and service providers.

The statement by the minister of finance sought to reassure the public that paying suppliers and service providers remained a priority, with the minister adding they 'regretted that the present cash flow situation had resulted in delayed payments'. In addition, the ministry then invited the suppliers to file in their claims by Wednesday this week, which on the one hand sends the message that government doesn't even have the full extent of who it owes, while also showing it is willing to consider that there are cases of suppliers not in their system, for whatever reason. The tone of the minister's statement is that government is appealing for calm, and that claims would be staggered so as to allow government to raise revenues somewhere in order to settle. I suppose we first have to appreciate the bold move by the minister to communicate this position to the public, for it is unprecedented. The financial crisis, or cash flow crisis, as government is known to prefer, has been the topic for a good few months for many a supplier who has been struggling to make ends meet, or meet their own business obligations. Government suppliers are normally sent from pillar to post when they have to get what is due to them, so they pretty much get used to it, although the uncertainty over when they will actually get their money makes running their businesses so difficult.

It is these suppliers who can tell you for certain how big the crunch is, and if there is any signs on the horizon. And they should know because normally, those in the know often spread the word, in the faint hopes they will get 'compensated' by those desperate to get paid, itself a problem for the country in general when it comes to the culture of corruption we embody so well.

As it is, if one may digress, the culture has permeated government officers and officials so much we have found ourselves with an influx of a nation we now look at with distaste and suspicion, now the subject of a commission of inquiry into how these found themselves in the country in such large numbers. The probe into the Asian influx does more to expose how

those Asians with corrupt elements have found their ways into the rural community, settled nicely and spread quickly than it reveals the culprits who take what little is offered to them in exchange for the permits allowing them to run those same fish and chips businesses some Swazis now claim they are capable of running.

The truth is, the environment is perfect for those desperate to settle down, and a perfect hideout for those who may be perceived to be in pursuit of other agendas. It is perfect because Swazis like to take, with ease, without hesitation. It is perfect because Swazis are in essence lazy and love a short cut. It is perfect because Swazis are desperate and yet do not want to get up and do something to change the situations they are in.

## Perfect

It is perfect because Swazis love a lifestyle that comes easily without any work. It might be stretching it a little, but since time immemorial, Swazis have been the kind of nation that easily gets excitable at the little the foreigner has to offer; that is why history teaches us that King Somhlolo I warned against this, and how King Mswati I allowed the whites to take whatever chunk of land they wanted once they gave him such little gifts as mirrors.

Hundreds of years later, we have come full circle and instead of dealing with this, are looking for an easy excuse. For me, Swazis have to take a good look in the mirror and ask themselves if they are not contributing to the Asian influx, and how as a nation we can solve this culture that led to us finding it easy to sell our soul so cheaply.

As I have mentioned, the same culture is playing itself out in every government department where services have to be rendered—services that should be offered for free. Suppliers and service providers are always made to pay whenever they have to get their payments—well, of course many others are paying their way through tenders of course.

## Finance

Nevertheless, the point I want to make today is that the finance minister's statement was revealing as to the cash flow crisis to the extent that government was seeking to reassure suppliers they will be paid once there are funds available.

That should send the warning bells all round; when government defaults on payments, especially to the private sector, the domino effect has devastating consequences. This has a huge bearing on the economy, especially because some of these companies struggle to pay their own employees, who in turn are unable to spend to keep the economy going. This situation could have been foretold in April, when the minister tabled his budget. It was clear he was too optimistic in his budgeting, and left himself a big hole to fill in financing his budget. The announcement he made two weeks ago shows that he is battling to find other sources of income, and as it is an open secret we have a huge wage bill, all the tax collection goes to paying the civil service and other essential services. This means government has to find alternative means of stimulating the economy, without resorting to external borrowing. I am certain we have

probably over-borrowed from the domestic sector too, which then puts an overemphasis on the Swaziland Revenue Authority to vigorously go out there to collect as much as they can. That leads to putting too much pressure on private sector, which may lead in turn to businesses closing down. That would add to the economy contracting, and soon, we may be forced to confront the uncomfortable question of the civil service needing to be trimmed, even if this is considered a no-go area. Our only hope is the SACU receipts, and yet, the signs are ominous that that too isn't so reliable an income stream and therefore in the next year we might get even less than what we got this year. Clearly, we are headed for difficult times. Sadly, government doesn't seem to be capable, if not willing, of belt-tightening measures in order to keep its expenditure low. That also speaks volumes of the culture of spending within government, with officials demanding external trips every given opportunity. Added to this is the reality that a recruitment exercise is just around the corner, despite that we can't seem to afford to pay the ones we have. News of the public enterprises being given the go-ahead for a salary bump only sends chills up the spine. Just as it seems the people in the rural communities are just too willing to take the little cash in exchange for land, everyone now seems to only care about what they can get out of their economy, without a care for where the money is coming from. This is a worrying sign for disaster lying ahead.



# LET'S EXPOSE OUR YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS TO OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND SWAZILAND



**NOKUKHANYA  
GAMEDZE**

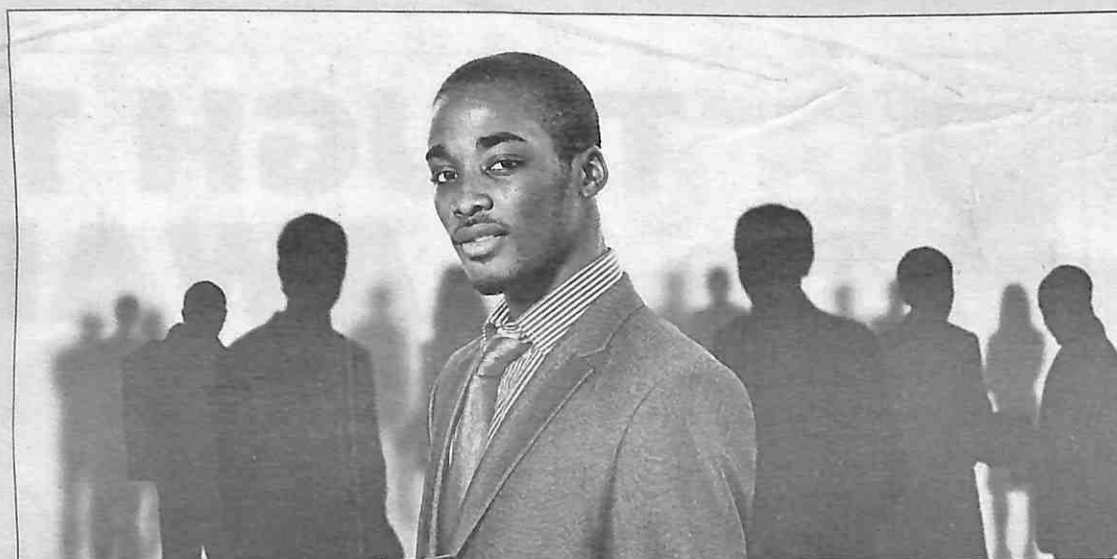
JA BOARD CHAIR

The exciting element about the Global Entrepreneurship Week is that efforts towards building entrepreneurs get to be celebrated globally.

Swaziland got an invitation from the National Young Entrepreneurs Association based in Mozambique to send a delegation of young Swazi entrepreneurs to an entrepreneurship conference and fair held in Mozambique on November 18-19.

The invitation to Swazi youth entrepreneurs came through the Commonwealth Alliance of Young Entrepreneurs - Southern Africa (CAYESA) and Swaziland was able to send a delegation of 40 young people to Mozambique, affording them this unique opportunity to interact with their counterparts from that country. One of our local entrepreneurs, Mfundo Mohammed, was part of the panelists at the conference.

The motivation behind this conference was the realisation that the youth is lagging behind in providing solutions to the socio-economic issues that are experienced and cutting across the SADC region. The conference was also intended towards promoting youth engagement in entrepreneurship, specifically addressing the role of young entrepreneurs towards foreign direct investment. The final aspect of the conference was meant to provide a platform for young entrepreneurs to build international networks and identify opportunities of building business linkages in Mozambique. The Swazi delegation of entrepreneurs



was very excited to have been a part of this once in a lifetime opportunity. JA Swaziland was able to send 15 participants as part of the delegation and it was very inspiring and interesting to hear their experiences and lessons learned from the trip.

Nkosingiphile Shabangu, who is in partnership with Thobeka Nxumalo and they established Valour Beauty Parlour that focuses on the unique needs of women, was inspired by the Mozambican's entrepreneurial culture. "As soon as you gain access into Mozambique, the first thing you will see is that Mozambicans have a mind for business. In every street corner around you, there is someone waiting to be of service to you, at a charge of course. The people have witnessed so many hardships so much they do not let go of an opportunity to make money. Observing such taught me that as Swazis we still have a long way to go in identifying business opportunities around us," she said.

She said.

The conference itself provided an opportunity for the young entrepreneurs to meet other like-minded young people.

Nkosingiphile admitted that language was a major barrier in communication as the Mozambican nationals were mainly Portuguese speaking. However, she revealed that she connected with a Mozambican lady who is in the tourism industry and shared lots of business ideas. She pointed out that this experience created in her the desire to see the world more to be exposed to different ways in which she can develop her business.

For Mfundo Mabuza, the trip was more of an information exchange platform. Mfundo established Khangisa Ngwane, an IT company that develops mobile applications, websites and many more

IT related services. He was privileged to have had this opportunity as he is looking at ways in which he can expand his business and break into the international market. He therefore had a chance to scout the business potential in Mozambique.

"The trip exposed me to some of the IT people and we got to share ideas. I was also inspired when listening to the presentations during the conference highlighting the role of young people in creating solutions for the economic challenges that we face.

It made me realise that growing my business will not only benefit my country but our success will reflect positively on the SADC region as well," he pointed out.

He stated that the exposure to Mozambique broadened his mentality to realize that there is market for IT businesses beyond the borders of Swaziland.

He got to see the gap that exists in the IT space in Mozambique which he believes Swaziland can offer a lot to bridge this gap.

The trip was a reaffirmation experience for Sethule Maziya, the first JA Alumni woman entrepreneur to venture into the construction industry. This young lady who is the co-owner of Simple Construction disclosed that having the opportunity to be in Mozambique provided a lot of insight that she would have missed had she not been part of the trip.

"Firstly I was reassured that being in business was a wise choice that allows me to be a part of building the country's economy. Challenging as it might be to be an entrepreneur, many successful entrepreneurs will be born during the present time when we are experiencing a lot of economic instability. This is because it will inspire creativity and innovation in which we find ways to glide past the economic instability," she said.

Sethule also expressed that language was a barrier in Mozambique but she was able to identify an opportunity to create a client base in Mozambique, regardless.

She also observed that the trip was just not about creating networks in Mozambique but the Swazi delegation was comprised of entrepreneurs who had never met before, which made her realize the need of similar networks even in the country.

The experiences of these young entrepreneurs underline one important aspect of entrepreneurship - NETWORKS. To progress and thrive as an entrepreneur you need business contacts and networks. As an organisation in the entrepreneurship development space, it is imperative for us to create platforms where our youth entrepreneurs can build networks that will be fruitful in the not so distant future. This is one of the reasons we established the Business Development Services department which is responsible for supporting JA Alumni who have chosen to take up entrepreneurship as a career path.



Over 300 members of the Federation of Swaziland Employers and Chamber of Commerce (FSE&CC), as well as key stakeholders including the ministry of commerce, industry and trade attended the FSE&CC Gala Dinner themed 'King IV - Reinforcing Corporate Governance'.

The voice of business in Swaziland is grateful to all its members who made the event the success it was, and special thanks goes to the sponsors; Nedbank, Swazi Air-link, Esibayeni Lodge, Print Pak, as well as the Sunday Observer for having provided the FSE&CC this platform to interact with you dear reader.

Ansie Ramalho, who was the guest speaker from the Institute of Directors in Southern Africa, delivered a one-hour presentation on corporate governance which left most of the companies' executives wanting more. In her presentation, the guest speaker encouraged Swazi companies to make corporate governance a business culture as opposed to law if they are to reap its benefits. During her presentation on the King IV code, which aims to reinforce corporate governance principles, she said the code was unique in that it took cognisance of the culture and values of the African people who are known for *Ubuntu* - I am, because of you. Ramalho said it was prudent that businesses look out for the envi-

## FSE&CC members make it happen

● We are actively engaging with all levels of Government together with our Development partners to be the Voice of Business in Swaziland.

ronment they operate in, for without the society and the natural resources at their disposal, business would be a nightmare.

Having been challenged by the honorable Minister of Commerce, industry and Trade Jabulani Mabuza to take a lead in setting good corporate standards, the 'voice of business in Swaziland' will soon be conducting trainings for its members on the King IV code in order to expedite the professionalisation and development of Swazi businesses which are key to employment creation and development of the Swazi economy. But in today's edition, we share with you the speech by the FSE&CC President Andrew Le Roux, which he delivered during his opening remarks at the Gala Dinner.

"The FSE&CC is facing many of the same challenges that we as a country are facing. Times are tough.

At a macro level, the world economy is facing significant headwinds; there are unprecedented tensions between stakeholders, regions, religions and people groups.

Regions and countries are becoming more nationalistic, isolationist and protectionist. Trade deals and Economic Unions are under pressure, surprising (and alarming!).

At a micro level, we have faced crippling, and often violent and acrimonious strikes. We are exiting one of the worst droughts in living memory.

Our government is struggling to pay many of its service providers and we now have a negative GDP and are the worst performing economy in the region. And yet, through all of these challenges, there is reason for optimism, and we remain resolute in the belief that Swaziland is a great place to live and do business, and the knowledge that we have the people, resources, leadership and skills to make, and do things better for all of us.

2016 has also been a year of progress and successes. The FSE&CC successfully lobbied and advocated for the promulgation of the ICT Bill into an Act; participated in negotiations for the conclusion of the SADC - European Partnership Agreement; and par-

ticipated in the development of the draft SADC Industrialisation Policy; all of which are critical for doing business.

Never before has it been more important for the Private Sector - the very engine for economic growth, wealth creation and employment - to have a credible voice, a guiding hand, an innovative approach and a resolute social conscience to partner with government and stakeholders to grow and better our economy and country.

It is no secret that the FSE&CC has not had the ear of government for many years, and we are putting concrete steps in place to correct this. We are actively engaging with all levels of government together with our development partners to be the Voice of Business in Swaziland. We are raising our voices, and are being heard. We are putting systems, people and training in place to better serve you, our members. We are working hard to do things better and to be the gateway to both local and foreign investors into Swaziland.

And in order to have achieved this, a few special thank you's to the outgoing President, Sandile Simelane, for leading the FSE&CC over the past few years, and overseeing our inputs and interactions during these challenging times.

And also to the FSE&CC Vice-Presidents Fikile Nkosi and Bheki Maziya, and the board and excommittee of the FSE&CC for your support, engagement and enthusiasm in supporting the organisation. And to every committee member, sector chairman and participants for your valuable time and dedication.

We also thank the leadership and Government of Swaziland, for actively engaging with us, hearing our concerns and advising us on doing things better. A special thank you to the ministry of commerce, industry and trade, which is our line ministry, and the ministry of finance with whom we have engaged on a regular basis on matters of mutual interest in growing the economy of Swaziland. To our membership, for entrusting the board and secretariat, to represent you at local, regional and international fora.

One can never forget to acknowledge the FSE&CC CEO, and her team for persevering under difficult circumstances, and for delivering when they do not always have the resources to do so. And so, to all of us, thank you for being here and I pray that you have a peaceful and blessed festive season, and that you, and your families, get the chance to rest and recharge as we prepare to do things better in 2017 and beyond."





BY Comfort Mabuza

# SO THIS IS DEMOCRACY, USA

● When the popular opinion is not delivering the expected outcome

To say the USA President-Elect Donald Trump is not the ideal candidate that the world wanted to ascend to the White House for the next four years is an understatement.

The Americans are still recovering from the great shock now that they must live with Trump, who like a Tsunami, swept the boards and caused upset of winning with such great margins, leaving us all perplexed how he made it after unsavoury statements he made in the build-up to this historic win.

The world markets tumbled as the results finally came through. While many Americans screamed, "NOT TRUMP!" His greatest sin was for stating if he won the elections, he would ensure the eviction all unwanted migrants out of the USA, especially the Africans and those from Latin America and the Caribbean. Americans have since spoken and the Hillary Clinton admirers and supporters have accepted the results with much duress.

The opinion polls conducted just before November 8, were in favour of the well admired Hillary Clinton. A caption that was circulated widely on the internet just before the big day with Clinton's picture on the World map had the caption, "The Entire World Wants Hillary to Win," we were all made to believe that it was already a done deal and she was on her way to the White House.

Shocked as we all might be, American life continues and theirs is believed to be the best Democracy still. But how do we live with such a bad result that the USA democracy has delivered? Well, this is the heartbeat of human rights, once people have spoken through the ballot box their wish-

● This reality is s glaring for all to see, as we have always thought the USA is the champion of equality, but this election results says they have a long way to go to be role models for women emancipation to hold even the office of the presidency.

es must be respected. So this is democracy at its best, but can the popular voice be always right?

## WHEN DEMOCRACY DOES NOT DELIVER THE BEST

The Americans have shown us that their national dream of sustaining democratic ideals is far more important than any individual's. Listening to Hillary Clinton say, "The Americans have spoken and Trump is our President," I thought well these Americans surely respect their democratic order. So this is democracy, when an unpopular person wins, they are still given due respect for winning. Watching CNN, for instance, the political commentators were in complete shock and denial at how this American Philanthropist made history triumphantly and in great strides, winning the race in the last 100 metres.

What do you do when the popular candidate is beaten hands down when we least expected?

Well, Americans have taught us, in a democratic order you accept the results and listen to people's voices echoing in the ballot boxes once people have spoken. But not so in African democracies, unfortunately, probably there would be a huge outcry of suspected rigging.

One thing that stands out is that Americans love their Constitution and respect their cherished democratic ideals religiously. Locally, those who crammed the American Embassy at Ezulwini Valley speak fondly on how strong this American democra-

cy is, and as Donald Trump was declared American's President-Elect, pushing the democrats out of power, the Americans are standing with their new man. So this is Democracy, the American's herald value system that makes them the land of the free, very interesting indeed. You may wonder what has this to do with human rights, well once the voice of the people speaks it should be seen respected, and no one should stand against popular vote.

## BUT USA HAS FAILED WOMEN POWER

Human rights advocates for equality of both sexes. We were holding our breath that finally Americans out of all countries claiming equality for all will usher the first Women President, and this would have been the greatest historical moment for them. But now as reality is sinking, perhaps the land of the free still has issues about women leadership at that level. The results of this election is speaking even louder, that perhaps the USA is not what we thought it is, when it comes to women rising to decision making positions.

So even in this herald democracy, women are still expected to do twice as much to be recognised. Painful as this may sound, it is indeed a big blow and a great setback to those who look up to the USA when speaking of equality of both sexes being given equal chances. USA is really also struggling on recognising women for the presidency, hello America.

Great Britain has done and so did Germany in elevating women to high

office, but not so in the USA.

This reality is s glaring for all to see, as we have always thought the USA is the champion of equality, but this election results says they have a long way to go to be role models for women emancipation to hold even the office of the presidency.

A great missed opportunity by the Americans unfortunately, and this is a huge dent.

To Americans, you sure have a lot of explanation to do, how can you fail gender equality you so eloquently advocate for? Does it mean there are no capable American women to take charge at Presidency in Washington DC?

The Americans dismal failure to set the agenda of gender equality by endorsing Hillary Clinton as president needs robust discussions.

Is this America the land of the free? Surely you owe the world an explanation. Human rights advocates for equality of both sexes, but it was not to be in the US, but why?

## OBAMA'S LEGACY

To say Obama's rich historical legacy will remain for quite some time is an understatement. He has not only made history by being the first Black President, who traces his ancestry to Africa, Kenya to be precise, but has led this great nation with great honour and dignity.

His time in the White House will forever be remembered as the best of all times. No controversies or corruption were associated with the presidency during his tenure, we salute

this great African son.

Americans will miss his oratory skills and powerful display of leadership abilities in a world that is so bankrupt of such. His foreign policy might have been doubted but there were no witnessed wars against the world purportedly to be driven by greed and power over needed resources like oil and energy.

He was committed to help relieve greater challenges like HIV and AIDS through his PEPFAR and other timely interventions that was aimed at restoring human dignity. We will forever remember him.

## SHOCKED YET ASSURING

Locally, political commentators were shocked and failed to make sense out of all this shocking result.

Well, the outgoing President Obama has already met Trump, and true to their cherished ideals, it is America first before anything else, and democracy is their cherished ideal. American founding fathers laid a firm foundation that has remained so strong and indeed unshakable.

So this is democracy according to the Americans and is celebrated with fanfare as forever imbedded in their values. We have seen statesmanship and there was no need of lightening arrester. The presidential contesters have since congratulated each other, and await the January 8 Inauguration.

It promises to be an interesting and historical moment, when an African American President will handle a mantle to the President-Elect. So this is democracy, the American dream worth celebrating I think.

These are human rights ideals Americans subscribes to, and remains the envy for the many developing democracies.

## Planning ahead gives peace of mind



How time flies! No sooner had we said Happy New Year than the year started creeping to an end. Many things happened to different people during the course of the year 2016.

There were losses, gains, Trump, births, deaths, mistakes... The list goes on and on. If you are one of those that made mistakes, we would like to remind you that where there is life, there is a chance to rectify things and do better. After all it's through falling that we become better runners.

One of the biggest mistakes people make is failure to see beyond today, living like there's no tomorrow. Life does throw curveballs time and again, and many people are usually found wanting.

Throughout the year we have seen families in the media pleading for financial assistance because one of their own has passed away and they have no means to foot funeral bills.

### Dignity

It is always a sad day when that happens, because begging takes away a degree of dignity.

There is, however, dignity in planning ahead. It prevents future stress that comes with unexpected expenses and not knowing where to start. Planning ahead, which in this case is euphemism for getting a Dups funeral plan, gives you peace of mind.

You can then afford to walk with an extra spring in your step and confidently say, "I've got this!"

We have numerous cases where people had faithfully paid their premiums for years, then for some reason, just slip up before disaster strikes.

They suffer a loss, and suddenly remember they USED TO have a policy with Dups and come to see if they can probably chance a claim, only to find alas, it has been cancelled! As the year drifts towards a close, and hopefully before you splurge your money on non-essential items, we would like to encourage you to rather channel it towards things that count. We will refresh your memories or introduce you, as the case may be, to some Dups plans you might want to consider in the New Year.

Whether one is a vendor, teacher or corporate executive, we have a plan tailor-made for them to get a decent burial when their time comes.

The Dups Dignified Family Funeral

Plan covers the policy holder, his/her spouse, and up to six children on the initial premium. Additional spouses, extra children and extended family members can be covered at an added premiums.

This is the ideal plan for most families, and cover starts from at least E7 per month. You can hardly get a loaf of bread for that little, but it can get you peace of mind with a funeral cover from Dups.

Families are usually left in serious financial trouble following the passing of the breadwinner.

### Support

To reduce the devastating effect that death brings, we came up with the Dignified Family Support Cover Plan, which covers the main policyholder only and ensures that the family is financially provided for between the member's death and the winding up of estate. We have many families that have expressed so much gratitude for the Dignified Family Support Cover because follow-

ing their loss, they were still able to study, pay bills, and live an almost normal life. Some only got to know after the passing of the breadwinner that he/she had thought so well in advance that the family should still thrive even after his/her passing. How heartwarming is that! Next week we will highlight more of our funeral plans that you can reflect on and choose depending on your needs and circumstances.

### Plans

But should you feel the need for further explanation on the ones featured today, by all means get in touch with us. Call us on 2505 2028 to find out more about these and other plans in our stable.

You can also pay us a visit at our offices in Manzini, Matata, Matsapha, Simunye, Nhlanguano, Mbabane, Pigg's Peak and Siteki. Alternatively, you can send queries to [info@dupsgroup.com](mailto:info@dupsgroup.com), [www.facebook.com/dups](http://www.facebook.com/dups) or on Twitter @dupsinsurance.





LETHUMUSA  
SIMELANE

CELL: 7606 7049/ TEL: 2416 1278/9

**M**y grandparents used to keep quiet looking at us as we play. They used to lament on the changes that came with our time and quietly yet verbally said they wished to die soon before these sins multiply with time and caught up with them.

They were always glued in their world and being a child I will laugh at them. Little did we know that their world was completely different from ours! Now that my grandparents and their age mates are gone, reality begins to sink in. I find myself asking lots of questions about our lifestyle today and wonder if our children will ever be patriotic enough to understand the depth of our culture and tradition. I wonder if they will ever be in the country they love and appreciate. Sit down with me today as we reflect on the thoughts that revolved inside the mind of my grandfather and grandmother. The kind of children we leave behind us, are they strong enough to uphold the values of our culture? Have we done enough to groom them so that they understand that a nation without culture is doomed? It is true that culture keeps revolving but the way we have allowed it to revolve leaves a lot to be desired. *Asekhona yini emaSwati lati kutsi kuteka yini, kutekwa njani, nini, kuphi? Asekhona yini emaSwati langacini ngekugidza umtsimba, lati kutsi kuba nenkhomo yemasondvo? Lisiko lekukhonta bangakhi labasalilandzela?*

The family structure that existed during the time of my grandparents was completely different from the one we have today. It was a big family and grandfather was always in control. However, he could not take any decision without the involvement of grandmother. She acted as a helper and a foreseer of the implementation of projects dreamed by my grandfather. As the saying goes 'behind every successful man there is a woman' that was always feasible in my home. Without grandmother, one could tell that most of the projects could have not been implemented.

Our grandparents taught us that a child will always be a child no matter how old he or she may be. It was for that reason that our parents always took instructions from their parents. During their time, a child was taught responsibility and survival skills at a tender age. Boys went to look after cattle and spent most of their time with age mates. Younger boys were always sent to do errands for their elderly brothers. They grew up desiring to be like their big brothers so they can send their younger brothers as well. It was unusual for a man to enter into marriage when he did not have cattle and a place to stay. Seeing a police vehicle around or enter-

ing a home was associated with bad luck. Men used to wait until old age before they could commit to marriage. *Kwakusenetintfombi netingcuce, emajaha kanye nemabhungu*. Paying *lobola* was still valued and men took pride in doing it. *Kwakusenemshado, umtsimba, kanye nesishadawose*. Relatives used to value this and they came in numbers to support their family member. It was celebration more than just the ceremony.

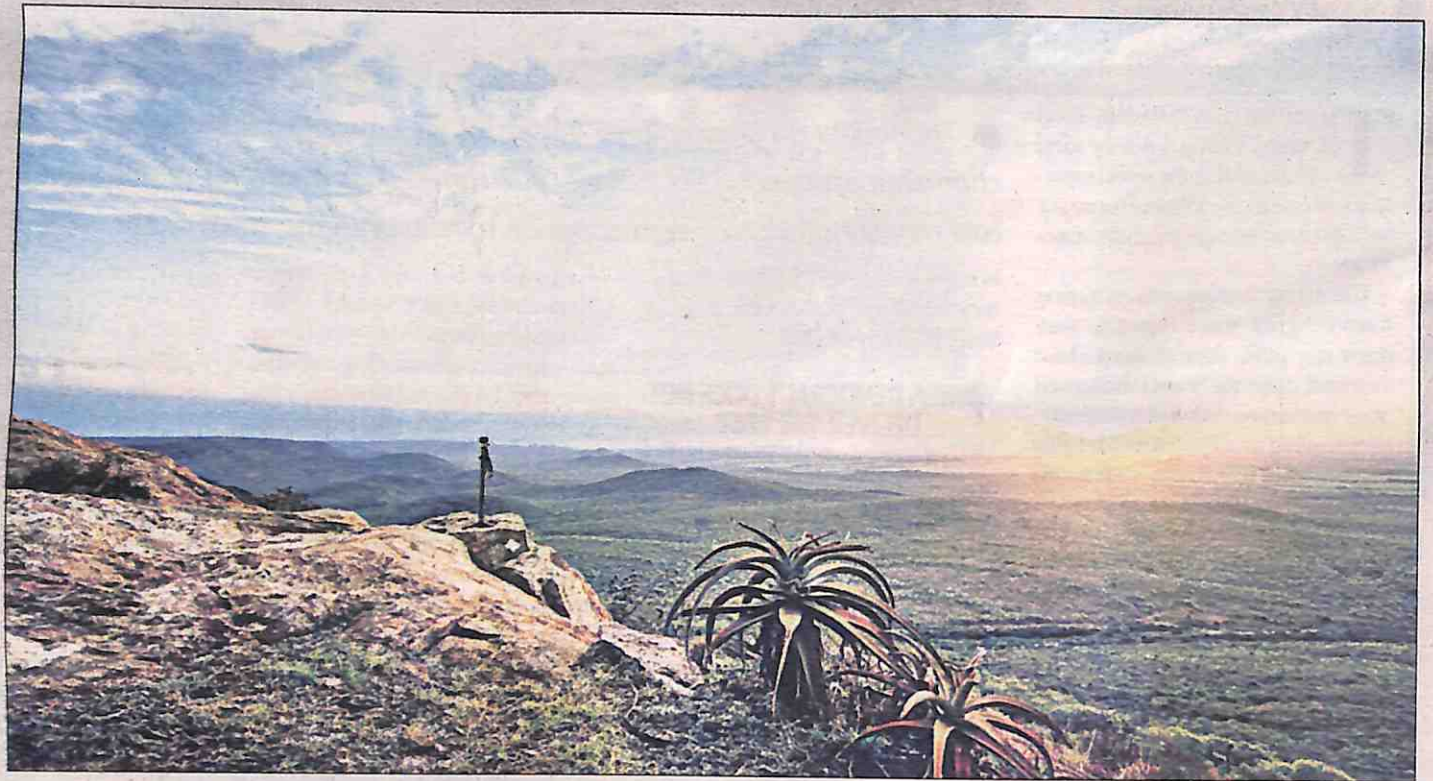
Those that were not married looked with envy at the couple. Young people felt motivated to follow suit and every member of the family ululated in jubilation. Family meetings and gatherings were plenty and unity among members was always visible. There would be lots of food to eat and take home. That generation of elderly people used to believe in family gatherings. Even though they were not working but they

used to take pride in uniting the family. *Kuphahla kanye nekuhlabela labaphansi* was common. No one could tell them what they were doing was ungodly. They believed in what they were doing and always saw rewards in it.

Were they swimming in a pool of ignorance and if so, why then are we like these today? Is it not because we have distanced ourselves way too much from our true belief that even our ancestors have turned their backs on us? *Sebahamba bonkhe labebati kutsi live liyengcayelwa*. During their time, it was nearly impossible to see a field that has not been cultivated. *Tilimo tatitinyenti*. Crop rotation was their strength. A field which was used for maize last year will be used for peanuts this year. They had maize, sorghum, bans, sweet potatoes, *emazambane*, pumpkins, *tindlulu* and the list was endless. During time for harvest, whoever

er that did not plough would want to relocate from that place. Seeing the good harvest made lazy people swear never to miss farming the following year. What I miss most is the time when we gather in the grandmother's hut where *bhata, tindlulu, tinceke, emantongomane* will be served for dinner. We will eat until our stomachs are full. A competition would automatically begin at night. The loudest pump will be heard to the extent that mice will freeze to come out of their hiding holes. I miss the time my grandmother used to cook *sijeza, sidvudvu sintjangabomu, tinceke, emadumbhe* for us. We ate together without being distracted by television and phones. Whilst eating, grandmother and grandfather used to get an opportunity to throw one or two words of wisdom to us. The part I used to enjoy most was when she told us folktales. She was a brilliant story-

# INDLELA ICENTFWA NGULONGANO HAMBANA NGAYO



● I find myself asking lots of questions about our lifestyle today and wonder if our children will ever be patriotic enough to understand the depth of our culture and tradition. I wonder if they will ever be in the country they love and appreciate.

## An Open Letter to Minister Phineas Magagula

Sir,

**M**r. Editor, thank you for allowing me space in your esteemed publication to express myself and cry out to the nation at large, more particularly to the minister of education and training, on the plight of Degreed primary schools teachers who are exploited to the core by their line ministry. Phineas, B.Ed Primary and BA holders possessing Post-Graduate Certificate in Education [PGCE] teaching in primary schools have been fiercely voicing their grievances about the

injustice and unfair labour practices meted unto them by the government with regard to proper remuneration. These fellow teachers have spent a lot of time and financial resources advancing themselves academically but in vain. The ministry continues to underpay them much against ILO 1951 Convention 100 which Swaziland ratified in June 5, 1981.

It dearly pains me to see teachers (supposedly professionals) the very architects of our society working tirelessly and under appalling conditions being paid peanuts in terms of salaries. Mr minister of education

and training, as a former teacher, college principal and president of SNAT, what is your take on all this? Your loud silence on this issue speaks volumes: it worries and scares us. You are conversant of the daily hardships faced by teachers as a former teacher and leader of the country's teacher's union (SNAT). Minister Phineas Magagula you were a member of the national executive for 12 years in SNAT. Six of those years you were a President.

You're on record to have promised to address many issues as a cabinet member. You said, I quote: "I have

● It dearly pains me to see teachers (supposedly professionals) the very architects of our society working tirelessly and under appalling conditions being paid peanuts in terms of salaries.

been exposed to all the ministries, and I do not think there is something too difficult for me to do," (ToS) 24-09-2013.

Now minister, you have heard the cries of these teachers as a minister: what are you saying/doing about it? Your silence is very worrying sir.

When you were elected into parliament in 2013 getting 1 197 votes in elections, teachers in your constituency, (Mhlume branch) took a stand to vote for you: they assumed that once in office you would fight

for them. What are they benefiting now? For they took a stand against the call to boycott the 2013 elections and took to the polling stations to cast their votes for they trusted and had faith in you comrade. Have you denounced SNAT comrade? I will address you as comrade for you are one, because, once SNAT always SNAT. SNAT 'akalali' neither does she sleep nor retire my leader.

A case in point is: for years, others over 10 years, qualified teachers have been made to wait for transfers to



teller with great sense of humour.

These folks used to respect culture and tradition. *Kudla lokusha bekungadliwa banikati belive bangakahumi. Kwetfula bekuhlonishwa ngobe bekuyinkhombha yekuhlonipha live, Mvelinchanti kanye nalabaphansi.* The food that was eaten by these people made them even leave longer than us today. It was very rare to find them in hospital because of sickness.

Young girls during their time went through stages. *Bekwatiwa kutsi timpumamlotsa tishokukhula. Gogo bekentaciniseko kutsi uyatishaya ngemchilo wakhe kute umtukulu wakhe atewukhula kahle angaphatamiseki. Intfombi beyiba yintfombi ngalokuphelele kanjalo nelijaha belitichenya ngebujaha balo.* These were the times when pregnancy before marriage was seen as a crime. Any man who has done that was made to pay a fine because *ungene esibayeni sendvoda angakayitfoli invume* and he was forced to pay five heads of cattle as a fine. It was a must for a girl to go the parents of his boyfriend to report the pregnancy. *Sebahamba labebati kutsi umtsentse uhlababa usamila. Bekusakhontwa umuntfu avaleliselwe lapho aphuma khona. Kwatiwe kutsi usukeleni lapho abewakhona. Nobe akhonta beka-boshelwa lifindvo kubitwe bomakhelwane batiswe ngekukhonta kwalo muntfu, hhayi lomuhla sewubona ngadaladi, netigulumba titewutsela sihlabatsi kutsi sekunamakhelwane. Akusahlali muntfu emphakatsi, bonkhe basemisebentini.*

In conclusion, change is inevitable but we need to be cautious not to lose our identity. There are values that were imprinted in us whilst still young and the time to teach them to our children has long been overdue. The gap between the old with their intelligence and the young with their ignorance is greatly widening. Now that we have adopted *sitsinjana*, soon we will be adopting after tears parties.

Who is going to rescue us from this long winter of civilization for we are not makers of history anymore? *Asho kutsini emaSwati nakatsi indlela icentfwa ngulonganohamba ngayo? Lolo yicentsako usuke aboneni nakayicentsa? Labasele ngemuva kwentiwa yini lokutsi bangatsandzi kuhamba ngale yondlela?* We must remember that as we leave in this world, we are either moulders of society or we are moulded by society. The latter seems common yet it leads to destruction. Our grandparents have shown us the way and it is upon us today to follow their footsteps. Looking around and seeing the challenges we go through culturally, socially as well as economically, it is clear we are straying away and my mind seems to attest to the notion that indeed, *indlela icentfwa ngulonganohamba ngayo!*

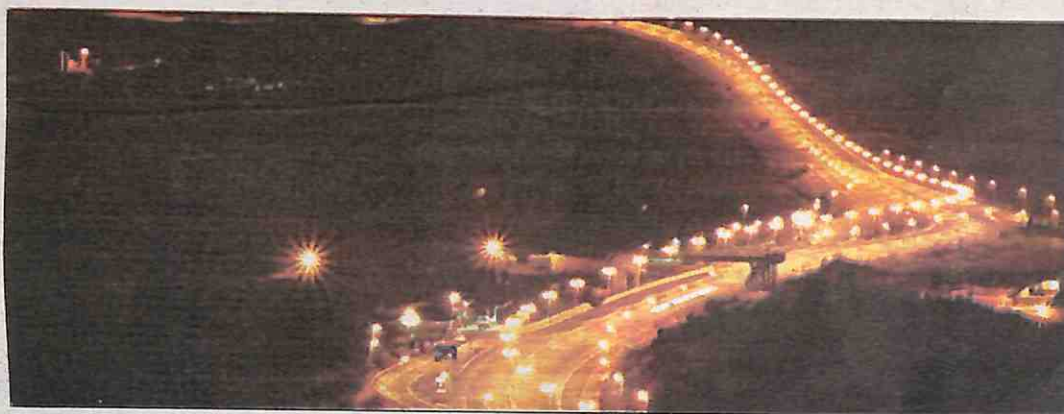


## TOURISM & TRAVEL

BY BONGANI DLAMINI  
STA Marketing Manager  
Email: mm@tourismauthority.org.sz



# LOCALS, TOURISTS SAFETY ON OUR ROADS IS PARAMOUNT



The festive season is upon us and naturally, excitement is in the air as we plan and embark on trips.

This is the season to visit each other, as the urban folk return to their home areas for family gatherings after a year of hard work, study, and so on. Also, this is the season friends embark on road trips, as they explore the depths and highs of our beautiful kingdom. Needless to mention, this is a time when families visit several leisure, hospitality, and entertainment places for bonding and other purposes. The long and short of it is; the festive season is characterised by intensive travel, which translates to increased traffic on the roads.

The Swaziland Tourism Authority (STA) does encourage such travel, especially within the country, as we are convinced that Swazis still have so much to see and experience within our borders, and there couldn't be a better time for such than now.

However, as much as the holiday season is filled with happiness and celebration, it can also be a time of danger for road users, whether locals or visitors. It is known that everyone around this time of the year is in a hurry trying to wrap up their shopping and enjoy festive celebrations. But as you're going around town, or as you travel to various leisure and entertainment places, it is vital to keep road safety top of the mind, as the streets are busier than usual.

As an active member of the Swaziland Road Safety Stakeholder Alliance (SRSSA), STA would like to remind visiting and local motorists of simple behaviours that can help them, their families and friends during this time of the year. Motorists and pedestrians alike share the responsibility of keeping themselves and others on the road safe. Residents of our various cities in the kingdom are also urged to be more careful on the roads.

Allow us to share a few friendly tips with you to ensure your festive season is a safe one:

Make sure your vehicle is in a road worthy condition before leaving on holiday. This may sound basic, but

many a traveller forgets this until the last minute. If you are planning to travel in December, this may be the time now to start taking stock of what areas of your vehicle would need attention. Some of the most obvious ones would include checking the grip of your tyres. Ensuring that all tyres of your vehicle are well threaded to withstand the wet surfaces of our roads during this season could save not just lives but money as well, since accidents eventually translate to a cost: cost of towing services, repairs, car hires, and so on. Road worthiness of a vehicle also speaks to such basics as your brakes, your suspension (shocks), engine, among other things. Perhaps this is the time to consider taking your vehicle for a full service if you haven't done so in a while.

The other tip we would like to share is to plan your route in good time, and if all possible, travel during the day.

Planning your route will not only ensure that your trip is cost-effective, but will present you with relevant alternatives. For example, let's consider a family that plans to travel to the northern part of Hhohho region from Mbabane. Depending on the type of vehicle they intend to use, they may use either the MR3 highway, until they branch off at Motshane to join the Pigg's Peak

road, or they may opt to use the Pine Valley to Mbuluzi road, and go past Jubukweni until they join the Maguga road at Mnyokane. The latter route would be fun in a 4x4 vehicle. Now, the road from Nkhamba shopping centre to Maguga Dam via Mnyokane is called 'the scenic route'. From the name, one expects to be met by spectacular and amazing scenery along this route.

In fact, there are several such routes throughout the country, where driving becomes a nature appreciation activity given the richness of our landscape and rivers. Planning these routes in advance, therefore, ensures that your travel is not only adventurous, but also entertaining. An elaborate road map of our country in relation to various tourism and hospitality establishments can be accessed and viewed freely on our website [www.thekingdomofswaziland.com](http://www.thekingdomofswaziland.com). One major cause of accidents on our roads is over-speeding. We encourage every motorist to stick to the speed limits specified at whatever road they will be travelling on. Although it now sounds a bit of a cliché, the fact that SPEED KILLS cannot be overemphasised. Perhaps let us remind our visitors that the speed limit on our highways is 120km/h (with even lower limits – which would be indicated on road signs – at steep, bends, and other

barriers). We are always encouraged to see our police service visible on the roads throughout this season, and would encourage motorists to view them as enablers of arriving safely to destinations as opposed to punishers.

We would also advise all road users to respect other road users. Look out and think for them. Think for the next motorist, the pedestrian, and the passenger, and act responsibly. Lastly, and by no means least, drink-driving in Swaziland is a punishable offence, hence visitors and locals should always ensure they are in the company of a sober driver.

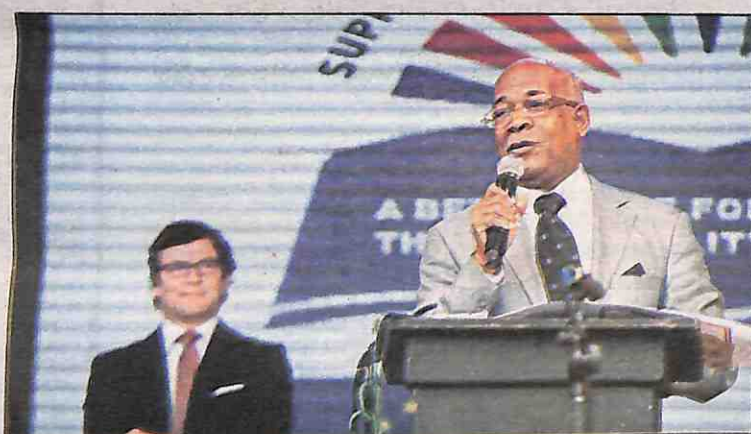
STA, and indeed the whole SRSSA, calls upon the nation to assist in making our roads safer for all because road safety is every person's responsibility. Let's be safe as we prepare for the festive season.

The Swaziland Tourism Authority is a member of the Swaziland Road Safety Stakeholder Alliance. The other members of the Alliance are Swaziland Epilepsy Organisation, Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross Society, Swaziland Beverages, Sincephetelo MVA Fund, Road Safety Council, Royal Swaziland Police, Fire and Emergency Services, EMS Swaziland, UniTrans, Driving Schools Association, and Swaziland Local Kombis Mini Bus Transport Association, among others.

secondary schools as per their qualifications; however, this process is very slow and frustrating to us as teachers. The corrupt practises taking place at TSC are very worrying and warrant an investigation by ACC on same as some teachers get transferred into high schools way before time in terms of the so called waiting list.

Teachers have been made to stoop to the level of bribery in order to get decent salaries: I do not know why. Compare teaching to other professions, those employed in those professions are paid according to their qualifications and get clear promotions but such doesn't happen in the teaching fraternity.

The issue of notching and confir-



mation is another thorn in the flesh of teachers. It takes a long time to happen and such frustrates the teachers and has a negative effect on their service delivery.

May I refer to an article written and published here interrogating the value of a qualification in Swaziland, why are certificates, diplomas and post graduate holders paid at the same

scale? Look at the issue of PTCs: it is very sad what is happening to them. These teachers are the ones who taught and nurtured the very leaders of our government who are now turning a blind eye and a deaf ear on the injustices done to these teachers. How I wish to have such powers to withdraw all the investment inculcated to these heartless leaders (government) so they could be worthless and illiterate.

We also appeal to have considerate officers at TSC, who will treat teachers with the respect and dignity they deserve.

Mr. minister, how are we as a country going to realise NDS? How are we going to attain reach first world status in 2022, as such a vision? Such

an ambition requires a well-educated and content society. Education should be prioritised and valued in the country.

This begins by addressing teachers' professional needs such as proper remuneration. Teachers' needs should be recognised and taken care off for good service delivery as a matter of extreme urgency.

Mr. minister, as a preacher of the Word, tap into the scriptures, digest the most just principle of faith: "do unto others what you would like done unto you." The least you can do is: listen to the TEATQ campaign: To Each According To Qualification (TEATQ). This is possible.

Aggrieved teacher.  
Cow 1



## MIND THAT ERROR

ADIDI UYO



On Tuesday, November 22, 2016, our two national dailies, the Swazi Observer and the Times of Swaziland, published an identical news story. In both newspapers, the headline was the same: 'Robert Mugabe announces retirement.'

Also, the lead of the news story in both newspapers was the same: 'Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe has dropped a bombshell, he announced his retirement.' And to crown it all, the story in both newspapers ends with the sentence: 'Zimbabwe is so broke it has largely run out of cash it uses, US dollars, and later this week a new currency called Bond Notes will emerge in some bank exporters' bank accounts.'

Be that as it may, our interest lies only in the opening sentence of the story, for the lead contains one kind of the errors that we are reviewing today: mistakes of punctuation, which I fondly call MOPs. Since the story obviously originated from another news source, which the two newspapers used, some may say we cannot attribute the error to these dailies. But I digress.

A close look at mistakes of punctuation shows that they have what may be termed a two-by-two formation. First, they are errors that arise either through the exclusion or inclusion of a punctuation mark. And, second, they are errors that pertain to either words or sentences. In other words, they are either lexical or syntactical.

In the lead of the Mugabe story, aforementioned, the error is one of inclusion, and it pertains to a sentence. A comma has been used at the end of a group of words that forms an independent clause, that is, a sentence, to separate it from another group of words that forms another independent clause.

When the comma is misused in this way, it creates an error that belongs to the pantheon of grammatical errors, the comma splice.

To correct this error, we need to replace the comma with a full stop or a semicolon. Using the former, we would revise the sentence, thus: 'Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe has dropped a bombshell. He announced his retirement.'

I do not know whether what the two newspapers or their source have reported as news could be described as an error or not, but after reading the headline, the lead, and the rest of the story in both newspapers, I thought that November 22, 2016 must be April 1, 2016 – April Fool Day! Why did I think so? Well, that is because my elation gradually disappeared as I waited and waited to read about the announcement of President Mugabe's retirement, but there was nothing like that at all in the whole story.

Oh, sorry, that's not an accurate statement. The story did report something to the effect that, 'Mugabe will still be contesting in the country's next election in 2018 and if he is re-elected, he will only retire in 2023, when he is 99.' Let me say, though, that I had some consolation: The comma after 2023 was not in error!

Could the first apostrophe in the sentence that follows be a mistake of punctuation? The lead of the news story with the headline, 'Grace Mugabe: I'm already president' – Times of Swaziland, November 23, 2016, reads, thus: 'The first lady, who's tipped to take over from her husband, reportedly told ZANU-PF women's league she was already Zimbabwe's president.'

The apostrophe in question, here, to be sure, is that which goes with the pronoun, 'who,' that is, 'who's.' This is problematic, granted that punctuation marks serve the basic function of guiding and determining meaning. For

## MISTAKES OF PUNCTUATION, LEXICAL, SYNTACTICAL

LET'S EAT GRANDMA.  
LET'S EAT, GRANDMA.

COMMAS SAVE LIVES

*It is true that modern writing allows fewer punctuation marks, but, no pun intended, that must be done with appropriate checks and balances! The word, "but," is a coordinating conjunction, and that means that the two elements or constructions before and after it must be equal.*

that reason, one might ask, what has been contracted to form 'who's'? Is it the verb, 'is,' or 'was,' because, it could be either of them. Besides, a different but pertinent construction could be, 'has been tipped.'

The rule is, when in doubt, don't use an informal expression, such as, 'who's.' Be formal and write it out, either as 'who is' or as 'who was.' That way, the meaning would be clearer.

**FINANCIAL INSTABILITY DEFEATS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOALS** is the headline of a news story in the Swazi Observer of November 23, 2016. The lead of the story reads, thus: 'Financial instability defeats national goals of economic development according to MEFMI's Sipho Makamba.'

A mistake of punctuation arises in that sentence because a punctuation mark has been excluded from it. A pause is required in the sentence after the main clause which ends with the word, 'development,' and the mark of punctuation that should signal this pause is the comma. The error here is one of comma omission.

If it is not the comma that is omitted from a sentence, it might be some other mark of punctuation. Take a look at this sentence and try to determine which punctuation mark or marks it needs to make it right. The sentence is the lead of the news story, **POLICE VERSION: PASTOR**

**STABBED FUNEKILE, BURNED CORPSE IN CAR** – Swazi Observer, November 25, 2016. It reads, thus: 'The police have given a narration of how the suspected killer teacher pastor Themba Masimula murdered his wife Funekile Mdluli and tried to cover it up as a traffic offence.'

Let us first revise the sentence, and then state what we have tried to do to punctuate it correctly. Here is the revised version: 'The police have narrated how the suspected killer, Themba Masimula, who is a teacher and a pastor, murdered his wife, Funekile Mdluli, and tried to cover it up as a traffic offence.'

If you ask me, I would say that the noun phrase, 'suspected killer teacher pastor Themba Masimula' is overly loaded, and needs to be broken down to make lighter and more intelligible. And that is exactly what we have tried to do to the sentence. You may like to test the essence of the sentence by reducing it to its kernel, to wit: 'The police have narrated how the suspected killer, Themba Masimula, murdered his wife, Funekile Mdluli, and tried to cover it up as a traffic offence.' The original was cluttered and it was made worse by the omission of the required marks of punctuation, at least three commas.

'Pastor caught with married church member bolts naked.' This is the headline of a news story in the Times of Swaziland,

June 30, 2016. The lead of the story reads, thus: 'A pastor from a certain church situated at Mnjoli under Madlangempisi Inkhundla, is alleged to have bolted out of a house, naked, after he was caught with a married female congregant.'

The sentence would have been error-free if the comma after 'Inkhundla,' had not obstructed the flow of the construction. The error here is that of comma splice. What the mark of punctuation has done is to cut off the subject of the sentence from its verb.

The first editorial in the Times of Swaziland, April 6, 2016 is titled, **SEPARATION OF POWERS**. See if you can detect the error of comma omission in the second sentence of its second paragraph which reads, thus: 'Separation of powers between the Executive and Legislative bodies also helps in preventing the abuse of power but only with appropriate checks and balances.'

It is true that modern writing allows fewer punctuation marks, but, no pun intended, that must be done with appropriate checks and balances! The word, 'but,' is a coordinating conjunction, and that means that the two elements or constructions before and after it must be equal. In cases where they are not equal, there must be a comma before the conjunction. It is the absence of this comma in that sentence that has caused the error of comma omission.



## JOY NDWANDWE'S ZONE LEADERSHIP

American Electoral College left me thinking was this an election or selection? This discerning made me appreciate and in turn congratulate Hillary Clinton for losing this election/selection. She has her mistakes, emails, but the American citizens are too angry to be led by a woman with dignity.

This anger made me realise that Madam Clinton, would not have been appreciated. I admired how she handled the election/selection rhetoric with dignity supported by stronger together, eloquently standing up to the bully.

This she did, even when losing her cool, hence she will go down in many memorable books, as the woman who was not intimidated by the bully with money. In actual fact she exposed how money does not buy class, a lasting memory for all women globally. As this bully needed a woman of class and dignity to defend all of us, hence Madam Hillary won a bigger war and battle, which does not require White House honour. Her accolades will be read by many as this historic election is a positive story in many books, including my upcoming book.

First World, what First World?

The Americans who participated and those who did not participate in this election/selection, are responsible for the results, which resulted in my asking what first world? Americans have endorsed or condoned the rhetoric that has taken the whole world into the dark ages, we thought were behind us.

How can America be the first world when its citizens failed by affirming a person whose rhetoric unearthed worms, we thought were buried in history books? This first world and big brother on universal rights, hence I ask if this is the first world, then why strive for development? As this election/selection unearth how infrastructure and economic development does not translate into dignity, and this was televised internationally for us to judge for ourselves.

The racist rhetoric opened cans of worms that we were forgetting, as we were reminded how Africans are lazy fools only good for eating, love-making and stealing.

Good God, this rhetoric comes out of a man who considers himself as an Ivy League scholar. This exposes how his education enabled him to amass wealth but failed to instil class and dignity.

As this is a stereotype that was used by barbaric white supremacists whilst living in houses built by Africans, wearing jewellery of minerals dug by us and stolen from us. This sexist rhetoric, on how women act very feminine and needy, but inside they are real killers. My goodness this made me wonder if this bully was born of a woman, or was this how the women in his family behaved. This shocking sexist rhetoric even stated how the person who came with the notion 'weaker sex' was either naïve or had to be kidding. Where does this bully get all this notions, was it the women in his life or family, because goodness me, these notions of women belong in the dustbin of history?

He further stated, he has seen women manipulate men with just a twitch of their eye-or perhaps other body parts, certainly money does not buy class nor does it buy security. As this inferiority complex exposed in this rhetoric states clearly that the only attractive thing he finds within himself is money, plausible as he is far from attractive.

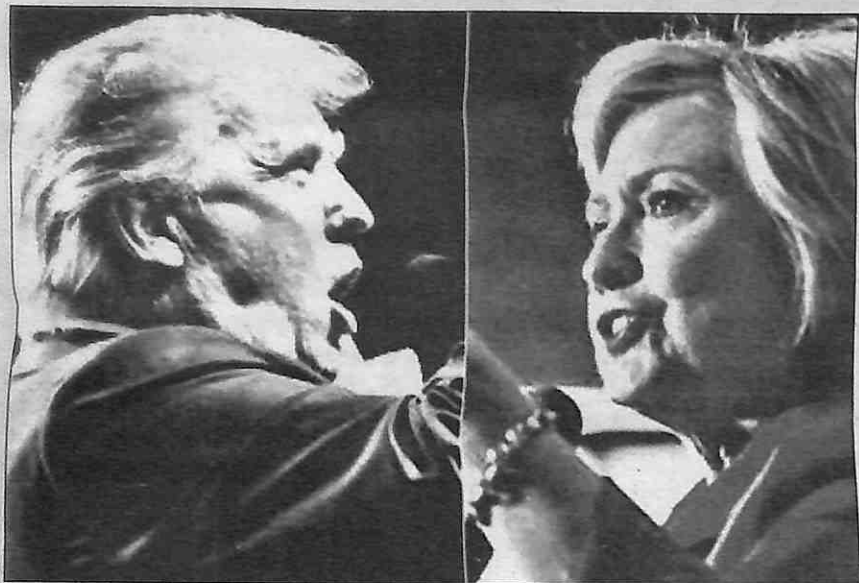
Yes, I am being personal because this misogynist needs to know he can only attract the manipulative type, who wants his money and not women of class and dignity.

The religious bigotry we were subjected too during his rhetoric was repulsive, hence I continue to ask what first world?

Particularly as America is a land of immigrants, thus calling for a total and complete ban of Muslims is deplorable. The xenophobia on immigrants including building the wall, an excep-



# AMERICAN ELECTION OR SELECTION 2016



● *The Americans who participated and those who did not participate in this election/selection, are responsible for the results, which resulted in my asking what first world? Americans have endorse or condoned the rhetoric that has taken the whole world into the dark ages, we thought were behind us.*

tionally dangerous metaphor, calling lilywhite Americans to disassociate themselves with the other. The other is the worst xenophobia, and the wall is classical revelation of insecure lilywhite communities trying to insulate themselves as a race. What first world when the authors of LGBTI rights have selected/elected a leader who says he hates gays, he is a traditionalist and have many fabulous friends who happen to be gay, but he is a traditionalist.

## America Welcome to Third World

American has until election/selection 2016 considered itself the first world, today I welcome them to the third world.

This voting was like third world countries voting according to tribes, this time the white tribe has spoken. Thus, meaning the white tribe represented through the white male vote of over 45 to 65 years, had the power to choose the leader. They made their choice and this is the white male President-elect, that they feel their voices heard. Yes, majority are living in rural communities with no economic development and their candidate gave them a voice during the campaign rhetoric.

This is so normal third world thinking, as an excellent example is how the rural communities in Zimbabwe continue to vote for President Robert Gabriel Mugabe. His rhetoric speaks to their issues and challenges of land and economic development, and yet every five years their circumstances never change. Tribal voting is what America experienced and we will all be watching with interest as to how much local economic development will occur in these tribal constituencies. The third world also has diehard veterans that are still singing the liberation struggle songs, and they honour their struggle leaders even when they have no jobs.

The rise of the KKK, white supremacist during this election is a classic case of the diehard veterans that honour their leader. If it is true that the President-elect's grandfather was a

**T**he racist rhetoric opened cans of worms that we were forgetting, as we were reminded how Africans are lazy fools only good for eating, lovemaking and stealing.

member of the white supremacist, then welcome to the third world. Part of the championing rhetoric was the change of Obama legacy policies, this is how third world leaders operates. This curtails development as the newly elected spend too much time and energy trying to prove that the former leader was unfit and unqualified to be president.

Therefore the rhetoric of reversing executive orders and Obama care, were so third world as the rural constituencies aspire for policies favouring them. So familiar to third world countries

who end up with new policy documents with no implementation, America welcome to the third world.

In conclusion, America will never be great during this term of President-elect Trump. Evidence is when we saw ISIS on television celebrating this election victory, I said to myself this must be the end of the American empire. As part of the election rhetoric was withdrawing from NATO and partnering with Russia, surely destined to lead America into interesting times. African countries have gone into election with a western partner, hence this leadership legacy will provide insightful research with the Russian partnership, an intriguing transition to the third world.

Finally I declare myself persona non-grata in America during this leadership tenure, even if you paid me a billion dollars, yes I am broke. Stepping into America during Trump Presidency would be affirming and endorsing his racist, sexist, anti-semitic, misogynous, religious bigotry, xenophobic and homophobic rhetoric. Trump is a leading example of how women with class and dignity should not subject themselves to men with money but no class or dignity. His rhetoric evoked my personal worm, yes I do not date white men (Jewish exception) for political reasons, and the President elect has affirmed me through his offensive rhetoric.



CHARLOTTE CHIPANGURA

## Disability Rights Advocate

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**T**he story headlined 'Build more special schools' in the Swazi Observer of November 21 was quite an upsetting read.

A senator moved a motion in parliament to the effect that, with funds permitting, government should build more schools to cater for pupils with special needs, because "an ideal situation would be to separate pupils according to their needs to avoid lowering the standards just because teachers are trying to accommodate slow learners."

He was also quoted as saying the inclusive nature of the country's education system had a potential to compromise the quality of education in the country's schools.

No offence intended, but the education system in Swaziland can hardly be described as inclusive, especially when it comes to children with intellectual disabilities. Whole families are moving from far and wide to chase a handful of schools that can accommodate their children in other areas. Children with special educational needs are commuting long distances for the very same reason. Inclusive education means that all pupils, with or without disabilities, attend and are welcomed by their neighbourhood schools in age-appropriate, regular classes and are supported to learn, contribute and participate in all aspects of the life of the school.

When there are still allegations that "slow-learners" impede the progress of other pupils, then it means there's piece of the puzzle that's still missing. With the right kind of support, there will be a way around accommodating all pupils without fear of those with learning disabilities disadvantaging anyone. That would be inclusive learning. There is well-documented evidence that when typical learners and those with disabilities learn together, there are good results academically and socially.

Susan Nyatanga, a trainee special needs teacher from University College in Denmark said suggesting exclusionary policies when research is showing that pupils actually mutually benefit from being in mainstream schools is not only retrogressive to societal development, but also promotes discrimination of the special needs learners. "Instead of arguing that they lower educational standards, why not test them according to their abilities?"

When teachers are trained properly, they are equipped with many methods through which they can assist all children according to their abilities. A progressive argument would be on how best to train the teachers to enable them to teach the children with special needs, or what can be done to equip schools to accommodate these children. As educationists, if we restrict their world instead of expanding it, we would have dismally failed," she added.

Howard Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligences argues that we should not have the same test for everyone. Children have different talents and should be tested according to those talents and their level of functioning.

Nyatanga said most special schools in Denmark were actually being gradually dissolved as the country moves towards integrated education. The whole world is moving towards that. The UNESCO World Conference on Special Needs

## Children with special needs should not be banished from regular schools

Education, held in Salamanca, Spain in 1994 made very important provisions which Swaziland would do well to adopt. One of the recommendations reads, "...those with special educational needs must have access to regular schools which should accommodate them within a child-centred pedagogy capable of meeting these needs." The conference called on governments worldwide "to adopt as a matter of law and policy the principle of inclusive education, enrolling all children in regular schools, unless there are compelling reasons for doing otherwise." If Swaziland is moving towards first world status, separating children based on their educational needs should not even cross anyone's mind. If we seclude them, what will do next? Build a little world for them to live because they are deemed slower than others?

Swaziland has its own success stories in inclusive education. Inclusion does not necessarily mean all learners will always be in the same classes. There can be a classroom for those with special educational needs, where their strengths are assessed. They then join other classes for subjects they are strong at. Enjabulweni School is doing it, with very good results.

They have the Paiva Learning Centre where children with special educational needs are based, and those that are strong in certain subjects join the mainstream classes for those subjects. All children with or without learning difficulties participate in school plays, sports and all activities. Stepping Stones opened a class for autism this year and is also

doing very well with inclusive learning, as you will read in next week's instalment.

Schools are not all about academic achievements. They are also places where children's outlook of the world is cultivated.

It is where they are taught to discriminate or embrace those that are different. What will be teaching typical children when we say those that don't learn at the same pace as them should be isolated? The excluded children will be deprived of the opportunity to socialise; the only world they will know is that which comprises people with their challenges. Children learn from socialisation.

The world is bigger than whatever challenge the children might have. Inclusive education in regular classrooms minimises the likelihood of a child with disability becoming an adult segregated from broader society.

There could be some parents who would prefer special schools over mainstream, depending on the condition of their child or other factors. The research I have done, however, indicates that many parents of children with learning difficulties would rather have them in mainstream school, with a separate class where they can learn at their own pace. They are just children at the end of the day, and their disabilities or conditions should not define them.

They should all be treated like equal citizens, not a burden that should be eliminated from mainstream schools and be condemned to some other corner like lepers. The Salamanca Statement recommends that governments should promote parental partnerships so that parent representatives are involved in the design and implementation of programmes intended to enhance the education of their children. Parents should have a choice and a say on where to place children with special educational needs. Currently Swazi parents do not.

● *Schools are not all about academic achievements. They are also places where children's outlook of the world is cultivated.*



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# MAN U DEALT BLOW IN LANDING GRIEZMANN

**M**ANCHESTER - Antoine Griezmann has indicated he will stay with Atletico Madrid as he feels he does not have to move again to "reach the next level".

The Frenchman has been widely regarded as the world-class striker Manchester United need in order to challenge on all fronts and while he admits he did have concerns when



rumours circulated about Diego Simeone's future, he believes his current

club provides the environment that will allow him to reach the very top of his game. "I had some doubts [about my future at Atletico Madrid] last summer when there were reports Simeone could leave," Griezmann said. "I called him and he told me that he would stay. So I stayed as well. I have a lot of respect for him and feel that he believes in me. I need to stay with him and work for him a bit more."

"But that does not

necessarily mean I would follow him if he leaves Atletico. "My team-mates here really appreciate me. I have reached this level thanks to them. I get better every week. I need them and I love playing for Atletico. I do not think I need to move to reach the next level." Jose Mourinho, meanwhile, has warned Anthony Martial that he is running out of chances at Old Trafford and been told to "win his position".

**Teamtalk**

*Antoine Griezmann has said he will stay with Atletico Madrid.*

## Sanchez's work rate underestimated - Jenkinson

**L**ONDON - Forget Alexis Sanchez's goalscoring ability and skill with the ball at his feet, Arsenal team-mate Carl Jenkinson lauded his willingness to defend.

One of the best forwards in the world, Sanchez's work in the attacking third is unquestionable, having scored six goals and tallied three assists in the Premier League this season.

But Jenkinson insisted the 27-year-old's work rate should not be underestimated.

"It's a pleasure to play behind a player like that," Jenkinson told Arsenal's official website. "On the ball he's fantastic and people know what he offers and what he can bring, and just to see his work rate is great."

"People underestimate how hard he works sometimes because people always look at what he can do with the ball, but his work rate is exceptional. That's always nice to have in front of you as a full back, to have that protection."

"The last thing you want is a winger who's staying upfield, hugging the touchline and not helping you out defensively. With Alexis, he helps you out defensively as well as and when he can. It was a pleasure to play with him as I haven't played with him before."

"It's not just Alexis, though, this squad is riddled with world-class players. That's the sort of environment I want to be in. I want to play with players of that character, of that stature, because I think it'll bring the best out of me as a footballer."

"Who wouldn't want to be on a football pitch with players like that? I've been watching the boys from the sidelines for what seems like an eternity now because I'd been out for so long, but to be back on the pitch and playing with the boys has been a long time coming and I'm just enjoying every moment of that now."

**GOAL**



## Lavezzi links a 'surprise' to Nice boss Favre

**N**ICE - Nice coach Lucien Favre is "surprised" to see his club linked with former Paris Saint-Germain forward Ezequiel Lavezzi in January.

The Argentina international left Ligue 1 to join Hebei China Fortune in February but is purportedly a loan target for Nice when the mid-season trans-

fer window opens.

And while Favre does "not know" anything about such a move, he praised the 31-year-old's talents.

"He's a good player," he told Le Figaro. "There was Paris, of course, but I remember his period with Napoli. He was good."

Nice are three points clear of Monaco

and PSG at the top of Ligue 1 heading into this weekend's matches and host Bastia on Sunday.

Their form this season has been helped by the arrivals of high-profile signings Dante and Mario Balotelli, although the latter is currently sidelined with a calf injury.

**GOAL**



James Rodriguez and Marco Verratti.

## Inter plan €150m for James, Verratti raid

**R**OME - Inter are looking to strengthen massively next summer and are targeting a €150 million double swoop for James Rodriguez and Marco Verratti, report Tuttosport.

The Nerazzurri have suffered a terrible start to the new season and new owners Suning Group intend to revamp the squad to improve the club's fortunes.

Officials from the Chinese company will meet with Inter president Erick Thohir to go over plans to sign Real Madrid outcast James and will look to take advantage of his frustration over a lack of playing time.

The San Siro side are also keen on offering Paris Saint-Germain star Verratti a return to Serie A.

**GOAL**

## Rooney cleared over drinking storm

**L**ONDON - England captain Wayne Rooney has been cleared after the Football Association investigated reports he stayed up late drinking while on international duty, British media outlets reported yesterday.

Rooney, 31, apologised for the publication of "inappropriate" pictures of him mingling with wedding guests at England's team hotel between their recent games against Scotland and Spain.

But the Manchester United captain described media coverage of the incident as "disgraceful" and said he felt he had been the victim of a witch hunt.

Several news organisations, including the BBC, said Rooney had been assured by the FA he would not face charges over the matter.

The Daily Mirror said the FA had learnt Rooney posed for pictures

outside the wedding party venue, contradicting reports he had 'gate-crashed' it, and had not broken a curfew.

Rooney is on the brink of history, having closed to within one goal of Bobby Charlton's United scoring record of 249 goals by netting in Thursday's 4-0 Europa League win over Feyenoord.

He surpassed Charlton's record of 49 goals for England last year and has to date scored 51 times for his country.

The FA is also looking into claims several players were out late on the Saturday night that fell between England's 3-0 World Cup qualifying win over Scotland and 2-2 friendly draw with Spain.

The FA has since banned England players from going on nights out while on international duty.

**AFP**

## 'Juventus must hit the accelerator' - Allegri

**R**OME - Massimiliano Allegri believes Juventus are approaching a crucial point in the season as they turn their attentions back to Serie A this weekend.

The Italian champions were in Champions League action in mid-week, beating Sevilla 3-1 to progress to the knock-out stages.

Now, though, with only one European game remaining in 2016, Serie A leaders Juve can concentrate on league action before they close the year in the SuperCoppa Italiana final against AC Milan.

"Seven points seems like a huge gap to second place [and Roma], but it isn't," Allegri told a pre-match news conference ahead of today's trip to Genoa. "It's imperative that we keep our focus."

"The [Champions League] game against Dinamo Zagreb aside, the next month or so is all about Serie A where we have some big games coming up."

"We're approaching a crucial juncture of the season. Now is the time to put our foot down on the accelerator."

**GOAL**





# MCGREGOR COULD BE STRIPPED OF TITLE

**N**EW YORK - Conor McGregor could be forced to relinquish his featherweight title ahead of UFC 206.

McGregor made UFC history earlier in November 2015 as he became the first fighter in the company to hold two belts at the same time. His win over Eddie Alvarez in Madison Square Garden wrote his name into the history books.

But the Irishman has not defended his featherweight belt since he won it 11 months ago. McGregor is also unlikely to fight in the Octagon again until after next May, when his first child will be born.

According to MMA Fighting, current interim featherweight champion Jose Aldo will be given the belt in his place.

Aldo lost the title to McGregor last December after being knocked out in 13 seconds, but the Brazilian rebounded to defeat Frankie Edgar.

The interim belt will be on the line when Max Holloway and Anthony Pettis



Conor McGregor.

face off at UFC 206.

The event in Toronto is in questionable shape after Daniel Cormier was forced to withdraw from his title fight against Anthony Johnson.

While Johnson is likely to remain on the card, another fight between Tim Kennedy and Rashad Evans has also been scuppered due to licensing issues.

McGregor is not likely to be keen to give up his belt, given previous comments. He said: "They're gonna have to gather an army to try and take one of them off of me."

"One's gonna be there and one's gonna be there, and I'm gonna be picking and choosing who I wanna destroy next."

DailyMail

## Hamilton finishes fourth in final practice

**A**BU DHABI - Sebastian Vettel stopped Lewis Hamilton from completing a practice clean sweep as the Ferrari driver topped the order in final practice for the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix.

While all eyes are on championship leader Nico Rosberg and Hamilton ahead of their so-called 'Duel in the Desert', it was Vettel, the four-time world champion, who set the pace at the Yas Marina Circuit in the final practice session of the season.

Vettel posted a best lap of one minute and 40.775 seconds to finish ahead of

Red Bull's Max Verstappen and Kimi Raikkonen in the sister Ferrari.

Indeed Hamilton, fastest in both practice sessions on Friday, was only fourth with Rosberg fifth in the order.

The Mercedes championship contenders are likely to have approached final practice with caution however, and, despite the surprising result here, were still expected to go head-to-head for what was to be a decisive pole position in qualifying later yesterday.

Rosberg, who is 12 points ahead of Hamilton in the title race, needs to finish only third to secure his maiden cham-

pionship today.

For Hamilton, who on Friday night insisted he is still the best driver in Formula One regardless of the championship outcome, only victory will do.

Elsewhere, Jolyon Palmer, who is set to complete his first season in the sport, finished an encouraging 12th ahead of Jenson Button. Button, 36, is approaching this weekend as if it were his last race as he prepares to step down from racing next season. And the Englishman, who has competed in more than 300 grands prix, was 13th yesterday.

MIRROR

## United deal for Dutch international was done by email

**M**ANCHESTER - Manchester United signed Daley Blind from Ajax in 2014 via email, according to the Dutch club's Sporting Director Marc Overmars.

Blind signed for United from Ajax for a fee of £14million in September 2014, signing a four-year contract with the option to extend for a further years.

Then 24, Blind was lured to Old Trafford by Louis van Gaal, who had managed the player in the Dutch national team and decided to bring him to the Premier League after an impressive 2014 World Cup.



United though did not send any officials or Van Gaal to speak with Ajax to seal the transfer. Instead, all the official communication was done via emails in which both clubs were successful in agreeing a fee, and a deal to see Blind move to England.

"In the past, a transfer like Daley Blind's to Manchester United was precluded by lengthy negotiations. We did not even sit down around the table now. The entire transfer was done by email,"

Overmars told De Telegraaf.

"When Manchester United agreed to meet our asking price, I asked our financial director and legal department to deal with the paper work and that was it."

"That just goes to show big clubs like Manchester United do not get overly worried about such big transfer fees."

Blind, who had made nine Premier League starts this season, has gone on to make 100 appearances for United, scoring four goals and has been used in a range of positions including left-back, centre-back and central midfield.

TEAMTALK

## Pacquiao says Mayweather rematch still a possibility

**T**OKYO - Filipino boxing great Manny Pacquiao has left the door open on the possibility of a rematch with Floyd Mayweather if the American ever comes out of retirement.

Mayweather, now 39, beat Pacquiao by unanimous decision in May 2015 and announced his retirement four months later with a 49-0 record.

"If he comes back into boxing there is a possibility, but right now we are not talking or discussing about that," Pacquiao told Kyodo news agency on a visit to Japan yesterday.

The 37-year-old ended his own brief retirement earlier this month by taking the WBO welterweight title off American

Jessie Vargas in a unanimous points decision. "I don't know when my career will end," the southpaw added.

"I realised I felt lonely inside because ... I am no longer active in the sport of boxing. I asked myself if I can still fight, and decided to come back and continue the journey of my career."

Discussions about Pacquiao's next fight have been put on the backburner for the time being while he focuses on his career in politics.

The former eight-division world champion served as a congressman before being elected to the Philippines Senate in May.

Reuters

## Leipzig a new rival for Bayern, says Hoeness

**B**ERLIN - Bayern Munich President Uli Hoeness believes surprise league leaders RB Leipzig represent a genuine threat to his club's status as Bundesliga champions.

Hoeness was re-elected to his post on Friday after serving a prison term for tax evasion.

Meanwhile, Leipzig were in action at Freiberg and a 4-1 win extended their advantage at the summit to six points ahead of Bayern entertaining Bayer Leverkusen yesterday.

Carlo Ancelotti's side ceded top spot after losing to rivals Borussia Dortmund last weekend and Hoeness feels Ralph Hasenhuttl's side can alter the landscape at the top end of German football.

"Leipzig won 4-1, now we have a new enemy besides Dortmund we can attack," Hoeness said at Bayern's AGM.

"If we are honest we had to take

our motivation from ourselves in the last years. It's time some new clubs appear we can challenge."

"Leipzig are a hungry, young team; Hasenhuttl is an outstanding coach, we know him from Bayern [the Austrian closed his playing career with Bayern Munich II]."

"But longer as I think about it, all the more fun I have."

There remains a vacancy on the Bayern board for the post of sporting director after Matthias Sammer stepped down due to health reasons and Chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge again hinted former Germany captain Philipp Lahm could fill the role when he ends his celebrated playing career in Bavaria.

"We all know we need a sporting director and we'll have a sporting director again in a not far future," Rummenigge said.

GOAL

## Aubameyang could stay at Dortmund past 2020

**B**ERLIN - Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang insists he is happy at Borussia Dortmund and hinted he could stay beyond 2020 owing to the passion of the club's fans.

The 27-year-old penned a contract extension running until the turn of the decade despite being linked to the likes of Manchester City and Real Madrid, with the latter long-term admirers of the Gabon striker.

He has been in prolific form this season and scored the winner against rivals Bayern Munich in Der Klassiker last Saturday, moving to 12 goals in 10 Bundesliga games.

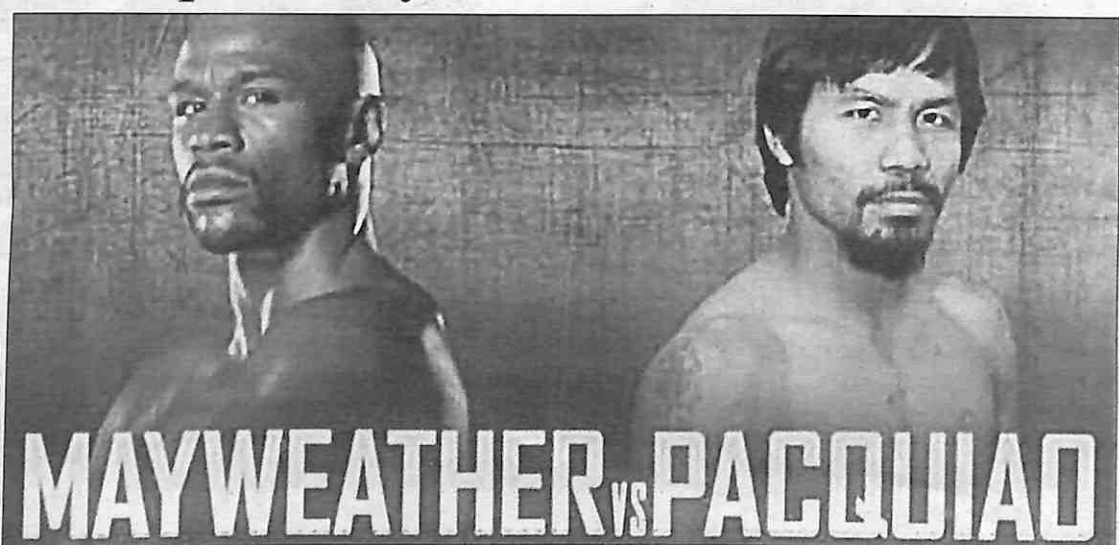
Signal Iduna Park and the 25 000-strong 'Yellow

Wall' on the stadium's Sudtribune were in full voice, and Aubameyang has cited Dortmund's passionate support as a key reason he sees himself at the club for the long haul.

"The fans of BVB are really incredible, it's hard to describe what you feel when you play in front of them," he told Soccer Laduma. "The atmosphere they create, not just with the 'Yellow Wall', with the 25 000 fans present in each game, [but] for the whole 90 minutes, regardless of the result or the opponent."

"There are many things that the fans and the city of Dortmund generally appreciate. All of this has contributed to the decision to extend my contract to 2020 and I can imagine staying even longer."

GOAL



MAYWEATHER vs PACQUIAO





# WIJNALDUM REVEALS WHY HE TURNED DOWN TOTTENHAM

**L**ONDON - Liverpool star Georginio Wijnaldum says he was "done with football" in the summer until he met Jurgen Klopp and signed for the German.

After a disastrous failure to reach Euro 2016 with Holland and relegation with Newcastle the Holland midfielder was at a low ebb.

In fact after scoring on June 1 to give Holland a 2-1 win over Poland he did not watch another competitive match until 10 July - the final of Euro 2016, in which his close pal Moussa Sissoko featured.

"I was done with football for a few weeks," he told The Guardian. "These are better days."

The 26-year-old's first involvement back in football, albeit only a 39-day absence, did not do much to raise spirits as Sissoko's France side were beaten 1-0 on home soil.

**Took**

Enter Klopp though, who took Wijnaldum under his wing and lured

him to Anfield, despite firm interest from Tottenham.

"I had great conversations with [Mauricio] Pochettino and Klopp," said Wijnaldum. "But in the meeting with Jurgen we had a laugh and did not speak only about football. He was interested in my personal life and that was good for me."

"He was not only interested in Wijnaldum the footballer but Wijnaldum the person. When you're not out on the football field you have to communicate as people and it is good if you know something about how the other person is. It

makes things easier."

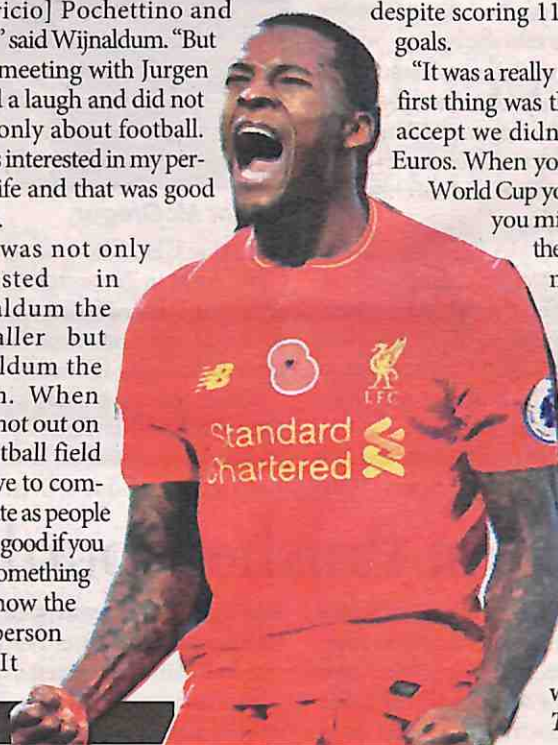
Wijnaldum's debut season in English football was anything but simple when, despite scoring 11 Premier League goals.

"It was a really difficult time. The first thing was that it was hard to accept we didn't qualify for the Euros. When you finish third at a World Cup you have confidence you might be able to win the Euros and we didn't go."

"I didn't watch the Euros, I only watched the final."

I wanted to spend time with my family and friends instead but, to be honest, I was done with football for a few weeks because everything had gone wrong.

**Teamtalk**



Liverpool star Georginio Wijnaldum.

## 'Lloris 'by far' the Premier League's best goalkeeper'

**L**ONDON - Tottenham Hotspur's Hugo Lloris is "by far the best" goalkeeper in the Premier League, according to former Everton and Wales shot-stopper Neville Southall.

The France international is into his fifth season at White Hart Lane, having linked up with Spurs in the summer of 2012.

His arrival from Lyon was considered to be quite a coup at the time, and his reputation has only been enhanced during a stellar spell in England's top-flight.

Lloris was already established prior to joining Tottenham, with his composure and ball-playing ability coupled with athletic reflex-

es attracting the interest of Europe's elite before Spurs won the race to sign him.

He is still only 29 years of age - with his career as a top-class keeper expected to span many more years yet - and has shown over the last few seasons that he deserves a standing alongside the global elite.

In the eyes of Southall, he is the standout performer in the English top-flight at present, with the likes of Chelsea's Thibaut Courtois and Manchester United's David de Gea operating in his shadow.

He told Goal when pressed for his pick of the Premier League custodians: "I think Lloris is by



Hugo Lloris.

far the best one - by far.

"Courtois at Chelsea is up there. [Jack] Butland, when fit, is decent. The rest of them? De Gea is the next one. Definitely Lloris is top, I can't see past him."

**Goal**

## Former Chelsea doctor Carneiro reveals death threats

**L**ONDON - Former Chelsea doctor Eva Carneiro revealed she received death threats following her exit from the club and insisted not enough is being done to tackle sexism in football.

The 43-year-old left Chelsea in 2015 after public criticism from former manager Jose Mourinho before settling her case against the club in the summer.

Carneiro was publicly criticised by former Chelsea boss Jose Mourinho after going on to the pitch to treat Eden Hazard against Swansea at Stamford Bridge in August 2015.

Carneiro, who claimed constructive dismissal against Chelsea, also reached a discrimination settlement with

Mourinho and the club apologised "unreservedly" to the former first-team doctor for the distress caused.

She left Stamford Bridge in September 2015, but admitted online abuse continued after her exit.

"Even though I don't have a presence on social media - I think I have made one post ever in my life - some of the threats of sexual violence and death threats make it through," she told the Telegraph.

"They (the abusers) just seem to be faceless cowards and they should be answerable to legislation." And Carneiro, who now works at her own clinic on Harley Street in London, also believes the issue of sexism in football is going unchecked, unlike racism, and needs to be taken more seriously.

**Teamtalk**

Former Chelsea doctor Eva Carneiro.



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# RED CARD TO CHILD, WOMEN ABUSE - BENNI



Benni McCarthy.

**C**APE TOWN - Former Bafana Bafana star striker Benni McCarthy has joined the fight against the scourge of women and child abuse by announcing his support and endorsement for child rights group Women and Men Against Child Abuse (WMACA).

McCarthy, a European Champions League winner and Bafana's all-time leading scorer, said he was prompted to join this cause to raise awareness and encourage victims of abuse to speak up. He said, as a father of four daughters, he knows there was nothing more important than to provide safety and security for women and children.

"WMACA have supported many survivors and have been instrumental in improving the rights of children in South Africa and I know the help I will give to expand this work is essential to the future of our nation's youngsters," said McCarthy.

McCarthy also spoke about his tough upbringing in Cape Town where he experienced emotional abuse in his poverty-stricken neighbourhood.

"We know that abuse is wrong full stop. This should not even be an issue. Sadly, it is and that's why we need to fight it. For long this has been going on across the coun-

try behind closed doors. This cannot go on any more. That's why I decided to join this campaign. My upbringing was not easy, I witnessed a lot of things, guns, violence and close friends getting killed.

"We live in a beautiful country and it's up to us to make a difference. Women and children are harmless and as men we need to have little bit more love in our hearts," he said.

"As a child I came from an abusive family and many people don't know this about me because I am successful and famous. People only see the nice things, the money, the cars and the lifestyle."

supersport.com



## Palacios knows Pirates better than most - Tlale

**J**OHANNESBURG - Former Orlando Pirates goalkeeper John Tlale believes Augusto Palacios will steer the club to clear waters as he knows them better than most.

"I don't want to say much about Palacios. He is someone that is very consistent in his job. I think he can bring changes to Pirates because he knows them better than most," Tlale told Goal.

Palacios' coaching credentials will also stand him in good stead to guide Bucs and its star-studded players.

The experienced coach took over the reins from Muhsin Ertugral, who resigned following their 6-1 thumping at the hands of SuperSport United in a PSL game almost four weeks ago. Palacios already got his third stint as caretaker coach off to a flyer with a 2-1 win over Highlands Park in the Telkom Knockout Cup quarterfinals. Tlale was on the radar of NFD side Royal Eagles last season and had the privilege of working with a Pirates players currently on-loan at the club like Siyanda Ngubo. The legendary goalkeeper believes that Ngubo needs to be given time before contemplating a move to the senior team or any other PSL side for that matter.

"He needs time. He is still young so he needs to be given time before moving to the PSL. He is an international player. He plays for the junior national sides. They always call him up which shows how important a player he is to the team. He is dedicated and focused on his job and he respects the game. That I think will take him far," Tlale concluded.

GOAL

John Tlale.

## Jayiya demands Cape Town City to maintain defensive discipline

**C**APE TOWN - Cape Town City midfielder Bhongolwethu Jayiya tells Goal they need to be more compact to avoid conceding unnecessary goals.

"The main thing about goals is about creating chances. If we create chances, we just have to make sure that we put them in the back of the net and then from there we just have to maintain our discipline," Jayiya told Goal.

The manner in which City have conceded goals despite winning matches has been a cause of concern for their faithful as they have not kept a clean-sheet since beating Bloemfontein Celtic at home on November 2.

The 26-year-old winger advises that they need to be compact at all times and remain disciplined, while



Bhongolwethu Jayiya and Sifiso Hlanti.

looking to catch the opposition out on the break and add one or two more goals.

"We have to stay compact as a team and try and shut them out as

much as possible and try and catch them out by grabbing another one or add two more.

"But at the end of the day, it's all about just getting together and stay-

ing compact and fighting for every ball possible," Jayiya said.

The Citizens hosted Free State Stars at the Athlone Stadium in the Telkom Knockout Cup semi-final yesterday.

Jayiya adds that they are prepared to do whatever is required be it in regulation or extra time or even penalties to get the job done.

"It's always a dream to play in the final and we just have to focus on the game at hand and do our best. The main focus is to play the 90 minutes.

"If we can't play the 90 minutes, we have to look to do it in 120 minutes. If we can't do it in 120 minutes then we must do it during a penalty shootout. So we just have to go out there and do our best," Jayiya concluded.

Goal

## Zuke happy to be back at Chippa United

**P**ORT ELIZABETH - Newly-signed Chippa United midfielder Sandile Zuke is thrilled to be back with his former club after leaving the Port Elizabeth-based side at the end of last season as a free agent. As confirmed by KickOff.com Zuke penned a short-term deal with the Chilli Boys earlier this month that sees him remain with the side until the end of the season.

"This is a club that I've played for before, so it's like coming home, and I am very excited to

be part of this family again," Zuke told the club's official website.

Zuke has slotted straight back into the team since re-signing, making a substitute appearance in the recent loss to Cape Town City before starting in Chippa's last outing against Orlando Pirates that also ended in defeat.

Push

"We just need to push and continue playing our away, something will come up, we just need to continue working hard," he said in response to the results.

"Through dedication, hard work and determination you always get something positive.

I guess that is what we need to show on the field of play, and take our chances in front of the goals."



Sandile Zuke.

## Defender on brink of US after Letsoaka departure

**B**LOEMFONTEIN - Former Mpumalanga Black Aces defender, Roger da Costa, could be playing his trade in the United States of America shortly as he awaits his green card.

The 30-year-old centre back had been training with Bloemfontein Celtic until recently, however Serame Letsoaka's departure brought that venture to an end and he also turned down the chance to sign for Cape Town All Stars as he mulls over

his future. Speaking in issue 1 000 of Soccer Laduma, the ex-Moroka Swallows man explained his current situation, saying, "I was at Bloemfontein Celtic a couple of weeks ago, but then they fired Serame.

Bad

It's been a bit of bad timing, to be honest, but I have had some contact here and in the NASL in the States for the new year.

"I obviously decided not to join Cape Town All Stars because it didn't feel right. Working with

no agent isn't easy, but I prefer not to. The next transfer window should be interesting for me, I think.

"Rayo Oklahoma and Puerto Rico FC have contacted me at this point, but any move relies on my papers being ready in time for pre-season."

Both Oklahoma and Puerto Rico are playing in the NASL at present, but will no doubt have their eyes set on reaching the MLS at some stage in their future. **SOCCERLADUMA**

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# MAN CITY PROVE GUARDIOLA'S TACTICAL FLEXIBILITY WITH VITAL WIN

**L**ONDON - Another away game, another gritty victory for Manchester City. Pep Guardiola says his men won't win the Premier League playing this way but he surely does not underestimate the resilience he has instilled in this team in such a short period of time.

It is true that City's 10-game winning streak, and the increasingly fine performances within it, seems a long time ago now. City are not dominating games, nor are they ripping teams apart like they did in August and September.

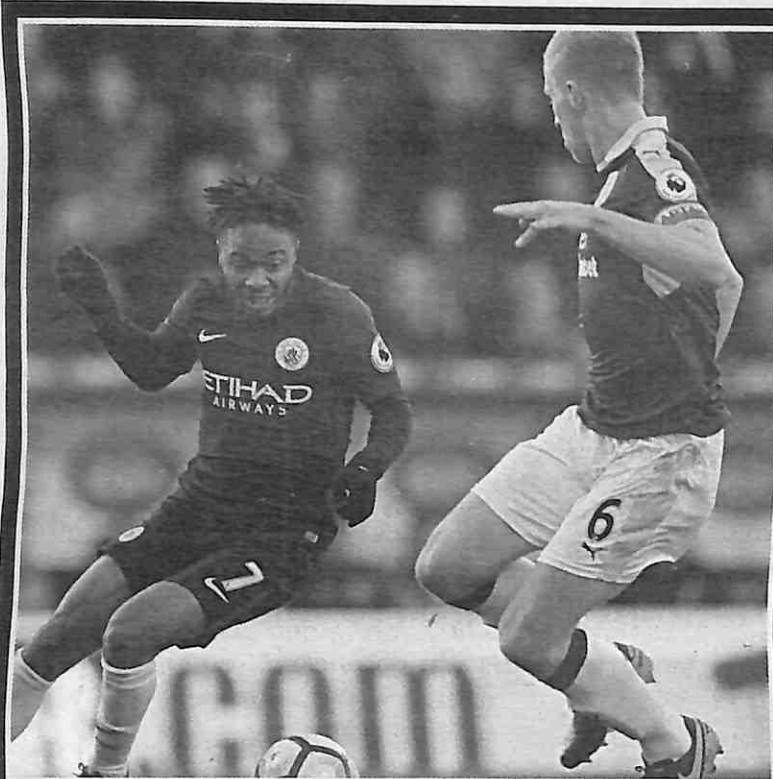
But, even if their results and displays have generally dipped in the last two months, their spirit has rarely been in question.

Considering many of these same players crumpled like a house of cards against any half-decent Premier League opposition last season, it is a remarkable achievement for Guardiola.

## Attitude

He said in his very first press conference that it would take time for his players to play the way he wants, but that they could play with "soul" from day one. He was right about the form and he was right about their attitude.

This was yet another away game with all the hallmarks of a smash-and-grab defeat. Guardiola named a much-changed, but still strong, side. John Stones and Ilkay Gundogan, like at Crystal Palace last weekend, were rested, while David Silva started on the bench. Yaya Toure was in again but there was no Kevin De Bruyne. Burnley were always going to fight, play direct and look for the second balls. When Dean Marney crashed in an exquisite volley inside the first 15 minutes, the seeds for a defeat seemed firmly sewn.



The second half started as the first half ended, with City knocking the ball about and taking the sting out of the hosts' approach.

But, once again, City stood up and fought back.

The first half may not have made for pretty viewing and Sergio Aguero's equaliser was not one of his vintage goals, but they did not allow themselves to be bullied.

Overall they looked untroubled, and while they did not play Burnley off the park they did carve open some good opportunities, most of which seemed to come to an end after some surprisingly inhibited play from Raheem Sterling.

The second half started as the first half ended, with City knocking the ball about and taking the sting out of the hosts' approach. Burnley barely had a chance after they took the lead - not least because City learned their lessons from Marney's goal and set their defensive line for free-kicks a good 40 metres from Claudio Bravo's goal.

Bravo did make some routine saves at the death but they were the only scares as City, and this often maligned defence, rode out the storm. **Goal**

## LaLiga means 'everything to me' - Simeone

**M**ADRID - Diego Simeone says La Liga will always be Atletico Madrid's top priority, pledging not to ignore the competition and stating success in it means "everything" to him.

Simeone's men sealed first place - ahead of Bayern Munich - in their Champions League group with a 2-0 home victory over PSV on Wednesday.

## Damaging

That result gave Atletico a welcome boost after a damaging 3-0 loss to Real Madrid at Vicente Calderon - a second straight league defeat which left them nine points behind their city rivals at the top of the table in sixth place.

But, speaking ahead of today's away match against Osasuna, Simeone stressed domestic duties will always be Atletico's top priority - even if they are faring better in other tournaments.

"Since arriving here we have always approached every competition with the same enthusiasm," Simeone told reporters.

"The Copa del Rey has traditionally been an important competition in the history of our club. The Champions League is stimulating and up until now we had not qualified for the last 16 so regularly.

"I've always said, though, that the league means everything to me. At all the clubs I have been at the league is the most important thing for both the fans and the club.

"The league table is published on Sunday and every other day of the week in newspapers and fans can see if their team are fifth,

fourth, tenth or second in the table. It means a lot to the fans.

"There is the Copa del Rey and the Champions League and also the league, which has games week in, week out."

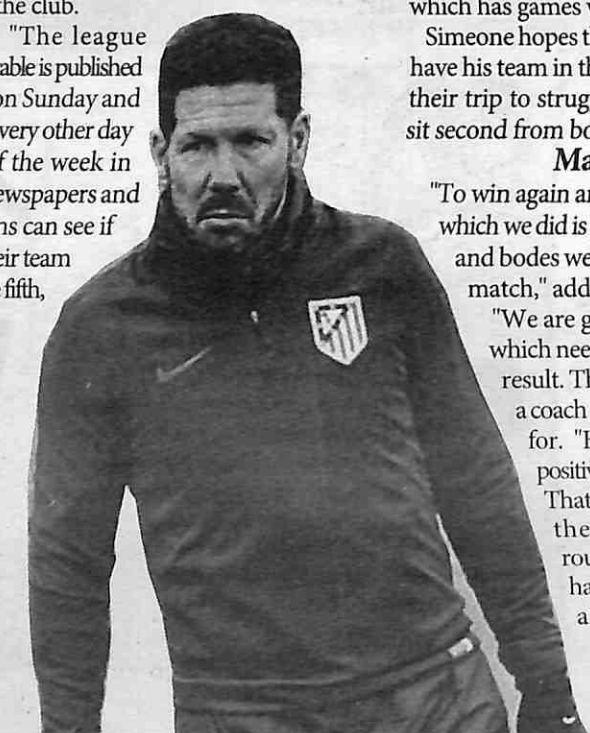
Simeone hopes the win over PSV will have his team in the right mind-set for their trip to struggling Osasuna, who sit second from bottom.

## Manner

"To win again and in the manner in which we did is positive for the team and bodes well ahead of our next match," added the coach.

"We are going to face a team which needs to pick up a good result. They are managed by a coach I have a lot of respect for. "He always transmits positive energy to his teams. That energy will enhance the atmosphere surrounding the game. We have to be prepared for a high-tempo game.

**Goal**



Diego Simeone.

## Barcelona will risk Neymar ahead of Clasico

**B**ARCELONA - Luis Enrique has no intention of resting Neymar for today's trip to Real Sociedad, despite the Brazil striker being one booking away from missing the clash with Real Madrid next weekend.

Barcelona visit Sociedad with Neymar walking a disciplinary tightrope ahead of the first Clasico of the season but Luis Enrique is adamant all fit players will be included for the trip to San Sebastian.

Asked if he would consider leaving Neymar out, he said: "No, not at all.

There's just one game [in my mind]. We'll get the same points for winning in San Sebastian as we would for beating Real Madrid."

The

Barcelona boss does not expect Neymar to alter his game either, adding: "No, I don't think he'll play differently at all." He did concede, however, that Barca's increased number of yellow cards this season was likely due to over protesting to the referee.

He said: "I hadn't assessed that but it's something we need to improve.

We are not normally a team that delivers tackles that are worthy of yellow cards. Perhaps it's for protesting so that's something we have to look at." Fifth-placed Sociedad have won their last

four league games and Luis Enrique is

expecting a tough test at Anoeta, a ground at which Barcelona have not won since 2007. **Goal**



Brazilian Striker Neymar.

## Verratti not wasted in Ligue 1

**P**ARIS - Unai Emery scoffed at Italy coach Giampiero Ventura's claim that Marco Verratti is wasted in Ligue 1 with Paris Saint-Germain, insisting French clubs demand respect for their Champions League exploits.

Ventura spoke about Verratti on Friday and suggested he would be better off playing in Serie A because PSG "never have any difficulty", with the 68-year-old adamant the talented midfielder is being held back.

But Emery is of no doubt that Ventura is wrong, with PSG going into today's trip to Lyon third in the table, having dropped points four times this season, while both their hosts and Monaco have given a good account of themselves in

Europe's elite competition so far.

Speaking in his pre-match media conference, Emery said: "I don't really know the context of the interview, but I know that Ligue 1 is better now [than it used to be].

"The league here is really strong. I prepare all the games and I can tell you that Lyon is one of the very good teams, for example.

"They have a lot of quality players. [Nabil] Fekir play with France, [Alexandre] Lacazette scores a lot of goals and they can still qualify [for the knockout phase] in the Champions League.

"Monaco will be in the last 16, they are having a wonderful season. Ligue 1 is an important league and I think people have to see that. In Europe French clubs are showing that the league is good." **Goal**

## City crush Stars to reach TKO final

**C**APE TOWN - Cape Town City booked their place in the Telkom Knockout final with a comfortable 4-1 win over Free State Stars at Athlone Stadium yesterday.

Goals from Lebogang Manyama, Roland Putsche, Mpho Matsi and Aubrey Ngoma saw Eric Tinkler's side power to a victory over Ea Lla Koto and secure their first major cup final, with the Cape club only having been formed a few months ago.

City were the stronger team in the early stages and they were rewarded within the opening 10 minutes when they were granted a penalty by the referee - Stars' Katlego Mashego was guilty of a clumsy foul on Aubrey Ngoma.

Captain Lebogang Manyama took on the responsibility of the spot kick and easily beat Thela Ngobeni to make it 1-0 to the hosts in the 10th minute.

In the next 20 minutes the Citizens had three great chances to extend

their advantage, but Ngobeni produced fantastic saves to deny Sibusiso Masina (twice) and Ngoma, keeping his side in the game despite their seeing very little of the ball. Yet even the goalkeeper's excellence could hold City at bay for only so long, with the hosts doubling their lead in the 32nd minute when Roland Putsche scored with a low shot which went in via the inside of the post.

City continued to spurn good attacking chances and they were punished in the 38th minute when Stars pulled a goal back, with Thokozani Sekotlong scoring a superb strike direct from a free kick to reduce the deficit to 2-1.

## Prevent

Ngobeni continued his heroics in the second half, but there was nothing he could do to prevent Mpho Matsi meeting Manyama's corner kick and easily steering home a shot to make it 3-1 in the 63rd minute.

Backpage TXT



# LIVERPOOL SEE OFF SUNDERLAND TO LIFT COUTINHO INJURY GLOOM

**L**IVERPOOL - Divock Origi climbed off the bench to help fire Liverpool to a 2-0 win over Sunderland in a game which was marred by a nasty injury to Philippe Coutinho.

Normal service was not quite resumed at Anfield but Origi's first Premier League goal since April and a late James Milner penalty saw Liverpool return to winning ways.

The 2-0 victory over Sunderland came at a cost, however, as Belgian striker Origi was only on the pitch because of a potentially serious ankle injury to playmaker Coutinho, who left the field on a stretcher with his right leg in a protective splint.

## Imperative

Jürgen Klopp's side lost top spot after last week's goalless draw at Southampton, so it was imperative for their title ambitions they found another way of winning after blowing away many teams already this season.

Sunderland by no means made it easy for them and frustrations were beginning to grow until Origi, getting a rare chance because a calf injury ruled out Daniel Sturridge, struck in the 75th minute.

Milner's 90th-minute penalty made the result safe and put an end to the visitors' mini-revival after back-to-



Liverpool's Divock Origi celebrates scoring his side's first goal during their English Premier League soccer match against Sunderland at Anfield, Liverpool, England, yesterday. (AP)

back wins had lifted them off the foot of the table.

Former Everton and Manchester United manager David Moyes' poor record at Anfield, where he has drawn seven, lost six and never won, meant his side were never going to be anything other than compact and aim-

ing to be hard to beat.

They conceded 78 per cent of possession but in the opening 45 minutes managed to limit their hosts to a handful of half-chances as Georginio Wijnaldum's early shot on the turn was easily saved, Dejan Lovren directed two late efforts, one a header, off

target and Sadio Mané fired straight at Jordan Pickford.

Part of Sunderland's success in negating the threat of opponents who had scored 17 times in five previous home league matches was Jason Denayer's man-marking job on playmaker Coutinho. **Teamtalk**

## Vistors blunted after Champions League goal-fest

**D**ORTMUND - Substitute Haris Seferovic scored a late winner as Eintracht Frankfurt stunned Borussia Dortmund with a 2-1 home Bundesliga victory that takes them up to third in the table.

After a quiet first half, Szabolcs Huszti scored just 20 seconds into the second period to rock the visitors.

Thomas Tuchel made a triple change in a bid to turn the game around - including giving Marco Reus his first league appearance since May - and Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang headed in his 13th league goal of the season to seemingly salvage a point.

## Restored

But Frankfurt's Seferovic amazingly restored his side's lead just 65 seconds later and that goal proved decisive after Ousmane Dembele struck the crossbar in stoppage-time.

The visitors had won their previous four matches and came into the game on a high after beating Bayern Munich in Der Klassiker and hitting eight goals past Legia Warsaw in the Champions League. But they now sit nine points behind shock leaders RB Leipzig and slip down to sixth in the table, with their away form proving particularly problematic - they only have two victories from six games on the road.

Frankfurt, meanwhile, have only conceded nine league goals in 12 matches and surge above Dortmund after extending their unbeaten home record. **Goal**



Leicester City's Riyad Mahrez scores his side's first goal of the game from the penalty spot during their English Premier League soccer match against Middlesbrough at the King Power Stadium, Leicester, England, yesterday. (AP)

## Leicester leave it late to deny Middlesbrough

**L**EICESTER - Alvaro Negredo scored twice for Middlesbrough, but champions Leicester twice came from behind to earn a 2-2 draw.

Islam Slimani's injury-time penalty rescued a point for Leicester as they got out of jail against Boro. The Foxes avoided a third straight Premier League defeat to claim a 2-2 draw against battling Boro who were seconds away from a deserved victory.

Alvaro Negredo had twice put them ahead, with Riyad Mahrez levelling in the first half with his own penalty, but Slimani's last-gasp spot kick saved the Foxes.

Last season's shock title winners are still stuttering in the league having won just once in their last eight games despite a late fightback. They may have qualified for the Champions League last 16 in midweek but they were poor against vibrant Boro, who gave them a huge scare, and are two points above the relegation zone. Nothing should be taken away from Boro's performance though after they dominated most of the first half, soaked up pressure after the break and hit the Foxes with what looked to be a sucker punch. **Teamtalk**

## Last-gasp Llorente gives Swans victory

**S**WANSEA - Under-fire Crystal Palace Manager Alan Pardew was pushed to the brink after his side were beaten 5-4 by Swansea City at the Liberty Stadium in what will go down as one of the most spectacular finales in Premier League history.

Fernando Llorente scored twice in stoppage time to finally edge it for Swansea, capping off a rollercoaster afternoon in which the lead changed hands four times.

The Welsh side appeared to be on track for their first win under Bob Bradley when Leroy Fer netted twice following the break to hand his side a comfortable 3-1 lead, after Gylfi Sigurdsson had cancelled out Wilfried Zaha's first-half opener for Palace.

But Palace launched a spectacular late comeback, with a strike from James Tomkins, an own goal from Jack Cork and a close-range finish from Christian Benteke, all in the space of nine minutes, putting them 4-3 in front - seemingly enough to end their five-game losing streak and earn Pardew some breathing space at the end of a week in which he admitted his job was heavily "under scrutiny".

Instead, though, Llorente decided differently. First, he deflected Sigurdsson's shot past goalkeeper Wayne Hennessey in stoppage time to level things up and then he netted again in the 94th minute from Neil Taylor's assist to end a true classic. Not that Pardew will remember it as such. The result sees Swansea move off the foot of the table, a point clear of Sunderland, while Palace are 16th following their sixth defeat in a row, level on points with 18th-placed Hull. **Goal**

## Ronaldo double gives Real victory

**M**ADRID - Real Madrid were let off the hook by Duje Cop's missed penalty as Cristiano Ronaldo scored twice in an unconvincing 2-1 win over Sporting Gijon at a sodden Santiago Bernabeu yesterday.

La Liga leaders Madrid were without star man Gareth Bale, who has been ruled out for up to four months with an ankle tendon injury, but appeared comfortable enough as talisman Ronaldo came to the fore in the soaking capital.

The Portugal superstar netted twice inside 18 minutes, opening the scoring from the spot after Lucas Vasquez - deputising for Bale - was felled in the area, before adding a second with a thumping header.

However, Gijon were gifted a lifeline before the break when Carlos Carmona profited from some slack play by Luka Modric.

It appeared as though a further twist was in store when Gijon were awarded a penalty in the 78th minute, but Cop fluffed his lines from 12 yards as Madrid hung on for the three points.

Zinedine Zidane's men consequently up the ante on

Barcelona, who play at Real Sociedad today, with Luis Enrique's side - who host Madrid in the first Clasico of the season next week - seven points adrift of the leaders. The visitors started well and almost broke the deadlock in the first minute, but Carmona prodded just wide from close range after a clever reverse pass from Moi Gomez.

Real took full advantage of that let-off shortly after, though, as Vazquez jinked past Isma Lopez to draw the foul in the area and Ronaldo slammed the resulting penalty into the bottom-right corner.

Ronaldo threatened

again without succeeding a few moments later, but he did not have to wait much longer to double his tally - meeting Nacho Fernandez's brilliant left-wing cross with an emphatic header in the 18th minute. Despite their defensive deficiencies, Gijon looked lively going forward and they gave themselves a lifeline 10 minutes before the break.

Modric's sloppy pass was intercepted in midfield and Gijon worked the ball down the left before Carmona directed Lopez's cross into the bottom-right corner with a hopeful flick of his right foot. Gijon continued to see plenty of the ball after the break, but Real should have restored their two-goal lead just before the hour mark when Karim Benzema headed Vazquez's inch-perfect cross straight at Diego Marino.

Real began to tighten their grip on proceedings thereafter as they started passing forward with more purpose in an attempt to curb Gijon's belief.

Goal

Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo.

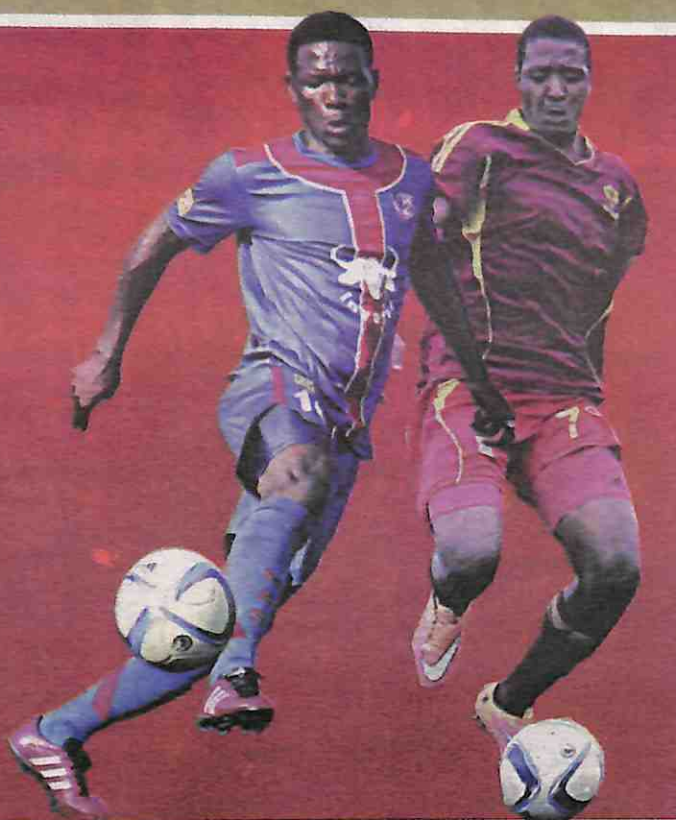




# MTN Premier League 2016/17

**PREVIEW**

...Birds' are enjoying the top position on the log with a historic 36 points after winning all 12 games played in the league campaign.



## Could this be Swallows' unofficial crowning?

**Mbabane Swallows vs Young Buffaloes**  
Somhlolo National Stadium,  
4pm

It seldom happens that the league race be over with multiple games remaining before the curtain closes on the campaign but seemingly that will be the case this season as the trailblazing Mbabane Swallows still refuses to drop points.

'Birds' are enjoying the top position on the log with a his-

toric 36 points after winning all 12 games played in the league campaign.

They are 15 points ahead of the second placed army outfit Young Buffaloes, which has won five games out of the 12 played.

The two will lock horns today at Somhlolo National Stadium in what could be a league deciding clash if what 'Birds' CEO Sibusiso Manana said is anything to go by. The latter said this game could just be the much anticipated decider for

his side. If Swallows completes a double over Buffaloes, it will take their lead to 18 points. Swallows might welcome mesmerising winger Banele 'Pupu' Sikhondze who has been out of action for over two weeks due to an injury.

Buffaloes have however stated they would be gunning for the maximum points against the Beautiful Birds when they meet. Supporters will be kept at the edge of their seats in what is set to be a thrilling encounter between the two sides.

## 'BULL'S BOAT SINKING BY EACH GAME

**Red Lions vs Mbabane Highlanders**  
Somhlolo National Stadium,  
12pm

BY SABELO MAJOLA

**S**OCCER - Mbabane Highlanders are under a dark cloud that has seen the team going through a turbulent moment, a winless streak and the situation is not getting any better and the worst thing is that there is a feeling that things could get from bad to worse.

Red Lions stood on the way of the black and white ensemble in the first round, forcing the game to end in a stalemate and one wonders what more misery the Manzini based outfit could impose on the struggling Mbabane giants as they meet again today at Somhlolo National Stadium.

Both sides are not having the best of times in the campaign as Red Lions are also going through an inconsistent wave. Only two points separate the two sides on the log table, with 'Landers' third from bottom with 10 points while Red Lions are fourth from basement with 12 points.

Swift action needs to be taken by Landers' management if they are to rescue the team from its current situation but with the transfer window still far ahead, they are less likely to see any improvement.



## Moment of brilliance as Weslians meet Sea Robbers in hub derby

**Manzini Wanderers vs Moneni Pirates**  
Somhlolo National Stadium,  
2pm

They say the best revenge is just moving on and getting over it but I doubt that will be the case for Moneni Pirates who got a rude welcome to the MTN Premier League at the hands of Manzini Wanderers. The Buccaneers got 2-0 thrubbing from their town rivals in the

opening games of the campaign.

From that loss to the Weslians, Pirates struggled to settle in well in the elite league and the situation was so bad that they even showed their mentor Mlamuli 'Sputla' Zwane the exit door. His successor, Zenzele 'Ace' Dlamini has since turned things around for the better in the 'Buccaneers' camp and he is already deemed as the 'Messiah'. The seasoned mentor has three wins under his belt so far and

today will be a big test for him as he faces the aggravated Wanderers who kicked off the season positively at the expense of his charges except, he was not at the helm at the time.

Wanderers will have to be on the watch for Pirates' goal poacher Mfanfikile 'Fash' Ndzimandze whose scoring form is at the ceiling but the Hub giants are also as deadly upfront with the sturdy Kola Aladeon causing problems for many defenders.

### FESTIVE SPECIALS

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- 225/70 R17, 205/80 R17, 225/80 R17,5 215/70 R17,5
- 205/60 R17,5 - E4000.00 for 4
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Our hours of operation this festive season will be:  
Monday to Sunday  
0600hrs to 1800hrs

### LONLA INVESTMENTS

Manzini: Opposite Satellite Bus Rank Below Hub  
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# SMVAF INGWENYAMA CUP 2016



Hohho Super League side Manchester United's Mpendulo Mamba winning the ball from Rangers F.C's Norman Dlamini during the SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup regional finals at King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium yesterday. Manchester won 7-4 in penalties. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



Manchester United's Lusito Mhlanga blocking Rangers' Phiwayinkhosi Mhlungu.



United goalkeeper Banele Dlamini being congratulated for his splendid performance during penalty shoot outs.



Manchester United players in jubilation after winning in penalties.



SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup regional competition champions Manchester United displaying their trophy.



United players celebrating their victory.



PLS Chairman Victor Gamedze with Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala, MVA Chairman of the Board of Directors Zweli Jele and others during the final.



Football lovers watching the cup final at King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium in Nhlanguano.



Ntokozo Ndlovu and Mvuselelo Fakudze battling for the ball.



# NATIONAL SPORTS AWARDS LAUNCHED IN STYLE

...GOVT proud of initiative

STORIES BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

**S**PORTS – The King's dream of improving the nation through sports and recreation was made a reality on Friday night, when the Swaziland National Sports & Recreation Council launched the inaugural National Sports Awards.

The launch was held at the Royal Villas at Ezulwini on Friday night.

Addressing the gathering Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala said they were proud of the historical initiative, which he said would take local sports to another level. "As a country, we are very blessed by their Majesty's love for sports and this is shown by the various sports activities that the King has commissioned. Sports play an important role in many aspects of the country's social economic development and we are appealing for the nation's support to ensure the success of this initiative," he said. He said they would report the initiative to Cabinet to ensure that government gets a full and detailed briefing about this historical event. He said they would do all in their



**Minister of Sports David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala unveiling and admiring the Swaziland National Sports Awards emblem while Swaziland National Sports and Recreation Council (SNSRC) chairman Lawrence Mtsetfwa and Swaziland Olympic and Commonwealth Games Association (SOCGA) president Zombodze Magagula look on. This was during the launch of the Swaziland National Sports Awards at Royal Villas yesterday. (Pics: Sabelo Majola)**

power to make sure the awards become a huge success. Ngcamphalala also commended the good working relationship between the SNSRC and Swaziland Olympic & Commonwealth Games Association (SOCGA). "I would also

like to appreciate the good working relationship between the Council and SOCGA as well as the affiliated associations. This will go a long way in improving our sports," he said.



**SNSRC Board Member Nqobile Magagula at the event.**



**SNSRC CEO Darius Dlomo making his remarks.**

## SNSRC ROPES IN UMVINI EVENTS & MANAGEMENT

**S**ports – Local events Company Umvini Events and Management will organise the annual national sports awards to be held next year. This was announced by the Council's CEO Darius Dlomo who said the company would ensure smooth operations of the inaugural event.

Umvini Director Thulani Mthethwa said they were very honoured to be part of the historical event. "It is an honour to be part of this great initiative, which aims at appreciating the efforts of our sports stars. We promise to deliver the best event," he said. The company has also designed

the logo of the awards which symbolises national heritage and national pride. Local companies are urged to sponsor the different categories. Crime Stop security has already led the way by announcing that they would sponsor the Life time sports achievement award.



**SOCGA board member Fred Macfadden, South African boxing expert Andile Mpofu, and SWABA president Pearl Dlamini following proceedings.**



**Lebombo and her band gave a splendid performance on the night.**

## 13 CATEGORIES FOR SPORTS AWARDS

**L**ocal athletes will compete in 13 categories in the inaugural national sports awards to be held between June and July next year.

The categories include outstanding sports star, outstanding sports woman, outstanding Paralympics performances, outstanding sports team, outstanding sports leader, to name just a few.

Announcing the categories SNSRC Chief Executive Officer Darius Dlomo said the awards would promote national glory and further keep the passion alive among local sports stars.

"This is an event aimed at recognising the efforts being made by our sports stars in the dif-

The list of the categories

- Outstanding Junior Sportsman
- Outstanding junior sports woman
- Outstanding sports woman
- Outstanding sportsman
- Outstanding Paralympics performance (man)
- Outstanding Paralympics performance (woman)
- Outstanding sports team
- Outstanding sports coach
- Outstanding sports Leader
- Outstanding sports association
- Outstanding sports Journalists
- Sports star
- Lifetime sports achievement

ferent sporting codes. We strongly believe that it will encourage them to work extra hard in hoisting the country's flag high during international competitions."

"This being the inaugural awards, the Board took a conscious decision to recognise excellence for the period between 01 January 2014 to 31 January 2016," he said.



**SOCGA president Zombodze Magagula and SNSRC chairman Lawrence Mtsetfwa signing a Memorandum of Understanding that binds the institutions to function as a unit.**

## Local associations happy with awards

**S**ports- Local sports associations have expressed excitement following the launch of the national sports awards.

The associations said the event would play a major role towards the transformation of local sports.

This is what they said:

**Muzi Radebe (Football)**

"We would like to thank the King for his continuous support of local sports in the country and the government in assisting sports. These awards will play a huge role in motivating our sports stars and also improve the standard of sports."

**Mpendulo Dlamini (Volleyball)**

"We appreciate the initiative and we are looking forward at producing athletes that will compete effectively for the various categories," he said.

**Muntu Dlamini (Pool)**

"We are very grateful to the

Council for coming with these awards. We are humbled by the invitation to this prestigious event and I am appealing for unity from the pool family so that we can shine in these upcoming awards."

**Berger Nxumalo (Swimming)**

"We are very pleased with the initiative that would play a major role in motivating swimmers," he said.

**Mandla Simelane (Cycling)**

"We would like to applaud the Council for coming up with such a great initiative. This will definitely take local sports to greater heights."

**Albert Mhlana (Golf)**

"This is a great initiative and it has motivated us to go and work hard as the golf family so that we improve and also compete effectively in international competitions," he said.



# 'MZORO' HEADER HANDS LEOPARD WIN OVER 'MAMBA'

BY SABELO MAJOLA

Green Mamba... (0)0  
Royal Leopard... (1)1

**S**OCCER-A lone goal from Muzi 'Mzoro' Dlamini handed MTN Premier League defending champions a 1-0 victory over Green Mamba at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

'Mzoro' headed home a cross from Zweli 'Mlilo' Nxumalo corner kick in the 18 minute to beat second choice Xolani Mngometulu at the poles and drive the police side to their sixth win of the season.

Mngometulu mended the poles in the absence of South Africa born Japhter Merese who is reportedly back home for personal commitments. Leopard have jumped to the third place on the log table, level on 21 points with second placed Young Buffaloes who are playing Mbabane Swallows today. But victory for Manzini Wanderers will push them back to the fourth spot as the former play against Moneni Pirates today. Green Mamba had the better transition and their endurance almost paid off in the last minute of the first half but Banele



## Teams

**Green Mamba** - Xolani, Lawrence, Samkelo, Sanele, Thabo, Mxolisi, Njabulo (Phethego), Phumlane, Banele, Phinda, Muhle (Banele) (Mcebo), Siyabonga

**Royal Leopard** - Phephisani, Sizwe, Sikhumbuzo, Machawe, Sifiso, Siboniso, Muzi, Xolani, Lungelo, Zweli (Mxolisi) Mathokoza (Sabelo)

**Green Mamba's Mcebo Mdluli controls the ball while Sikhumbuzo Ntimane puts pressure on him. Leopard won the match 1-0 at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.**

'Makonese' Dlamini's goal was ruled offside after he combined well with Phinda Dlamini to break from the defence. Lungelo Tsabedze came close to extending the lead for Leopard in the 81st minute but his shot was poorly executed when he had the keeper to beat and the ball went wide.

Green Mamba pressed for an equaliser and it nearly came seven minutes from full time but a well placed 'Makonese' missed a free header from Phinda's cross

and that was the closest they came to making the score level. This was Leopard's third straight win over the Correctional Services side whose last victory over the former in the league campaign was back in the 2014/15 league first round when Green Mamba won 2-1. Green Mamba are fourth from the bottom with 12 points and they will be hoping that Mbabane Highlanders and Red Lions play to a stalemate so they don't open a gap at the bottom.

## Manchester crowned Ingwenyama Cup Champs, E40 000 richer

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

Rangers (1)2 Manchester (0)2  
(Manchester win 7-4 on penalties)

**S**OCCER-A Stubborn Hhohho Super League Manchester United defied all odds to win the inaugural SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup regional competition, taking home E40 000.

The former Premier League side beat Rangers 7-4 after the dreaded penalty shoot-outs during a thrilling final played at the King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium yesterday.

The regional outfits outdid themselves, scoring six goals, something that would have left FIFA President Gianni Infantino with a beaming smile since the global mother body advocates for goals in the sport.

Buoyed by the home crowd, Rangers were off to a bright start after finding the

back of the net two minutes into the game through Mncedisi Mhlanga, who finished off a rebound from Innocent Dlamini. The visitors struggled to express themselves for prolonged stages of the first stanza as their strikers failed to combine well in the final third.

### Dropped

Rangers dropped from the high temp approach but still enjoyed a goal cushion going to the breather.

The second half saw Manchester leveling matters in the 65th minute through a Mphumelelo Maseko strike after combining well with Thabiso Fakudze on the left flank. However, Rangers did not despair as they regained the lead 11 minutes later through Xolani Mthunzi who capitalised on a defensive blunder to beat opposition keeper Banele Dlamini with ease. The contest was far from being over as bully Manchester striker Sikhumbuzo Nyamane forced the match into extra time in the

79th minute after benefitting from a goal mouth scramble.

The action then entered a gruelling 30 minutes of extra time football where Rangers once again returned to the driver's seat just before the halftime through substitute striker Sibanesenkhozi Zwane who beat the flatfooted opposition defence thus sending the home fans into wild celebrations. But their joy was short-lived as Mphumelelo Maseko forced the match into the lottery shootout in the 117th minute. Rangers were a disappointment in the penalties as they missed three spot-kicks and only scored once whereas Manchester scored all four spot kicks to win the contest witnessed by Ingwenyama Cup Culture Chairman Prince Bukhosi who represented Board of Trustees Chairman Prince Hlangabeza, NFAS First Vice President Nichodemus 'Ace' Mashwama, PLS Chairman Victor Gamedze and over 400 other football supporters.

## 'WE ARE READY FOR MAIN INGWENYAMA CUP TOURNEY'

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

**S**OCCER-SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup regional Champions Manchester United players are confident of competing effectively against Premier League sides in the main tournament to kick off next month.

Interviewed after their triumph over Rangers yesterday at King Sobhuza II Stadium, Manchester central defender Mpendulo Mamba said they were going to give their best shot against the big teams.

"I am very happy that we won the regional tournament through unity and dedication from my teammates. We now have to focus on the main tournament and are going to work hard in preparation for the Premier League teams," he said. His teammate Fashion Dlamini shared the same sentiments and

stated they would work extra hard going to the main tournament. "I am happy with our success and we now need to shift our focus on the main tournament where we want to put on a gallant performance," he said.

Meanwhile Rangers midfielder Nkhosenhle Ntshangase said they would try and give a better showing in the main tournament.

"I am disappointed that we lost today in a match we could have easily won but we let ourselves concede soft goals. We have to pick ourselves up and prepare for the main competition where we want to put a good fight," he said.

The northern Hhohho outfit is E40 000 richer after winning the tournament while Rangers will receive E20 000 second prize money and silver medals.

## 'CITY ADD TO TAMBUTI'S WOES'

BY SABELO MAJOLA

City..... (1)3  
Tambuti.... (1)1

**S**OCCER-Midas City claimed their fourth victory in the MTN Premier League and jumped two places up on the log table when they beat Tambuti 3-1 at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

A brace from sturdy forward Simanga Shongwe and a lone goal from Khetho Mkhontfo was enough to earn the Caleb Ngwenya-led charges the much needed three points.

The Mbabane side now sits on the sixth position after replacing Manzini Sundowns with a better goal difference as the two teams are level on points.

City were ahead after two min-

utes into the game, courtesy of a fine header from Simanga Shongwe. The sugar belt side, however, cancelled the lead through Zwakele Dlamini who finished off, with a blazing shot, a clinical cross from Talent Mandizadza in the 19th minute.

Two minutes later, City retained their lead when Mkhontfo rattled the net after connecting a Njabulo Magagula free kick cross inside the box.

Tambuti were denied a golden opportunity a few minutes before the breather when a well executed bicycle kick by Roy Mamba bounced off the bar. City put the nail in the coffin early in the second half through Shongwe who capitalised on a loose ball following a scramble in the box, netting a shot to complete a brace and make the final score 3-1.

## TEAMS

### Midas City

Machawe, Simphiwe, Frank, Simphiwe, Ndumiso, Buhle Mncedisi, Khetho (Hloniphani), Simanga, Linda (Themba), Njabulo (Masotja).

### Tambuti

Thokozani, Siboniso, Muzi, Machawe, Salakahle, Simanga, Zwakele, Mpendulo, Talent, Roy, Gabriel.

## City eyeing top three finish

BY SABELO MAJOLA

**S**OCCER-Midas City are looking to finish at a better position than they did last season and this time they have targeted the top three.

This was revealed by the team's head coach Caleb Ngwenya in a post-match interview after they his charges beat Tambuti 3-1 at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. The coach said they played better and executed their chances perfectly compared to their previous game where they beat Mbabane Highlanders 4-3. "We shouldn't have conceded in this game. There was however a lot of improvement

from the players today. The maximum points are important for us because the teams below are pressurising as and we can't afford to lose. We'll keep pushing and finishing in the top three will be a good thing for us," he said. Meanwhile,

Tambuti assistant coach Themba Nkambule said the early goal killed their momentum. He said they did not have enough time to recover in time for the dash against City following their mid-week game against Green Mamba. "It was unfortunate that we lost today. However, despite being in the danger zone, we are not yet worried and believe we will rescue the situation," he said.

## 'WESLIANS' BEAT 'BULL' IN U-17 LEAGUE

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

**S**OCCER-Hub giants Manzini Wanderers once again continued with their unbeaten run in the Esibayeni Lodge E200 000 Under-17 league after they defeated Mbabane Highlanders 1-0.

This was during the league games played at the Manzini Club yesterday. Lethal striker Kwanele 'Zoo' Zungu's solitary strike in the 45th minute was enough for the 'Weslians' to maintain pole position.

The troublesome Zungu scored a beauty, which was a result of some good interchange of passes with winger Mayo before

chipping the ball over the opposition's goalkeeper.

The game was a thriller in the first half as Manzini Wanderers were all out in attack enjoying more ball possession. Mbabane Highlanders, however, showed potency and also gave a good fight matching the maroon and white outfit pound for pound.

### Handled

This resulted in a penalty in the 19th minute for the 'Bull' after Manzini Wanderers left back Sandziso 'Cheese' Simelane handled the ball in the box whilst attempting to clear.

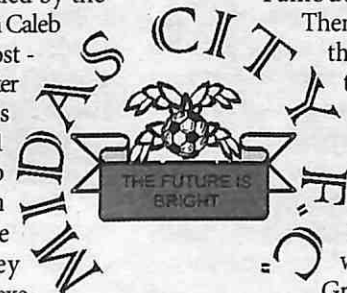
Wanderers' goalkeeper Makhosonkhe 'Makho' Dlamini came through for his

side and punched the ball away and the rebound was cleared away by the defence for a fruitless corner kick.

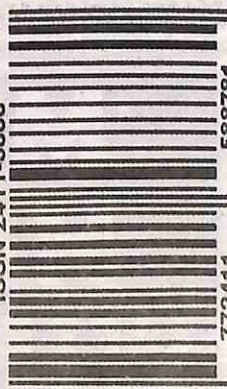
The early minutes of the second half saw Manzini Wanderers goalie forced to continuously pull top-notch saves as Highlanders piled on the pressure.

Mbabane Highlanders kept on huffing and puffing, albeit to futility because their efforts were to no avail, as poor finishing got the better of them each time a clear-cut chance came their way while the maroon and white ensemble held on to the lone goal until the final whistle.

Meanwhile the clash between Moneni Pirates and Royal Leopard played earlier finished in a 1-all stalemate.







## LEOPARD COMPLETE DOUBLE OVER 'MAMBA

MTN PREMIER LEAGUE LOG

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Mbabane Swallows	12	12	0	0	34	5	29	36
Young Buffaloes	12	5	6	1	13	6	7	21
Royal Leopard	13	6	3	4	17	13	4	21
Manzini Wanderers	12	5	5	2	20	10	10	20
Manzini Sundowns	13	5	5	3	16	16	0	20
Midas City	13	4	5	4	17	18	-1	17
Moneni Pirates	12	4	4	4	15	18	-3	16
Green Mamba	13	4	3	6	13	10	3	15
Red Lions	12	3	3	6	13	27	-14	12
Mbabane Highlanders	12	2	4	6	14	20	-6	10
Tambuti	13	3	1	9	9	23	-14	10
Sea Birds	13	1	3	9	9	24	-15	6

MTN NATIONAL FIRST DIVISION NATIONAL FIRST DIVISION LOG:

	P	W	L	D	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Matsapha United	11	9	1	1	28	7	21	28
Malanti Chiefs	11	7	0	4	27	6	21	25
Vovovo	11	7	2	2	19	12	7	23
Madlenya	11	6	3	2	16	11	5	20
Bad Boys	11	4	1	6	13	14	-1	17
Amalanda	11	5	6	0	14	15	-1	15
Sikhalo	11	4	6	1	8	12	-4	13
Mbabane Citizen	11	4	7	0	14	17	-3	12
Hlatikhulu Tycoons	11	3	6	2	11	27	-16	11
Hub Sundowns	12	2	6	4	11	14	-3	10
City Warriors	12	2	7	3	10	20	-10	9
Ludzeldzwe Brothers	11	1	8	2	7	26	-19	2

MTN LEAGUE RESULTS/FIXTURES

Midas City	3	Tambuti	1
G. Mamba	0	Leopard	1

Playing today  
Somhlolo National Stadium

Red Lions	vs	Mbabane Highlanders	noon
Manzini Wanderers	vs	Moneni Pirates	2pm
Mbabane Swallows	vs	Young Buffaloes	4pm

NFD RESULTS/FIXTURES

H. Sundowns	2	City Warriors	2
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Playing today  
Prince of Wales Ground

Vovovo	vs	Bad Boys	1:30pm
Malanti Chiefs	vs	Ludzeldzwe B	3:30pm

King Sobhuza Memorial Stadium

Hlatikhulu Tycoons	vs	Mbabane Citizens	1:30pm
Amalanda	vs	Sikhalo Se-Africa	3:30pm

Tshankulu Stadium

Madlenya	vs	Matsapha United	3:30pm
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...POLICE OUTFIT JUMPS TO THIRD SPOT IN MTN LEAGUE LOG AFTER RECORDING 1 -0 VICTORY AGAINST THEIR CORRECTIONAL SERVICE COUNTERPARTS.

## SUPERSPORT ELIMINATE BUCS TO BOOK TKO FINAL BERTH

**N**ELSPRUIT - SuperSport United booked their spot in the Telkom Knockout final after beating Orlando Pirates 1-0 in their semi-final tie yesterday evening.

The game got off to a lively start, as Thabo Mnyamane tested Jackson Mabokgwane from distance, while Mpho Makola blazed over from close range in the opening 10 minutes.

### Chances

It was SuperSport who broke the deadlock after 21 minutes, as Mnyamane was quick to pounce on a ball in the box and slotted beyond Mabokgwane, 1-0. The Buccaneers had a good amount of possession in the opposition half, but they struggled to carve out chances for Tendai Ndoro. Pirates carved out their first real opening in the 36th minute, as Luvuyo Memela forced Pieterse into a fine with a low strike

from distance.

The visitors should have leveled matters just before the halftime break when Thabo Rakhale blazed over the crossbar in front of an opening goal.

### Equaliser

With Pirates struggling to break down SuperSport, Palacios introduced Thamsanqa Gabuza and Thabo Qalinge for Mpho Makola and Thabo Rakhale.

The Buccaneers pushed for an equaliser and went close in the 70th minute, as Qalinge skipped past his marker, before unleashing an effort that sailed inches wide of the upright. Palacios made his change five minutes later, as Bernard Morrison replaced Themba Sikhakhane as the Buccaneers went in search for an equaliser.

However, Pirates were reduced to 10 men in the 80th minute as Thabo Matlaba was shown a straight red card



Orlando Pirates player Thabo Rakhale fighting for the ball with a SuperSport United defender. (SoccerLaduma)

for a dangerous challenge on Jeremy Brockie.

SuperSport managed to see out the final 10 minutes to claim the victory,

which will see them face Cape Town City in the final. [soccerladuma](http://soccerladuma)