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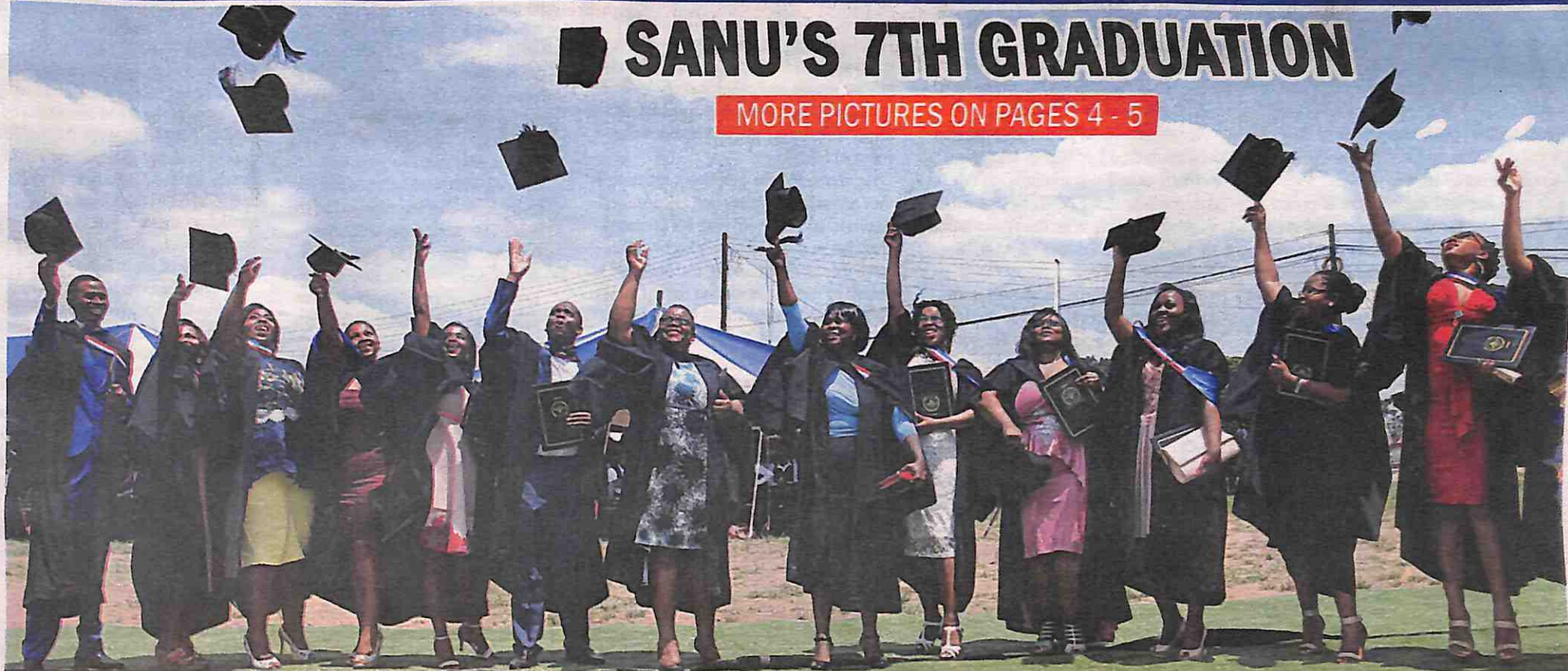
October 29, 2016

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SANU'S 7TH GRADUATION

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CHRISTIANITY SHOCKER

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● Plan to destroy Christianity in schools revealed

**SUPREME
COURT
SITTING
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PAGE 7

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SANU A GROWING COMPETITOR IN SADC - KING

- His Majesty says he is happy that SANU is well positioned to be a competitor in the SADC
- Looks forward in SANU contributing to the development of the new SADC University that has been recently launched.

Stories by Sandile Nkambule

His Majesty the King has taken note that the Southern African University (SANU) is by leaps and bounds, fast growing since it was launched in 2010 and is now well positioned to be a competitor in the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

The King said the country is proud the university has well prepared graduates and provided with the necessary skills they will use in the economic development of the Kingdom.

Speaking through his representative Prince David during the SANU gradu-

ating ceremony held at the institution yesterday, the King said he is looking forward to the university taking part and contributing to the development of the new SADC University recently launched during the SADC summit held in the country in August.

"We applaud SANU for forging partnerships with other higher education institutions and associations, to this end, we note that SANU is a member in good standing with the Association of African Universities (AAU)," the King said.

He further stated this in turn is an opportunity that will enable the leadership and academic staff to network

with other higher learning institutional leaders and policy makers from all parts of the continent on key issues related to African higher education and development. The King called upon the private sector and other stakeholders in the education, health and spiritual sector to support the growth and development of SANU.

He reminded the graduates learning is not an ending process and encouraged them to continue striving for greater heights in order to play a highly effective role in fast tracking the development of the kingdom and that of attaining the first world status by the year 2022.

SANU produces first crop of degree holders in Bachelor of Science

Yesterday the Southern African University (SANU) had a double celebration as they celebrated the graduation ceremony and having the first crop of students conferred with Bachelor of Science in different medical fields.

The University Vice Chancellor Winnie Nhlengethwa said the chancellor conferred degrees to the first graduates of the Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Sciences, and Bachelor of Science in Nursing Anaesthesia and award diplomas to Pharmacy graduates.

Excited

"This is the first of its kind in Swaziland, we are very excited for this achievement Your Majesty and grateful to the Ministry of Health and Partners for the support they accorded SANU," Nhlengethwa said. She said the partnership of SANU and ICAP to sustain the Medical Laboratory Science Department is of great assistance as it is catering for employment of more full time lectures and the procurement equipment and materials to facilitate quality teaching and learning. She said the university's standing in the region and global arena, is impressive through affiliations and memberships with prestigious universities and associations.

Jubilant students mimic TV in ses'tawuvala siwuvalele wena statement

Ludzidzini Acting Governor Timothy Velabo's Sibaya comments seem to make the day for everyone, upset or not, angry or not as students from the SANU yesterday mimicked the traditional prime minister.

Taking advantage of the faulty public address system which gave speakers a hard time as they were interrupted while making their remarks, the students mostly those who are currently studying, would be occasionally heard shouting 'sesitawuvala siwuvalele wena' (we will shut down the mic just for you) as the speakers would pose while technicians attended to the system.

This happened to at least two speakers and it was not until the technicians eventually fixed the problem that His Majesty's representative Prince David was not disturbed by the faulty system, since he used that which is specially reserved for the King by the Swaziland Broadcasting and



MIMIC: Ludzidzini Acting Governor Timothy Velabo Mtethwa.

Information Services (SBIS).

The function was however a success despite the high temperatures experienced yesterday.

King recalls his birthday at RFM, pays tribute to Dr Samuel Hynd

With members of the Royal family having been born at the Raleigh Fitkin Memorial (RFM) hospital, His Majesty yesterday paid tribute to the late Doctors Samuel and his father David Hynd.

The King commended the two stating they worked tirelessly to further the mission of the Nazarene community and also spreading the Gospel through Education. "We commend the likes of Dr David and his son Samuel who have worked tirelessly to further the mission of the Nazarene, the nation will know that the Nazarene Mission has a strong bond with the Royal family particularly the hospital where many members of the Royal family were born," the King said.

He said he is pleased the hospi-

tal has continued to be at the apex of providing quality health services to the nation, as demonstrated in its professionalism on April 19 1968 when another member of the Royal family was born under the supervision of Dr Samuel Hynd.

Played

This is the year in which His Majesty the King Mswati III the then Crown Prince Makhosetive was born at the RFM hospital.

He said this gives the nation the opportunity to thank the Hynd family for the magnificent role they played in the kingdom by spreading the word of God and also providing health support for the people of Swaziland.

He said the Hynds did a lot to develop the Nazarene Mission in the kingdom stating the late Dr Hynd was close to King Sobuza II.

SANU a mature university - PM

Prime Minister Dr. Sibusiso Dlamini says the Southern Africa Nazarene University (SANU) is a mature university.

The premier said with an altruistic, ethos and excellent standards, the university has been able to produce many fine graduates who are now contributing towards the country's economic development.

Speaking when making his remarks during the SANU seventh graduation ceremony held at the University yesterday, the head of government said seven years of existence in the tertiary sector, confirms the SANU is indeed a mature university adding that last time memories, the university brought together the three colleges for education whose students were yesterday graduating.

Even years of existence in our tertiary sector confirms the status of the SANU as a mature institution I am sure SANU has produced many graduates and today it is a great pleasure to attend this seventh graduation ceremony," he said. At least 299 students yesterday graduated from the different faculties, that of Health Sciences, Theology and

Education where they were awarded diplomas and Degrees.

He said the increase in the number of tertiary institutions in the country is in principle, a very welcome development as the nation will appreciate that quantity should always, to the greatest extent possible be matched with quality, which is an extremely important component of government's current tertiary education policy.

Fund

He said the policy further urges the country's existing tertiary institutions to develop self-funding strategies again to the greatest extent possible adding this applies equally to the SANU institutions and the students themselves. A further strategy according to the premier is to encourage a greater emphasis on degree courses such as science and Information Technology, both of which in the present day are relevant, even within the traditional courses of the university.

Combined with a close collaboration with the new Royal Science and Technology Park, the premier said the country can be on the way to elevating Swaziland into the platform of a high tech-nation.



REMARKS: CPTM CEO DR. Mihaela Smith making her remarks to Acting DPM Dumisani Ndlangamandla at the DPM offices yesterday. (Pics: Bodwa Mbingo)

CPTM praises Sibaya for upholding Smart Partnership principles

By Bodwa Mbingo

The Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management (CPTM) has praised the People's Parliament otherwise known as Sibaya as having all the features of the Smart Partnership values of dialogue.

Speaking when making a courtesy call to the Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) in Mbabane yesterday, a visiting CPTM Chief Executive

Officer (CEO) Dr. Mihaela Smith said Sibaya upholds all the principles of the Smart Partnership.

Smith also revealed the Smart Partnership is not an organisation, but a movement and that in 2003 when the Smart Partnership International Dialogue was held at Ezulwini they picked up a very important punch-line, 'kushiyelane ligwayi' which means sharing ideas.

"The format of kushiyelane ligwayi was also used in the Smart Partnership Dialogue

held in Jordan as it was explained to them how in traditional modernity such applied. In any family we try to see who's in charge as have the father, mother and children, but here anyone can be the leader. At CPTM everyone is the leader and we take pride in that Dr. Gideon Mahlalela who is a Swazi is part of the Board," she said.

Dr. Smith continued that Swaziland is very much part of the enlightened and progressive movement of the CPTM, which was formed

LUBOMBO MORE VULNERABLE TO ASIAN INFLUX

Stories
by Wonderboy Dlamini

The Lubombo region is reportedly more vulnerable to the influx of Asians into the country, mainly those who are here illegally.

This is said to be evidenced by the large number of Asians in areas such as Siteki, Lonhlupeko and Mpolonjeni.

This was disclosed during a consultation meeting held at Siteki yesterday. The meeting was facilitated by the Zombodze Emuva MP Titus Thwala's led Asian Probe Team.

One of the interviewees told the probe team that Siteki and surrounding areas has suffered the most in terms of the Asian influx.

He pointed out that this is influenced by the fact that the area is situated near the border separating the country with Mozambique, from which most of the illegal Asian immigrants come from.

This was said to have also been influenced by the immigration laws which are said to be very lax to Asian nationals.

Corrupt practices at the Mhlumeni and Lomahasha Border Posts were reported to be also contributing to the high number of Asians living in



PROBE: Zombodze Emuva MP Titus Thwala.

Siteki and surrounding areas.

The interviewee stated that it was now worrying to learn that some Asian nationals owned land in rural areas. Such land is said to have been acquired through *kukhonta* or buying native residents out of the land.

It was also reported that at least 90 percent of businesses in Siteki in particular, are operated by either Indians or Pakistanis.

This assertion was also echoed by almost all the other interviewees who added that Siteki was quickly becoming

an Asian town.

Some Asian nationals were reported to have also turned into the business of renting out flats which are commonly known as *titimela*, and putting in place rules which violet the right of tenants.

Moreover, a number of Asians are said to be now conducting small businesses such as selling vegetables at the market and on the street.

Siteki came into the news early this year when one of the Asians businessmen who runs Mpumalanga Wholesale, Akber Ali (44) and other outlets was arrested with three others; Zafar Iqbal (23), Ehsan Ahmed (21) and Wasim Ranjhi (26). They are all originally from Pakistan, according to court papers.

The four are alleged to have hacked Naeem Gul Khan, a businessman of Asian origin, with bush knives while at Ntamakuphila residential area, near Siteki town.

All the suspects were granted bail under a cloud of controversy given that some of them don't even have a residence or work permit nor did they have permits to operate any business in the country and were illegal immigrants. Their case goes to court at the High Court before Judge Titus Mlangeni from Tuesday until Thursday this coming week.

It is true, we do not bank locally - Asian

The allegations of Asians not banking their money in local banks was yesterday proven true by one of their own who stated that their faith does not allow them to use conventional banks.

The Asian who however wanted to be referred to as a Swazi, claiming to have been born in Swaziland said,

mainly those who remain faithful to the Islamic religion were barred from using local banks.

He said however, it was also not true that they transferred money accumulated in the country to their native. He said instead, they rotate the money amongst themselves by buying more stock each time they

made sales.

The rather youthful interviewee stated that the Islamic laws detected that they must use Islamic banks which do not charge interests.

He said however, such banks were not available in the country, hence they preferred to keep the money in the form of stock.

Where do Asians get Swazi IDs?

Native residents of Siteki have raised serious concerns on some Asian nationals who acquire local documents such as Identity Cards (ID), passports and driver's licences.

The concern is that many of the Asians who live in the country own these documents but they are rarely seen queuing in the home affairs offices either to apply or collect the said documents.

The understanding is that the documents are either found

He also pointed out that some Asians own Swazi driver's licences, but they have never been to any local driving school.

The interviews stated that this indicated serious rot in the ministry of home affairs, as already proven by previous consultations which were made at the Mhlumeni and Lomahasha Border Posts.

The interviewees asked parliamentarians to look closely on what is going on in the ministry of home affairs and

make urgent changes if there is any need.

On another note, another interviewee who is also a senior government officer called for the arrest of traditional authorities who give Swazi Nation Land to Asians.

The officer stated that some chiefs were abusing their powers and allocating land to Asians who would pay large amounts of money as price for *kukhonta*.

The interviews stated that this indicated serious rot in the ministry of home affairs, as already proven by previous consultations which were made at the Mhlumeni and Lomahasha Border Posts.

Redefine investor - businessman

A businessman who took part in the probe of Asian influx into the country has called upon government to re-check what is actually meant by an 'investor'.

The businessman stated that many of the Asians who come into the country under the disguise of being investors would arrive in the country poor and struggling to even rent a one room flat. Evidently, many of them are said to be employees of their fellow countrymen in small

shops situated all over the country.

The businessman said some of the Asians would also be found loitering around towns without having anything to do. This was echoed by a number of other interviewees who added that even those who owned businesses in the country would more likely bring their countrymen to work as labourers. It was said this would then not serve the initial purpose of coming into the country, which is to invest.

back in 1994 to form a partnership in advancing technology in all member states.

"SMART Partners need trust, but this is perhaps the 'softest' building block in the edifice. There are no simple guidelines, but trust can only be built up by each partner exercising fairness at all times. A litmus test of trust and fairness may be a willingness to review and re-negotiate when the original 'win-win' outcome on which the Smart Partnership was based becomes skewed through unforeseen developments. Enlightened self-interest should act to ensure that such re-negotiation takes place," she added. Meanwhile, the Acting DPM Dumisani Ndlangamandla disclosed that the country had indeed changed its perspective in dealing with issues

as decisions are now reached after consensus. He said the country considers all views by bringing the nation together to come up with a binding solution.

Appreciated

"We inherited the culture of the SMART Partnership as we appreciated the way things are done in the movement. We take views of all Swazis before we can make important decisions.

We've had such meetings in the country and they have bore fruits. Dialogues have proven to be good and let us all take this initiative forward," Ndlangamandla said.

The SMART Partnership concept also provides that a community of SMART Partners evolves over time, without central direction.

It is self-organising and self-reg-

ulating in terms of a mutually-understood set of principles. Members of the community relate to one another in a cooperative framework.

Within the framework people can compete in accordance with the principles and become nodes or hubs of interest, depending on the strength of the ideas or practices they are promoting.

It is not a movement or a club in that people are not accepted or rejected, but membership of the community is in terms of understanding SMART Partnership principles and practice.

There must be a willingness to accept subordinate or superordinate roles as required by the development of the Smart Partnership, though Smart Partnerships are contrary to permanent hierarchies.



ACCOLADES: Dr Gideon Mahlalela who received accolades from the visiting CPTM CEO seated next to PS to DPM's office Khangeziwe Mabuza.

SOUTHERN AFRICA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY GRADUATION



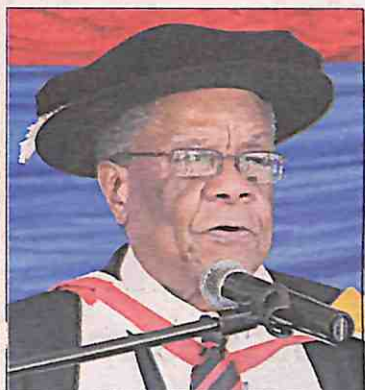
ON RATS: His Majesty King Mswati III's representative, Prince David and Dr. John Warrick in the Church of the Nazarene Headquarters in the USA leading guests after the day's proceedings. This was during the 7th Graduation Ceremony of Southern Africa Nazarene University in Manzini yesterday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



BOWING: One of the graduates taking his bow before the dignitaries.



THANK YOU: Prime Minister Dr. Sibusiso Dlamini meeting General Superintendent of the Church of the Nazarene coming from the USA Headquarters, Dr. John Warrick.



WORDS OF ADVICE: Prime Minister Dr. Sibusiso Dlamini making his remarks.



FROM HIS MAJESTY: King's representative Prince David delivers the King's message.



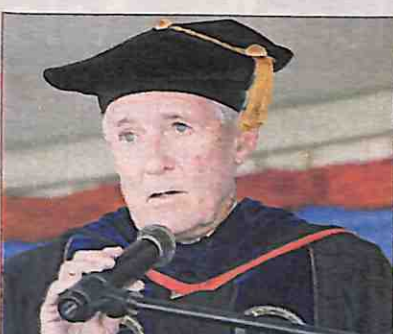
THIS IS MARVELLOUS: Dr. John Warrick makes his remarks.



LALELANI: SANU Vice Chancellor Professor Winnie Nhlengethwa.



ANNOUNCING: Elizabeth Hynd announces the Dr Hynd recipients.



A FEW WORDS: SANU Chancellor Dr. Loren Gresham making his remarks.



WELL DONE: Prime Minister Dr. Sibusiso Dlamini congratulating a relative, Charmaine Nhlengethwa who graduated in Nursing and Midwifery.



POSE: Graduates from the department of health posing for pictures after the day's proceedings.



AWARDEES: Dr. Samuel Hynd's daughter Elizabeth posing with Thandi Gameze, Innocent Mtsetfwa and Zinhle Mbatha who are recipients of the Dr Hynd Awards.



THEM GIRLS: The hard work and dedication finally paid off as graduates lined up for their deserved certificates.



BAFUNDISI: Reverends Grace Masilela and Simon Mahlalela both from the Church of the Nazarene pictured with graduate preachers.



ACHIEVEMENT: Graduate Smodern Simelane and his brother Phumlani.



ELATED: An elated mother congratulating her son.



NICE OUTFITS: Graduates were all dressed up for their special day.



EXCELLED: Best performing graduates from different faculties pose after receiving their certificates.



QUEUEING: Bachelor of Education in Leadership and Management of Inclusive Education graduates que for their certificates.



READY TO DELIVER: Nursing and Midwifery graduates lining up for their certificates.

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E97⁹⁹
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**KWALUSENI
SUPERMARKET**

IN CLEARLY FLOUTING THE CONSTITUTION, FAMILIES TO BE LEFT HOMELESS WITHOUT COMPENSATION AS...



GOING: This is part of the Mkhonta homestead whose demolition has been ordered by Chief Maphilingo Shongwe to give way to the construction of a filling station. (Pics: Bodwa Mbingo)

'DEMOLISH HOME TO GIVE WAY TO MY FILLING STATION'

● Chief Maphilingo Shongwe, arguably the oldest chief in the Lubombo region, sends three men to relay message to widow and her family as well as neighbour to demolish and vacate their homesteads of about 40 years before Monday as he wants to use the land to construct his filling station

By Bodwa Mbingo

In a clear flouting of the country's supreme law, a chief has given an ultimatum to a widow and his family to vacate their land and homestead of 37 years and relocate as he wants to start a filling station business on the land.

Also affected by this ruthless order made by Othandweni's Chief Maphilingo Shongwe, arguably the oldest chief in the Lubombo region, are neighbours to the widow, a family headed by an aged man with 11 grandchildren that will soon be rendered homeless. Their homestead was constructed about 44 years ago. These two affected homesteads are situated along the Siphofaneni – Sithobela Road within the vicinity of Maphilingo High School.

In flouting the Constitution, there is absolutely no talk of any compensation for the two families save for that they should vacate the land and give way to the construction of the chief's filling station. They have at least been given until this Monday, which is the end of the month, to move from the land. And tick-tock, tick-tock, tick-tock, unfortunately goes the ticking sound of time as the curtain is about to fall resulting in an agonising experience for the two affected families in the Lubombo region.

According to Section 211 of the country's Constitution it provides in the various subsections that: (1) From the date of commencement of this Constitution, all land (including any existing concessions) in Swaziland, save privately held title-deed land, shall continue to vest in iNgwenyama in trust for the Swazi Nation as it vested on the 12th April, 1973.

(2) Save as may be required by the exigencies of any particular situation, a citizen of Swaziland,



REMAINING: These two structures, a grocery shop and a salon will remain.



SWAZI TREASURE: This is a cattle kraal belonging to the Mkhonta family that should also give way.

without regard to gender, shall have equal access to land for normal domestic purposes.

(3) A person shall not be deprived of land without due process of law and where a person is deprived, that person shall be entitled to prompt and adequate compensation for any improvement on that land or loss consequent upon that deprivation unless otherwise provided by law.

Thoko Dorris Mkhonta, nee Ndwandwe and her family are still

baffled as to what they can do especially since they feel the matter should not have waited until the death of the head of the family, Robert Mkhonta. Mkhonta died 21 years ago. The Mkhontas operate a grocery shop in the area and they are expected to leave it intact together with the mango trees they planted in their homestead. At least four houses will have to be demolished without any compensation to construct same or better structures in the new land the family is sup-



IN DEMOLITION: This is a picture of the Shongwe homestead that also faces demolition.



FOREST: This is the land where the Mkhonta family is expected to construct its new homestead.

posed to occupy.

An elder, Mkulwane Shongwe has also been instructed to vacate his homestead to give way to the development and together with about 11 grandchildren by Monday will have no shelter to call home. Both families have been trying to plead their case to the chief, but at the moment they have failed to get a chance to speak to the 'busy' chief.

The argument is both homesteads were built on business land.

Narrating events, stunned community members revealed that it all started in April this year when the widow was called to a meeting for business people in the area.

Operate

"That is where we got to hear that the chief's wife was going to operate a business in the area as she was introduced as one of the prospective businesspeople. After that meeting the chief and his Inner Council came to inspect the area around the Mkhonta shop and that is when he first said they should remove fence around their field and remove the kraal for their cattle. He said the homestead would not be affected at that time," recalled one citizen.

It was further revealed soon after that the chief called the Mkhonta family to the area's *umphakatsi* and it is where they all realised that he had changed his tune. It is said the chief later sent three men, Hhobobo Vilakati (a community police), Jabulani Lukhele (Inner Council member) and Party Metfula (*Umsumpe*) to relay his message that after all the two homesteads should be demolished to give way to the filling station business.

"It was on October 14 when they were told that by the end of the month they should have moved from their homesteads. At the moment they don't even know what to do as they have no money

to construct a new homestead as they will not be compensated for the structures they have already constructed," it was lamented.

The area's Indvuna James Mathulusi Ngcamphalala when reached this week pleaded ignorance on the matter despite it being clearly stated he was present during the first meeting.

"I may have heard about the matter, but I cannot say much on it as I never personally worked on it. It is therefore proper to state it remains a rumour to me," he said after changing his tune.

However, one of the chief's messengers, Jabulani Lukhele confirmed he was part of the three-member team that was sent to the two homesteads.

"Yes I am aware of the matter you are talking about. It was the three of us that were sent by the chief. I was with Metfula and Vilakati when we carried the message that the two homesteads should move where they are. We went there twice because in the first instance we did not find the actual people we were sent to see, but when we went there the second time we found them and relayed the message," said Vilakati.

Members of both families confirmed the plight they have found themselves in.

Revealed

The widow revealed that she had been advised to seek audience with His Majesty King Mswati III so that he can obtain redress on the matter. LaNdwandwe said after seeking advice on her family's plight from the office of the Attorney General (AG) she was advised to take this route.

Both families have also been summoned to the *umphakatsi* today and that will be after the date they are supposed to have vacated the land.

SUPREME COURT SITTING POSTPONED

By Bodwa Mbingo

Chief Justice (CJ) Bheki Maphalala has conceded challenges in the judiciary particular in the Supreme Court and as a consequence announced the sitting of this court has since been postponed to early next year.

The Supreme Court was scheduled to start sitting from Tuesday this coming week until mid-December.

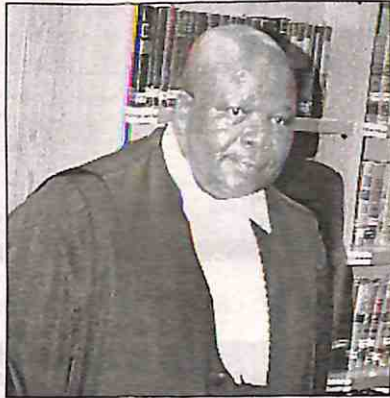
The Law Society of Swaziland had threatened to boycott the session if full-time judges of the Supreme Court were not appointed.

Speaking during the Annual Lawyers Dinner at the Royal Swazi Sun's Libandla Room last evening, Maphalala highlighted they are meeting with lawyers at a time when the legal profession in general and the judiciary in particular are faced with enormous challenges with the most pressing one at the moment being the apparent uncertainty surrounding the Supreme Court. He said the invitation from the lawyers gave him assurance that they are still together in the arduous journey to improve justice delivery in the country.

The CJ said the Judiciary Service Commission (JSC) is already working on the process of the recruitment for the Supreme Court bench.

He said as the process takes time, and after due consultations with the Appointing Authority, His Majesty King Mswati III, it has become necessary to postpone the forthcoming session so that the process can be given the attention it deserves.

"It gives me great pleasure to announce His Majesty has now granted us four posts for Supreme Court Judges, together with the support staff. For this momentous develop-



BOSS: Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala.

ment we must all thank His Majesty for this continuous support for the growth and development of the Judiciary in this country. The new development is an incentive for all of us to work even harder. For our part as the Judiciary, we will continue to uphold the rule of law and the Constitution of this Kingdom," he said.

The CJ anticipated that when the court resumes next year, it will proceed on the basis of an ongoing roll, which should mark the end of the current system of two sessions per year.

He observed this as a milestone in the history of the Judiciary in the country while also thanking the role that government has played in this achievement.

He pleaded with legal practitioners to remain focussed and disciplined in the face of the pervasive hard economic times that have gripped the region.

"With income streams not likely to

get better anytime soon, it might be useful to manage overheads and cut costs at every opportunity. The days of conspicuous consumption should become a thing of the past. But even more importantly, each one of you must be a positive mirror image of a profession, even in the smallest ways," he said.

The CJ Maphalala reminded legal practitioners about the statutory duty to do the annual audit of trust accounts stating this obligation is the pillar of the profession. He also stressed on the importance of maintaining a sustainable Fidelity Fund to ensure clients have recourse in the event of problems.

"The need for a sound and functional Disciplinary Tribunal cannot be overemphasised. The wellness of the profession has so much to do with an effective and efficient tribunal," he added.

The CJ then revealed his office is always available to assist where required.



The CJ recently issued a controversial ruling by dismissing an ex-parte application by the Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) against former Commerce Industry and Trade Minister

Gideon Dlamini and his co-accused Fred Ngeri and Sindile Dlamini Ngeri.

The ruling is frustrating the operations of the ACC but the Prime Minister Dr. Sibusiso Dlamini on Thursday allayed fears that the Commission is still fully operational and the Attorney General is seized with the matter of the ruling.

E10 MILLION FRAUD SUSPECT GETS PASSPORT TO TRAVEL TO SA

By Linda Jele
High Court

One of the suspects charged with corruptly siphoning E10 million from government through tenders has been temporarily given his passport to travel to South Africa for studies.

Musenge Benedict Chikooa was one of the nine people rounded up by officials from the Anti-Corruption Commission in 2014 and charged with corruption. Chikooa is a director of Dexter Investments, a company that was allegedly awarded a E1 204 444 to supply some products to the ministry of Education and Training.

The tenders were allegedly awarded fraudulently in that a ministry accountant was given close to E500 000 as a token of appreciation by over six companies for having spearheaded their granting of tenders. Dexter Investments had paid the officer E45 000 as a bribe. He had been ordered to surrender his passport to the investigating officer and not apply for a new one pending finalisation of the case.

Chikooa had been released of E50 000 bail by suspended judge Mpendulo Simelane. He yesterday filed an application for the

variation of his bail conditions. He was represented by lawyer Noncedo Ndlangamandla from Mabala Attorneys.

He told the court he has recently completed his Masters degree from an institution in Asia and is currently searching for a job.

"I am desirous of being employed in the Republic of South Africa and

together with other international students from my former university, we intend to meet in Johannesburg and send out application forms and further discuss projects which we could engage

on to assist our various countries," he said.

He said he needed his passport to travel and would hand it back to the investigating officer upon return. He also applied to be granted an order that whenever he needs to travel he should only write a letter to the investigating officer than to move a court application.

He said it was going to be expensive to instruct an attorney every time he needed his passport. He said he would be frequently travelling to South Africa in a bid to look for employment. The matter was heard by High Court Judge Mbutfo Mamba and it was not opposed by the state. He was granted his passport.



NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that, in terms of Section 36 of the Water Act of 2003, Middle Lusutfu Hydropower (Pty) Ltd (MLH) has applied for a Water Abstraction Permit for power generation purposes at their proposed 12 MW Lower Maguduza Hydropower Scheme. The Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC) has appointed MLH to undertake the establishment and operation of the power scheme for the PPA duration whereafter SEC will own and operate the scheme for the remainder of its useful life. A Joint Venture of Knight Piesold Consulting (Pty) Ltd and GIBB (Pty) Ltd have been contracted for consulting services.

Any person or entity having an objection to the issue of this permit is hereby requested to lodge such objection in writing with the Usuthu RBA or DWA (Water Control Section) Mbabane, within thirty days of first publication of this notice.

Objections to be delivered:

1. Department of Water Affairs (Water Control Section) 4th Floor Dlanubeka Building

OR

Department of Water Affairs (Water Control Section)
P.O.Box 6201,
Mbabane
H100

RAMASHKA INVESTMENTS WINS DOUBLE WRIT CASE

By Linda Jele
High Court

Ramashka Investments has successfully fought an ex-employee's attempts to attach its property for the same writ twice.

Ramashka Investments had entered into an agreement to pay its former employee Mdimiseni Bongani Gulwako E42 000 in full and final settlement of compensation for unfair dismissal.

This was after Gulwako had instituted legal proceedings demanding payment of E86 000 after he had been unfairly dismissed by the company but they reached a settlement.

However, when Gulwako's lawyer issued a writ of execution to attach property in order to settle the agreed fees, the company made payment of E32 000, leaving a balance of E10 000.

A deputy sheriff returned to attach for the balance, but used the same writ directing him to attach property to the value of E42 000 notwith-

standing that part of the amount had been settled.

The company instituted legal proceedings challenging second execution of the writ on the grounds that it was unlawful because the company had settled the amount in full.

The company told the court it had initially paid Gulwako about E9 000, therefore the settlement had been complied with in full.

However, Gulwako argued the parties were bound by the agreement signed and made an order of court. The company further argued the property that had been attached by the deputy sheriff in the second writ were worth E75 000, which was way more than the amount claimed, even if it were to pay the E10 000 balance. Industrial Court Judge Nkosinathi Nkonyane stated the E9 000 the company mentioned had been paid to Gulwako before he had instituted the proceedings in court, therefore it does not form part of the agreement of settlement.

The court dismissed the company's

argument that by accepting the E32 000 from the deputy sheriff Gulwako was entering into a new agreement which meant his claim had been paid in full.

The court dismissed the argument on the grounds there was no evidence.

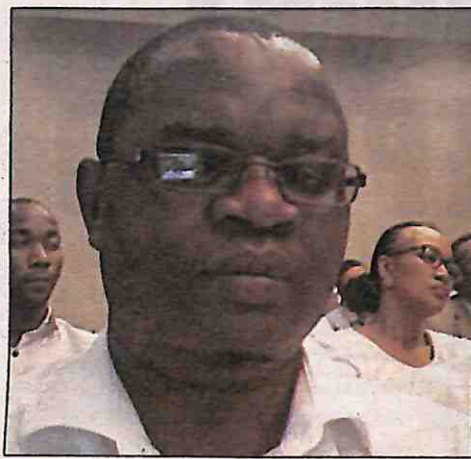
Gulwako's legal representative stated the deputy sheriff had been instructed to attach property worth the E10 000 balance.

"The applicant (Ramashka) clearly had no good reason not to abide by the terms of the deed of settlement entered into and signed by the parties. The first respondent unnecessarily caused panic to the applicant when he re-issued the writ of execution for the same amount as the previous writ when he well knew that the applicant had already paid the sum of E32 000.

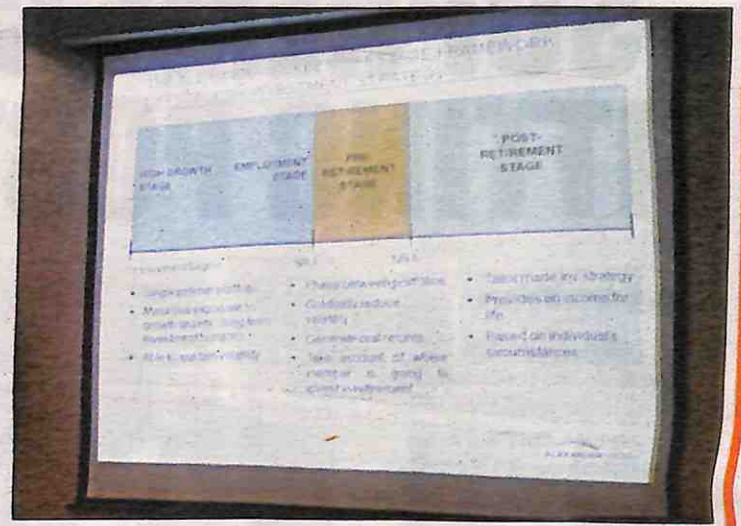
The first respondent is to issue out a writ of execution for the outstanding amount of E10 000. Each party is to pay its own costs," Judge Nkonyane said.



EXPLAINING: Swaziland Employee Benefit Consultants's Senza Hlophe giving a brief about Sibaya Umbrella Pension and Provident Funds products.



PRESENT: Swazi Observer Provident Fund's Principal Officer and Observer on Saturday Editor Alec Lushaba at the event.



(Both pics) Some presentations on the agenda.

SIBAYA PENSION FUND WORTH ABOUT E500M

By Linda Msimini

Sibaya Umbrella Pension and Provident Fund boasts of assets of just under E500 million and is looking for further growth.

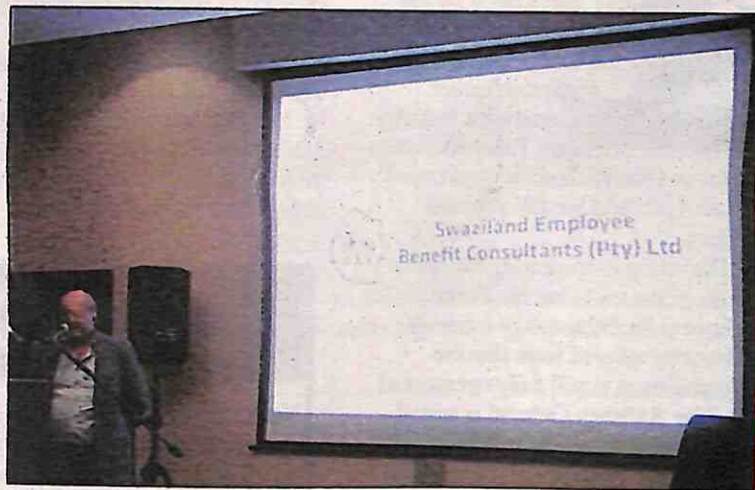
Sibaya umbrella pension and provident fund is under the Swaziland Employee Benefits Consultants, a registered company established in 1985 and is the largest and most successful employee benefit administration and consulting operation in Swaziland.

Swaziland Employee Benefits consultant Senza Hlophe said as at August 31, the Sibaya pension fund assets were over E 100 million and the Sibaya provident fund assets were E370 million with a combined membership of over 5 000 employees in the fund.

Hlophe was speaking yesterday at a lunch held for some of its clients yesterday at the Royal Villas. Hlophe said the benefits to employers for being part of the Sibaya umbrella pension and provident fund is a participating employer is able to provide her employees with a retirement solution that is cost effective without the burden of having to make operational decisions of running the fund themselves.

"The Sibaya Funds' assets are exclusively invested in a unique investment vehicle called the Life Stage Model which takes into account the specific age of the assets to invest the funds in," he said.

Hlophe said the five different portfolios in the fund are the high growth, which is for members with



ELLABORATING: Swaziland Employee Benefit Consultants's MD Keith Dukes welcoming stakeholders during their luncheon on yesterday at the Royal Villas.

more than seven years left to retirement age, the medium-high growth, the medium growth, medium-conservative growth and conservative growth, "members inclusion into the different portfolio cascades as the member gets nearer to retirement age."

"The Sibaya assets returned real returns which were well over inflation for each of the five portfolios as at September 30, which are 9.4 percent, 9.3 percent, 9.2 percent, 8.4 percent and 8.4 percent respectively for the one year," he said.

Hlophe said the advantages of having retirement funding at a company level is the employees have a sense of security about their future after having reached retirement age.

"It can also be used as a retention tool for the company. Most people can't afford to take up personal retirement solutions thus having such a benefit at company level really shows the company cares

about the welfare of the members," he said.

Hlophe said the Sibaya fund is an umbrella fund arrangement which provides access to a wide range of clients.

"The fund services employers of all sizes and provides a simple, cost-effective retirement fund solution.

Small and medium sized employers can concentrate on their core business and be assured of the best advice from professional trustees who run the fund on their behalf, with involvement through a management committee," he said.

Hlophe said STANLIB



YOU SEE: Swaziland Employee Benefit Consultants GM Jonathan Magongo making his presentation.

with Alexander Forbes assets consultant Rodd Howard are responsible for the assessment, evaluation, and appointment of investment managers," he said.

Hlophe said the Sibaya fund has been in operation since 1998 and presently the provident fund has 44

Swaziland is the investment manager of the Sibaya Pension and Provident Funds and has been since December 1, 2012.

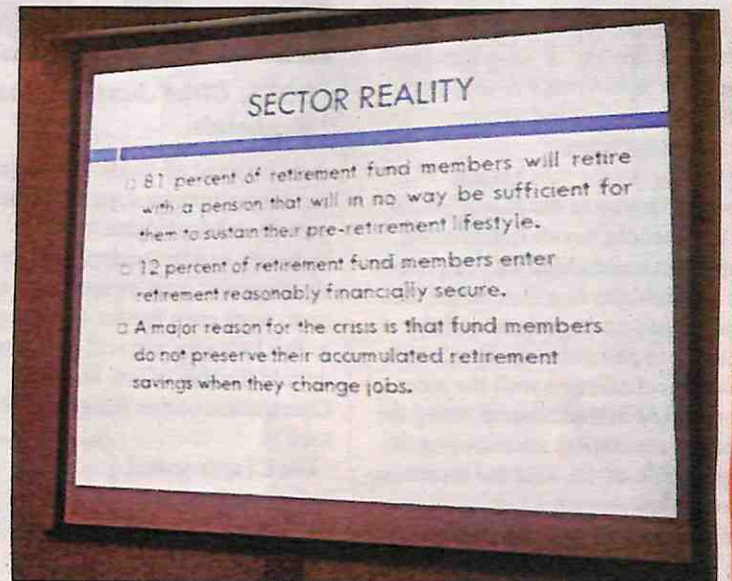
"The investment manager is responsible for the day to day monitoring and management of the funds. The fund trustees, in consultation

companies affiliated with the fund whilst the pension fund has 14 companies under the Sibaya fund.

"The aim of the Sibaya fund is to provide a streamlined benefit structure while catering for the membership diversity found within the individual employer. This efficient structure translates into competitive administration fees for the members of the fund," he said.

Also present at the lunch was Swaziland Employee Benefit Consultants's Managing Director Keith Dukes who said it is important for employers to understand that the days of a monopoly within the industry are gone so they have a variety of options for them to choose from when considering a retirement fund for their employees.

"Our organisation has been the market leader in creating more products for employers to choose from thereby making our firm more competitive than others," he said.



Mobile phone company license bids still open

By Sandile Nkambule

With the country's communications regulator having opened fair competition in mobile phone services and mobile phone service providers having already filed in their applications, the process of rolling out licenses, however, seems far from being completed.

Although the process was expected to have been finalised before the close of the current year as some of the companies are expected to provide infrastructure services in the form of network infrastructure, the communications regulator, Swaziland Communications Commission (SCCOM) says bids are still open.

According to SCCOM, the issuing of individual licenses is a delicate process that require strict adherence

- Swaziland's communications regulator still in process of issuing licenses, bids open till October 31, 2016, company documents will then be opened
- Despite that March 2016 had been earmarked for rollout of licenses, SCCOM says issuing of such is a delicate process that requires strict adherence to the Electronics Communications Act

to the Electronic Communications Act and Electric Communications Licensing Regulations of 2016.

Responding to questions posed by this publication this week, Lindiwe Malaza who is acting on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer, said the issuing of licenses as provided by the regulations, provide that they involve the public for consultations.

"It may not be possible that the licensees may be awarded this year given the licensing procedure, however the bids will have been evaluated by then and public consultations shall follow," Malaza said.

She said the commission is going to try to ensure that this process is completed in the shortest time possible considering the important responsibility of promoting a competitive telecommunications environment in the country.

Infrastructure

As regards companies that want to provide infrastructure services, Malaza said so far none has been awarded a license for same adding that none of the prospective licensees can offer such services before a license is granted.

The final process effectively means

the monopoly that has all along been enjoyed by MTN in the cellphone industry will finally come to an abrupt halt as SPTC will now be able to operate a cellphone service and be a direct competitor to MTN while the same will apply for MTN.

Both companies will also be licensed to sell and distribute gadgets for mobile and fixed services necessary in this industry.

The SCCOM stated that the licensees would be technologically neutral allowing both entities to operate fixed and mobile networks and be in direct competition.

According to Section 50 of the Electronic Communications Act (ECA), it provides for the commission to issue new licenses to existing licensees lawfully providing electronic communications networks or services consistent with the provisions of the Act.

Formulated

Members of the public especially mobile phone users have been raising the question of when a competitor in the sector would be availed countless times, hence government and SCCOM formulated industry regulations to ensure that prospective entrants to the market were furnished with a comprehensive application process, advised of the pertinent requirements when applying for the license as well as other considerations which are necessary when assessing such applications.

GARNER'S DAUGHTER BLASTS CLINTON CAMPAIGN AFTER WIKILEAKS EMAILS

WASHINGTON - The daughter of a New York City man who died after he was put in a police chokehold blasted Hillary Clinton's campaign yesterday when WikiLeaks revealed email conversations about using her father's death to protest gun violence.

"I'm troubled by the revelation that you and this campaign actually discussed 'using' Eric Garner ... Why would you want to 'use' my dad," tweeted Erica Garner, who endorsed Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders in the Democratic primary.

Eric Garner died in 2014 after a police officer used a chokehold while attempting to arrest him for allegedly selling cigarettes illegally. A grand jury decided not to indict New York City Police Officer Daniel Pantaleo in the death and the case is being reviewed by the Justice Department, according to reports.

"I know we have Erica Garner issues but we don't want to mention Eric at all? I can see her coming after us for leaving him out of the piece," Clinton's traveling press secretary Nick Merrill wrote in an email.

The conversation about possibly considering mentioning Garner in an editorial about gun violence became public in private emails illegally hacked by WikiLeaks. The Clinton campaign has not commented or verified the authenticity of the emails.

CNN has reached out to the Clinton campaign for response to Erica Garner's tweets and have not yet gotten a response.

"I'm vey (sic) interested to know exactly what @CoreyCiorciari meant when he said 'I know we have an Erica Garner problem' in the #PodestaEmails19," Garner tweeted.

Garner has been critical of President Barack Obama, New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio and other politicians since becoming an activist against police brutality following her father's death.

"These people will co opt anything to push their agenda. Police violence is not the same as gun violence," she said.

CNN



Yesuka!

Culture Regional Competition

Manzini			
Mavuso Trade Centre	(29 Oct 2016)	- Mankayane Sports Ground (30 Oct 2016)	
Hhohho			
Buhleni Stadium	(05 Nov 2016)	Prince of Wales	(06 Nov 2016)
Shiselweni			
Sandleni Sports Ground	(12 Nov 2016)	- Nhlangano Barracks (13 Nov 2016)	
Lubombo			
Big Bend	(19 Nov 2016)	Siteki	(20 Nov 2016)

Sibhaca, Salukazana Esidala Sinamacebo
 *Ingadla - Tintgombi talana / gijima *Lutsango - Gcamuwabekwa / livi lekutjelwa
 *Emajaha - Sukuma phansi / *Layelaphendvula umoya

PERFORMANCE TIME SIBHACA AND INGADLA	5 MINUTES
PERFORMANCE TIME LUTSANGO AND EMAJAHA	7 MINUTES
PERFORMANCE TIME TIMBONGI	3 MINUTES
* MEMBERS PER GROUP Sibhaca 6, Ingadla 6, Lutsango 20, Emajaha 1	




Report your motor vehicle accident to the SMVA Fund immediately. Alternatively, lodge your claim within two years of accident occurrence!

Stories by Bodwa Mbingo

Christians will definitely relate to this. In a shocking revelation, there is a plan that was crafted years ago for the ultimate destruction of Christianity in the entire world.

Today the Observer on Saturday brings you the strategy crafted by an occultist who died 65 years ago. This is a 10-point plan crafted by Alice Bailey and the new world order for the destruction of Christianity. It has been viewed that till today, the system she designed is still dragging people to hell.

The Christian community is still trying to develop systems that will go a long way in repairing the damages and spread the gospel massively.

Read for yourself and come up with your own conclusions:

THE STRATEGY: The 10-Point Charter
PURPOSE: - To change Christian tradition or to redeem the nations of Christian tradition.

1. TAKE GOD AND PRAYER OUT OF THE EDUCATION SYSTEM

Change the curriculum to ensure that children are freed from the bondage of Christian culture.

Why? Because children go to school to be equipped to face life, they are willing to trust and they are willing to value what is being given to them.

If you take God out of education, they will unconsciously form a resolve that God is not necessary to face life. They will focus on those things the school counts them worthy to be passed on and they will look at God as an additional, if one can afford the additional.

N.B! Today they introduce Transcendental Meditation (TM) in schools, which takes children to altered states of consciousness to meet with demons (spirit guides) = New Age.

2. REDUCE PARENTAL AUTHORITY OVER THE CHILDREN

Break communication between parent and child.

Why? So that parents do not pass on their Christian traditions to their children, liberate children from the bondage of their parent traditions.

How?

- Promote excessive child rights; (1997-1998 South Africa introduced Child rights legislation – UNICEF Charter; Today a child is able to say to a parent 'I do not want to hear that, I don't want to do what you are telling me. Teachers cannot talk to children, children step up and say I have my rights, you cannot talk to me like that).
- Abolish corporal punishment; (this has been made law). On the other hand the Bible says "Do not withhold correction from a child, for if you beat him with a rod, he will not die. You shall beat him with a rod and deliver his soul from hell." (Proverbs 23: 13-14)

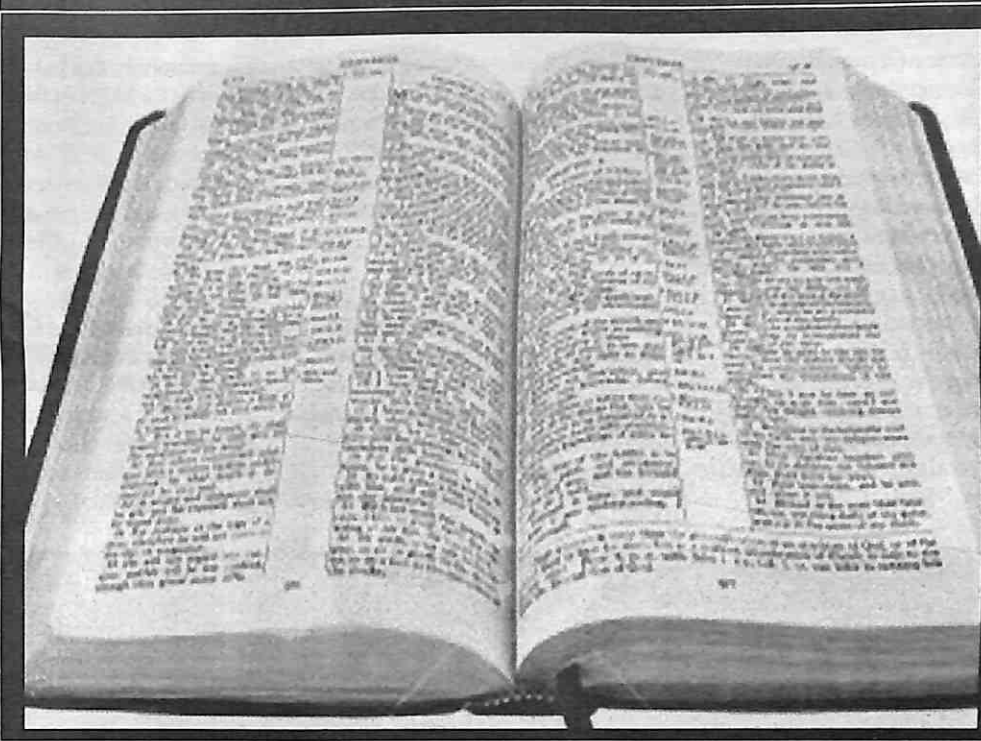
N.B! Jesus said in the last days – wickedness will increase, there will be rebellion and children will not obey their parents. It is not a trend, it is organised.

- Teachers are the agents of implementation – from workshops, teachers tell children, "Your parent has no right to force you to pray or read the Bible, you are yourself, have a right of your own, you need to discover yourself, self-expression, self-realisation, self-fulfillment are all buzz words."

In the West when a child is seven years the teachers begin to say to the child "you have a right to choose whether you want to follow the faith of your parents or not, parents are

SHOCKER: PLAN TO DESTROY

...10-point plan by Alice Bailey and the New World Order for the destruction of Christianity is such that while the church sleeps, the devil is damaging souls with the Babylonian system



not allowed to enforce their faith upon you." Question is, what type of decision can a seven-year old make?

3. DESTROY THE JUDEO-CHRISTIAN FAMILY STRUCTURE OR THE TRADITIONAL CHRISTIAN FAMILY STRUCTURE

Why? It is oppressive and that the family is the core of the nation. If you break the family, you break the nation. Liberate the people from the confines of this structure.

(How?)

- Promote sexual promiscuity – free young people to the concept of pre marital sex, let them have free sex, lift it so high that the joy of enjoying it (sex) is the highest joy in life, fantasise it, that everybody will feel proud to be seen to be sexually active, even those outside of marriage. This is contrary to the word of God which says "... But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints... for this you know, that no fornicator, uncleanness person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God." (Ephesians 5: 3-5)
- Use advertising industry, media – T.V., magazines, film industry to promote sexual enjoyment as the highest pleasure in humanity.

Have they succeeded? Have they done it? If you want to see whether they have succeeded or not, go to the advertising industry, it does everything to catch your attention and today almost no advert comes out without a sexual connotation. Even when they advertise ice cream, they must show you a thigh of a woman and a bikini, they must do something to set off a trail of thoughts. They will show you more thighs than ice cream.

Why? Because that is what must be in the minds of the people.

N.B. Advertising industry pops out so much money towards their advertisements to T.V. and radio.

4. IF SEX IS FREE, THEN MAKE ABORTION LEGAL AND MAKE IT EASY

Build clinics for abortion – Health clinics in schools. If people are going to enjoy the joy

of sexual relationships, they need to be free of unnecessary fears, in other words they should not be hampered with unwanted pregnancies.

'Abortion as told by Christians is oppressive and denies our rights, we have a right to choose whether we want to have a child or not. If a woman does not want the pregnancy, she should have the freedom to get rid of that pregnancy painless and as easy as possible'. Today it is not only accessible, it is forced. Today abortion is a strategy to curb population control together with the use of condoms and the 'pill'.

5. MAKE DIVORCE EASY AND LEGAL, FREE PEOPLE FROM THE CONCEPT OF MARRIAGE FOR LIFE.

Alice wrote over 65 years ago that love has got a mysterious link called the love bond. It is like an ovum that comes out of the ovary, as it travels through your system, it clicks a love favour in you and there's one other person in the world

who can respond to that love bond, when you see that person, everything within you clicks, that is your man/woman, if you miss him, you'll never be happy until that love bond cycle pass, for many years, so for you to be happy get that person at whatever cost, if it means getting him/her out of that marriage, get him/her that is your man/woman.

It's a mistake for him/her to be elsewhere. And if you go together for some time and find that love has died, don't be held in bondage by the Christian values it will never come back, what you need is an easily arranged divorce and allow another love bond to come forth,

just like an ovum comes up, and when it comes forth you'll enjoy life again. On the contrary, God's word says in Malachi 2: 16; "For the Lord God of Israel says that He hates divorce..."

N.B. People enter into marriage having signed contracts of how they will share their assets after divorce. People enter with one foot and another behind. In the past, divorce was unthinkable. It is one thing for a marriage to fail but it is another thing for people to enter marriage with an intention to enjoy as long as it was enjoyable and to walk out of it.

6. MAKE HOMOSEXUALITY AN ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLE

Alice Bailey preached (over 65 years ago) that sexual enjoyment is the highest pleasure in humanity, no one must be denied and no one must be restricted on how to enjoy themselves. People should be allowed in whichever way they chose, whether it is homosexuality or in incest or bestiality, as long as the two agree.

In the world today so many laws have been made that promote homosexuality and give so much freedom to gay rights, that a time will come when it is illegal for a preacher to mention homosexuality as an abomination in the eyes of God, or to read scriptures publicly that talk against homosexuality. At the international scene, Western nations now sanction African countries that have resisted homosexuality, with threats of withdrawing foreign aid and investments. Today many churches marry gays/lesbians and ordain gay priests.

According to the Bible, this is an abomination before the eyes of God.

"Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it [is] abomination." (Leviticus 18:22)

"If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood [shall be] upon them. (Leviticus 20:13)

7. DEBASE ART, MAKE IT RUN MAD

How? Promote new forms of art which will corrupt and defile the imagination of people because art is the language of the spirit, that which is inside, you can bring out in painting, music, drama etc. Look at the quality of the music that is coming out, the films out of Hollywood.

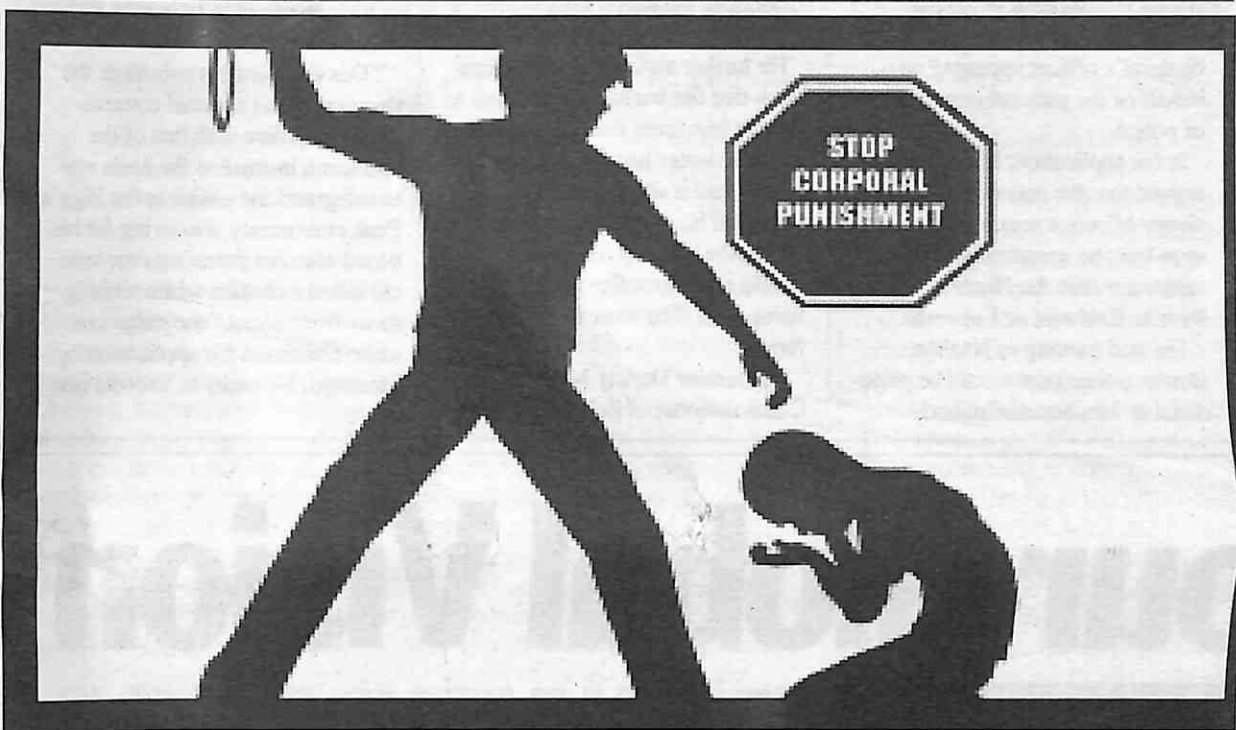
8. USE MEDIA TO PROMOTE AND CHANGE MINDSET

The greatest channel you need to use to change human attitude is media. Use the press, the radio, T.V, film. You can tell today how successful they have been in implementing the plan over 65 years via media as well as advertising agencies, billboards, magazines. Who controls media? (New Age). So much money is pumped into media and advertising spreading of pornographic material and other sources. Sex outside of marriage is thrown on your face 80-90 times than sex in marriage.

Promiscuity is being promoted as natural; you watch gay sex on T.V. in homes where children's minds are being neutralised to sen-

If you take God out of education, they will unconsciously form a resolve that God is not necessary to face life. They will focus on those things the school counts them worthy to be passed on and they will look at God as an additional, if one can afford the additional.

CHRISTIANITY REVEALED



sitivity to these things. You wonder why newspapers, T.V., etc do not record anything about Christian activities.

9. CREATE AN INTERFAITH MOVEMENT

Promote other faiths to be at par with Christianity, and break this thing about Christianity as being the only way to heaven, by that Christianity will be pulled down and other faiths promoted. She said promote the importance of man in determining his own future and destiny – HUMANISM. She also said tell man he has the right to choose what he wants to be and he can make it happen, he has the right to determine his cause – this takes God off His throne. Interfaith movements are rising everywhere in the world today.

10. GET GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE ALL THESE LAW AND GET THE CHURCH TO ENDORSE THESE CHANGES.

The church must change its doctrine and accommodate the people by accepting these things and put them into its structures and systems.

Have they succeeded? Today you wonder why our governments are legislating laws contrary to the Bible and why the church is compromising the Word of God. It is a process of

implementing The Plan - A 50 year strategy of the New Age Movement to fulfil its ultimate goal to establish a One World Government, a One World Economic system and a One World Religion. Today the strategy almost in its entirety has been adopted by the United Nations and today a lot of it is already law in many nations.

This deception has crept up unobserved on so many people. It can best be demonstrated through the well-known analogy of the frog in the pot of water. If you put a frog in a pot of boiling water, it is smart enough to know that it is in terrible danger and will immediately jump out to safety. But if you turn up the heat very slowly, a little at a time, it doesn't notice the changes and will slowly cook to death.

Many people today are slowly cooking to death and don't seem to realise how far they have come from where they once were.

Today the Western World is not struggling to resist these because the New Age Movement focused primarily on the West because that was the Christian world in the 19th century. The New Age Movement has a school called the Akanni School, which is the school of all the leaders of the Western world.

They subscribe to it. It is recorded

that they say they have succeeded the task in the West but suddenly they realise Christianity has migrated to the rest of the world, so they have now to use every resource in the West to deal with the rest of the world. In Africa, South Africa is the number one state, it is changing at such a rapid speed.

They are saying give to African States a financial package with conditions to:

- Legalise abortion
- Take God and prayer out of school

Governments are so attracted to this package, they can't say no to it, they need the money, and they ask the church to find an answer. These are done secretly. Christianity is 5%, the rest is Hinduism, Buddhism, and Spiritism. New Age is being taught to teachers, they are being taught to teach this in schools.

It is interesting to note that Blavatsky, Besant and Alice Bailey (1880 -1949) were well known Masonic leaders of the day. Albert Pike referred to Freemasonry as the 'custodian' or special guardian of these occult secrets and revealed the hidden agenda of his institution, the forming of a Luciferic One World Government.

This is bad for the Christian institution – Council of Churches

Council of Swaziland Churches General Secretary Bonginkosi Malaza feels that the plan of a new world order to wipe out Christianity in this world is bad for the institution of Christianity.

In an interview with the Observer on Saturday this week, Malaza highlighted that a lot of traces contained in the plan were there for everyone to see in this world. He said most of them are happening as we speak. He said unfortunately the church was doing little to counter such a formidable move although the gospel is being preached in various churches. He noted that, for instance, when one speaks about the reduction of parental authority over children whereby communication is broken between a parent and child, the United Nations (UN) is one institution that has come with a number of rights that have been entrenched on children.

"Children nowadays have endless rights and when you talk about bringing them to order one encounters a huge problem. Things like corporal punishment which are supported in the Bible are slowly, but surely, diminishing. They are being banned even in schools. In the past this was a tool to direct children to take the right direction as they were made scared using corporal punishment," he said. Speaking of taking God and prayer out of school, he noted some countries such as the United States had adopted such as prayer is not compulsory in their gatherings and schools.

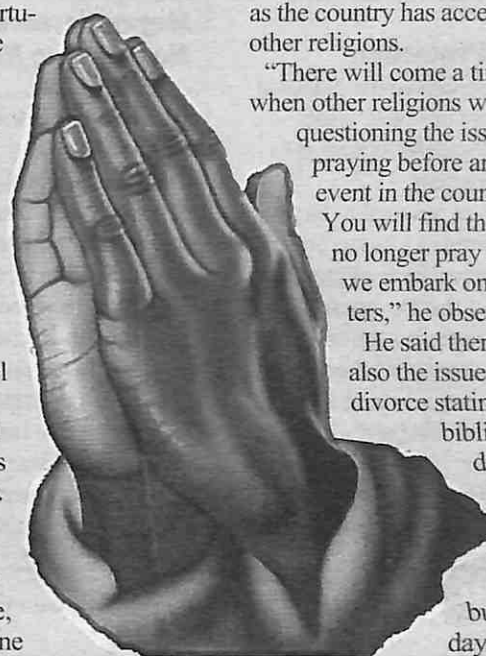
He said such a move was imminent even in Swaziland as the country has accepted other religions.

"There will come a time when other religions will start questioning the issue of praying before any event in the country. You will find that we no longer pray before we embark on matters," he observed.

He said there is also the issue of divorce stating that biblically divorce does not

exist, but nowadays it is even practiced by church leaders. "The Bible is against divorce as it clearly states that divorcing and then taking another wife is tantamount to adultery. This therefore means that Christians that divorce their wives and then take other wives are engaged in adultery," he added.

All in all, the church is not doing enough to ensure that this plan does not penetrate the Christian community to ensure that Christianity prevails.



BAD PLAN: Council of Swaziland Churches General Secretary Bonginkosi Malaza.

PIGG'S PEAK COMMUNITY UP IN ARMS WITH 'DAGGA DEALER' COP

By Linda Jele
High Court

Residents of Pigg's Peak are baying for the blood of a police officer based in the small town and accuse him of being a dagga dealer.

The residents most of whom are merchants of the illegal herb have filed a complaint to senior authorities in the Royal Swaziland Police requesting that action should be taken against the officer, Constable Mpumuzo Masango, otherwise they will take the law unto their hands.

Protection

This then prompted the National Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula to transfer Masango to Nsalitje police post.

Masango was reported to have been transferred in a bid to protect him from the residents of the area. It was alleged that the residents had reported that he had been linked to an incident where his father's motor vehicle had been involved in a crime scene, but fled and knocked down someone.

However, Masango denied that he was at the scene, but was attending



LET HIM GO: National Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula recently transferred Constable Mpumuzo Masango to Nsalitje police post.

a traffic course at the Matsapha Police College.

He instituted legal proceedings before the High Court seeking an order stopping the transfer and allow him to return to Pigg's Peak Police Station in order to be close to his sickly father who needs to be taken to hospital on a regular basis.

Request

The matter was heard by High Court Judge Mumcy Dlamini and Masango was represented by lawyer Xolani Mthethwa from

Bhembe Attorneys. Ngabisa Dlamini from the Attorney General's offices appeared on behalf of the national commissioner of police.

In his application, Masango argued that the national commissioner of police rejected his request to at least be transferred to police stations within the Hhohho region, such as Ezulwini or Lobamba.

He said moving to Nsalitje Border police post would be prejudicial to him because nobody

would be able to check on his father and transport him to hospital whenever necessary.

He said being around Lobamba or Ezulwini would be better because he would be able to travel and care for his father.

"I aver further that the allegations that I was a drug dealer do not justify that I should be transferred because there are police officers who have been criminally charged and are facing disciplinary action relating to allegations that they committed criminal actions in the area where they are stationed who have not been transferred from the police station or area where they are alleged to have committed the offences," Masango said.

Complaints

He further argued that the allegations that the transfer is intended to protect him from the residents does not hold water because his parental homestead is situated at Pigg's Peak and he would still travel there whenever off duty. He said he would stand to suffer the perceived harm even if he would be transferred.

The Senior Deputy National Commissioner of Police William

Wayne Dlamini reiterated that Masango was transferred after the police authorities were informed of complaints by residents that Masango was involved in the dagga trade around Pigg's Peak.

"I admit that the applicant (Masango was informed that he will be transferred to Nsalitje Border Post with effect from March 10, 2016 in the interests of operational efficiency of the Royal Swaziland Police Service," Dlamini said.

Dlamini also said there were no vacant posts at Lobamba or Ezulwini, but at Nsalitje. He said Masango's personal interests were considered before the transfer was effected.

He said Masango would maintain the same rank and salary grade. Judge Dlamini said, having considered all the facts of the matter before her it was clear that Masango was not complaining about an unfair hearing, but wanted to be transferred to Lobamba Police Station.

"This court cannot substitute the decision of the national commissioner of police with that of the applicant, moreso as the basis was to safeguard the police as the Pigg's Peak community was vying for his blood after his father's motor vehicle killed a civilian while running away from arrest," the judge said.

She dismissed the application by Masango. No order as to costs was made.

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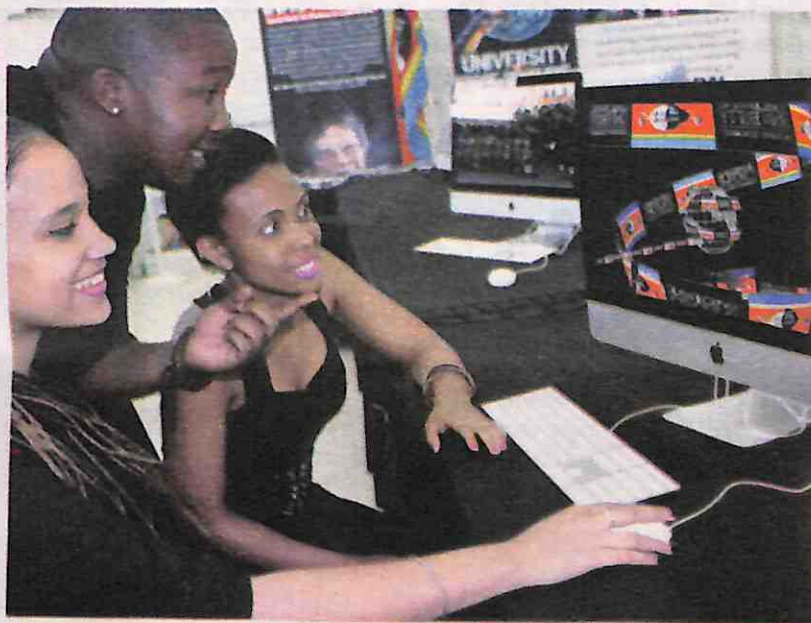
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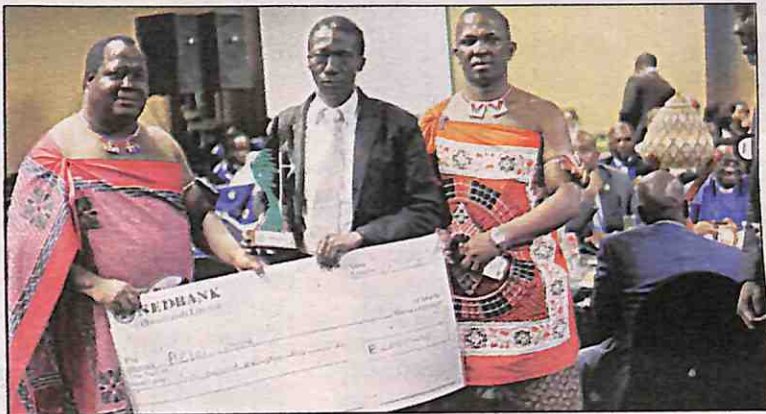
...Observer on Saturday Head of Investigations Ackel Zwane wins Environmental Journalist of the Year award

By Observer Reporter

After careful selection by a team of well qualified environmental experts from Swaziland and partnering international institutions, the Swazi Observer Group of Newspapers was on Thursday night awarded the 'Green Media Award' for being the most environmentally responsive media house in Swaziland at the inaugural Temvelo Awards.

The media house was named the Green media house at an event attended by Environment stakeholders and Cabinet Ministers,

GREEN MEDIA HOUSE SWAZI OBSERVER LEAVES THEM GREEN WITH ENVY



THE BEST: Cabinet Ministers, Christopher Gamedze and Jabulani Mabuza awarding Swazi Observer Senior Journalist and Head of Investigations Ackel Zwane.

Christopher Gamedze and Jabulani Mabuza in the Tourism and Environment as well as Commerce, Industry and Trade portfolios

respectively. Along with their Senior Journalist and Head of Investigations Ackel Zwane, who received the Environmental

Journalist of the Year award.

Presenting the award was fellow journalist, SBIS's Senzo Malaza who mentioned the media play an important role in promoting different causes in society, including environmental sustainability issues.

Issues

As such, the Swaziland Environment Authority (SEA) saw it fit to award a deserving media champion in the country, an organisation and an individual journalist who go an extra mile out of their daily work to report about environmental issues.

Speakers at the event noted the country still had a lot to do to address environmental issues.

The awards precede a series of regional Waste Dialogues by the SEA, where it was noted the coun-

try was in an environmental mess.

Other awards were Green Business/ Processing/ Manufacturing award for Ubombo Sugar, Green Agri Business for SWADE, Green Finance Business for Old Mutual, Green Retail Business for LOGICO, Green Parastatal for SEC, Green Municipality for Mbabane Municipality and others. An Environment Lifetime Achievement award was given to Dr. Irma Allen, who was cited as an environmental champion for the country, having worked on environment issues for decades. Her work was attributed to the establishment of organisations like Yonge Nawe and the SEA, where she also served as a board member.

Mnjoli dam slightly improves

By Sandile Nkambule

Although the recent rains received over the weekend did not make any improvements in dam levels, once the country's largest dams which had been rendered dry due to the drought, has slightly improved.

A visit to the dam this week proved the recent rains have brought hope to sugar cane farmers and the Royal Swaziland Sugar Company (RSSC) as the few drops received left the dam with a smaller quantity of water.

The last time the Observer on Saturday team visited the dam, it was completely dry with only mud visible and a follow up visit by sugar cane farmers proved the same as they expressed concern over the continued drought.

When sought for comment, Mhlume Water Authority's Bernard Shongwe confirmed the recent rains

added something to the dam though in smaller quantities.

The dam is reported to be at 7.2 percent in terms of water levels.

Meanwhile government is lamenting the constant decrease of water levels in the country's dams. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy, under its Water Affairs Department, has noted with disappointment that water levels in the country's dams are gradually decreasing. The department recently noted with dismay that instead of improving, water levels were dropping in the country's major dams, with Maguga Dam currently at 16.73 percent in water carrying capacity, while Lubovane Dam is at 52.2 per cent.

Though there were no immediate figures of the dams before they reached these percentages, it was imperative to note no change has been made by the recently received rainfall.

The ministry was seriously concerned, particularly with Mnjoli Dam, where water levels had drastically decreased.

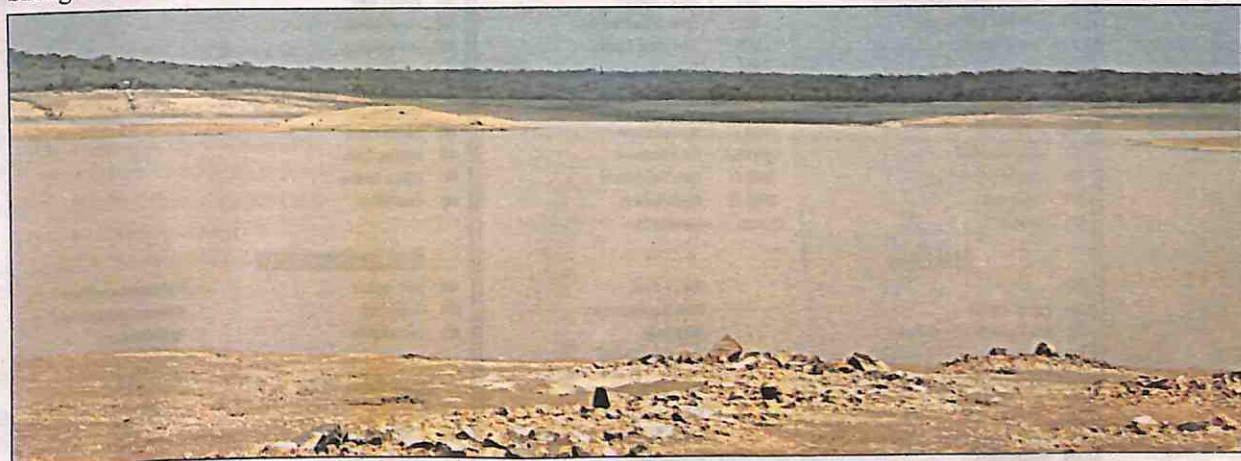
Meanwhile, Hawane Dam is reported to be still at one percent water carrying capacity despite the rainfall received these past few days with recent reports indicating nothing has changed at Hawane, as the situation is still awful and it is expected water levels would decrease drastically if there was no rainfall with temperatures continuing to rise.

Hawane Dam was the major supplier of water to Mbabane and Ngwenya residents before it reached very low levels that the SWSC could no longer continue sourcing water from it.

The company continues to advise the public to use water sparingly as it deals with the situation of water scarcity with announcements and programs being run in both electronic and print media.



STILL DRY: A section of the dam where water normally runs through.



ITS DRY BUT GETTING FILLED UP: The situation was found like this when our team visited the dam this week at Mnjoli dam. Though not impressive water levels at Mnjoli dam have improved from what it was before as the recent rains provided a smaller quantity. (Pics Sandile Nkambule)



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SD WILL SOON BECOME ASIAN STATE – PARLY PROBE TEAM

- MP Titus Thwala led probe team says from what they have so far gathered, country will be turned into Asian state if nothing is quickly done
- Goats' kraal was once found during a police raid at Rontania flats where most stay

By Sandilo Nkambule

Swaziland will soon become an Asian state if nothing to stop the worrying influx in foreigners mostly of Asian origin illegally in the country, is not hastily stopped.

This is an observation made by the Member of Parliament (MP) Titus Thwala led probe team as the probe intensifies.

According to the Zombodze Emuva MP, they have noted with serious concern from the regions they have since covered that the influx of Asian nationals who eventually remain in the country is alarming, to say the least.

"The country will soon be an Asian state if nothing is done to avert the current situation.

We were shocked on what we found on the ground," Thwala said.

He said from their findings a lot of Asian nationals mostly from Pakistani and India enter through the KMMI

International Airport without the relevant immigration papers while more and more use the country's borders as they enter in numbers.

As the probe on the influx of Asian immigrants into the country intensifies, more rot revolving around the ministry of home affairs is being unearthed.

The probe team was on Monday shocked to learn officials at the country's border posts have no control over the influx of Asians nationals. The parliamentary probe team was recently told that half of the estimated 1.3 million Swazis are of Asians origin.

A presenter told the committee that was the reason the illegal immigrants were now fast occupying Swazi nation land where they also run grocery shops and supermarkets in alarming numbers, stating they have so far occupied every available space in the urban areas.

"The entire Courts Valley Township in Manzini has been purchased by

them and at night they patrol that place for reasons that could best be explained by them," a concerned presenter told the probe team in one of its sittings.

Our sister paper the Observer daily last week reported that one of the presenters, a man who best understands their operations during the probe, stated Swazis were pushed out of the business premises using the financial muscles they have over the locals. Contrary to widely held belief the Asians were flying their accumulated wealth out of the country, describing this as in fact reinvesting the money locally.

He said huge amounts were spent buying properties in the form of land, retail shops and flats at very attractive prices.

In their mainly supermarkets businesses, presenters said, no Swazi were allowed to touch money despite them having employed the locals in large numbers.

ABOUT 90 PERCENT OF SHOPS NATIONALLY OWNED BY INDIANS

The Observer on Saturday last year reported how a larger percent of shops in the country are now owned by Asian nationals.

Serious concerns were raised on how the Hub in Manzini is shut down on Fridays as most shops are closed while these nationals attend to their prayer services. One of the presenters told of how things have turned worse in Manzini alone, opposite the River Stone Mall near Tinkers, all those flats are owned by the Indians. No one is allowed to go there anymore

unless you are an Indian. That place has virtually become a no go area for other nationals," he explained convincingly.

This is the very same place this publication reported as having been found with an illegal goats' kraal during a raid conducted by the police last year. Another very important reason advanced as one that would make it totally impossible for the country to clean itself of these unwanted illegal immigrants, the presenter said, to date, the Asians controlled a substantial number of businesses.



MORE ILEGAL IMMIGRANTS: Some foreigners of Asian origin picture being escorted out of court by Correctional Services Officers.

GOSPEL AWARDS VOTING LINES OUT

By Nomfundo Sifundza

THE highly anticipated voting lines for the Swaziland Gospel Awards are officially out.

The list of the codes was handed to this publication by the Association of Swaziland Christian Artists (ACASWA) Public Relations Officer, Ronnie Dlamini who was ecstatic the race would now begin until the final day of the actual awards ceremony.

Dlamini stated as the table shows the awards consists of three categories tow of which winners are decided by the number of votes for artists nominated whilst the last one is adjudicated by the office of ACASWA through the judging panel.

Below are the lists of artists nominated, their categories and the voting lines. Voting therefore commences now that the codes for each have been released.



Swazi Telecomms	Swazi Telecom	SMS	MTN	Adjudicated Categories
Best Gospel Artist of the Year 0101 Shongwe & Khuphuka saved group 0102 Nathando Hlophe 0103 Linda Dlamini Best Gospel Song of the year 0104 Egameni Lizaletu Shongwe & Khuphuka Saved Group 0105 Khul'Ugobo Nathando Hlophe 0106 My God is Good (Part 1) Gama Maseko Hlabalala baka Thio 0107 Gedece Ndak'zo Mase Best Gospel Group 0108 Swazi Praise 0109 Ndawonye Christ Worshippers 0110 Praise Gospel Messengers Best New Comer 0111 PD & Family Gospel Wagon 0112 Christian Unity 0113 Inqaba Yehophila Church in Zion 0114 Last Generation Best Male Artist 0115 Pastor T. Myeni 0116 Mabenda Mtholane 0117 Linda Dlamini 0118 Yehelile Mngondulu Best Female Artist 0119 Simangolile Dlamini (Khandagwa) 0120 Phetole Maseko 0121 Maybonwe Mkhimbi Classic of All Times 0122 Lizaletu Letho Frans Ottemi 0123 Holy Holy Worthy is the Lord Redemption Mass Choir 0124 Yehelile Maseko Correctional Gospel Choir		Best Worship 500 When Women Worship 501 Come to Jesus 502 Pastor Chris Shabangu 503 Ndawonye Christ Worshippers 504 Praise Unlimited 505 Youth Blast Best Gospel Radio Programme 510 Imphila Yehelile Ndawonye KwaD 511 Ndawonye Christ Worshippers 512 Lizaletu Letho 513 Baka Maseko 514 Imphila Best Gospel TV Programme 520 Discovery World 521 Lizaletu Letho 522 Prophecy by God's Power 523 Shabangu 524 Imphila Best Praise 530 531 Egameni Letho 532 Baba Shabangu (by Pastor Dlamini) 533 Ndawonye Christ Worshippers 534 Ungweni k'ndak'zo 535 Hlangeni / Mtholane 536 Yehelile Mngondulu 537 Wajosi Wajosi Best Zion Group 540 Gama Maseko Ndawonye KwaD 541 The Swazi Church in Zion 542 Inqaba Yehelile Church in Zion 543 Inqaba Yehelile Church in Zion Best Amadodana 550 Amadodana Amadodana 551 Amadodana Amadodana 552 Amadodana Amadodana 553 Amadodana Amadodana 554 Amadodana Amadodana 555 Amadodana Amadodana Best Collaboration 560 Gama Maseko Ndawonye KwaD 561 When Women Worship 562 Praise Unlimited		Best Accapella A10 Gama Maseko & Amadodana Amadodana A11 Amadodana Amadodana A12 Lizaletu Letho A13 Lizaletu Letho Best Contemporary A20 Pastor Chris Shabangu A21 When Women Worship A22 Praise Unlimited Best Gospel Music Video A30 Pastor T. Myeni A31 Praise Unlimited A32 Phetole Maseko Best Gospel Producer A40 Mabenda Mtholane A41 Shabangu A42 Ndawonye Christ Worshippers A43 Gama Maseko Best Traditional Song A50 Inqaba Yehelile A51 Inqaba Yehelile A52 Inqaba Yehelile A53 Inqaba Yehelile Best Song Writer A60 Frans Ottemi A61 Pastor Chris Shabangu A62 Shabangu A63 Shabangu Best Album of the Year A70 Pastor Gospel Messengers A71 Shongwe & Khuphuka Saved Group A72 Ndawonye Christ Worshippers A73 When Women Worship Most Selling Artist A80 Nathando Hlophe A81 Shongwe & Khuphuka A82 Mabenda Mtholane

FAMILY WATCHES IN SHOCK AS FATHER TURNED INTO HUMAN TORCH

- Leaking gas cylinder catches fire while Ngculwini resident tries to stop leakage
- Wife, daughter had been waiting in family car ready for work and school when the father appeared from house as a human torch
- Father sustains first degree burns, currently in isolation ward at RFM hospital

Stories by Sandile Nkambule

A 55 year old man has almost lost his family when a leaking gas cylinder suddenly caught fire turning him into a human torch while trying to stop the leakage.

The incident that has left Charles Groening with first degree burn wounds on his face and lower part of his body has left residents of the fast developing Ngculwini in shock as many had thought Groening had been killed as a result of the burns he sustained.

Relating his life threatening ordeal to this publication at his hospital bed at the Raleigh Fitkin Memorial hospital, Groening,

who is still lying in pain, said what was meant as electricity saving turned out to be his worst nightmare as his life has been abruptly changed.

He said it all started a week ago when he decided to purchase a filled gas cylinder at Grow More general dealer, one of the busiest inputs and general supplies store within the hub for domestic use as part of saving electricity.

Noticed

However, upon arriving home, he noticed the cylinder's valve was somewhat loose leading to leaks, which he was not happy with hence he decided to report the anomaly to the store, in an effort to have it replaced.

In fact he had called the store informing them about the prob-

lem earlier on and was advised to check the regulator which he said was functionally well and it was not until the following day that he decided to take the cylinder to the store for exchange.

"On the fateful morning when I wanted to disconnect the gas cylinder in order to take it back to the store, I never knew my life would be changed, but God was on my side since my family could have been killed, had the gas cylinder ignited in the car, which also was filled with petrol," Groening recalled.

He said while disconnecting the cylinder from the stove, he realised the gas was still leaking and tried to prevent it but just as he was disconnecting the regulator, the gas ignited and within

two shakes of a duck's tail, he found himself a human torch as he was on fire.

Groening said he rushed out of the kitchen, which by then was up in flames while screaming with his family, which was already waiting for him in the car, rushing to him in shock as he tried to remove his burning shirt.

Screams

Having heard the screams, neighbours rushed to the scene and tried to put out the fire using river sand while others attended to him as he lay on the ground with massive burn wounds.

By then members of the Fire and Emergency Services and Paramedics had already been called and upon arrival, attended to the burnt Groening while the fire department attended to the fire whose momentum had been reduced by neighbours and other residents.

Groening is currently admitted to the Isolation Male Surgical Ward of the Raleigh Fitkin Memorial (RFM) hospital.

BRAVE NEIGHBOUR SAVES HOUSE FROM BEING RAZED

ACCORDING to Groening, the young man of Mozambican origin upon realising the gas cylinder could explode as the fire gained momentum, braved himself and grabbed a wire which he used in extracting the cylinder out of the kitchen.

"Had he not done that, the whole house would have been razed to the ground as a result of the fire that had already gained momentum," Groening said.

He also thanks God for saving his family in the whole scenarios owing to the fact that, had he been successful in disconnecting the cylinder, he would have taken it to his car which in turn could have caught fire while he was driving to the city center with his family killing everyone on board.

Those using gas cylinders within the community are still reeling in shock following the unfortunate incident.

GROW MORE SHOCKED AT UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT

When called for comment this week, Grow More management confirmed knowledge of the unfortunate incident.

In a brief interview with one of the Managers identified only as Franco, he said the incident did not happen at the shop, but confirmed that the injured Groening was indeed a customer who had purchased the gas cylinder from them.

"We are aware of the incident, Groening was customer with us, but the incident did not happen at the store," Franco said.

In fact during the interview with Groening at his hospital bed, made mention the store was aware of the matter, however not blaming anyone.

HANDLING AND STORAGE OF GAS CYLINDERS

Dispense gas cylinders are heavy and are filled with gas held under high pressure and if a cylinder discharges or ruptures, the damage is likely to be considerable.

Cylinders must be handled and stored in accordance with the Manual Handling Regulations

1992 and other health and safety guidelines. Standard size dispense gas cylinders weigh about 16kg when empty and around 20kg when filled (depending on the gas or gas mixture), and larger cylinders can be nearly five times heavier. Perhaps even more importantly, they are filled

with gas held at high pressure and, if a cylinder discharges or ruptures there are likely to be serious consequences.

Gas cylinders must be handled and stored carefully in accordance with the Manual Handling Regulations 1992 and other health and safety guide-

lines. Dedicated Sales Service Personnel are fully trained in manual handling procedures. They will deliver your cylinders and are on-hand to offer advice and guidance on all aspects of managing and handling dispense gases and equipment in the cellar, safely.

E75 000 LEVY FOR E15M CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

By Bodwa Mbingo

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) will charge a 0.5percent levy on all registered construction companies that will undertake construction projects that are worth E15 million and above.

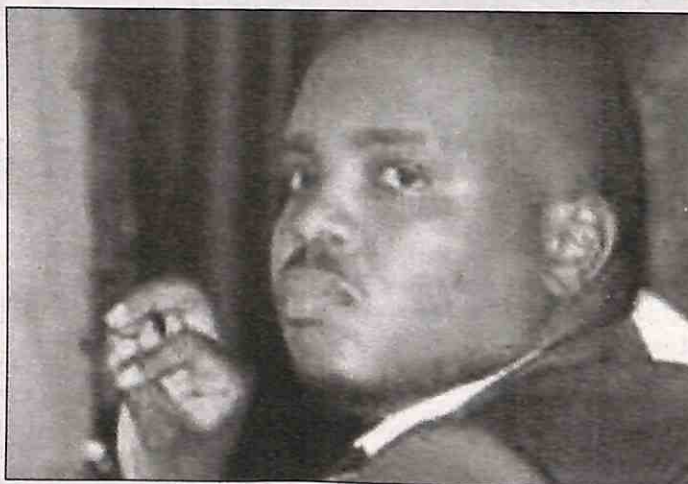
This therefore means a E75 000 levy will be charged for a E15 million worth construction project in the country.

This is contained in the Construction Industry Levy Regulations, 2016 that came into force this month. As contained in the regulations, a levy means an amount of money payable to the Council by persons or other entities engaged in the construction industry in terms of Section 21 of the Construction Industry Council Act, 2013. The Regulations provide that a contractor shall pay to the Council a levy determined in accordance with the schedule in respect of each project undertaken and the owner of a project may pay the levy direct to the Council on behalf of the contractor.

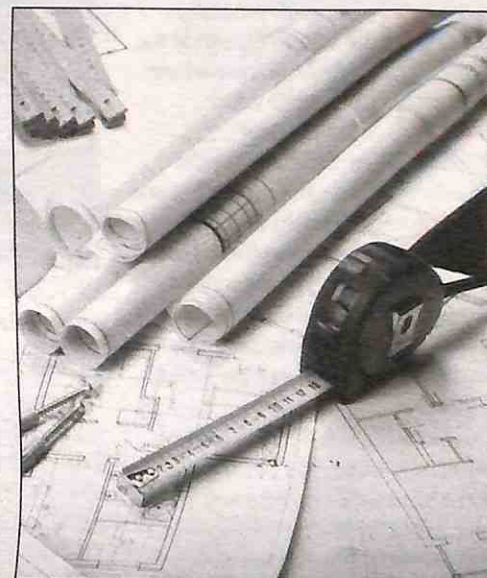
The collection procedure is such that upon receipt of monies paid in respect of a payment certificate, a

contractor or project owner shall pay to the Council at least a portion of the total amount of levy payable on the project. The portion to be paid to the Council shall be calculated on the basis of the total percentage payable on the whole project as determined in accordance with the schedule. The contractor shall be issued with a receipt in respect of payment made and a levy payable on a project. A person or entity that has several projects being executed simultaneously has an option to make a once off payment of the total amount of levy calculated on the value of all the projects. CIC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Nhlanhla Dlamini has already issued a tender inviting qualifying and suitable consultancy companies to submit proposals for the development of a construction project levy collection system.

After payment of the levy, a contractor shall be issued a levy clearance certificate in respect of that particular project by the Council, which shall reflect a tender number and the name of the project. The Council shall have no authority to issue a certificate of renewal of registration to a contractor who has not paid the appropriate amount of levy.



SHELTER MATTERS: CIC Chief Executive Officer Nhlanhla Dlamini.



Picture sourced from the internet showing construction plan.

Minimum Project Value (E)	Maximum Project Value (E)	Levy Payable (%)
E1.00	E2 000 000.00	1
E2 000 001.00	E5 000 000.00	0.8
E5 000 001.00	E10 000 000.00	0.75
E10 000 001.00	E15 000 000.00	0.6
E15 000 001.00	No Limit	0.5

By Sandile Nkomo

With the love of culture, by this time of the year Swazis take a closer look into the most loved cultural event that attracts tourists, which is the beginning of the Incwala and this is normally marked by the commissioning of the Water Party (Bemanti) by His Majesty the King.

With the King having hosted the annual prayer service marking the close of the year at the Mandvulo Hall in Lozitha last weekend, this effectively means that the commissioning of the Water Party by His Majesty is imminent.

This week the Observer on Saturday takes readers through the cultural event has now become a major tourist attraction as it draws people from around the globe into the country with numbers increasing each year.

When His Majesty dispersed *Emabutfo* after the 2015 Incwala, which was marked by the weeding of the royal fields, he made mention the fact that the Royal cattle byre (*Sibaya*) at Ludzidzini Residence has now proved too small an enclosure to accommodate the nation during the main day of the Incwala ceremony.

This is more so because each year numbers of Swazis and tourists who take part in the event upturn, with most people ending up enjoying the main day outside the cattle byre due to inadequate space.

Today we bring you a buildup of the Incwala ceremony since it is that time of the year again when the Swazi nation gears itself up for the event also known as the cultural national prayer.

Tradition dictates the commissioning of the water party, actually symbolises the beginning of the sacred ceremony with the party heading for the Indian Ocean in the neighbouring Mozambique where they collect the sacred water.

Movements

Traditionally, the dates for the annual event are not known, but are astrologically detected by traditionalists as per the movements of the moon and it is for that reason the holiday for the main day of the ceremony does not appear each year of the calendar, save to state that it would be announced.

It has been noted the numbers of locals and tourists that attend the ceremony are increasing each year as last year saw the Royal Cattle Byre (*Sibaya*) at Ludzidzini Royal Residence packed to capacity forcing others to enjoy the ceremony outside.

Since the water party is expected to set off to the Indian Ocean, what will then be expected is their return where upon Their Majesties will then join *Emabutfo*, *Lutsango*, *Imbali* and *Tingatja* in dancing the Little Incwala, whose first day is also yet to be determined by the return of the water party.

It should be noted this is Swaziland's most important cultural event.

The ceremony, which also marks the fresh fruits of the season, has a spiritual power that is largely lost on outsiders, and indeed many of

INCWALA 2016 BUILD-UP

● Bemanti expected to be commissioned by King soon as His Majesty hosted an end of year prayer service last week water party commissioning nigh, cultural event draws closer



IN THE SONG: Her Majesty Indlovukazi joined by Balondolozzi and members of the Royal family at the Little Incwala ceremony held at Ludzidzini Royal Residence last year. (File pics)



AYIBUKELWA: Inkhosatana Sikhanyiso dancing during the ceremony.



SIGODLO: Part of Bantfwabenhkosi that were also in the ceremony.



BALONDOLOZI: Balondolozzi also there.

its inner workings remain shrouded in secrecy.

Often translated as 'first fruits festival', the tasting of the first fruits of the season's bounty is only one part of this long rite, which is essentially about cleansing and renewal, and above all celebrating kingship.

Visitors

Although not a tourism event per se, visitors with an interest in Swazi culture are always welcomed and respect for total privacy is normally required on certain special days when the nation gathers for its own focus, without outside interference.

Every Swazi may take part in the public parts of the Incwala and spectators are permitted but not actively encouraged hence the traditional saying that Incwala *ayibukelwa*. Save for accredited photographers and journalists, photographs may not be taken during the main event. The best day to

attend is the main day and day four, when the feasting and dancing reach its climax.

This is where one would see thousands of people, including warriors, in full traditional war regalia thronging the royal parade grounds.

The songs, dances and rituals that take place inside the royal kraal remain a matter of utmost secrecy and may not be recorded or written down.

While this ceremony is an enjoyable one, many a Swazi are now eager to see it as this is when local small business people also take the opportunity to conduct their businesses and make thousands of Emalangeni before the final day where the king eventually disperses *Emabutfo* after the weeding of royal fields.

In a nutshell this ceremony brings Swazis together as they mark the end of the year in prayer and enjoying the fresh fruits of the season.

Sequence of events leading to the Incwala ceremony

His Majesty expected to first commission the water party (*Bemanti*) Bemanti commence expedition to the Indian Ocean in Mozambique where they collect sacred water, days after the expedition the water party reports back to their traditional royal camp at Lwandle Royal Kraal.

Proceeds

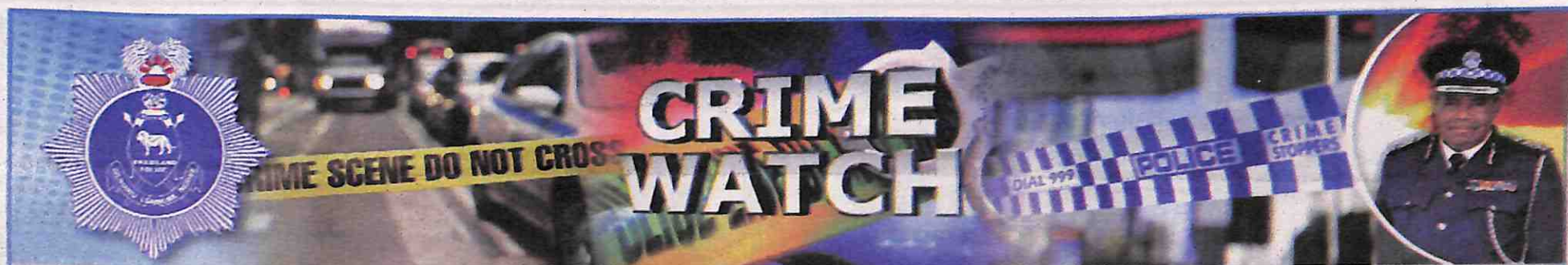
The water party then proceeds to Ludzidzini Royal Residence where they deliver the sacred water in turn marking the beginning of the little incwala

The little incwala will then begin in dance at four of the country's royal residences before the King commissions *Tingatja* for the cutting of Lusekwane.

We will pen down for today, but will be continuously run the build up as the days of the main day draw closer.



EMALANGENI: Senator Princess Phumelele and MP Princess Ncengcenge at last year's event.



ATTENTIVE: National Commissioner Isaac Magagula with Pastor Matsenjwa and Senior Deputy National Commissioner during the event.



SINGING THEIR LUNGS OUT: Deputy National Commissioner Ross Maseko and Senior Assistant Commissioner Meshack Ntshalintshali join Male Voice on stage.

POLICE GLORIFY THE ALMIGHTY FOR SUCCESSFUL POLICE DAY

The Royal Swaziland Police Service on Tuesday held a thanksgiving prayer service to glorify the Almighty God for making the Police Day and Passing out Parade a success.

The thanksgiving prayer service which was held at the Matsapha Police College Dining Hall was attended by the National Commissioner of Police Isaac Mmemo Magagula, Pastor Anthony Matsenjwa of the Manzini Metropolitan Church and Members of the police executive.

It was an acknowledgement that through the Lord's grace the Police Service was able to host a successful Police Day and Passing out Parade.

Making his remarks during the service, the National Commissioner



REMARKS: National Commissioner making his remarks.

revealed that wealth and success are only realised courtesy of God's

grace and love, therefore, glory should always be given to Him. He

stated that it is for this reason that the prayer service was dedicated to thanking and glorifying the Almighty who is the author and finisher of everything for being with the organisation throughout the celebrations.

Homage

Magagula paid homage to members of the clergy for their endless prayers during the Police Service's preparations of the Police Day and Passing out parade.

He further commended all those who contributed and committed themselves towards the success of the event. He also encouraged police officers to continue supporting the organisation in all its future commit-

ments and endeavors.

When delivering the word of God, Pastor Matsenjwa revealed that it is important for an individual to have a source of protection and pillar of strength to always turn to in any given situation.

Commended

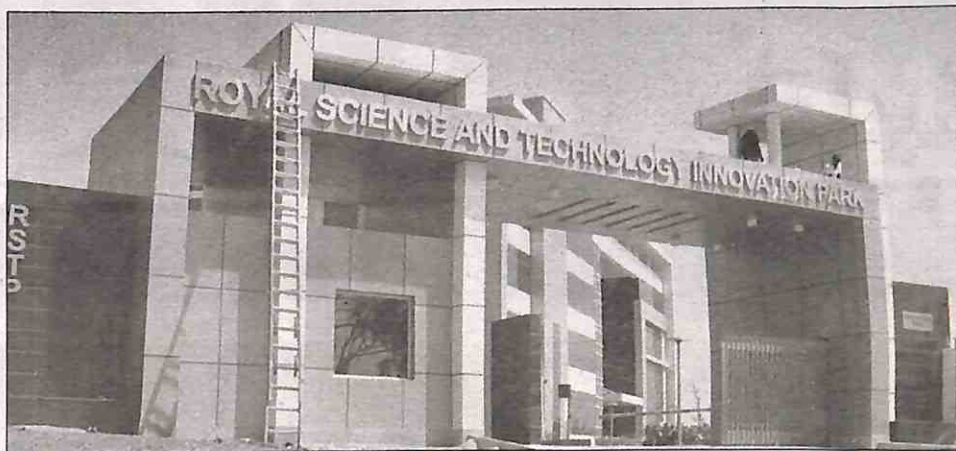
He commended the National Commissioner for the prayer service stating that police officers need to be spiritually guided by the Lord Almighty as they conduct their day to day duties. The pastor concluded his sermon with a prayer asking the Lord to bless the Police Service with the wisdom to always stay on top of all forms of criminality.



IN NUMBERS: Officers present during the thanksgiving service.



LISTENING: A section of those who attended listening to proceedings.



ROYAL ENTRANCE: The Royal Science and Technology Park is almost complete and ready for operations at Phocweni, this is the the main entrance of the state-of-the-art facility. (Pics Sandile Nkambule)

WE ARE READY FOR KING'S CALL - ROYAL SCIENCE TECH PARK

- As His Majesty the King implored locals to make billions through the use of Nokwane and Phocweni parks during last weeks' William Pitcher graduation, structures almost ready for use
- CEO says some companies have already shown interest in using facilities at Nokwane and Phocweni- Invites more companies to make use of facility as His Majesty has implored

By Sandile Nkambule

As part of His Majesty the King's vision to have the country internationally renowned for its swiftness in exploring science, technology and innovation to increase the country's economic growth by the year 2022, the Royal Science and Technology Park (RSTP) was established.

This is part of the King's dream to have the country attain first world status as the newly established entity also aims at increasing capacity by developing a knowledge based economy and infrastructure and in turn substantially eradicating poverty.

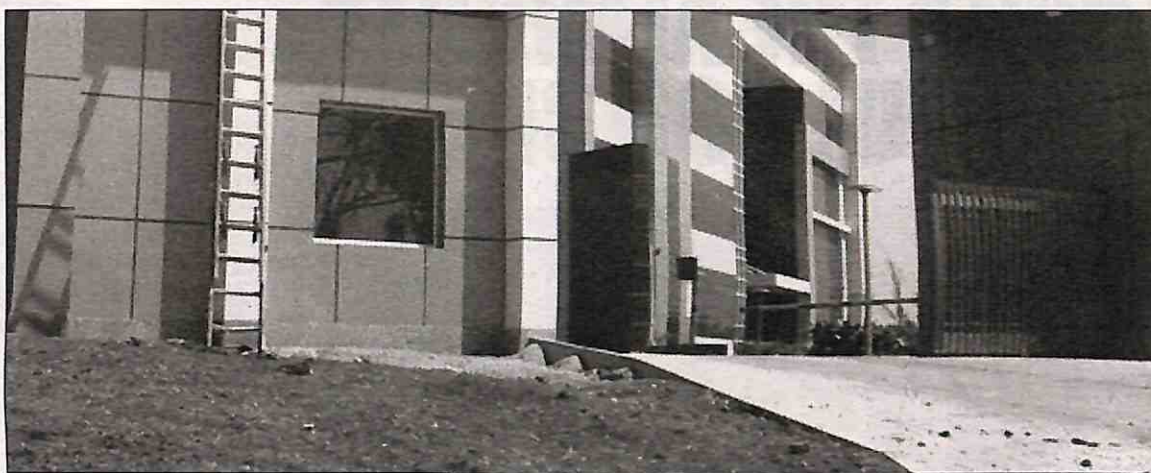
During the historic graduation ceremony for William Pitcher College class of 2016 held at Mavuso Trade and Exhibition Centre last week, the King implored companies to make use of the facilities in order to make billions of Emalangeni for the country's economic growth.

The RSTP is now almost ready for use and to take up His Majesty's call since the facility in Phocweni is about 98 percent complete while the one at Nokwane is also taking shape.

According to the RSTP Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Vumile Dlamini, they are ready to take up the King's call stating that already some companies have shown interest in using the facilities.

He said at Nokwane the plots are ready to be taken up by interested companies after the completion of the state-of-the-art infrastructure.

"As His Majesty pronounced last



VISION 2022: A close look at the Royal Science and Technology Park.

week, we want to assure members of the public especially business people that we are ready for the King's call and invite businesses to make use of the facilities, the Innovation Park at Phocweni is 95 percent complete while the one at Nokwane already has its plots ready to be taken up by interested companies," Dlamini said.

Inventions

The Royal Science and Technology Park is a public enterprise created through an Act of Parliament. The function of the RSTP is to foster the conception of inventions and facilitate their patenting and help knit various elements of the R&D cluster together. RSTP will provide a focal point for research, facilitate the links between research and industrial communities and stimulate the development of knowledge-based businesses through the incubation of techno-preneurship and high tech enterprises.

Dlamini explained that there

two divisions of the RSTP being the Biotechnology Park and the Innovation Park adding that the entity is being developed to link education and training with the field of work with emphasis on research and development to support business enterprises.

Objective

"The RSTP's objective is to lay the foundation for the development of a knowledge economy. It seeks to develop infrastructure to facilitate the development of science, technology and innovation through research and development in the economy, will foster the conception of inventions and facilitate their patenting and will help knit various elements of the R&D cluster together," Dlamini said.

The RSTP will also serve as a training base for persons with new, innovative skills and provide them with the environment to experiment on new technologies.

Identifying potential investors in high technology in collaboration

with Swaziland Investment Promotion Authority (SIPA) and inculcating a culture of entrepreneurship among Swazi graduates would be a major function of the RSTP.

The park will facilitate specially promoted research in response to national priorities and develop strategies for the development of human resources.

He explained that the Biotechnology Park at Nokwane falls under The Royal Science and Technology Park (RSTP) which is situated at Nokwane and covers a total area of 159 hectares, with an industrial area size of 70 hectares, residential area size of 20 hectares which will accommodate RSTP employees and the remaining area centre of 69 hectares for the service center, cultural village, R&D, parks and roads. The state of the art facility is almost complete in its infrastructure development with workers found on site doing final touch ups, with an eye catching

road infrastructure.

The Park according to the CEO, is a "one stop facility" that creates an enabling environment to the investor wishing to settle within the Royal Science and Technology Park. Biotechnology can be defined as the controlled and deliberate manipulation of biological systems (whether living cells or cell components) for the efficient manufacture or processing of useful products. Biotechnology is technology based on biology - biotechnology harnesses cellular and biomolecular processes to develop technologies and products that help improve our lives and the health of the planet.

The Biotechnology Park will focus amongst others; Agriculture, Plant and Animal Biotechnology, Environment and Biodiversity, Medical Biotechnology, Biofuels, Biofertilisers, Biopesticides, Biochemicals and Bioenergy products, Bioprocesses, Product Development, and Bioinstrumentation, Human Resource Development, Creation and Strengthening of Infrastructure in Existing Institutions and setting up new Institutions and Basic Research in New Biology and Biotechnology.

He highlighted the fact that this park opens the door to all of its rewards and benefits, and sets the stage for lifting businesses to new heights in a highly advanced and advantageous working environment and world class technology.

Meanwhile Dlamini explained that the Innovation Park situated at Phocweni covers an area of 160 hectares, located 10 minutes from the Biotechnology Park and shares the "one stop facility" that creates an enabling environment to the investor wishing to settle within the Science and Technology Park.

The Innovation Park houses the technology based research and development centre, the entrepreneurship development centre, the e-governance centre, the call centre, administration facilities, boardroom and auditoriums, advanced school of IT software development, hardware, multimedia, cyber security, computer forensic and network forensic and national data centre amongst others.

SERVICES OFFERED BY THE INNOVATION PARK

- Technology business incubation facilities.
- R&D facilities.

- Training facilities with advanced training courses that will include hardware, software

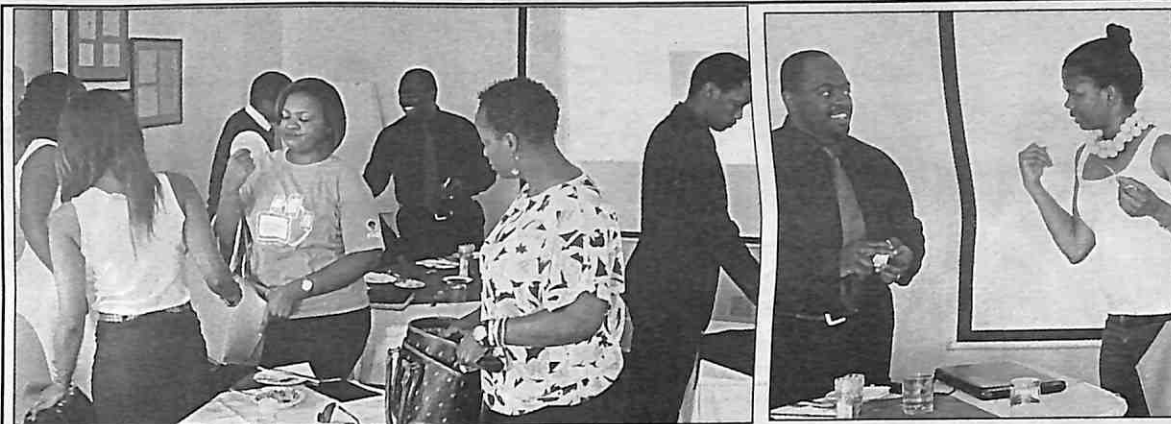
multimedia, IT forensic, electronic assembly, software development and support.

- Video conference facilities.
- And other services to tenants within the park.

BUSINESS ON SATURDAY

WITH:
Linda
Dlamini

TOP BRANDS SWAZILAND 2016 SURVEY REPORT LAUNCHED



MARKETING WORLD: Sibusile Sigwane, Buyile Nxumalo from FNB, Phetsile Gama SPTC, Zitsile Dlamini Standard Bank, Petros Mavuso from SANO and Mfundo Mavimbela in discussions. (r) MTN Marketing Manager Fisiwe Vilane having had a few questions to ask about from Yati Marketings Managing Director Mfundo Mavimbela.

YATI Marketing, a marketing consultancy based in the country's capital city recently launched the Top Brands Swaziland 2016 Survey Report at the Mountain Inn in Mbabane.

This is the culmination of months of "behind the scenes" preparation where the company set out to collect, analyse and interpret data from people in all four regions of the country.

The data collected was focused primarily on those brands that are currently top of mind for most consumers.

The launch began with an introductory speech delivered by Master of Ceremonies (MC) Yati Marketing, Account Executive Nhlakanipho Dlamini.

The consultancy's Yati Marketing Principal Consultant, Mfundo Mavimbela followed with a presentation unpacking what the Top Brands Swaziland 2016 Survey Report entails.

Report

Mavimbela said the report is derived from Top of Mind Awareness (TOMA) of brands in Swaziland and the data collected from the survey was used to compile the Top Brands Swaziland 2016 Survey Report.

In his presentation, Mavimbela further stated the report contains charts and tables of data about different brands across 20 sectors.

He said the telecommunications industry has the most top of mind awareness in Swaziland.

"The report itself is a tool that can

be used by marketers to track their brand's ranking in order to ascertain the impact of brand building efforts.

Course

It gives the marketer access to competitive intelligence for effective strategy development, offers identification of gaps and optimisation of brand building efforts. It enables insight driven marketing strategy development and the effective allocation of brand activation budget for maximum return on investment," he said.

In a brief interview with Mavimbela said "The Top Brands Swaziland syndicated report is based on a survey of more than 1 000 individuals across the country and it provides credible insight that every marketing and business pro-

fessional must have to supercharge their brands."

In his submission Mavimbela said, "words cannot fully express my elation over the fruition of this project as it has been in the making for quite some time now. I would like to thank the central statistics office for being so forthcoming with the information that we needed. Of course this report would not have materialised without the input of all of the respondents who participated during the survey - I humbly thank them for their input."

Mavimbela said it will be an annually released report, the Top Brands Swaziland 2016 Survey Report launch has already attracted big players from the country's major sectors. Companies that were in attendance at the launch

were the Swaziland Telecommunications Company (SPTC), Swazi Observer, Limkokwing University, MTN, Buffalo Soldiers, Computronics, the Swaziland Energy Regulatory Authority (SERA), the Swaziland Royal Insurance Company (SRIC), First National Bank, Real Image, Old Mutual, DUPS, Standard Bank and the Southern Africa Nazarene University (SANU).

Mavimbela said during the launch Yati Marketing is currently due to release yet another product into the market called the Swaziland Media Audience Measurement Survey (SwaziMAMS).

"This particular product is a report that will assist companies and marketers ascertain what media channels are more appropri-

ate for their audience or targeted market," he said.

Swaziland Royal Insurance Corporation (SRIC) Marketing Manager, Sizwe Shongwe expressed his gratitude to Yati Marketing for the initiative and said, "marketers in the country were hard at producing tangible results and that the report has brought a frame of thinking that changes everything."

MTN Marketing Manager Fisiwe Vilane enquired on whether Yati Marketing has a customised report that will offer brand specific insight. To which the consultancy's MD replied positively stating the consultancy has spent time analysing the data and can also provide recommendations.

Southern Africa Nazarene University (SANU) Marketing Manager Petro Mavuso also expressed his gratitude for the report and pointed out it probably costs more to compile it than what it is currently going for.

He said marketing association is a long time coming for Swaziland, it is about time it is formed since the marketing profession has grown exponentially in the country.

Mavuso said the association would assist in giving the marketing profession in Swaziland much needed recognition and that the American Marketing Association and the South Africa Marketing Association had already agreed to assist in this process.

Economists warn of policy uncertainty

Dinvestment analysts yesterday hailed Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan's medium-term budget policy statement (MTBPS) as pragmatic in trying circumstances, but warned that policy uncertainty clouded his mission to save the country from a downgrade.

The experts said government moves to curb spending by R10 billion and plans to raise R43bn in taxes over the next two years were positive but warned the picture international investors had was of a country at war with itself.

Barclays Africa investment analyst Chris Gilmour said

while Gordhan had steered the ship in a very difficult environment, the political noises and uncertainty continued to weigh down the country's prospects.

Gilmour told an Absa MTBPS dialogue in Durban yesterday that political stability and policy certainty were needed to attract foreign investment into the country.

He said of the five countries in Brics, only India showed a positive economic growth of 7.3 percent while China's six percent growth per year had been on the downside over the past two years.

Negative Impact

"To attract a foreign investment, the government and the private sector must work together. There are no quick fixes, said Gilmour. "The drought and the fall of the commodity prices had a negative impact on our economy. For us to reverse that we need to grow the economy between six percent and seven percent for the

next 20 to 30 years. Only then will we be able to make serious inroads to the unemployment rate in the country." University of KwaZulu-Natal lecturer Bhekithemba Mngomezulu said the political noise was not helping the country. Mngomezulu said the uncertainty was disturbing as politics and the economy could not be separated.

"There are two ways to look at this. If South Africa decides to be irrational and replace Pravin Gordhan, there is no way the country can avoid a downgrade. But if the minister stays, we have a good chance the downgrade can be prevented. Politicians must understand the decisions they take have an impact on the economy," Mngomezulu said.

He added: "Unity within the government is important. Our economy is not doing well, but we are not worse off. Brazil and Russia are in recession, so we are still doing better. But the key is to continue working together, if we don't, then the rating agencies will no doubt take a negative view on us."

Business report

Big hike in petrol price

CAPE TOWN - The dollar exchange rate and a global increase in the prices of petrol, diesel and illuminating paraffin is the reason why motorists will pay a lot more for petrol next week, according to the Department of Energy.

On Wednesday, the price of both grades of petrol will increase by 45c a litre, while diesel will increase by 63c a litre, it said in a statement. That means inland motorists will pay R13.05 a litre and coastal motorists will pay R12.57 a litre for petrol. Inland motorists will pay R11.34 a litre for diesel and coastal motorists will pay R10.96 a litre. The department said the main reasons for the hike were the following: The contribution of the rand/US dollar exchange rate: "The rand strengthened slightly against the US dollar from R14.00 to R13.99, on average, during the period under review when compared to the previous one."

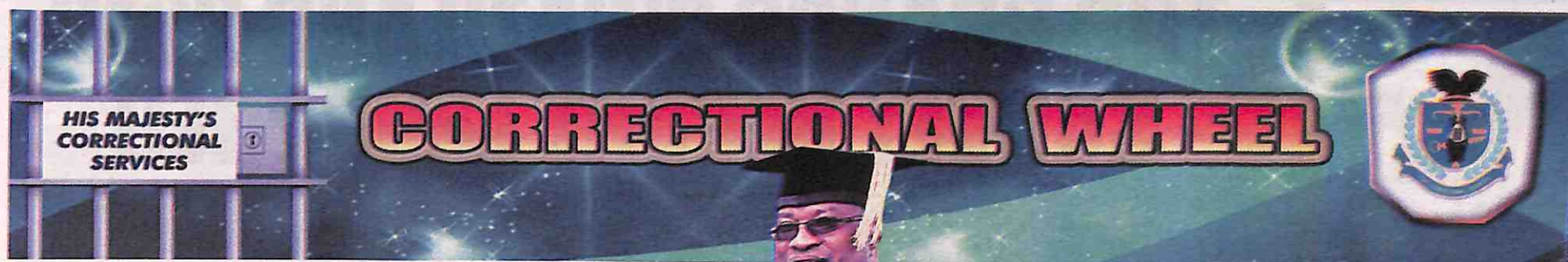
The global increase in the

prices of petrol, diesel and illuminating paraffin: "These increases were in line with the increase in the price of crude oil."

The increase in the prices of crude oil: "A key factor that contributed to the increase in the prices of crude oil was the fact that OPEC talked publicly about the possibility of production restraint and together with the possibility of Russia also following suit," it said. "Although nothing concrete has as yet been decided and certain OPEC members, Iraq in particular, are looking to be exempted from any cuts. Meeting in Algeria, which was planned to take place on 28 September 2016."

The increase is in line with what the Automobile Association (AA) said yesterday and with mid-month expectations. Despite the improved stability of both oil and the rand, consumers will therefore still be in for strain at the pumps, the AA said.





CONGRATULATIONS: Deputy Commissioner General Thokozile Nxumalo presenting a certificate to Polycarp Dlamini, an ex-offender who graduated at Matsapha Correctional Centre.



THE GOOD SHEPHERD: HMCS Commissioner General Isaiah Mzuthini Ntshangase.



THERE YOU GO: Deputy Commissioner General Thokozile Nxumalo being presented with a bible by Setsabile Dlamini from the Bible Society.

OVER 100 INMATES GRADUATE IN BIBLE STUDIES

A fruitful collaboration between His Majesty's Correctional Services and Zion Bible College has seen the graduation of over one hundred offenders at Matsapha Correctional Centre.

These are inmate students who were undertaking bible studies offered by the Zion Bible College, Zion Ministerial Institute & Prison Fellowship Swaziland.

This milestone achievement is a result of the good working relationship between faith based organisation and the department to assist in the rehabilitation of offenders by equipping them with education and skills that will in-turn render them sound members of society upon release from custody. The Bible Study programme immensely contributes in assisting repented offenders preach the word of God with a better understanding.

Commissioner General Isaiah Mzuthini Ntshangase who was represented by the Deputy Commissioner Thokozile Nxumalo during the event said the department fully appreciated the fruits and milestone achievement of such a spiritual journey and professional working relationship with the three organisations. He said the event which saw more than a hundred students from the Matsapha Correctional centre graduate with diplomas and certi-



INITIATIVE: Deputy Commissioner General Thokozile Nxumalo who was representing the commissioner general with Senior Officers from HMCS and representatives from the three faith based organisations pose with inmates.

cates in Bible Studies was a good testimony that the partnership is indeed productive and a worthwhile initiative for transforming the lives of many individuals undergoing the correctional process in the various centres countrywide.

Graduation

This was the second graduation as the same ceremony was held last year where a number of inmates also graduated.

Ntshangase expressed his appreciation to the three organisations for their unwavering support without which, he said the event would have not seen the light of day. The course took one and a half years.

He added the support by the social partners came at an opportune time when His Majesty's Correctional

Services and government were grappling with the prevailing economic challenges.

Support

"This has always rendered our budget insufficient thus making it impossible for the department to execute its mandate of corrections."

Ntshangase mentioned this state of affairs has compelled the department to rely heavily on external support for additional resources in its efforts to deliver on the expected mandate. "To this end, we are extremely grateful to the three faith based organisations for continued spiritual and professional support."

The Commissioner General said the offenders' graduation ceremony was one significant step towards attaining success in their journey of

life. He added life was about choices and the right choice is to live for God. The Commissioner General, while sending words of encouragement to the graduating offenders said they should be cognizant of the fact that, 'To those who much is given, much is expected'. Ntshangase further warned the graduates against evil forces which; now that they had chosen the right path, they were exposed to.

Pleased

Amongst those who graduated in the Bible studies was Polycarp Dlamini, a former offender at Matsapha Correctional Centre. Ntshangase said they were pleased to learn that a number of former inmates, including Dlamini were leading an exemplary life even after

their release from custody. He added such ex-offenders were now ambassadors of the department as their actions were evidence of a true transformation through the rehabilitation programmes being offered by the department.

In an interview with Dlamini, he mentioned as a leader of his community, he had the responsibility to be exemplary to the members of society.

He said having a good relationship with God is a very desirable root way of life as it helps one to live in harmony and also one's gateway to heaven. As a result, Dlamini said he would practice the good way of life as people ought to learn from one's actions more than what one preaches by word of mouth. The graduating offenders included those from the medium and maximum section.

Appreciation

On the other hand, the Commissioner General also expressed his deepest appreciation to the Bible Society for donating bibles for the offenders. The bibles were presented by the society's Setsabile Dlamini during the event. He mentioned His Majesty's Correctional Services had in actual fact received over 4 000 bibles from the society which were distributed in the various correctional centres across the country.

Speaking during the graduation, the Bible Society's representative Setsabile Dlamini said they were also pleased to make such offerings to the offenders as their mandate was to ensure the word of God was disseminated in all sectors of society through all seasons.

She said those incarcerated were not excluded from receiving the word of God hence the presentation of the bibles.

WELL DONE: Deputy Commissioner General Thokozile Nxumalo presents a certificate to one of the graduates.



THANK YOU: Graduating Offenders from Matsapha Correctional Centre receive their certificates from the Deputy Commissioner General Thokozile Nxumalo.

Analysis & Opinion

Editor's Pen @ Work

WITH: Alec Lushaba

Observer on Saturday
Editor



The other week I travelled to South Africa by road using one of the popular shuttles to OR Tambo International Airport.

We were delayed for about an hour at the South African side of the border, they call it Oshoek, and we call it Ngwenya.

As passengers we were frustrated by this unexplained delay. But the home affairs officers at the border were at work, doing what their government entrusted them to do, ensure that no aliens enter their country.

It transpired that the system had picked information that one of the passengers was prohibited to enter the Republic of South Africa for violating the Immigration Act. It transpired that the fellow from Europe had at some point in his visits to that country once overstayed the permitted number of days and had been prohibited to enter South Africa.

Looking at that experience and the situation we find ourselves in Swaziland, I started to appreciate the issue of protecting our borders.

One of the passengers remarked that if this situation had occurred on this side of the Swazi border, our officials would have understood and allowed that prohibited immigrant in. This is why we find ourselves with an unacceptable high number of foreign nationals who now move into rural communities to settle in the guise of opening businesses.

There is need to bring an end to this madness, we cannot have a country that has no immigration controls. If we continue to let in foreign nationals who violate our immigration laws, then we must consider placing the army to man our borders.

What is the point of having soldiers who patrol our borders 24/7 if we are lax to implement the laws that seek to protect our borders?

It is not only by physically manning the borders that protects us against any foreign invasion but also by the strict adherence to immigration laws. The media has reported on numerous cases of foreign nationals who are taken to court for being in the country illegally. But what we experience in court and what the ministry of foreign affairs is doing works against the mission to keep the country safe from foreign invasion.

Some courts would grant these aliens bail or give them E200 fine. Is this the prize one should pay for being an illegal immigrant?

A COUNTRY WITH POROUS BORDERS NO GOOD

● Where is government in all these foreign invasion?



No!

We need to look ourselves in the mirror and ask then pose the question - are we doing enough to protect our borders?

Not only do these aliens find themselves in the country illegal, but they have the audacity to even apply for Swazi citizenship.

You ask yourselves, is this how you apply for Swazi citizenship, by becoming an illegal immigrant and once comfortable, approach Citizenship Board or *khonta* to make your stay legal?

Immigrants

This behaviour must be stopped at all costs. If we don't act now, the costs of cleansing the country of illegal immigrants will be too high.

If fact, as Swazi citizens, we will be denied a lot of services in international platforms because they would be not sure whether they are dealing with indigenous Swazis or those who become citizens by mere residence.

We need to implement clear processes to vet some of these people who come into our country. What the House of Assembly Select Committee is doing right now is a very critical

exercise to examine this foreign influx. It may appear for now that they are targeting people of Asian origin, but this is besides the point, we are faced with a big problem of aliens whom we don't even know their background.

The Asians are easily identified, but it is a fact that the problem is bigger than just the Asians whose only crime so far is being all over the place looking to create some means of survival. What about the many African and other whites who remain in the country illegal and use this country as a base for their illegal citizens.

Protect

If we continue to fail to protect our borders and by extension protect the Swazis, the costs will be too high and probably even dangerous.

That's why we need to have a change of approach at the ministry of home affairs. Being home affairs minister is not just being nice guy or nice *mama* who extends warm welcome to strangers who may prove to be detrimental to your very existence.

The ministry of home affairs must do more than just giving birth, deaths and marriage cer-

tificates. We need to protect our country and our documents from falling into wrong hands. We have a case in the Magistrate's Courts of foreign nationals who have been assisted to acquire Swazi citizenship or documents illegally and no heads have rolled at the department of immigration.

Secured

We deserve a secured Swaziland, where all those who come are known and the business they are doing in this country.

We cannot be just a warm, hospitable nation who give little attention to the many people who come in with foreign influence and use us as a base for their criminal activity.

We need to protect this country and it is not just the job for the army at our borders but for the minister and her officials at home affairs, the judicial officers and police.

We must do more. At the moment we have not even begun to protect this good.

A country with porous borders is no country at all. We need to rediscover who we are otherwise aliens would take over right under our watch.

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Dealing with Diabetes



WITH: Nomalungelo
Ginindza

Diabetes
Swaziland PR

In some cases of longstanding diabetes, the enteric nerves supplying the small intestine may be affected, leading to abnormal motility, secretion, or absorption.

This leads to symptoms such as central abdominal pain, bloating, and diarrhea. Delayed emptying and stagnation of fluids in the small intestine may lead to bacterial overgrowth syndromes, resulting in diarrhoea and abdominal pain.

According to American Diabetes Association, diagnosis can be quite difficult and may require small-bowel intubation for quantitative small-bowel bacterial cultures. All of these tests are somewhat cumbersome, and an empiric trial of antibiotics is often the most efficient means of diagnosing and treating this condition.

Numerous antibiotic regimens have been shown to be effective, including five to 10 day courses of tetracycline, ciprofloxacin, amoxicillin, or tetracycline. A short course may provide prolonged relief, but typically, additional courses of antibiotics are required when symptoms recur in several weeks or months.

At times, enteric neuropathy may lead to a chronic abdominal pain syndrome similar to the pain of peripheral neuropathy in the feet. This condition may be very difficult to treat but will sometimes respond to pain medications and tricyclic antidepressant medications, such as amitriptyline (Elavil). Unfortunately, narcotic addiction may be common in patients with chronic painful enteric neuropathy.

Individuals with diabetes also have an increased risk of celiac sprue. In this condition, an allergy to wheat gluten develops, leading to inflammation and thinning of the mucosa of the small intestine. Why this association occurs is not clear. However, sprue may lead to diarrhoea, weight loss, and malabsorption of food.

This condition responds well to a gluten-free diet, but patients may have difficulty adhering to such a diet. Diagnosis can be made with endoscopic biopsy of the small intestine or with serological evaluation for anti-endomysial and anti-gliadin antibodies.

The colon in diabetes

Limited information is available regarding the effects of diabetes on the large intestine. We do know that enteric neuropathy may affect the nerves innervating the colon, leading to a decrease in colon motility and constipation. Anatomic abnormalities of the colon, such as structure, tumor, or diverticulitis, should be excluded with a barium enema or colonoscopy.

Fiber supplementation with bran or psyllium products, as well as a high-fiber diet, increases the water content of the bowel movement and may relieve constipation. Mild laxatives and stool softeners will often help as well. In addition, cisapride accelerates colonic movement and may increase the frequency of bowel movements.

The pancreas in diabetes

Pancreatic exocrine dysfunction occurs in up to 80% of individuals with type 1 diabetes but is rarely significant enough to lead

to any clinical problems with digestion. The pancreas has a tremendous reserve, and a modest reduction in pancreatic enzyme secretion rarely leads to difficulty in digesting or absorbing carbohydrate, fat, or protein.

The exocrine pancreas may also be affected in some patients with type 2 diabetes but to a lesser extent. Individuals who have secondary diabetes because of severe pancreatitis or surgical removal of the pancreas usually have more severe symptoms of pancreatic exocrine insufficiency. Treatment with pancreatic enzyme replacement therapy is usually effective. A trial of oral enzyme replacement therapy can be done safely for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes.

The liver in diabetes

Although liver function tests are commonly abnormal in patients with diabetes, it is unclear whether this is a reflection of the underlying obesity that is so common in patients with type 2 diabetes or whether it is an effect of poorly controlled diabetes. Fatty

infiltration of the liver (nonalcoholic steatohepatitis) is common in obese individuals (up to 90%) as well as in type 2 diabetic individuals (up to 75%). People with type 1 diabetes in very poor control may also develop this syndrome, although it is much less common.

Fatty infiltration of the liver may lead to tender hepatomegaly, elevated liver enzyme tests, and abdominal pain syndromes. Occasionally, this may progress to fibrosis and cirrhosis of the liver.

The diagnosis is usually suspected on the basis of the clinical presentation but can be confirmed with abdominal ultrasonography and, if needed, percutaneous liver biopsy.

Therapy is geared toward improving glycemic control and instituting a low-calorie, low-fat diet. Caloric restriction will lead to weight loss, better glycemic control, lower serum triglycerides and cholesterol, and improvement in the fatty infiltration of the liver. Diabetic patients seem to have an increased incidence of gallstones and gall bladder problems, but these, much like fatty infiltration of the liver, are primarily related

to the obesity associated with type 2 diabetes and not to the diabetes itself. Obesity leads to secretion of bile by the liver that is supersaturated with cholesterol, leading to crystallization and stone formation. Typical symptoms of biliary colic include intermittent right upper abdominal pain, jaundice, or pancreatitis.

In the past, patients with diabetes have been instructed to have surgery for asymptomatic gallstones because of a concern for an increased risk of complications from gallstones, such as infection, pancreatitis, or rupture of the gall bladder. However, more recent experience with modern medical and surgical care indicates that this is no longer the case. Thus, patients with diabetes and gallstones should be managed in a fashion similar to nondiabetic patients. Surgery is generally recommended only for those individuals whose gallstones are causing symptoms.

THE SMALL INTESTINE IN DIABETES

- Individuals with diabetes also have an increased risk of celiac sprue. In this condition, an allergy to wheat gluten develops, leading to inflammation and thinning of the mucosa of the small intestine.



FOR QUESTIONS AND MORE INFORMATION
e-mail us on: diabetesswaziland@gmail.com
CELL: 7607 1889 TEL: 2505 3487

Lifestyle, E, Entertainment



**TRENDY
HAIR DO'S
THIS SUMMER**

PAGE 6

YEAR OF **BREAKING LIMITATIONS** FOR

LG BIZZY

PAGES 4,5

WRITER'S NOTE



WITH: Phumelele Mkhonta

There is this 'sooo' serious faced child that has been trending for all the 'funny' reasons on social media. I confess, I was one in the bunch who thought all the photo shopped pictures and memes of this child who had gone viral were hilarious. I made a shocking discovery that he is a less privileged child from Ghana who is said to be Jake. After all the laughing and having fun, there is a social media group that has been recently formed towards empowering this child. But before the laughs, did we see this side of Jake or we make a joke of everything that crosses our eyes. Has the net made us a 'humorous' generation.

Personally, I am proud of my fellow Swazi for taking local music to another level; who thought there would be awards in the country just dedicated to Hip Hop. Also, who thought we would host a festival which mainly comprises of Swazi artist; this is remarkably beautiful and history in the making. Check out articles related to the two on Page 4 and 5.

In this week's edition, Tiara took a break, you know, single mothers being busy and all. So, for the love of looking all swagged up, L&E put up a few images of hair-dos that are the 'IT' this summer. And we have load more of other interesting articles.

Enjoy this read and your weekend people!



■ EXHILARATING, FUN MOMENTS FOR BIKERS TODAY...

RIDERS RANCH HOSTS DAY JOLLY FOR SWAZI BOYZ CLUB

If you missed out on the illustrious and illuminating moments brought about by the annual Swazi Rally in August, here's some more dosage of fun for you.

After all bikers know how to do it and today would be no different as the Riders Ranch in Sidvokodvo hosts another get-together for bikers.

This time headlining the event is the Swazi Boyz Bikers Club, that is being at the helm of things but all bikers are welcome to attend the get-together for a fun-filled and momentous outing.

Once again you should behold some thrilling and fascinating moments as the riders manoeuvre their way through large volumes of traffic from the capital city, the ever busy hub of Swaziland (Manzini) and basically all corners of the kingdom, eventually retiring at the Yith' Abantu highway on the way to Nhlengano where Sidvokodvo is located.

Besides the Swazi bikers to descend at Sidvokodvo, be certain to witness a large chunk of riders from beyond the kingdom as invitations have not been restricted to the local front, this being a get-together of sorts for bikers.

Gates open at 10am as confirmed by Brian Carrington, Spokesperson for the Swazi Boyz Bikers Club.

He says they will be accepting entries until 1pm.

From then onwards there would be fun and games.

Be certain you'll get to witness stunt masters doing their thing, spinning, etc games likely to be featured as would be expected of any bikers gathering with the bikes making the kind of noise characterising their act.

The atmosphere at Sidvokodvo is already telling and could be felt since any bikers gathering down at that illustrious place generates such.

Merely mentioning the name Riders Ranch is enough to make every rider sit up and notice whatever is going on and things aren't different this time round.

Carrington says their get-together would culminate in a helping hand being extended



to charitable causes as has been synonymous with events of this nature.

"We'll be providing most of the things in-house such as DJs and entertainment as the primary objective is our charitable works," he says.

Moments

As the day continues unto 4pm, they would be staging a prize presentation ceremony and thereafter get down to some moments of being close and intimate with each other as well as partying non-stop.

"We'll do it the best way we know how," he adds.

Asked specifically which of the countries they had extended invitation to, Carrington responded; "We had posts on Facebook and other social media as well as verbally promoted the upcoming event during our attendance in (Bikers) Rallies outside of the kingdom so counterparts from the (SADC)

region are likely to attend.

"But we can't specifically mention those countries to grace the event".

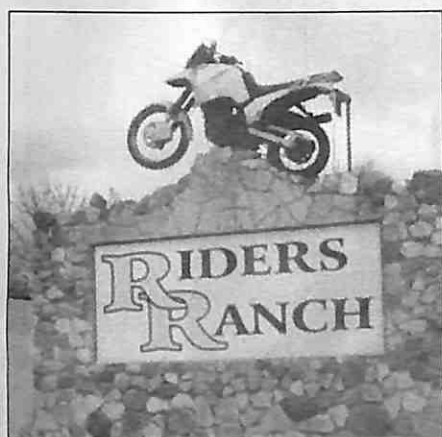
So be to be there at 10am when everything commences so you're mesmerised, thrilled and fascinated in equal measure.

If you're a biker, things would be happening at Sidvokodvo area, some 20km outside Manzini city so don't miss out.

With so many prominent activities taking place countrywide such as the Biggest Braai in Siteki, Swaziland Breast Cancer Network walk, Halloween Night hosted by House on Fire in Malkerns and launch by Mduduzi 'Gawuzela' Simelane neMagawugawu at Mavuso Trade and Exhibition Centre as well as the Lumankhelenkhele Festival in Mhlume, fun lovers from Sidvokodvo could celebrate too since they've been catered for as well through the Swazi Boyz Day Jolly event.



Swazi Boyz Bikers Club Spokesperson Brian Carrington.



Now this weekend would surely go down as Swaziland's busiest thus far but the choice is yours where to descend to and while time away.

Swazi Boyz recently showed their benevolent side by feeding Phuzumoya Neighbourhood Care Point (NCP). In this activity, they partnered with Enjabulweni Schools based in Manzini.

Famed

Bikers are famed in all quarters and walks of life for their social responsibility programmes not limited to the areas they normally stage their fun-filled activities or get-together. They would extend a helping hand even to communities they normally passed through when riding to either local events or beyond the country's borders.

Bikers do not solely focus strictly on the communities neighbouring Sidvokodvo or Riders Ranch in terms of upliftment or empowerment programmes as demonstrated over the years. So if one fascinated with riding a bike, why don't you drive down to Sidvokodvo and get the finer aspects of this sport?

With so many events lined up for the weekend on the leisure front, devoted bikers have been catered for with the Swazi Jolly. After all the fun continues from dawn to dusk with persons from all walks of life catered for at the esteemed gathering. If the words of Carrington are anything to go by, then you'll sure be enthralled, captivated and mesmerised as bikers know their trade when it comes to fun and games. "We'll do it the best way we know how," he stated.

(By Njabulo Dlamini)

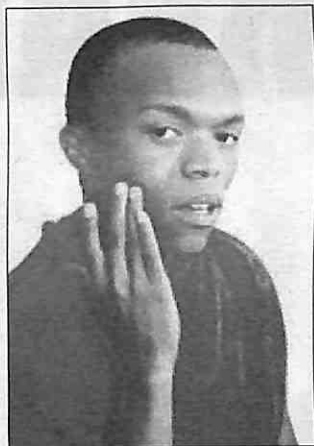
SA Celebrity News

YOUR FAVOURITE CELEBS LIKE BEFORE FAME, FORTUNE

Just like everyone else, our favourite celebrities have gone through a growing phase.

Have you ever wondered how some of them looked at about six to ten years ago? Here are some of them with "Then and

Now" pictures, from the legendary actress and business woman Connie Ferguson, to actress and musician Nandi Madida.



YOUNGER YEARS: Somizi Mhlongo, Connie Ferguson, Kelly Khumalo, Nandi Ngoma and Unathi.

WE ARE WOMEN

WHEN YOUR LEFT AT THE ALTAR (PART II)

HOW TO PICK UP THE PIECES

The million dollar question then is; how do you pick up the pieces and move on?

How devastating it is to bend down and pick pieces of your own heart thrown right at your feet and the best thing you could possibly do for yourself is 'favour yourself'.

Favour yourself when you have just been proven how 'unfavourable' life could be to you, better yet how people you have committed your life to could de-value your existence to that extent.

As stated last week, someone I was or someone I am was taken down an aisle only to be left with words of 'we can't do this anymore' not the expected ring.

So then how did she pick up the pieces? It is funny because she didn't. She didn't pick up her crushed into powder heart instead she asked God for a new heart she asked God for a brand new life where all things would become anew, old things passed away and today she can love and mean it.

Today she knows how to love and how to be loved right back. As unbelievable as it is, it happens, after God has renewed your life nothing is impossible.

There could never be any other better solution than turning to the creator, he knows very well how to bandage, treat and heal scarred hearts.

The journey to healing was not easy, it could never be. God has this tendency of making one first realise their capabilities before beginning the actual process. Unfortunately those capabilities do not make sense when you are covered in bandages from your heart right through to your soul.

When you are still in that box everything about love seems so untrue to you. Everything about compassion is doomed to you, for even in all relations you are prickled. So you never 'respond' but you 'react'.

Then the healing process begins. This process is close friends with 'time'. The passage of time may take the edge off of acute pain but it is what is done with and within it



● Everything about compassion is doomed to you, for even in all relations you are prickled. So you never 'respond' but you 'react'.

that actually heals.

Counselling sessions, endless prayers, intercessions, praises, motivational talks, words of encouragement from within and love for thyself. These are the very essential tools for healing a bruised heart.

Truth

Take heart, the grass is greener on the other side but truth be told time and again you will be prickled when you bounce on the happily married couple say even after a year around town.

Changing places of residence or workplace also could come in handy because you no longer have to subject your eyes to what your heart is trying by all means to forget.

Again 'hope' comes into play. You do know by now that hope is that stubborn thing perched in your soul always, in all ways sings the tune without the words and never stops at all.

Hope for a brighter day, hope for an honest smile, hope for love again.

(Compiled by Nomfundo Sifundza)

LCBIZZY'S YEAR OF BREAKING LIMITATIONS

Cover story

This yummy, talented and humbled rapper has certainly raised many eyebrows this year with his achievements that came unexpected to many.

Bonginkosi 'LCBizzy' Lumbela originally hails from Dark Town, a small township from Sidvashini in Mbabane.

"The name LCBizzy inspired by my initials, back then I used to go by the LCB which were abbreviations for Lumbela Charles Bonginkosi and then the i.z.z.y was added by friends as they would often call me Bizzy B and I so added it all together just for uniqueness purposes," explained the artist on the originality of his unique name.

Just recently, this songwriter and rapper scooped two awards at the inaugural Swaziland Hip Hop Awards (SHHAs); one for 'Best Ring Tune' and for 'Most Popular Artist'. He has also made waves in Nelspruit on his newly released single 'Tjwababa' which has become viral even on our local radio stations.

"My music is basically about self-expression; from laying a point across to telling a story and inspires those who could use some sort of inspirations in life and also it's

about entertaining the public and also for them to enjoy my music through its vibes. And yes, it represents me because I am all about that self-expression from the way I dress to the kind of music I find myself listening to," he said, elaborating on his music and the hit tracks that lend him the two awards.



LC Bizzy's musical history

In 2006 he and two of his friends formed a group called T, LCB and Zekx. They dropped a single "U everything" as their debut. Later on they changed their group name to ANIMO. A while later, the group split, leaving LCBizzy pursuing his dream and love for hip hop music. He has worked with the late Producer Dennis Bothma in Mpumalanga, (who was later on based in Johannesburg) on a number of tracks that never got to be released.

In 2013 he dropped a radio banger titled 'Yabashukumisa', which he worked on with Producer Subjamz. Then he further did a remix of the very same song ft. MP, DibaDiba & Yung Silo which received lots of airplay plus it topped the local charts (MTN/SBS Top 20) sitting pretty on

de number one spot for 3 consecutive weeks. He later shot a music video for that song, which received a number of airplays from the local T.V stations. He's shared the stage with the likes of Kwesta, Zakwe, Tira, BigNuz, DjBongzProkid, Mafikizolo, Emtee to name just a few. He also got to be one of the artists on the Swazi Rhythm CD Volume 1, with a track titled "Imphiloyami".

In 2014 he worked on voice overs for prominent companies involving Carson Wheels, SIPA, Standard Bank, MTN, FNB to name just a few. Whilst working on the voice overs he got the liberty of working with the Renowned Award winning Music Producer Mduduzi Ziyawa Matsenjwa, The founder of Gugupa Records.

The passion they shared for music hit it off and led to them working together musically

April 2015 LCBizzy released his





first single under Gugupa Records titled U.S.U, which received a tremendous airplay on both local radio channels and also got play listed on Khaya FM in South Africa and went on to claim the number 1 spot on the local charts for about four weeks. He has also been one of the artists on The MTN Rhymes and Laughter series. The smash hit single U.S.U was later followed by another single titled "I know" where he featured the rapper KRTC of Hip hop.

In 2016 on valentine's day LCBizzy released another new single titled "U are the kind". A love song that he hopes people in love can relate, and be able to dedicate to their loved one. "You are the kind" a song LCBizzy says is inspired by love itself and generally by how one gets to be taken by their counterpart. It's based on how one can be completely overwhelmed by the power of love, emphasizing on how the feeling of falling and being in love can be the most beautiful thing to experience. The essence of the song is to remind people about the real emotions of true love.

In July 2016 LCBizzy created buzz on social media working on the buildup of his latest single Titled Titjwababa which he says "it's another vernacular term that means "beautiful ladies"

On awards

On the day of the awards when my name was actually called out, for a moment I froze, I was on some; is this really happening? The screams of friends close to me was

all I needed to snap back into life and with nothing but a broad smile on my face I stood up went on to accept the award. Well on if I was expecting it I would say the insights of my Facebook post were promising and also the friends and dear fans that would send the SMS and take screen shots to say "there I voted", it kind of gave me hope though you can never know how other artists are being voted for by their people so I was on that maybe, maybe not. Of course I am the talk of the town now. *giggles*

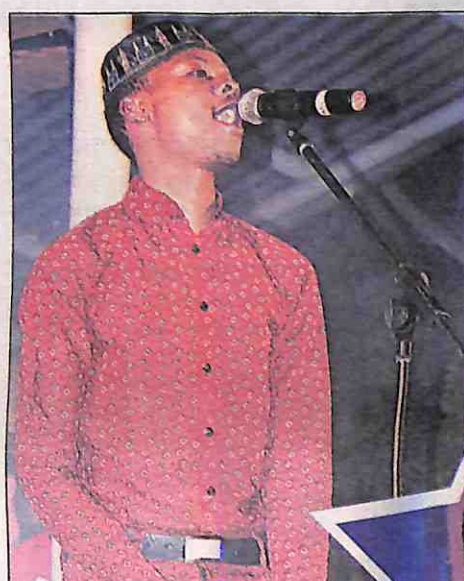
On the future

I am the kind of guy that likes to play with his cards close to his chest so people should just keep their eyes glued to my social media pages as my team and I reveal what we have been working on. In a couple of weeks I will be putting out my new single followed by a music video and most definitely I will keep my fans posted about the month I shall be releasing my debut album as I been in the studio working on new material.

Interesting facts about LC Bizzy

- I am somehow pretty much good at cooking,
- I am a car fanatic one of the TV channels I watch the most is Ignition.
- I am the voice behind certain TV, radio adverts & company documentaries as well.

(By Phumelele Mkhonta)



Lu'mankenkele Lubombo Summer Festival:

FEEL IT... IT'S HERE

The highly anticipated L'mankenkele Lubombo Summer Festival (LLSF) which is slated at the RSSC Mhlume Country Club is here and attendees must be flocking to the Luombo region as it contains a fiery all local line-up.

The LLSF is an initiative aim is to promote the brand of the Lubombo region by celebrating arts and culture and to do away with the mentality that such activities are only found in the Mbabane-Manzini corridors.

According to Lubombo's Regional Administrator Sylvia Mthethwa, the festival is envisioned to be an annual Lubombo Region arts-and-culture-event in Swaziland's tourism calendar.

It is aligned to the objectives of the East3Route Tourism Initiative, by stimulating economic development through the development of suitable products for regional tourism.

It will attract artists, domestic and regional tourists, the local community, business, government agencies, families and the media from all over Swaziland, and beyond.

"They will enjoy a wide range of artistic presentations, in music, poetry, comedy, fashion design, visual arts, traditional and modern

dance; celebrating Swaziland's artistic wealth, diversity, dynamism and heritage. The L'mankenkele Lubombo Summer Festival will be the premier stage for the crème de la crème of Swazi art, representative of the country's immense artistic talent," said Mthethwa.

Line-up

It was revealed that the line-up includes leading musical acts like Bholoja, Velemseni, Sandz, Fanaza, Mozaik, Khole, Courtesy (KrTC), comedy star Mdura and fashion designer of Zubani Design's Fundzisile Dlamini, and many more. Guest artists include South Africa's legendary award winning maskandi singer Phuzekhemisi, as well Zimbabwe's X-Mile and MZoe7.

In partnership with the Eco Lubombo Organisation (ELO), the Lumankelenkele Lubombo Summer Festival is presented by Afri-Oracle Consulting and the RSSC Mhlume Country Club, supported by the Swaziland National Council of Arts and Culture (SNCAC) and Swaziland National Youth Council (SNYC).

(By Phumelele Mkhonta)

THE PROGRAMME:

1pm - 2pm	Fashion Show	8.40pm-9.25pm	Mozaik
3.40pm-4.10pm	Spirit Indigenous	9.25pm-10.25pm	Fanaza
4.10pm-4.40pm	Khole	10.25pm-11pm	Qibho Intalektual
4.40pm-5.10pm	Mandisa	11pm-12am	Ra's Ritchie
5.10pm-5.55pm	Leebombo	12am-1am	Sands
5.55pm-6.25pm	Nomalungelo	1am-2am	Ziyawa
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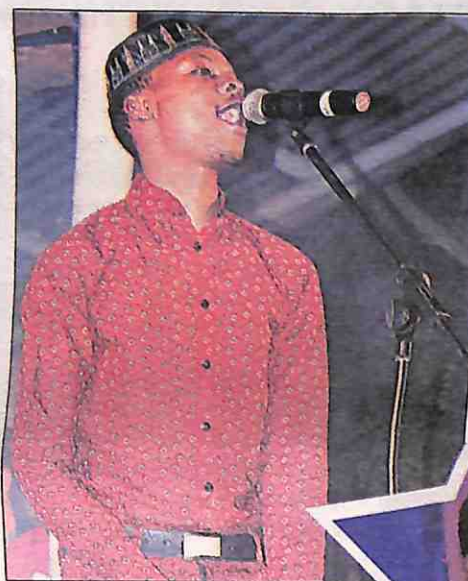
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POETRY CORNER

P.O.E.T (Person of Extraordinary Thinking)

...By Ernestine Northover

A FAMILY CHRISTMAS

Sitting in front of the fire, Auntie Flo's reciting a story, it's one about her first Christmas as a newlywed, the same one she broadcasts every year, but no one is listening.

Uncle Fred, 'out to the world' snores rhythmically on the sofa.

Mother exhausted, having cooked the lunch, without help, as usual, stifles a yawn.

Dad, brow furrowed, is trying to piece together Eddy's lego set, whilst Eddy glowers, after all, it was 'his' present.

Joe, playing with a set of 'disco lights' is sending flashes of colour across the room, straight into Grandpa's eyes, making him feel even more bilious after having consumed too many chocolates.

Grandma's knitting. Grandma always knits on Christmas Day, and every other day, come to that, probably yet another scarf for what she believes is still the war effort.

The cat, curled up on her lap, purrs contently, oblivious of the knitting needles, waving precariously in front of his sleepy eyes.

Susan is gazing at the TV screen, glued, for the umpteenth time to, 'The Sound of Music' movie, singing every song, word for word, at the top of her voice.

"Turkey was nice," said Auntie, "I was given too much," moaned Grandpa, belching loudly. "Your problem is, you never can refuse a second helping," said Grandma, "so it's your own fault."

Mother grins and asks, "Would anybody like another mince pie?"

DIARY OF A WORKING SINGLE MOTHER

Dear Diary

Tell you what; people will hate you for just being you. Sometimes you will be too good they will feel threatened when you are around.

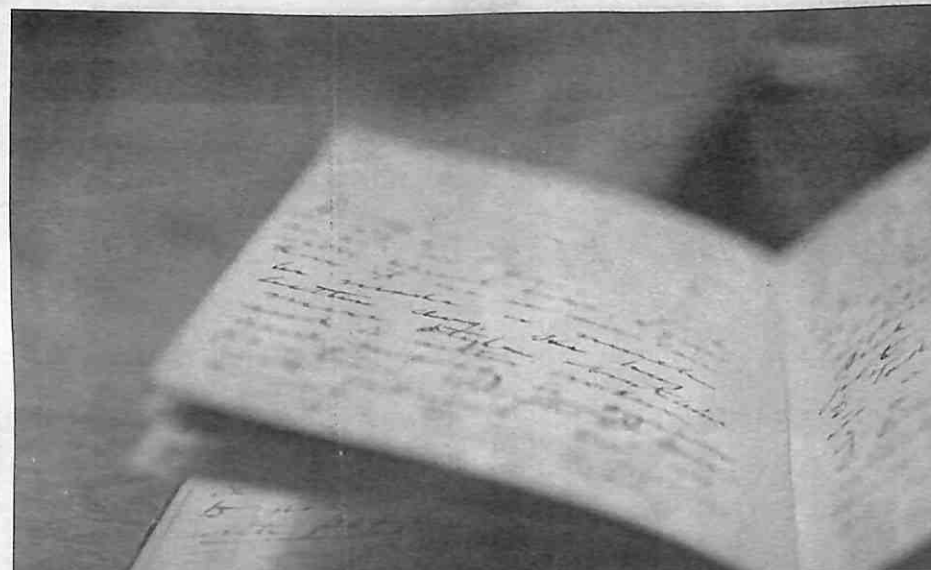
Without even knowing they will be going behind your back, telling whoever cares to listen, how bad you are or anything else bad to taint your reputation.

Once you tell them what they need to hear, to stay on their lane suddenly you are a bad person. Isn't life just funny sometimes?

Yes that is planet earth and I tell you witchcraft is real. I do not know about voodoo but the heart of human beings has so much hate hey.

I generally am a patient person, I walk away, ignore and keep to myself but I have limits too. When I have had enough I will tell you some of the things I have been bottling in. I am toxic when pushed to my limits.

To be honest just as I did not choose to be born, I do not care if half of the world's population hates me. As long as blood still circulates the body, the heart still beats and few people I have love for are still around and I am going to be rolling. rolling with myself that's okay. Let people keep throwing bricks



at me and watch God perform His miracles. I have no hate in me, none at all; it's just too much to carry.

Intimidated

I love myself too much to give another person(s) that much of me. I am not intimidated by anyone though; I refuse to be treated badly more than three times, that is just a sign of disrespect.

One rule of life is that, if people show you

respect returns the favour. So I have been showing respect to retards all my life and all they do is take and never give. Now when I give them a piece off their bull, they start hating.

Well, anyways life goes on and che sara sara, I am going to keep on shining anyway. Too many bad people are in this world, some have fake and forced smiles on their faces. Power corrupts.

TRENDY HAIR DO'S THIS SUMMER

There is saying that goes 'a woman's glory is in her hair'; that being said, a woman looks beautiful mainly with the hairdo that she has. And this summer is no different, there are

hairstyles that are HITS and L&E would love to keep you updated on what's hot and what's not. Check these hairstyles out and pick your kind and look sizzling hot! (By Phumelele Mkhonta)



Blockword Puzzle

Words can go horizontally, vertically and diagonally in all eight directions. Words may overlap but do not share letters.

Reliability & Honesty

Y	T	I	L	I	B	A	S	J	C	T	C	P	O
E	E	H	T	U	R	T	I	E	U	C	N	I	T
U	N	S	A	A	U	S	E	C	S	I	O	E	C
P	C	A	Y	R	E	E	G	I	T	S	I	E	O
I	O	C	C	E	L	R	D	R	O	S	T	Z	G
S	M	C	I	F	B	V	U	T	M	E	A	I	N
E	M	O	L	E	A	I	J	C	E	L	Z	G	I
S	I	U	O	E	I	C	T	E	R	F	I	O	L
I	T	N	P	L	L	E	P	P	S	E	N	L	I
M	M	T	O	T	E	R	X	S	T	S	A	O	A
O	E	A	F	C	R	Y	I	E	J	T	G	P	F
R	N	B	I	R	V	R	F	R	I	E	R	A	R
P	T	L	R	E	V	I	L	E	D	E	O	E	S
E	S	E	Y	T	S	E	N	O	H	M	O	U	N

ACCOUNTABLE
SERVICE
TRUTH
RESPECT
FAILING
CUSTOMERS
SELF-ESTEEM
PROMISES
POLICY
FEEL
JUDGE
COMMITMENTS
ORGANIZATION
HONESTY
ABILITY
FIX
DELIVER
APOLOGIZE
RELIABLE

WIN WITH SWAZI OBSERVER AND LESERATO EVENTS

(Get the name correctly in the puzzle and stand a good chance at winning E100 worth of airtime, as well as a month long supply of Observer on Saturday copies, delivered to your door step. Have them dropped at Swazi Observer offices in Mbabane by Wednesday and be amongst the best candidates to win such prizes)

NAME: _____
CELL: _____

Cartoon Corner

Baby Blues



Blondie



Hagar the Horrible



SOAPIE WATCH | SOAPIE WATCH | SOAPIE WATCH | SOAPIE WATCH



Monday October, 31

Qondi and Blade have to deal with the crisis in the chieftaincy. Judas and Samson set their new plans in motion. Fezile decides to reclaim the life he left behind and S'bu gets the approval of an influential man in the valley.

Tuesday November, 1

Mpiyakhe lays the bait for Ngonyama. Mabuyi discovers Siindile's matric exam stress. Beauty continues to conceal the truth about Zama and Jabu from Judas.

Wednesday November, 2

Zweli's downward spiral takes a turn for the worst. Thandeka proves she is indeed her father's daughter. Mabuyi makes a breakthrough with Siindile.

Thursday November, 3

Zweli is dealing with a guilty conscious. Are Thandeka and S'bu finally moving on with their lives? Meanwhile, a gift fuels Fezile's jealousy.

Friday November, 4

Iris devises a plan for her perfect revenge. Fezile's attempt to protect Kaone backfires. Zweli makes a life changing decision. Mabuyi finally gets the recognition she deserves.



Monday October, 31

Serithi finds herself staring down the barrel of a gun. Matshidiso makes Nonny very suspicious about KK. Thandaza goes to the police because she's worried about Serithi.

Tuesday November, 1

Khomotjo makes a shocking declaration. Thandaza walks right into the eye of the storm. Matshidiso ups her antics.

Wednesday November, 2

Thandaza does her best to convince Bobo to release them. KK gets a visit from the police in connection with Matshidiso. Mulalo takes Teboho off his medical aid plan.

Thursday November, 3

Another person adds to the number of hostages in the Mojalefa house. The battle lines are drawn between KK and Matshidiso. Mulalo fears the death of a loved one.

Friday November, 4

Bobo turns on Khomotjo. KK kicks Matshidiso out of his penthouse. There's mayhem in Mulalo's house.

ISIDÍNGO

Monday October, 31

Eddie turns the tables on Georgie Zamdela. Gabriel mistakenly thinks Nikiwe is sleeping with S'khu. Nina catches Obakeng cheating on Aphiwe with Kamogelo.

Tuesday November, 1

Angie is at her wits end. She reluctantly gives in and makes a pact with the Zamdelas. Nikiwe, tired of Gabriel's temper, makes a decision about their relationship. Nina catches Obakeng fooling around with Kamogelo.

Wednesday November, 2

Angelique receives an anonymous package that has her reeling. A henchman gives Gabriel the bag of money. Obakeng tells Aphiwe he wants Kamo's friendship.

Thursday November, 3

Calvin tries to use Angelique's family situation to his advantage. Brad struggles to come clean with Tiffany. Luck falls into Lerato and Zukisa's laps.

Friday November, 4

Daniella tells Angie she'll do the Calvin interview because her family has abandoned her. Khuthala tells Tyson he has to stay with her in HD or it's over. Lerato and Zukisa talk about keeping the money.



Monday October, 31

Lebo has had enough of Xolelwa's games. Wandile makes a breakthrough. Nolwazi decides to lay her cards on the table.

Tuesday November, 1

Tshidi is shocked to hear the news about her ex. Fana reaches out to his sister but it ends badly. Jack might have a heart after all.

Wednesday November, 2

Patricia suspects something fishy is going on. Smanga wants something from Teboho and it's not a request. Sphe gets the results for her blood test.

Thursday November, 3

Lucy is not about to give up on the business she fought so hard to win. Getty is worried about Xolelwa's behaviour. Wandile tells the Diales he's a transsexual.

Friday November, 4

Cosmo tells Tshidi he's worried about her ex. Lesedi's generous gift raises suspicion. Tau arrives at the shebeen with a proposal in mind.



Monday October, 31

Aggie shares Pulane and Sifiso's news with Marko. A familiar face visits Hillside.

Tuesday November, 1

Oubaas and Hilda invite Connie (played by Quinne Brown Huffman) to spend the evening with them. Frank almost spills Mariaan's secret.

Wednesday November, 2

Alexa can't stay mad at Justin. Xander and Vanessa celebrate their new home with a stylish party.

Thursday November, 3

Rickus is suspicious of Mariaan's behaviour. Diederik and Matrone prepare for a bridge competition.

Friday November, 4

Connie comes clean to Charmaine and Marko about why she came back to South Africa. Alexa is confused by her feelings for Justin.

Glitz n' glam

Celebrities brought their A-game to this year's MTV MAMAs on Saturday night at the Ticketpro Dome in Johannesburg.

From Bonang and Nomzamo Mbatha, to Babes Wodumo and Kenny Kunene - here's who set the MAMAs red carpet alight with their on-fleek fashion.



★ Actresses Terry Pheto and Thembi Seete.



★ **Rapper Ma-E.**



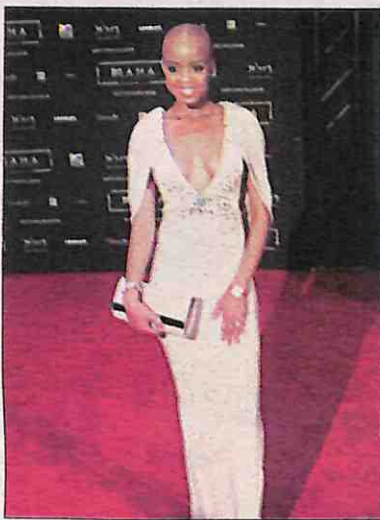
★ **Kenyan group Sauti Sol.**



★ **Rapper Cassper Nyovest.**



★ **Bonang Matheba.**



★ **Actress Ntando Duma.**



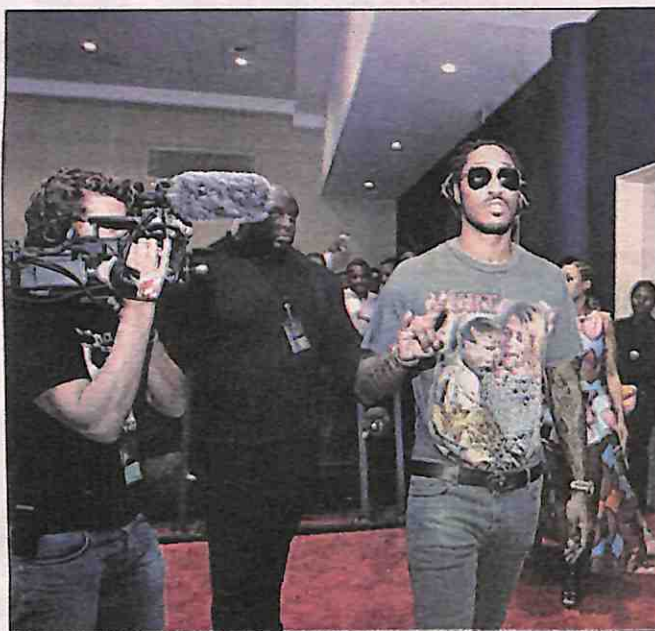
★ **Actress Natasha Thahane.**



★ **Babes Wodumo and Mampintsha.**



★ **Sipho Ngwekazi.**



★ **US rapper and special guest Future.**



★ **Somizi Mhlongo.**



★ **Phat Joe and Fiancee Palesa.**



★ **DJ PH.**

SPECIAL FEATURE

By Jakkie Cilliers

What do we need to consider when we look at the contribution that democracy in Africa makes to growth and human development?

A recent paper by the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) suggests the answer lies in the execution of regular, clean and competitive elections.

A number of indices, such as the Varieties of Democracy project, Freedom House report and the Economist Intelligence Unit, widely used in academic and policy circles point to important trends. On the whole, they suggest that the number of democracies as well as the levels of democracy in Africa have improved over time across low, low-middle and upper-middle income countries. The gap between average levels of democracy in Africa and the rest of the world, they indicate, is slowly decreasing.

That said, democracy is still not the dominant form of government in Africa. According to the most optimistic index, Polity IV, only 21 out of the 53 African countries it assessed were considered democracies in 2015. This figure, which amounts to approximately 38% of Africa's population, was increased by almost 16% after Nigeria (with a population of 182 million) was classified as democratic for the first time that year.

Though the trends are positive, the number of people reaping the benefits of democracy is still disproportionately low. And where democracy does exist, its positive effects are not always felt in terms of human development or economic growth.

So begins a discussion, one hotly contested in recent years, on the relationship between democracy, development and growth. The interplay between these areas is affected by the complex systems that keep democracy in place, by neopatrimonialism, and by compromised governance processes.

Democracy – characterised by political equality, individual freedoms, gender parity, an independent civil society, a free press and scope for deliberation – must be supported and sustained by a sophisticated network of institutions, rules and norms. The complexity of such networks renders them particularly fragile in low-income countries, common throughout Africa, where the necessary supportive frameworks are either lacking or are insufficiently developed.

In these contexts, additional barriers to democracy are both deeply entrenched and prolific. Neopatrimonialism, which sees patrons use state resources to secure loyalty, is widespread in Africa. This limits the ways in which democracy can effect positive developmental change, and furthermore compromises constitutional and electoral governance.

The importance of clean, competitive elections was demonstrated in August when a frustrated populace in South Africa used municipal elections to flex a democratic muscle in a way that has not been seen since the advent of democracy. Around the same time, the presidents of Zambia and Gabon were re-elected in essentially rigged polls. Whereas South African polls have seen a measurable impact in efforts to improve service delivery and curb excess, the polls in Zambia and Gabon will have little or no impact in delivering upon the same.

Then there are several examples of African leaders amending their constitutions to remain in power (in Burundi, the Republic of the Congo and Rwanda most recently). The conti-

nent also hosts some of the world's longest-serving heads of state, such as Equatorial Guinea's Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, Angola's Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe. ISS research has long explored the issue of third-term bids in Africa and its detrimental impact on political stability and development.

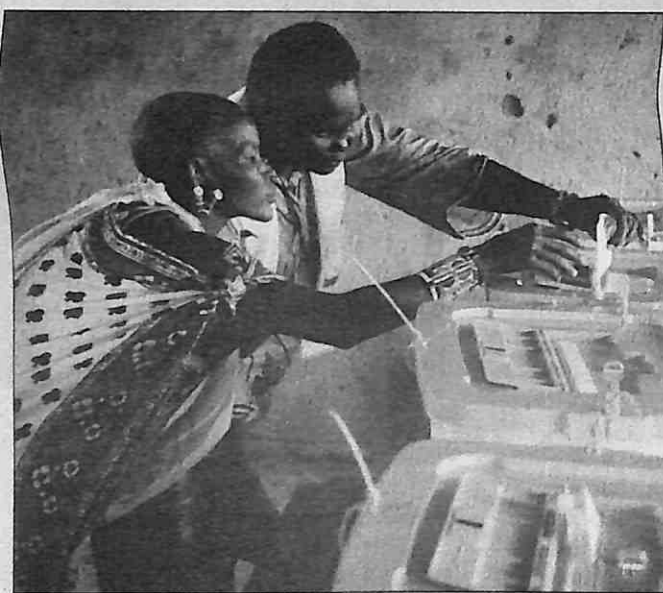
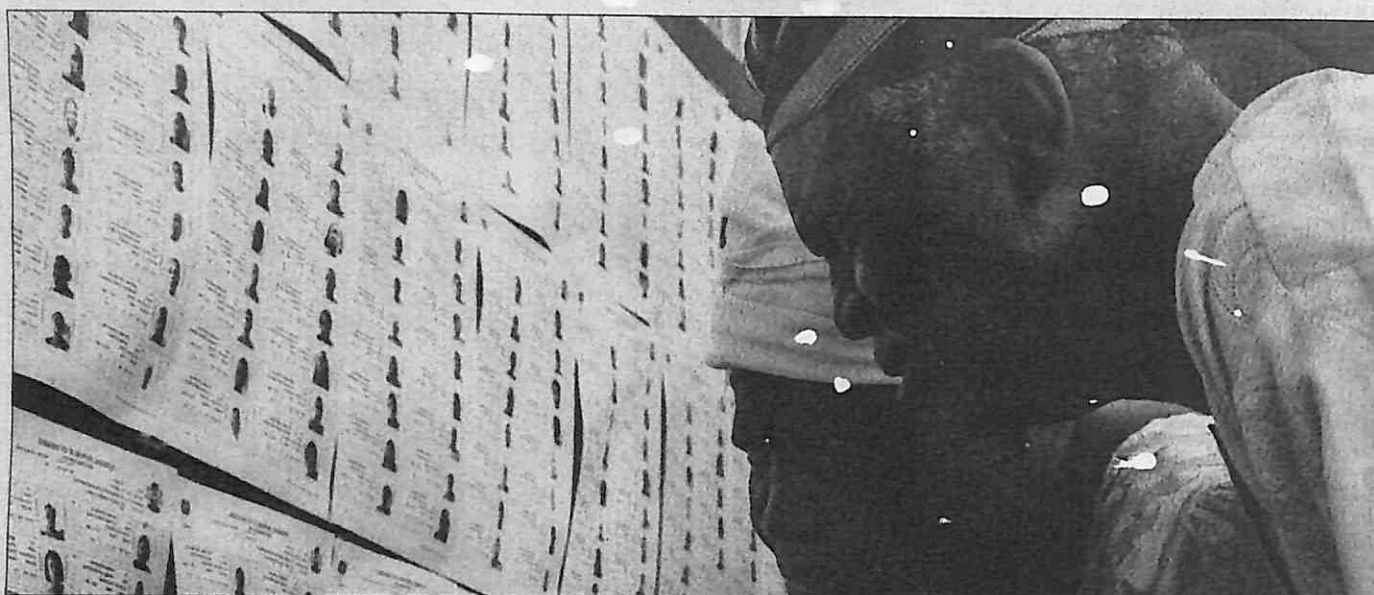
Elections

Regular elections on the continent are on an upward trend: indeed, in 2016, the continent has been set to host up to 24 elections – the highest number in several years. Yet these are often deceptive events. The governing elite may go through the motions, but their actions often deliberately ensure the re-election of the ruling party and its preferred candidate.

Countries such as Zimbabwe, Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya, Angola and Mozambique have demonstrated such interference by rigging electoral registration processes, manufacturing legal cases to inhibit opposition candidates, controlling the public media and misusing state resources to dispense patronage.

MEANINGFUL ELECTIONS: ESSENCE OF DEMOCRACY IN AFRICA

- Elections do not necessarily translate to democracy; instead, it is the issue of electoral governance that is important.



These type of elections present the trappings but not the essence of an electoral democracy.

For democracy to be effective – to have a significant, long-lasting and beneficial relationship with human development and economic growth – elections must be clean and competitive. When elections are hindered by nefarious or corrupt tactics, democracy contributes little – if anything – to development or growth.

Momentum

Africa (and much of the world) is now settling into a trough after the third wave of democracy – one that gained momentum in Africa between 1990 and 1994 and had largely run its course by 2005. A key question emerges: is the continent headed towards another upswell of democracy – a fourth wave – or a regression away from democracy?

The more likely medium-term scenario globally seems to be one of a democratic regression. However, in Africa – where people have been poorly served both by authoritarianism and nominal democracy – substan-

tive democracy still retains its pull. Again, the key component, which is often frustrating to governing elites in Africa, is the holding of regular, free and competitive elections that result in an elected leadership accountable to its voters.

Change

Only democracy offers the power to effect change, to reshape the dynamics of power, and to hold leaders accountable. Eventually, a fourth wave of democracy in Africa – the ISS forecasts in its recent paper – would offer the continent an annual average of 0.5% faster economic growth to 2070 when compared to a democratic regression. The impact of this over time is huge. By 2070, Africa could have a gross domestic product US\$11 trillion larger (at US\$33 trillion instead of US\$22 trillion) than if it suffered democratic regression.

In this light, democracy – with the integrity of its electoral processes intact – is not only an attractive solution, it is the only solution.

Jakkie Cilliers, Head, African Futures and Innovation Section, ISS Pretoria

ECONOMICS
TODAYWITH: George
Choongwa

It is always tempting to take advantage of the situation, especially when you are faced with a great opportunity to make or double your business revenue.

Most business people work against the moral principles of doing things such as paying fair taxes, wages and bills.

By definition, it is not easy to define what ethics mean due to its level of complexities, however, for the sake of this article, we shall define what makes up ethical people as a group who recognise the difference between right and wrong and consistently strive to set an example of good conduct.

In a business setting, being ethical means applying principles of honesty and fairness to relationships with co-workers and customers. Ethical individuals make an effort to treat everyone with whom they come in contact as they would want to be treated themselves, but this brings about a great dilemma in normal situations, especially in business.

Avoid legal problems

At times, a company's management or business owner might be tempted to cut corners in pursuit of profit, such as not fully complying with environmental regulations or labour laws, ignoring worker safety hazards or using sub-standard materials in their products.

The penalties for being caught can be severe, including legal fees and fines or sanctions by governmental agencies. The resulting negative publicity can cause long-term damage to the company's reputation that is even more costly than the legal fees or fines. Companies that maintain the highest ethical standards take the time to train every member of the organisation about the conduct that is expected of them.

The great dilemma

However, some of these dilemmas stem from personal leadership and managerial approach, while others have their origins in the different situations and problems that create confusion and make decisions difficult when entrepreneurs or managers must choose between doing the right thing and what appears to be business loss, efficiency, or even short-term profits.

When businesses are faced with such decisions, the profit motive can be a strong incentive influencing the direction which owners take. However, each decision made in business will have some consequences, and when consequences are potentially highly negative despite excessive profits, many businesses simply choose to look the other way.

History repeats itself to those who fail to learn

We have time and again seen how a lack of business ethics has contributed to organisational failure, declining customer loyalty, loss of reputation, and market share, and in worst case scenarios, death of customers, employees and business partners, and the prosecution and imprisonment of business owners.

ETHICS MEAN EVERYTHING TO YOUR BUSINESS

- Customers value ethical businesses and once a business has lost trust as being unethical, customers will seek alternatives and much will be lost to competitors, or in the process of defending against lawsuits or other legal actions.



Businesses must seek to avoid falling prey to the consequences of lacking business ethics, especially the legal consequences that create liability in cases of torts and personal injury, or other legal issues through negligence and failure to exercise due care in relation to their business practices with partners and customers.

Relevance of business ethics to SMEs

As businesses interact with society a shared interest and interdependence develops between the business and other groups as the organisation is interacting with stakeholders. These stakeholders refer to the people and groups affected by or whom can affect a business' operations, policies, and decisions and stakeholder power, especially consumers, has become more important in the 21st century where the power in the market has shifted from producers and sellers to buyers and consumers.

Where stakeholders have increasing power and control over markets and can affect company performance, ethics and values are critical success factors when it comes to business. Individuals doing business must exercise good faith in the practices they engage despite the need to make

profits.

Running into problems with the law

A business owner who operates his or her business without regard for ethical values will eventually run into problems with the law, customers, employees and business partners. As a result, company reputation will suffer and the loss of business from unethical behaviour could be significant and difficult to erase.

Customers value ethical businesses and once a business has lost trust as being unethical, customers will seek alternatives and much will be lost to competitors, or in the process of defending against lawsuits or other legal actions. Thus, business ethics is important, not because it represents the right thing to do or an exercise of good faith in business practices, but because businesses need good ethical behaviour to survive.

In other words, it is important to state that when it comes to business, one of the most compelling frames of reference for ethical practices in small businesses is the law or legal code.

As individuals we are expected to be law abiding citizens, and in the same way, all businesses are expected to be law abiding

entities. This means that like individuals, small ventures must simply follow the law or what researchers like Twomey and Jennings (2011) describe as simply following what codified or positive law requires in order to remain ethically compliant, since being legally compliant means being ethically compliant.

Positive law refers to the law as enacted and codified by the government. In fact, if small businesses were to take a legal-rational approach to business, they would certainly find themselves being in good ethical standing since the law itself originates in standards and behaviours established by formal consensus.

Small business owners must become educated about the law that affects their operations and their business decisions. They must invest in learning about the law by reading, taking courses from the Small Business Association, or pursuing legal education in terms of formal schooling.

For correspondence, contact:
geohacho1@gmail.com 765 30445
Southern African Research Foundation for
Economic Development - SARFED
Nurturing sustainable growth

Untipping The Societal Scales

WITH: Dumisa Dlamini



Every woman dating or married is capable of loving a man out there. This is serious love Scales is talking about here.

It may be not or it could be the one is dating or married to at that moment. However, it is the man who makes her heart skips a beat, *indoda ayithande ikhona noma ingekho*.

That guy brings a smile first to her heart before same transforms to her lips. When a woman thinks of a man she truly loves at that time, she gives the most beautiful smile which transforms her to a youthful character. Often times than not it would not be her intent to be seen smiling so conspicuously because she may be asked to explain what makes her radiate by those around. These are creatures who often times than not have a lot to complain about on men, especially those they happen to date.

You see, your wife who has been with you for 25 years may tell the world you are the worst soul living who has afflicted her life with atrocities. The question is what would make a woman smile, whatever her age, when she comes to think of this individual soul who has three legs but walks on two?

You see some of the best moments in your life are things you cannot dare tell to another living soul no matter how close (s)he may be to you. Rather you would just smile if the memories of such fantasies flood your mind. Women have a lot of these fantasies about men, this one man and she would smile when she thinks about him. She may be head-over-heels in love with the gentleman. The romance would be new, *uyamtsandza lomuntfu lomdvuna* and she is certain she loves everything he says *nalamenta kona*. That is when a man is forever in the mind of the woman. In the middle of her chores, *awashe tija* she would be caught smiling and make that radiant face much to the amazement of those around, at times her parents; "*Uchazwa yini Tumekile, umoyitela wedvwa nje?*", her mother would chide her.

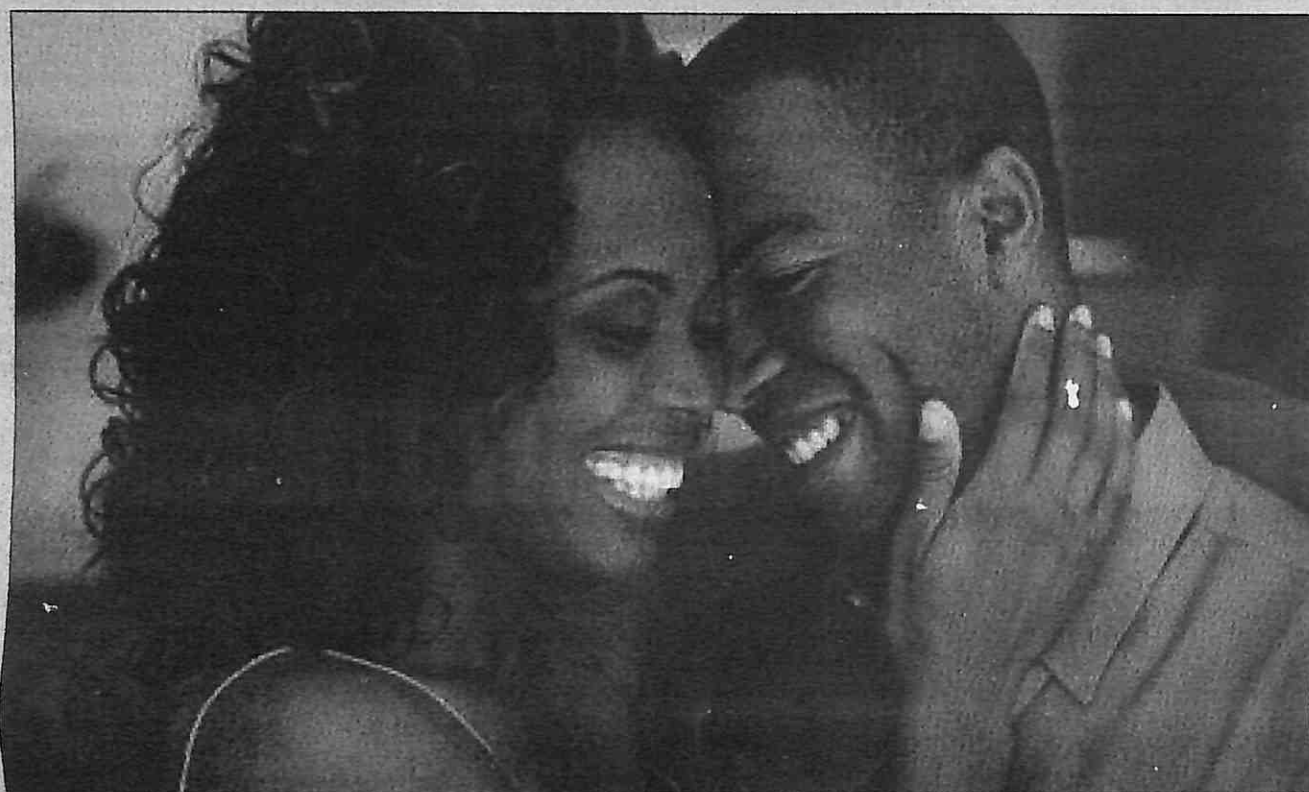
The latter is a woman after all and she knows the feeling. She may also smile when she thinks of this man she once loved, *lokungavami kuba ngulendvodza yakhe*, most unfortunately. Or she has a serious crush on this man. Each time she is around she smiles so that she could attract his attention. He may smile back and she is going to carry that in her heart till her bedtime. She would endeavour always to look her best whenever around him. A woman who fancies a man she works with would change her wardrobe entirely to impress the man. She would smile a lot for that matter.

Uyamtsandza lomfana and wants him to see that. At times she would smile when she imagines herself in his arms already *ahleke ayedvwa njengeluhlanya lubhacile*.

The smile may be coming way deeper than a flirtation. Rather things may have been physical and *betibulalana matima emphini yaphansi* the previous night *kwamshiya emehlo ekubuka lokwesikele-mu*. She has never known so much sex in her entire life. The memories of same bring a smile in her face; always. You know *nabomake bake badvumise kakhulu uma umshikashika welicansi uhambe kahle* and

WHAT WOULD MAKE A LADY SMILE WHEN SHE THINKS OF THIS MAN?

● Women have a lot of these fantasies about men, this one man and she would smile when she thinks about him. She may be head-over-heels in love with the gentleman.



often times than not, they would show that with a smile days after the romantic activity in-between a clean pair of sheets.

She would even smile before she answers her cell phone the moment the man's number beeps in her cell phone. Now even a chat on the same gadget can make her smile. She is reading way too romantic into the messages sprayed by this man *lamso-mango or lamtsandzako* in the phone. You know Scales would bet you a brown dime, there is difference between romance of a man who loves a woman and when the woman loves that man. In the former, she may not be amused no matter how sweet you may be to her.

Easy

Scales once sat next to a lady *ebhasini* who was chatting on her cell phone. Part of her script read, "*LOL*", *kodvwa yena aswace aphelele*. When a woman hates you she would write such things without breaking into the faintest of smiles. Not when she loves the man. *Uyacacamba yinjabulo* and becomes very easy to love even to the man who makes her smile.

Such a smile may be engineered in the woman's face by a memory of naughtiness and unfaithfulness. The man she is thinking about *akusiye lomtotombiya lawugana* who is almost always sour, stingy and full of criticism. It is a secret soldier whose presence in her life gives her so much remedial; love. A man, Msitsini, whose wife had not been talking to him for weeks, had developed fear for her. He hardly kept her com-

pany such that he developed a tendency of getting to bed very late hoping she would find her asleep.

He had tried everything possible to explain the shortcoming on his part which was the bone of contention of their fight to avail. All men married men here *bayati* how nasty your wife can be when she is cross with you. No matter how pretty she can be, she is capable of giving you the ugliest of looks that intimidates you to the core of your very Third Leg. That's the dosage Msitsini was taking every day of the three weeks his wife was angry at him. Now this evening, stealthily going to bed so that he could not disturb her sleep, *ngoba abengasati kutsi yini yayicansula* LaMzileni, he was shocked to find her branding the best of her smiles; not to him though.

Imagine

She was stark naked, on top of their bed and doing self caressing. Her cell phone was by her side, open and showing a picture. *Lunyawo lwesitsatfu lwendvodza lan-gayati*, the biggest he could ever imagine.

Right before *lowo Mkhwembetsi* of a third leg in the cell phone, *kwakunenkhumo* between his wife *nemniyo weJoystick*. He understood the bright smile branding his wife and realised the three weeks anger had been a fake.

You never get to understand what sex has come to be these days between couples, especially the cheaters. After indulging in same, the culprits or are they contestants, would glorify the action in their cell phones

and leave damning evidence that may hold them to crimes of their passions, lusts and cheatings. When your wife is angry with you, she is certainly happy with someone out there and she is going to smile about it and you will catch her at the corner of your eye *amoyitela* from the axis of her heart; something she never does with and for you! *Bayakuphukuta ke labanye bomy sister* when they pretend they are in love with you!

Command

You know the kind of girls who would almost always command you to bring a pizza, yoghurt, this or that when you come to see her. *Akafuni wena lomuntfu*, she wants *loku lota nako*. The moment you get to her place," she is not there". A sister or a cousin would show up, "*Ncesi Sibari wami, sisi bambita nyalo* for an interview in town *utse ngimtsatsele loku lokuphetse*." The story has been well fabricated and rehearsed. The woman is in the house avoiding you like leprosy save for the goodies you bring. She would smile to herself when she comes to think that *kantsi usiyakayaka kangaka!* Here is a balanced version of a woman's smile when she thinks of a man, she would have been amused to the core of her soul by that creature designed after Adam and answering to her Eve like demands she makes to him conspicuously or clandestinely.

Catch Scales, if you can at
Dumisamlangeni@gmail.com

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PET OBSERVER

HILLARY HAGUE
SWAZILAND ANIMAL WELFARE
SOCIETY (SAWS)
FOR VACCINATED AND STERILISED
PETS PHONE
MBABANE 2404 3446
MANZINI 2505 6231

Many people think their dog has been poisoned when in fact it is suffering from an illness or a contagious disease that could have been avoided by vaccination.

Even so, poisoning is a common problem in dogs and cats due to their curious natures and the intrusive presence of toxins in our lives and homes. Some poisons are inhaled and a few are absorbed, but the majority are ingested. Damage to the body is based on the amount of poison ingested and how long the poison was in the body before treatment. If treatment is immediate, many poisons do not result in significant illness. Some, regardless of how quickly treatment is administered, are fatal or result in permanent damage. The most common poisons result in signs of illness within three to four days of exposure. However, the effect of a poison is not always immediate. Some poisons do not cause illness for days, weeks or even years after ingestion. Therefore, if you see your pet ingesting a potentially toxic substance, but he does not become ill, call your vet immediately anyway because every toxic ingestion is cause for concern.

If you haven't seen your pet being exposed to or eating poison, poisoning can be difficult to diagnose.

MY DOG HAS BEEN POISONED



What to watch for

- Lethargy or sluggishness
- Vomiting
- Lack of appetite
- Stumbling or staggering
- Breathing difficulty
- Seizure.

Diagnosis

Due to the variety of poisons, specific tests to diagnose the exact poison are often not available. Diagnosis may be made from the following:

Witnessing: Diagnosing a poisoning is easiest when the ingestion or exposure is witnessed. Sometimes, you will find the evidence – medication packages, bottles, packages, trash or poisons – in the house or yard.

Diagnostic tests: Some poisons, such as antifreeze, can be tested for. If you suspect a poisoning, bring in samples of recent urination, defecation and stomach contents if

your pet is vomiting.

Physical examination: Sometimes, a specific poison can be diagnosed or suspected based on physical examination or behavior of the pet.

Blood and urine tests: Some poisons are known to cause severe kidney damage, liver damage, electrolyte or mineral abnormalities. If these abnormalities are found on blood or urine tests, poisoning may be suspected.

Antidotes: Antidotes are only effective if there is a strong suspicion of a specific poison, if there is an antidote available and if the antidote is given early. If the pet responds and improves with the antidote, poisoning can be confirmed.

Treatment

All poisonings should be considered emergencies so call your veterinarian immediately.

Reduce Additional Absorption: By removing as much of the poison as possible. For topical exposures, bathe the animal in lukewarm water with a mild dish soap. Inducing vomiting or gastric lavage (stomach pumping) can be used if the poison was ingested less than two hours before examination, if the animal is conscious and alert and only if recommended by a veterinarian. It is not recommended where corrosive or petroleum based products are concerned or if the animal is already vomiting.

Delay Absorption: Administer activated charcoal which binds the toxin and allows it to pass through the gastrointestinal tract.

Speed Elimination: Intravenous fluids are commonly used to hasten the poison through the body. The vet may use an enema to speed elimination.

Antidotes: There are antidotes available for certain poisons but these are typically only effective early in treatment.

Supportive care

If the toxin has already started affecting body systems, supportive care by the veterinarian and even hospitalisation may be necessary.

Prevention

Keep all potential poisons safely and securely stored away. Keep your dog in a fenced yard and do not allow it to roam.

Swaziland Standards Authority

By: Samukelisiwe Shongwe

SWASA Technical Officer



THE IMPORTANCE OF FOOD TRACEABILITY



Why is traceability so important?

The reason really depends on who you talk to; for public safety, it's about reducing incidences of food fraud as well as unintentional or intentional adulteration; disease management; and environmental emergencies. For businesses, it's all about risk management and mitigation lowering the impact of recalls and lowering liability costs. For the supply chain, efficiencies relate to productivity; cash flow improvements; innovation; and reducing waste and for consumers, it's about access to markets and specialty foods; and enhancing or strengthening brand confidence but regardless of the specific reason, traceability is critical to all stakeholders. Traceability enables corrective actions (such as a product recall) to be implemented quickly and effectively when something goes wrong. When a potential food safety problem is identified, whether by a food business or a government agency, an effective traceability system can help isolate and prevent contaminated products from reaching consumers. It allows food businesses to target the products affected by a food safety problem, minimising disruption to trade and any potential public health risks. It is important for all food businesses (including retailers and importers) to be able to trace products. Swaziland Standards Authority has adopted the following adoptions to assist stakeholders in attaining traceability of their products: SZNS ISO 22000 Food Safety Management Systems, SZNS ISO 9001 Quality Management Systems.

FOR QUESTIONS AND MORE INFORMATION
e-mail us at: info@swasa.co.sz
Tel: (+268) 2518 4633/10

Food traceability is an important link in protecting public health since it allows health agencies to more quickly and accurately identify the source of contaminated food believed to be the cause of an outbreak of foodborne illness, remove them from the marketplace, and communicate to the supplier.

So what is driving all the discussion about food traceability? And why is traceability suddenly so important? Let's first take a look at who the key stakeholders are. They can be divided into; government, the food industry, academia and consumers.

Traceability is most relevant when it comes to the health of the people of the Swazi Nation and others. Whether we are talking about food safety or food defence, emergency planning can be broken into four phases:

1. Preparedness: When planning for an emergency situation, traceability provides greater visibility into a supply chain, thereby helping to be better prepared if something goes wrong.

2. Response: In case something goes wrong, traceability improves the agility of the response by all stakeholders.

3. Recovery: During the recovery phase, traceability allows the industry and regulators

to maintain or rebuild trust with consumers into the safety and resiliency of the food system.

4. Prevention: Traceability allows for the determination of causality of the problem through root cause analysis, thereby preventing future issues. Traceability has become increasingly important. The food supply chain today has evolved into a tangled web as companies seek to enhance their capabilities to feed the countries growing population. While food safety problems remain rare, when they do occur, time is the enemy as the public's health and lives are at stake, as well as the livelihoods of industries, companies and employees. I want to emphasise that food traceability is about more than just recalls. Being able to ascertain the origin of products, ingredients and their attributes, from the farm through food processing to retail, foodservice and the consumer, is growing in importance. Increasingly, public health concerns are demanding traceability, but it will be the business economic drivers that will sustain it.

The food supply chain today is truly a maze that is global, dynamic and complex in nature. Key challenging issues include globalisation of the food supply chain, changing industry

processes and consumer preferences for fresh and minimally processed foods. The maze begins at agriculture followed by food processing, storage and distribution.

During the transportation of food products, varied standards are applied, not to mention variable enforcement and inconsistent and sometimes contradictory scientific rationales for such regulations are encountered. Exiting the maze, one finds a cacophony of consumer trends and changing habits, health drivers and new threats, which includes misinformation spread in the mass media. Thus, concerns about both the safety and quality of food continue to escalate.

Such concerns include the following:

- More foodborne illness: high visibility cases of *Escherichia coli*, *Listeria*, *Salmonella*, etc.
- Rise in fraudulent activities in the food chain and counterfeit products
- More products coming from countries with lower health and safety standards
- Higher risk of contamination or spoilage due to long, complex supply chains
- Increased demands for regulation and guidelines
- Increased business costs to comply with standards

LIVE SMART, BE ACTIVE, EAT WISELY

WITH:

Ministry of
Agriculture Home
Economics
Section



Pears are valuable fruits that have been widely used and savored for their delicious flavor since ancient times. Beyond being a tasty addition to the diet, pears are also packed with nutrients and nutritional value.

Some of the health benefits of pears include their ability to aid in weight loss, improve digestion, improve heart health, regulate the body's fluid levels, reduce blood pressure, increase cognitive ability, prevent cancer, promote wound healing and tissue repair, defend against birth defects, boost the immune system, reduce inflammation, increase the metabolism, improve circulation, protect against osteoporosis, while guaranteeing healthier skin, eyes, and hair.

Pears are an integral part of the fruit diet of many cultures around the world, and these oddly shaped and succulent fruits certainly provide a lot of nutritional value and medicinal benefits. The term "pear" actually describes a number of trees and bushes in the genus *Pyrus*, of the larger family *Rosaceae*.

If you aren't a pear-lover, then reading about the many health benefits of eating pears may help you give these delicious blessings of fall some love. Pears are considered healthy for a number of reasons but we've picked out the five most important ones to share with you.

Good source of dietary fiber: Pears are rich in fiber. About half of the pear's dietary fiber comes from its skin. According to an article on Fitsugar.com, a high fiber diet could keep your cholesterol levels down. "Getting your fill of fiber from fruit is also linked to a reduced risk of breast cancer, heart disease and type 2 diabetes," according to author Jenny Sugar.

Fair amount of vitamins: Nutrition-and-you.com recommends eating pears as a whole with their skin to maximise its health benefits because vitamins and minerals in pears are concentrated in significant quantities just underneath the skin.

Hypoallergenic fruit: Some studies suggest that pears are less allergenic than other fruits. So if you suffer from any food allergies, pears may be your best friend.

Contains Boron: Boron is a mineral that plays an important role in maintaining good bone health because it prevents the loss of calcium and is important for women at a high risk of osteoporosis.

Packed with anti-oxidants: The antioxidant content in pears is the highest when they're ripe. Once again, the skin of the pears contains the majority of its nutrients. So while poaching pears is a great idea, if you're looking to derive health benefits from it, you may want to eat it with the skin.

Incredible benefits of pear for health

Maintain a healthy heart

Pears are a good source of natural fiber for heart health. Fiber is good for heart health,

because enough fiber consumption will reduce levels of bad cholesterol in the body so that the risk of stroke and heart attacks can be minimised.

Lowers risk of cancer

Pears contain many active compounds that can fight the growth of cancer cells in the body. Florigenat acid is one of the active compounds in the pear that act as antioxidants to counteract the free radicals including cancer-causing free radicals. In addition, fiber and magnesium content in it, also shown to lower the risk of colon cancer

Preventing Alzheimer's Disease

More recently, a study from Cornell University shows that eating a pear very good for brain health. That is because pears has a relatively high content of antioxidants that can help maintain brain health and can prevent health problems in the brain such as Alzheimer's disease.

Maintain digestive health

Pears has a laxative effect is beneficial for maintaining the health of the digestive organs. In fact, the pear is not yet ripe for launching frequently consumed defecation. In addition, this fruit also has a very high fiber content..

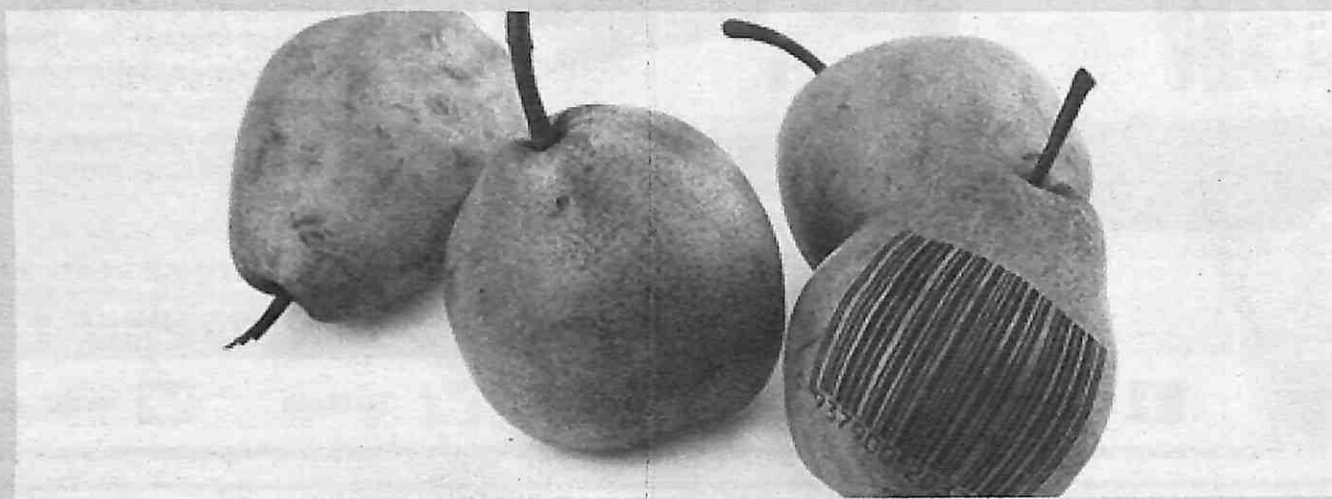
Good for diabetes patients

This fruit has a low enough in calories so it is suitable for consumption by diabetics. Additionally, diligently taking pears are also good to control the sugar content in blood.

Good source of Vitamin

In addition to fiber, pears are also rich in various vitamins, especially vitamin C and Vitamin K. The content of various vitamins, has a lot of functions for the body as to keep the immune system, assists in the breakdown of fat, collagen, and affects some enzyme reactions in the body.

PEARS: THE VALUABLE FRUIT



Treat hypertension

Pears in addition to lots of vitamins and fiber, it is also rich in various mineral deposits. Minerals contained in a pear include magnesium, potassium, and chromium which can normalise blood pressure in the body

Keeping the immune system

Pear fruit is one source of vitamin C which is very important. Vitamin C content is mostly in the fruit skin. Therefore, do not peel the pears if you want to feel the full benefits of this fruit.

Fruit for diet

As explained above, the pear is a fruit that is rich in fiber. Substantial fiber content will make us full faster. Moreover, this fruit is also very low in calories so suitable to be consumed by you who are undergoing a diet program.

How to select

Chose firm pears, then "check the neck for ripeness" daily by applying gentle pressure to the stem end of the pear with your thumb. When it yields to the pressure, it's ready to eat.

How to store

Store unripe pears in paper bag at room temperature. Refrigerate ripe pears.

Eating pears

Pears contain lot of nutrition such as vitamins and mineral that made this fruit has benefits for human health. Pears are consumed directly, canned, made juice, or dried. Pears can also be made in the form of jelly or jam, usually mixed with other fruits. Pears are rich in natural fiber which helps

the digestive process in our bodies, in addition, pears are also rich in vitamin C. The content of potassium, calcium, vitamin A, sugar and protein that exists in a pear is very good for the health of our bodies.

Therefore, it is advisable consuming this fruit for our health.

Pears are less allergenic than many other fruits, and pear juice is therefore sometimes used as the first juice introduced to infants. However, caution is recommended for all fruit juice consumption by infants, as studies have suggested a link between excessive fruit juice consumption and reduced nutrient intake, as well as a tendency towards obesity.

Fresh pears are your healthiest choice, but canned pears can also be beneficial to your health. If you eat canned pears, choose versions packed in 100 percent fruit juice rather than syrup because they contain no added sugar. Chop a pear into bite-sized pieces and add it to a fruit salad, or stir the pieces into a carton of low-fat yogurt. Replace the jelly in your peanut butter sandwich with thin slices of pear, or add pear slices to a tossed green salad. Cut a pear into quarters and brush it with a small amount of butter. Sprinkle the pear with cinnamon and nutmeg and broil it until it's soft for a tasty and nutritious dessert.

A Few Words of Caution: There are no known interactions or health risks with pears, although there are always ongoing studies. However, since some people suffer from allergic reactions based on certain types of fruit, monitor your body's behavior and reaction if you do not normally eat pears, and only eat an appropriate amount, no more than one pear per day.

This is a repeat article.

Contact me:

Xolisiwe Simelane: 2404 7231/ 2404 6363

My sweet Dreams



My sweet sugar, that's what I call my man. He's 22 years my senior, but I don't care; he takes care of my every need and desire. I want for nothing because of him. It wasn't always like that you know, I used to live a really difficult life. I'm your typical sad story, orphaned at a young age, and had to take care of the younger siblings and all that. It was just too much responsibility for a 17 year old to handle, especially the finances. That's where my sweet sugar comes in, he provides for me and my family, we go to sleep, we're fed and I have all the latest fashion and gadgets.

As you may have guessed though, it's not all fun and roses. Dating an older man is not easy, I can't even initiate a conversation about protection. I never thought talking about condoms could be so difficult and awkward, but try doing it with a 39 year old. He says he owns me and because of that, I do as he says but I don't tell him what to do.

Let's be serious though, why would I leave the fate of my future and health in the hands of another human being? I'm not that dumb, that's why The Dreams on wheels mobile unit is my go to place. They provide quality Sexual Reproductive Health services and education in a comfortable and confidential manner. It's such a relief knowing that I have a sanctuary where I'm not judged for my needs, but instead I'm empowered. Thanks to Dreams, I'm safe and protected and so is my sweet sugar. Now this is the stuff sweet dreams are made off.

For more information and updates please call 2518 7676/5 or toll free number 1212
Don't forget to also connect on cyber space with us via:



AU COMMISSION HAS NO STANDING IN ICC - DLAMINI-ZUMA

'...it's a country's choice to leave'

FEATURE

Chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission, Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, has said the AU "has no standing in the ICC" and therefore, it is "purely" the decision of African countries to join or to withdraw from the Hague-based tribunal.

Dlamini-Zuma said this in Pretoria where she engaged with South African editors on her blueprint agenda 2063 for the AU.

"The AU commission has no standing in the ICC. We are not members. It's a purely sovereign decision of each country to join or to pull out," Dlamini Zuma said.

Her remarks came following the move last week by South Africa to withdraw from the Rome statute.

The decision followed a dispute last year when Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir visited the country for an AU Summit despite facing an ICC warrant over alleged war crimes.

South Africa was the second country in the same week, after Burundi, to leave the ICC.

Meanwhile, Gambia, on Tuesday also joined the queue to leave the international court, accusing it of "humiliating Africans".

Dlamini-Zuma maintained that Africa had a mechanism to try its own leaders, adding the ICC was the "last instance".

"Countries must strengthen their Judiciary. The ICC is the court of last instance. The first instance are the national courts. They must be strengthened so they can indeed deal with situations that arise," she said.

Dlamini-Zuma made reference to the trial of former Chad president Hissen Habre who was sentenced to life in May for crimes against humanity.



Habre was sentenced by a special African Union court set up to try him a quarter century after he fled to Senegal following his 1990 ouster by the country's current President Idriss Deby.

Habre was also ordered to pay compensation to thousands of his victims of up to \$33 000 each. The landmark conviction was seen by rights campaigners as a victory in the fight

against impunity.

"We at the moment have the former president of Chad who has been tried in an African court agreed by the AU, funded by the AU, with judges coming from the AU. He has been tried for atrocities in Chad and he was found guilty. Of course he is now appealing the sentence. But I'm saying the continent has mechanisms also of dealing with this," said

Dlamini-Zuma.

She reiterated that the court that tried Habre was indeed authentic.

"The court that tried Habre is not weak. It was set up to specifically try him. It has tried him. It has found him guilty and sentenced him. So it's possible to have a tribunal court in Africa," said Dlamini-Zuma.

News24

Focus on SA scene

GORDHAN DEMANDS ANSWERS ON VLOK SYMINGTON DRAMA

JOHANNESBURG – Finance minister Pravin Gordhan has come out strongly and says that the SARS commissioner Tom Moyane will have to account to him about the allegations of deputy director of SARS Vlok Symington being held hostage.

Gordhan was the guest speaker at a business dinner in Paarl on Thursday night where he was asked about the kidnapping charges that Symington has laid against the Hawks and Moyane's bodyguards.

"If what is being said is true then it's absolutely unacceptable. That kind of conduct in a public institution is absolutely unacceptable. It's unacceptable to rule on fear its unacceptable to intimidate a very senior official who has dedicated more than 25 years of his life which



WANTS ANSWERS: Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan.

he could have made lots of money with outside in the way this might have happened.

"I'm not gonna say it happened yet until I've seen bits and pieces of the video that you might have seen

as well, but I want a formal report from the head of the institution. He must account to his minister for what has happened or not happened. Give his side of the story." **eNCA**

ANC to take 'decisive action' on Nelson Mandela Bay council meeting

JOHANNESBURG – The ANC national leadership has strongly condemned the violence at Thursday's Nelson Mandela Bay council meeting, saying it has no place in democracy.

National spokesperson Zizi Kodwa said no amount of "blame game" would ever explain or condone the blood scenes in the council chamber.

"People who were elected democratically must persuade and win each other through debates," Kodwa said yesterday morning. Kodwa is the only ANC leader to have condemned the violence that broke out on Thursday. The regional and provincial leaders on Thursday blamed the DA-led coalition for the brawl, which saw two councillors taken to the hospital in ambulances. Glass jugs and glasses were hurled inside the chambers and at least one gunshot was fired.

Kodwa said: "We condemn in the strongest possible terms the violence. Law enforcement agencies must act, including political parties represented; they must not defend such violence. 'Whoever is found to have instigated or started this, each political party must show decisiveness because what happened in the council chamber is unheard of anywhere. It must not be tolerated.'

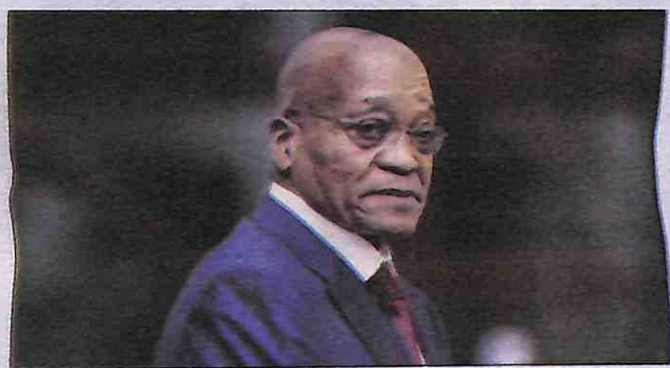
Blame game

"There is no amount of blame game that can make the public to understand what happened."

He said the ANC was waiting for a full report of what transpired before they acted against any of their members.

"As the ANC, we will take decisive action. We can't send people to represent our constituencies and they not only bring the name of the ANC into disrepute, but they betray the trust of our people."

TMG Digital/The Herald



ZUMA ASKS COURT TO POSTPONE GUPTA HEARING

JOHANNESBURG – President Jacob Zuma has asked a court to postpone a hearing scheduled for November 1 when his application to delay the release of a report over allegations of political influence was due to be heard.

The Presidency's spokesman Bongani Ngqulunga said

Zuma's lawyers wrote to the court on Thursday, saying he wants the investigation to be re-opened so that he can question witnesses himself and give evidence before it is finalised. The Public Protector, a constitutionally-mandated anti-graft watchdog, said on Wednesday that the investigation had been finalised. **Reuters**

ANC BLOCKS PROPOSED MADONSELA SWAN SONG

JOHANNESBURG – The ANC has blocked an opposition-sponsored proposal to have former public protector Thuli Madonsela address a full sitting of the National Assembly, in what would have been her final swan song to parliament.

The address, according to the EFF's motion tabled this week, would "specifically focus" on advocate Madonsela's experiences as public protector and "lessons that should apply to all public representatives, public ser-

vants and the public in the provision of quality services for all".

Opposition MPs, especially from the EFF, had expected Madonsela to use the opportunity to take the national legislature into her confidence about her report on state capture.

Proposal

But the proposal was rejected yesterday at a meeting of the National Assembly programme committee, which was chaired by deputy speaker Lechesa Tsenoli. **Timeslive**

STOP GREED FOR POWER, MONEY - MOGOENG

JOHANNESBURG – Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng has cautioned against people clamouring to become leaders merely for the sake of access to power and money.

People were in love with the idea of becoming leaders and some were willing to go to great lengths to get there, he said, delivering the 2016 Oliver Reginald Tambo lecture on Thursday evening.

The ANC's longest-serving president would have celebrated his 99th birthday on Thursday. He died in 1993.

Mogoeng cautioned people to be afraid of anybody seeking leadership



STOP IT: Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng.

positions at all costs. They could be driven to kill.

"What would Tambo do?"

"You can be an effective leader without occupying a position.

"It's the betrayal of the highest order for any of us to be politically correct in circumstances where courage is called for," Mogoeng told guests.

Interests

He described Tambo as a "functional leader", as opposed to a "positional leader" who was merely interested in the benefits that came with power.

"He surrendered the reigns of leadership to Madiba, who went to become South Africa's first democratically-elected president, against his wishes, insisting it was time to hand over." **News 24**

ANCWL calls for dismantling of white-owned print media

JOHANNESBURG – The African National Congress Women's League (ANCWL) yesterday called for the dismantling of "white-owned print media oligopoly" which it said was "long overdue".

National spokeswoman Toko Xasa said the ANCWL was appealing to the ANC-led government to support ownership, control and access to media by historically disadvantaged communities.

"It cannot be allowed to continue being a wholly white-owned subjective determiner of the public agenda and opinion," Xasa said in a statement.

She said the government must assist in developing "black-owned" print media houses, of which 50 percent must be owned by women.

Xasa said the government should then channel its advertising to such



community and small commercial media.

Democracy

"Facts reflect that after 22 years of democracy, the print media in South Africa is still dominated by four big players. These companies also dominate the entire value chain of the market, especially the printing, distribution and advertising," said Xasa.

"They own almost all the mainstream newspapers and community

newspapers, most of the consumer magazine titles, some of specialist magazines and online news platforms." Xasa said that print media was at the centre of the battle of ideas, a contested terrain that reflected the ideological battles and power relations based on race, class and gender in South African society and it needed to be transformed for it to be an unbiased platform.

African News Agency

BRIEFS

ISIS group abandons Somali

MOGADISHU - A breakaway group of around 50 Somali militants who declared loyalty to the Islamic State jihadists abandoned a small port town on Thursday a day after occupying it, residents and an official said. "The militants left town early this morning but they are not far away," said Abdiweli Adan, an elder in a town close to Qandala which the ISIS-linked group occupied on Wednesday. He said the group's black flag still flew over government buildings in the small seaside town on the Gulf of Aden coast of Puntland, a semi-autonomous state in northern Somalia.

AFP

Al Shabaab in comeback

MOGADISHU - Somalia's Islamic extremist rebels, al-Shabaab, are making a comeback, having recently seized four towns and attacked a guesthouse in neighboring Kenya, killing 12. The resurgence of al-Shabaab, which is allied to al-Qaeda, could affect Somalia's plans to hold elections next month and further destabilise what is already one of the world's most failed states. The rebels had steadily lost ground over the past five years, first losing control of the capital, Mogadishu, in 2011 and then being pushed out of virtually all of Somalia's other major cities and towns.

AP

Journos arrested during protest

HARARE - At least 21 journalists have been assaulted, arrested or detained while covering anti-government protests in Zimbabwe in the last six months, a media watchdog has reported.

Among them was journalist James Jemwa, who spent almost a week in a top security prison after he was arrested while covering a demonstration against longtime President Robert Mugabe in Harare in August, MISA-Zimbabwe said. Crispin Ndlovu, a photojournalist, had to be treated in a private clinic in Bulawayo in September after he was assaulted by riot police, also while covering a demonstration, the watchdog said in a statement.

News 24

Morsi appeals to be heard by Egypt

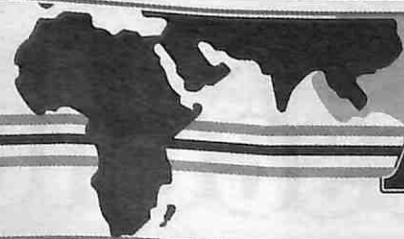
Nairobi - A man was shot and killed by Kenyan police outside the US embassy in the capital Nairobi on Thursday after stabbing an officer with a knife. "The man was shot after stabbing a GSU officer in the hand and left him with injuries," said local police Chief Vitalis Otieno. The police officer involved in the shooting was a member of the paramilitary General Services Unit (GSU) deployed to guard the embassy.

AFP

Govt sets up free maternity cover

LAGOS - A prominent Nigerian asylum seeker and activist is being held in solitary at a Tokyo detention centre, a case that has highlighted a growing crackdown on foreigners living in Japan without visas and prompted demands for her release. Elizabeth Aruorwo Obueza was detained two weeks ago after authorities turned down an appeal against her asylum rejection, Obueza and her lawyer told Reuters. Obueza, 48, campaigns for asylum seekers and the 4 700 people on "provisional release" from immigration detention - a status that lets foreigners out from detention but bars them from working and travelling freely.

Reuters



Africa News



BUJURUMBA - Burundi on Thursday formally notified the United Nations of its withdrawal from the International Criminal Court, dealing a blow to the tribunal seen as a pillar of international justice.

South Africa was the first to take the formal step at the United Nations last week and Gambia has also said it plans to pull out of the Rome treaty that created the ICC.

Burundi's Justice Minister Laurentine Kanyana personally delivered the formal letter to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's office.

The withdrawal takes effect one year after the letter is received. The United Nations is calling on South Africa and Burundi to reverse their decisions. "That withdrawal can be withdrawn," UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric said.

Burundi's move came after a UN envoy was dispatched to Bujumbura for crisis talks.

BURUNDI NOTIFIES UN OF ICC PULL OUT



PULL OUT: SA was the first to take the formal step at the UN last week, now Burundi's Justice Minister Laurentine Kanyana personally delivered the formal letter to UN SG Ban Ki-moon, the withdrawal takes effect one year after the formal letter was delivered.

UN envoy Jamal Benomar was in Bujumbura meeting

with leaders to try to defuse tensions over the ICC pullout

and the government's decision to break ties with the UN rights office. Set up in 2002, the ICC is often accused of bias against Africa. The ICC in April launched a preliminary investigation of allegations of killings, torture and other rights abuses in Burundi.

Report

A report by UN rights experts has blamed President Pierre Nkurunziza's security forces and police for the violence that has torn the country since 2015.

The UN Human Rights Council decided last month to set up a formal commission of inquiry that could help identify those responsible for the violence. **AFP**



OPERATION SAVE IMMIGRANTS: The bodies of 17 migrants who had died from suffocation, dehydration, hypothermia or simple exhaustion were unloaded from the *Siem Pilot* on Monday in Palermo (inset). The *Siem Pilot*, a vessel built as an oil platform supply ship but now used by the EU border force Frontex in its Mediterranean rescue operations, was part of an operation that saw 1 000 migrants rescued - including very young children (main) - from the coast of Libya. (Dailymail)

SISI PROMISES TO RE-EXAMINE PROTEST LAW

CAIRO - Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi has said the government will look into revising a protest law under which hundreds of activists have been jailed.

Sisi's comments came at the end of a two-day "youth conference" on Thursday, an effort to reach out to young Egyptians as the country braces for austerity reforms to salvage its battered economy.

Reading a series of conclusions at the end of the conference, Sisi said the government would look into revising the law passed in 2013, months after the former army chief overthrew his Islamist predecessor Mohamed Morsi.

"The government will



PROMISES: President Abdel Fattah al Sisi.

undertake, in coordination with the relevant agencies, to study suggestions and proposals to amend the protest law," Sisi said, before he was interrupted by applause from the audience.

Protesting

Sisi laughed and said "you really love protesting,"

adding the revisions would be presented to Parliament.

Promised

He also promised another youth conference in November.

The law, which bans all but police-sanctioned protests, has been used to jail activists for up to two years. **AFP**



Kenya declares curfew in strife - hit Mandera

NAIROBI - Kenya's government on Thursday announced a 60-day dusk to dawn curfew in the northeastern town of Mandera, hit by two deadly terrorist attacks in three weeks.

Interior Minister Joseph Nkaissery issued the order two days after Shabaab militants killed 12 people at a hotel in Mandera town on Tuesday.

He said the curfew, from 18:30 to 06:30 would begin on Thursday and remain in place until December 27.

It would be enforced along a 20km buffer zone of towns and territory reaching to the Somalia border.

Attack

This week's attack was the second in Mandera in less than three weeks, with both claimed by the al-Qaeda-linked Shabaab group.

The Shabaab has fought to overthrow the internationally-backed government in Mogadishu since 2007, but turned its sights on Kenya when the army was sent into Somalia in 2011 to fight the Islamic insurgents.

Since then the militants have targeted civilians in different parts of Kenya, including a dramatic assault on Nairobi's Westgate shopping mall in 2013 in which at least 67 people were killed.

AFP

World News

MICHELLE OBAMA HITS CAMPAIGN TRAIL WITH HILLARY CLINTON

WINSTON-SALEM – Michelle Obama, surprise star of the 2016 White House campaign, hit the trail on Thursday with Democrat Hillary Clinton as the former and current first ladies fight to conquer battleground states before Election Day.

Obama has emerged as a compelling force in the hard-fought campaign, delivering powerful arguments against Republican Donald Trump and in support of Clinton's bid to become the first female president in US history.

Michelle and Hillary joined forces on the trail for the first time to headline a rally at Wake



SUPPORTIVE: First lady Michelle Obama and US Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton.

Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, a key swing state where early voting is already under way before the

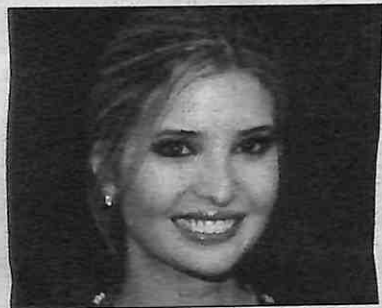
November 8 election.

Amazing

"It doesn't get any better than being here with our most amaz-

ing first lady, Michelle Obama," Clinton said as she introduced a "woman whose voice we need now more than ever." Taking the podium, Obama hailed Clinton "for her leadership, for her courage and for what she is going to do for this country."

"I don't know about you but I'm fired up! We're going to make this happen," she said. The 52-year-old wife of President Barack Obama has energised the Democratic camp with a series of speeches taking Trump to task for his strident rhetoric and for what she brands his "frightening" attitude towards women. **AFP**



BOYCOTT: Ivanka Trump.

Ivanka Trump faces boycott calls over dad's campaign

NEW YORK - Ivanka Trump has long been one of her father's most poised and popular surrogates, but her support for the Republican nominee is sparking calls for a boycott of her fashion label.

A twitter campaign, dubbed Grab Your Wallet, is gaining traction with fashion giant Nordstrom among retail giants under fire for stocking her clothes, shoes and handbags.

A woman who tweets under the handle @SheWhoVotes and identifies herself as a lifelong Nordstrom customer wrote an open letter to the Seattle-based retailer calling on the company to dump Ivanka Trump's "toxic brand".

Platform

"Ms Trump is openly supporting a man accused of groping or raping at least a dozen women," said the letter, dated Tuesday, tweeted on Wednesday and since shared on the social media platform more than 1 400 times. The woman accused Donald Trump's campaign of peddling unacceptable hate speech against African Americans, Latinos, Jews, Muslims, LGBT people and women. "She is not responsible for her father's conduct, but she is responsible for her own defence of him," the letter said of the candidate's eldest daughter. **AFP**



INNOVATION: At just 36-square metres, this two-person mobile home, is around the same size as a small New York studio apartment. But the home on wheels - which starts from \$65 000 - features a fully fitted kitchen, bathroom, living room, mezzanine bedroom and solar panels allowing occupants to live completely off-grid. (Dailymail)

PUTIN SLAMS 'HYSTERIA' WASHINGTON OVER CLAIMS

SOCHI - President Vladimir Putin slammed as "hysteria" on Thursday claims that Russia has tried to interfere in the upcoming US presidential elections by hacking US political institutions including the Democrats behind frontrunner Hillary Clinton.

Russia has been accused of favouring Republican candidate Donald Trump - who has praised Putin and called for better relations with Moscow - over the more hawkish Clinton. "The number of mythical, dreamt-up problems includes the hysteria - I can't think of another word - that has broken out in the United States

about the influence of Russia on the current elections for the US president," Putin said at a meeting of political scientists in Sochi.

Influence

"Does anyone seriously think Russia can somehow influence the choice of the US people? Is the US some kind of banana republic? The United States is a great power. Please correct me if I'm wrong," Putin said to laughter in the audience.

Washington last week formally accused the Russian government of trying to "interfere" in the 2016 White House race by hacking US political institutions, charges the Kremlin has repeatedly dis-

missed. Putin has vehemently rejected the accusations, saying they are meant to divert American voters from domestic problems. "It's a lot easier to distract people's attention towards Russia's so-called hackers, spies, agents of influence and so on," Putin said on Thursday. The Kremlin strongman however adopted a hard line against cyber attacks, saying these are "unacceptable".

Russian authorities have slammed Washington for "unprecedented" threats after US Vice President Joe Biden told NBC this month that Putin would receive a "message" in response to the alleged hacking. **AFP**

BRIEFS

Police move to clear protesters

CHICAGO - Police in the US state of North Dakota engaged in a tense standoff with oil-pipeline protesters on Thursday, attempting to clear them from a public road and off private property. Police used a sound cannon to disperse protesters, some of whom had moved closer to the construction area of the Dakota Access Pipeline, the subject of a months-long protest by Native Americans and their supporters. Dallas Goldtooth, a protester at the scene of the standoff, told AFP that he witnessed approximately 30 arrests. **AFP**

'Coffee killer' gets 20 years behind bars

JAKARTA - An Indonesian woman was jailed for 20 years on Thursday for murdering a friend from an Australian college with poisoned coffee in a "sadistic" fashion, capping a sensational trial that has gripped the country. Jessica Kumala Wongso, 28, who is also an Australian permanent resident, was found guilty of murdering Wayan Mira Salihin by slipping cyanide into her drink at an upmarket Jakarta cafe, sparking applause from spectators in the packed courtroom. The soap opera-style tale of two members of Indonesia's wealthy elite having a dramatic fallout that culminated in murder has captivated the country, with the trial dubbed the "poisoned coffee" case and broadcast live on national TV for months. **AFP**

Man pretends to be secret service

PITTSBURGH

- A man whose company scoops up pet poop has been charged with flashing a fake Secret Service ID and badge during a traffic stop and using it to get the "government rate" for a hotel room. Christopher Diiorio, 53, pleaded not guilty on Thursday to federal charges of conspiracy, using a false badge and a fraudulent official seal. Reserve Township police said Diiorio flashed the ID card after an officer pulled him over for a faulty brake light July 22. The hotel incident occurred a month earlier. **AP**



Lawsuit to block 'ballot selfies'

NEW YORK - A federal lawsuit is challenging a New York state law that makes it a misdemeanor to show a marked election ballot to others. The lawsuit filed late on Wednesday in Manhattan federal court seeks to have the law banning so-called "ballot selfies" declared unconstitutional. The lawsuit said publishing a voted ballot on social media can be a powerful form of political expression. It says that someone claiming they voted without photographic proof reduces the credibility of the individual. **AP**

Russia not responsible for school strike

MOSCOW - Russia said on Thursday it had nothing to do with air strikes on a school in Syria's rebel-held Idlib province that killed 22 children. "The Russian Federation has nothing to do with this terrible tragedy, with this attack," foreign ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said, adding that Moscow demanded an immediate investigation. Zakharova said claims that Russian and Syrian warplanes had conducted the deadly air strikes in Idlib on Wednesday were "a lie." **AFP**

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Zani, Parent



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Relatives and friends of **Elliot Lofana Mpila** who worked at Mananga College are notified of his demise. There will be a memorial service at his home in Matsetsa on Saturday 29/10/16 at 12pm followed by a night vigil at his parental home in Mncozini eKutsimuleni on Sunday 30/10/16 where he will be laid to rest. Announcement by his wife **Christinah Mpila**.



Relatives and friends of **Gogo Eva Dzinganaye Dlamini Tsabedze** are notified that she is late. There will be a night vigil on Saturday 29/10/16. She will be laid to rest on Sunday 30/10/16 at her home eKaBhekinkhosi at 04:30am. Announcement by his son Mveli Dlamini on behalf of the family.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba**Bongiswa Alvin Nhlabatsi** lobekafundza eNcabaneni High School kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa bakaNhlabatsi, kaNdinda, nebekhabonina kaDvuba eNcabaneni. Ufihlwa ngeliSontfo mhlaka 30/10/16 emvakwemlindzelo ngeMgcibelo mhlaka 29/10/16. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumkhulu wakhe **Johanes Nhlabatsi** egameni lemndeni.



Friends and relatives of **James Slater Mlambo** are notified of his demise. He was a retired police officer and will be laid to rest at his homestead at Malindza on Saturday morning after a night vigil on Friday night. A memorial service will be held at AEC Malindza branch on Friday at 12:00 noon. Announcement by **Joseph Mlambo** on behalf of his family



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba**Jotham Mnikeni Nkumba** lobekanguthishela eNhlambeni Community Primary School kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa bekhakhakhe kaNkhosi eMankayane (eMhlataane). Ufihlwa ekhaya lakhe eNhlambeni (eKweceni) ngeMgcibelo ekuseni mhlaka 29/10/16 emvakwemlindzelo. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngulSrael Nkumba umnakabo egameni lemndeni.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba**Hendry Mbongiseni Fakudze** lobekatiwa ngekutsi ngu "Masoso" kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Utawufihlwa ekhaya kubo eSiphofaneni kaMkhweli eMhlabudumayo, kulindzelwa mhlaka 28/10/16 abekwe endlini yakhe yekugcina mhlaka 29/10/16 ekuseni nga 6:00am. Lokhipha simemetelo ngumake wakhe **Nokulunga Fakudze** egameni lemndeni. Rest in peace Ntolo. Siyohlala sikukhumbula.



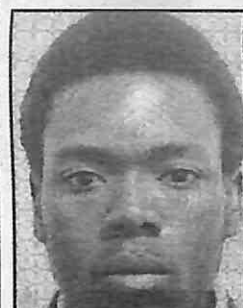
Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba**Wandile Senzeni Matsebula** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Utawufihlwa eMhoboleni ka-Khoza mhlaka 29/10/16 emvakwemlindzelo. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumndeni.



Relatives and friends of **Nompahlo Thembi Ndwandwe** are notified of her sudden death. She will be laid to rest on Sunday 30/10/16 at Maphalaleni. No night vigil. Announcement by family.



Relatives and friends of **Gugulethu Phumaphi Gama** of Malkerns are notified of her demise. She will be laid to rest at Ngwane Park Cemetery at 8:00am on 29/10/16. Short prayer at 8:00pm. Morning service at 05:30am at Malkerns kaGogo Dlodlu.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba**Wandile Senzeni Matsebula** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Utawufihlwa eMhoboleni ka-Khoza mhlaka 29/10/16 emvakwemlindzelo. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumndeni.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba**Patrick Hlophe** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Utawufihlwa ekhaya kubo eMbongweni (eNsingweni) ngeMgcibelo mhlaka 29/10/16 emvakwemlindzelo ngaleSihlanu. Kwatiswa bekhakhakhe bakaTsabedze eMafutseni, bakaTfwala nebaka Ndzimandze eHlane. Libandla lakhe ema ZCC liyatiswa kutsi libekhona kutawuchuba umsebenzi. Inkono yakhe yesikhumbuto itawuba seWilliam Pitcher Teacher Training College mhlaka 28/10/16 nga 11:00am. Simemetelo sikhishwa nguHlophe Melusi egameni lemndeni.



It is with great sadness that **Nhlanhla Zwane** has responded to the Lord's call. He will be laid to rest on Saturday 29/10/16 in the morning at Masundvini after a night vigil at his home Masundvini. There will be a memorial service on Friday at Mbabane Theatre Club at 1:00pm. Announcement by the Zwane family. May your Soul Rest In Peace Zikodze.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni waka**Msibi kutsi Thulani Luke Msibi** akasekho emhlabeni. Ufihlwa ekhaya kubo eMdumezulu ngeliSontfo mhlaka 30/10/16 emvakwemlindzelo. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngubabe wakhe **Petros Mkhapheni Msibi** egameni lemndeni.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba**Mshiyeni Alfred Magagula** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni, utawufihlwa ekhaya kubo eNyonyane ngeliSontfo mhlaka 30/10/16 emvakwelindzelo, kwatiswa bekhakhakhe kaMntfwanenkhozi Zimpisi, ekhakhakhe kaNkhosi eMbetseni, ekhakhakhe kaNkhosi eNgcoseni nebakaMagagula kaDvokotwako. Simemetelo sikhishwa nguBhekindzaba Magagula egameni lemndeni.

JOB 13:15
Though He slay me,
yet will I hope in him;
I will surely
defend my ways to
his face.



Relatives and friends of former Mbabane Highlanders player **Andreas Mfanakayise "Seawater" Ginindza** are notified of his demise. Night vigil will be at his homestead at Sibovu Mahlangatsha on Saturday 29/10/16. Funeral on Sunday 30/10/16. Announcement by family.



Kwatiswa tihlobo nemndeni ba**Njabuliso Fanifani Simelane** lobekatiwa ngekutsi ngu Dash kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Ufihlwa kaHlatsi emathuneni aseshowini ngeMgcibelo ekuseni mhlaka 29 October Umlindzelo utakuba ngalesihlanu mhlaka 28 October eSkomu kaNtuli khona kaHlatsi. Umufi abesebenta kaMobile Money esiHlutse. Longasekho ngu Njabuliso Fanifani Simelane 'Dash'. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngubabe wakhe **Raymond Jelous Simelane** egameni lemndeni.

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REAL WAIT FOR MISFIRING RONALDO TO CATCH FIRE

MADRID - Real Madrid are hoping Cristiano Ronaldo can end a lean period in front of goal posts as they attempt to keep their noses in front of a tight five-way race atop La Liga at Alaves today.

Madrid bounced back from a four-game draw streak in style by scoring 20 goals in winning their last four outings to move back top of the table and take big strides towards progress in the Champions League and Copa del Rey.

However, Ronaldo has scored just one of those 20 and his return of four goals from nine appearances is by a distance his worst strike rate at this stage of the campaign since joining Madrid seven years ago.

Ronaldo was even whistled by Real's demanding fanbase at the Santiago Bernabeu during last weekend's 2-1 win over Athletic Bilbao.

"I would prefer him to score two or three goals in every match, but I am not worried because I know it will pass," said Real boss Zinedine Zidane.

Alvaro Morata came off the bench to grab a late winner against Athletic and also struck twice in a 7-1 mauling of Cultural Leonesa in the Copa del Rey on Wednesday to move ahead of Ronaldo with six goals this season.

Yet, despite still being frozen out Zidane's preferred starting line-up by Ronaldo, Gareth Bale and Karim

Benzema, Morata insists the Portuguese should be cut some slack.

"When one is used to scoring nearly 70 goals a season they are like goal addicts," said Morata.

"For us he is still the most important player in the team and we hope he scores lots of goals, but he is not a machine.

"He is human, although it seems like he comes from a different planet, and he has the right to miss."

Zidane is expected to resort to the side that started against Bilbao as Ronaldo, Bale, Benzema, Marcelo, Mateo Kovacic and Raphael Varane were all rested in midweek.

AFP

Phelps' secret marriage before Rio olympics

BALTIMORE - Michael Phelps, unbeknownst to the world, competed at the 2016 Summer Games in Brazil as a married man, having quietly wed his fiancée, former Miss California Nicole Johnson, weeks earlier, court records made public on Thursday showed.

Phelps and Johnson, both 31, tied the knot in Paradise Valley, Arizona, on June 13, but have not publicly announced the nuptials, the Arizona Republic newspaper reported, citing a marriage document the paper published on its

website.

Phelps revealed the couple's engagement in February 2015.

Representatives for Phelps could not be immediately reached for comment on Thursday.

Memorable

According to the newspaper, the former Miss USA contestant posted a photo on Instagram of herself, Phelps and their month-old son, Boomer, in casual clothes on the day of the marriage with a caption reading: "Such a memorable night with my lil fambam."

Reuters

Boxer Jon Slowey tests positive for cocaine

LONDON - British fighter Jon Slowey's career has been left in ruins by a three-year ban after testing positive for cocaine.

The 26-year-old featherweight, from Glasgow, confessed to a UK anti-doping tribunal that he had struggled with 'alcohol and cocaine' and 'wasn't living like a professional' while under curfew as the result of a court case.

And he even claimed he'd been close to pulling out of a title bout when his use of the Class A drug was flagged - but that he 'needed the money' from the contest.

Slowey, who has since been in rehab to tackle depression that left him suicidal, has received a

hefty suspension because this was the second time recreational drugs had shown up in his samples.

His hopes of representing Team Scotland at the Commonwealth Games in Delhi were scuppered when he tested positive for cannabis during the run-up to the 2010 event, resulting in a four-month ban for his first offence.

On Thursday, UKAD revealed

that the boxer, who had lost just three of his 19 professional bouts, had tested positive for trace elements of metabolites found in cocaine following last September's failed attempt to win the European featherweight title. *Daily Mail*



Sharks will stay at Kings Park in 2017

CAPE TOWN - Kings Park will remain the home of the Sharks in 2017.

There had been suggestions that the Durban-based franchise was plotting a relocation to Moses Mabhida Stadium as early as next season, but yesterday it was confirmed that no movement would take place in 2017.

In April, the Sharks sent out a release saying that they were in talks with the eThekweni Municipality and discussing the possibility of moving matches to the 2010 FIFA World Cup venue as early as next year.

But now it seems that will not happen. "There are no immediate plans to move to Moses Mabhida Stadium," Sharks spokesperson Novashni Chetty told Sport24.

"As stated previously, we merely started to engage with the City and at no stage was it announced that we were definitely going to move in 2017.

"A decision on whether or not to move can and will only be taken if it's in the best interests of the Sharks and their loyal stakeholders.

"We always mentioned that all our stakeholders would be approached and engaged with before any decisions are made.

Sport24

Murray beats Simon for 16th time to reach Vienna last-eight

VIENNA - Andy Murray defeated France's Gilles Simon for the 16th time on Thursday to reach the Vienna ATP quarter-finals and keep alive his bid to snatch Novak Djokovic's world number one ranking.

The Olympic and Wimbledon champion eventually triumphed 4-6, 6-2, 6-2 after two hours and 40 minutes in a match which saw Murray commit an uncharacteristic 58 unforced errors.

Simon was almost as sloppy, hitting just three fewer.

Murray, the 2014 champion in

Vienna, faced John Isner yesterday for a place in the semi-finals.

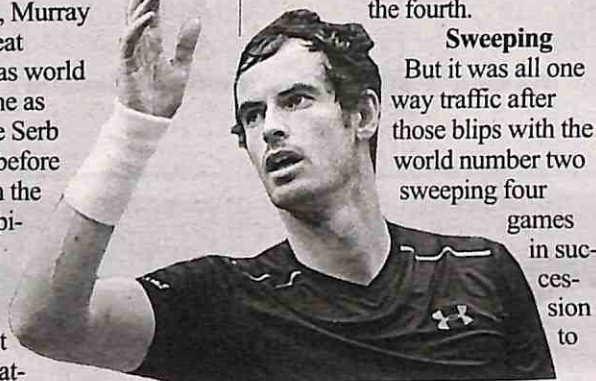
If he wins the Vienna title and Paris crown next week, Murray could unseat Djokovic as world number one as long as the Serb star loses before the final in the French capital.

After dropping the first set on a frustrat-

ingly slow court, a weary-looking Murray had to save six break points in the second game of the second set to stay in contention and two more in the fourth.

Sweeping

But it was all one way traffic after those blips with the world number two sweeping four games in succession to



level the match.

Simon, who had won just two of his 17 matches against Murray before Thursday, required a lengthy medical timeout before the final set to treat a blister on his right foot.

Despite hanging on for 2-2, Murray repeated the punishment he dished out in the second set to take the match.

Unseeded Serb Viktor Troicki earlier defeated third seeded Dominic Thiem of Austria 6-2, 7-5 a result which qualified Gael Monfils into the eight-man field at the season-ending ATP World Tour Finals in London.

AFP

SA's KLAASEN QUALIFIES FOR YEAR-END FINALS

LONDON - South African tennis ace Raven Klaasen and his American partner Rajeev Ram have become the sixth team to qualify for the 2016 ATP World Tour Finals.

There are now two doubles spots left up for grabs at the season finale, to be held at The O2 in London from November 13-20.

The South African-American tandem qualified for the first time

as a result of Jean-Julien Rojer and Horia Tecau beating Treat Huey and Max Mirnyi in the Swiss Indoors Basel quarter-finals late on Thursday.

Captured

Rojer and Tecau, who captured the ATP World Tour Finals and year-end No 1 spot last year, are currently No 9 in the ATP Doubles Race To London - one spot adrift from Huey and

Mirnyi.

Klaasen and Ram have compiled a 31-18 match record on the season, including a 2-3 record in title matches. They lifted ATP World Tour titles at the Chengdu Open (d. Carreno Busta/Fyrstenberg) and the Gerry Weber Open (d. Kubot/Peya).

The duo also reached finals at the Miami Open (l. to Herbert/Mahut), the Banque Eric

Sturza Geneva Open (l. to Johnson/Querrey) and the Rakuten Japan Open Tennis Championships 2016 (l. to Granollers/Matkowski).

Klaasen and Ram will join Pierre-Hugues Herbert and Nicolas Mahut, Jamie Murray and Bruno Soares, Bob Bryan and Mike Bryan, Feliciano Lopez and Marc Lopez and Ivan Dodig and Marcelo Melo in the English capital.

Sport24



ORLANDO PIRATES VS KAIZER SOWETO DERBY
FNB STADIUM - 29 OCTOBER 2016

We'll do it for Senzo - Ndoro

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates striker Tendai Ndoro admits that the memories of Senzo Meyiwa's death are still fresh in their minds as South Africa is commemorating two years since his tragic passing. In a burglary at his girlfriend Kelly Khumalo's home in Vosloorus, the goalkeeper was shot dead on October 26, 2014, a night after helping the Buccaneers to an emphatic 4-1 win over Ajax Cape Town in the Telkom Knockout.

The Buccaneers will face perennial rivals Kaizer Chiefs in an Absa Premiership encounter at the FNB Stadium

today and the Zimbabwean international insists that the Happy People are eager to claim bragging rights for their fallen hero.

"All I want to say is may you continue to rest in peace Senzo Meyiwa," Ndoro said ahead of the much anticipated fixture.

"It has been two years with him gone but the memories are still fresh on our minds in camp.

"We'll be going to the Saturday game

against Chiefs hoping to do well and win it for him because most players in the team who played with him are feeling down this week.

"Even Happy Jele is so emotional because this is exactly the time Senzo Meyiwa left us unexpectedly.

"All players still have his memories, we still talk about him and we told ourselves that we'll do it for him."

Heading to this clash, Ndoro is enjoying a rich vein of form as he currently leads the Premiership top goal scorers list.

However, the forward insists that he will not be under pressure to deliver this weekend.

"Playing with super stars in our team makes it easy for me to score goals," he added.

"As a striker I have to take my chances whenever I get them, chances are coming at the early stages of the season and I had to bury them.

"But I won't put myself under a lot of pressure on Saturday (today); I will just go there and play my normal game."

Sport24



Soweto derby smells like another draw

JOHANNESBURG - Despite being South Africa's most watched match each season, the Soweto derby has failed to live up to expectation in recent years.

Today will be the first official Soweto derby of the season, with a predicted 90 000-strong crowd filling FNB Stadium in Johannesburg (15:30 kick-off).

The fierce rivalry dates back to the 1970s after Amakhosi was founded by Kaizer Motaung, who returned from playing in North America to start his own soccer club.

The Glamour Boys squeezed their way into Soweto, where Pirates and Moroka Swallows already dominated most of the fan base.

The Pirates-Swallows fixture is still to this day known as the 'original' Soweto derby, but over the years Motaung's side have made enough noise to grab the attention of the Buccaneers.

Pirates and Chiefs have given birth to many of South Africa's greatest footballers over the years, namely, Jabu Mahlangu, Doctor Khumalo, Jomo Sono, Donald "Ace" Themba Khuse, Brian Baloyi and Mark Fish to name but a few.



For this weekend's fixture fans will be hoping the current crop can write their names in the history books.

Amakhosi hold a tight grip at the summit of the Absa Premiership following a healthy run of games, while the Buccaneers are still trying to find their feet under the new mentorship of Muhsin Ertugral.

The league fixture will be the 62nd of its kind with Chiefs boasting a 24-13 win-loss league record against Pirates.

Twenty-four of the 61 matches finished in draws and today's encounter could well be the 25th.

Chiefs have already tasted victory against Pirates after a 2-0 Carling Black Label Cup victory - a match that serves as a curtain raiser for the season.

sport24



CASTER BACKS CHIEFS AGAINST 'PIE-RATS'!

CAPE TOWN - South Africa's 800m Olympic champion Caster Semenya has thrown her support behind Kaizer Chiefs ahead of the Soweto derby.

Today marks the first 2016/17 official Soweto derby to be held at the FNB Stadium in Johannesburg. Orlando Pirates already suffered a 2-0 Carling Black Label Cup defeat against Chiefs in this season's curtain raiser.

Amakhosi boast a 24-13 win-loss league record against the Buccaneers, with 24 matches ending in draws. Each year the Soweto derby has that extra bite to it because of its passionate fans and one famous Chiefs supporter has thrown her weight behind Steve Komphela's side. Semenya, who recently won gold at the Rio Olympics, wished Amakhosi good luck while also poking fun at their opponents.

"All the best to my team @KaizerChiefs in their clash against pie-rats on Saturday #KaizerChiefs #Amakhosi4Life #KCFamily," Semenya said on her official Twitter account.

BID No: RFEDP/17/S086
Request for Proposal
For

CONSULTING SERVICES TO DEVELOP A TURNAROUND STRATEGY AND BUSINESS MODEL FOR SWAZILAND FARMERS COOPERATIVE UNION (SWAFUCU)

ALL ELIGIBLE BIDDERS:

The Rural Finance and Enterprise Development Programme, through the Micro Finance Unit Office invites Consulting Companies to BID for the hereunder Assignment:

Name of Project : Consulting Services to Develop SWAFUCU Turn Around Strategy and Business Model

Brief Description : The objective of this Assignment is to assist SWAFUCU to develop a Turnaround Strategy and a Business Model to reposition the Organisation to achieve its mandate and rebrand its image.

Procurement Method : Quality and Cost Based Selection

Contract Duration : Twenty-five working days (25) Days

In accordance with the Terms of Reference (Annexure A) that will be collected from the MFU Office, Injabulo House, Somhlolo Road, the bidders shall accomplish and provide correct and accurate information and submit a Detailed Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal according to Form (Annexure B) & Schedule of Experience Form (Annexure C) not later than 16:30 hrs, Swaziland time on November 16th, 2016.

Proposals shall be hand delivered at the Micro Finance Unit Office:

The Micro Finance Unit
Lot 192
Injabulo House
Somhlolo Road
Mbabane

Issue Date: 28 October 2016

Closing Date and Time for Submissions: **Wednesday 16th of November 2016 at 1630 hrs, Swaziland Time.**

DOC: 12036



MANZINI EXHAUST CENTRE

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212 Tenburgen Street (Opposite Satellite Bus Station) Tel: 2505 2616 / 2505 7897
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UNITED STARS FACE AXE



MANCHESTER - Manchester United stars are facing the axe as Jose Mourinho plots an overhaul of his defence.

Chris Smalling, Daley Blind and Marcos Rojo's futures at the club are under a cloud, with Mourinho targeting a centre back and a right back in January. Work behind the scenes has already begun identifying defensive reinforcements as the Portuguese manager plans of his back four just nine games into the Premier League season.

Eric Bailly, who is out for two months with a knee injury, has impressed the United manager since arriving from Villarreal and his position at centre half appears secure.

United have conceded 12 goals in the Premier League this season, the second most of any club in the top 10. Four of those came in the humiliating loss at Chelsea last Sunday, in which Smalling and Blind were well below-par. Smalling made a bad mistake as Pedro scored after just 30 seconds and Mourinho is said to have berated the England international after the game.

Mourinho also wants a natural right back to compete with Antonio Valencia, who is more accustomed to playing in a wide midfield role. United will consider selling Rojo and Italy right back Matteo Darmian when the transfer window re-opens, while left back Luke Shaw is yet to fully convince Mourinho either.

Roma defender Antonio Rudiger, who can play right back or centre half, is under consideration at Old Trafford. *Daily Mail*

Arsenal recall Ramsey

LONDON - Aaron Ramsey will return to Arsenal's squad for today's clash with Sunderland following a two-month lay-off.

But Theo Walcott, Santi Cazorla and Nacho Monreal are doubts for the clash as they faced fitness tests yesterday.

Wales midfielder Ramsey sustained a hamstring injury in the opening day defeat by Liverpool and hasn't played since.

But the midfielder will travel to the Stadium of Light and is set to make his long awaited return.

"We have [Olivier] Giroud available, Aaron Ramsey will be back in the squad," Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger said in a press conference yesterday.

"They are available for selection. I have to be a bit cautious, especially with Aaron, because he has not played at all yet. He has only had one week with the team so I will be a bit cautious with him."

"We have a few uncertainties about Walcott, Monreal and Cazorla - they have tests today." *Daily Mail*



A.G. Thomas (Pty) Ltd



MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF MBABANE

PUBLIC NOTICE

LANE CLOSURE

Notice is hereby published in terms of Section 71(1) of the Urban Government Act No. 8 of 1969 that there will be a temporary lane closure of a section of Gwamile Street to traffic coming into the Central Business District (CBD) for a period of six (6) weeks commencing on the **31st October** to the **16th December 2016**.

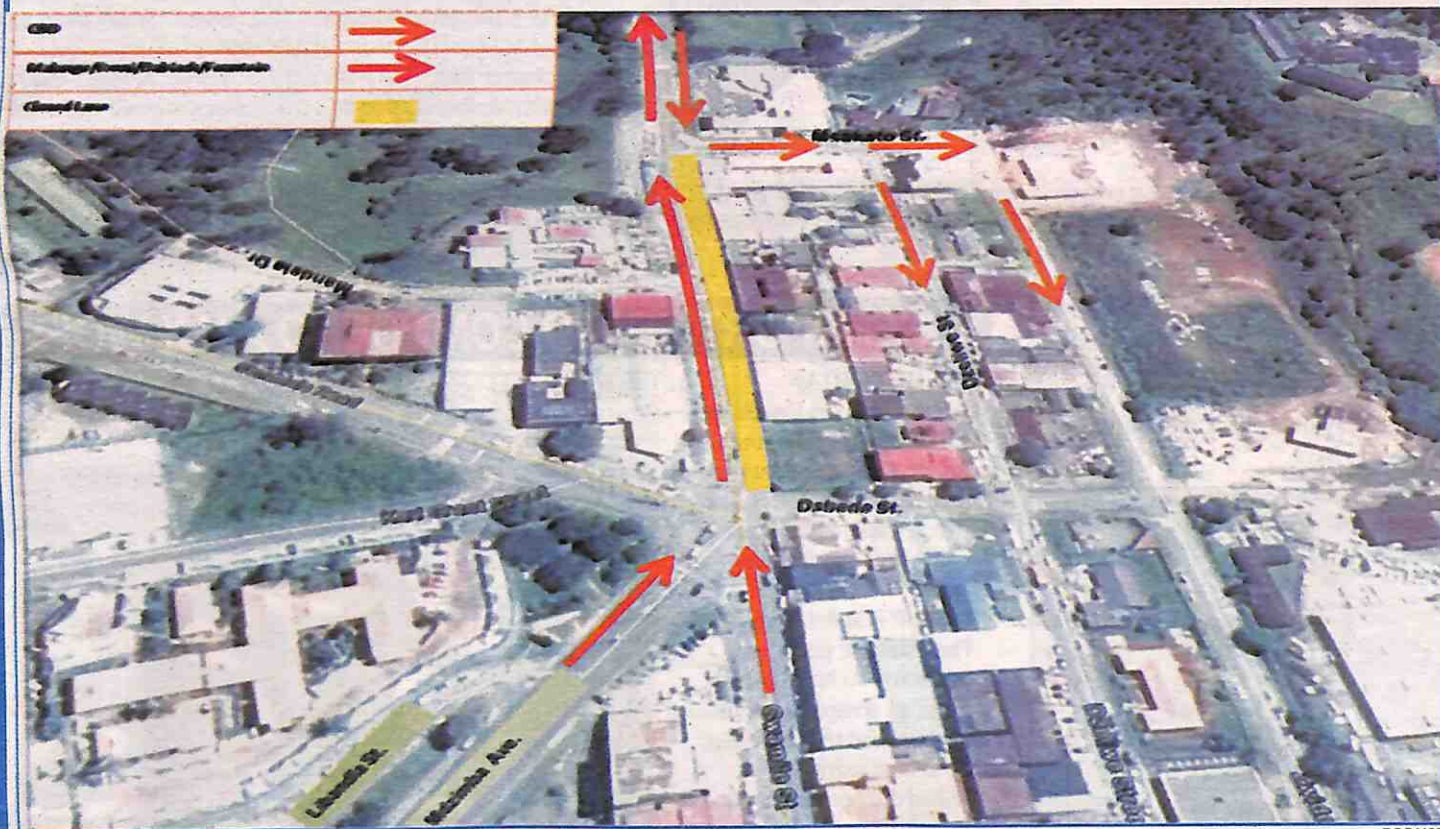
The temporary lane closure will be the outbound lane between Gwamile Street/Mdzimba/Avenue/Somhlolo Road/Dadebe Street intersection and Gwamile Street/Msakato Street intersection. Inbound road users should continue to use any alternative route or the route from Gwamile Street onto Msakato Street as shown below. Outbound road users can use the available lane or alternative route as shown below.

Any inconvenience caused by the closure of this section of the street is regrettable.

Contact Person : Johannes Masuku

Mobile : 7621 5529

Tel : 2518 6362



Absa Premiership

29 October 2016

15:30
Orlando Pirates
v
Kaizer Chiefs

sms "Chiefs/Pirates" to 6464

20:15
Ajax Cape Town
v
SuperSport United

sms "SAPLS" to 6464

20:15
Bloem Celtic
v
Bidvest Wits

sms "SAPLS" to 6464

30 October 2016

15:30
Mamelodi Sundowns
v
Cape Town City

sms "SAPLS" to 6464

15:30
Baroka FC
v
Polokwane City

sms "SAPLS" to 6464

15:30
Highlands Park
v
Free State Stars

sms "SAPLS" to 6464

Premier League | Fixtures

29 October 2016

13:30 Sunderland v Arsenal

sms "Arsenal" to 6464

16:00 Manchester United v Burnley

sms "Manutd" to 6464

16:00 Middlesbrough v Bournemouth

16:00 Tottenham Hotspur v Leicester City

16:00 Watford v Hull City

16:00 West Bromwich Albion v Manchester City

sms "Premier" to 6464

18:30 Crystal Palace v Liverpool

sms "Liverpool" to 6464

30 October 2016

15:30 Everton v West Ham United

sms "Premier" to 6464

18:00 Southampton v Chelsea

sms "Chelsea" to 6464



Premier
League

run
Swaziland in
real time

Get all the latest scores and news updates as the game progresses



NG'AMBI BELIEVES PLATINUMSTARS NEED TO UP THEIR GAME

JOHANNESBURG - Dikwena are looking to curb a poor run of form that has left them in the bottom half of the table heading into their sixth league fixture, taking place at the Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium. "It's our job. Everybody knows what we have to do. We know it has been disappointing. We have been in poor form recently. We have to pull up our socks. We have to go and fight hard against Chippa. We have to pick up three points and things will be better for us," Ng'ambi told the club's official website.

"Chippa are a good team. They have been doing well. They are playing at home and I think they have an advantage. We need to work hard to collect the points. We need to go all out and come back with the points. We need the points more than them."

The Malawian also addressed his side's lack of efficacy in front of goal but believes it won't be long before they rediscover their goal scoring touch.

"It's just a matter of time. We have been creating a number of scoring chances but we haven't done well in the final third. If we can just score goals, I think the rest will follow. We need to look at ourselves and motivate ourselves and make sure that we perform according to the coach's instructions. With confidence I think we can start scoring goals," said Ng'ambi.

"We have to take it one game as it comes because I know it's just a matter of time before we get the confidence back. The more you lose and draw games, the confidence always goes down but we have to keep on working hard. We have been talking to one another than we mustn't look down. We have to keep on pushing. It's a matter of us winning games and gaining back the confidence that we used to have."



PULL UP SOCKS: Robert Ng'ambi.

'PITSO MOST SUCCESSFUL COACH IN PSL HISTORY'

CAPE TOWN - Premier Soccer League chairperson Irvin Khoza says that Mamelodi Sundowns coach Pitso Mosimane is the most successful coach in PSL history.

Jingles - as he is affectionately known as in the football fraternity - guided the Chloorkop side to their first CAF Champions League trophy against Zamalek last week.

Khoza believes that Mosimane deserves all the praise and accolades as his success will benefit the country in future.

"Ladies and gentlemen, it is a fact Pitso Mosimane is the most successful coach in the 30 years of the PSL history," Khoza said as quoted by the PSL website.

"I have told a story about him coming to see me at our World Cup Bid headquarters at Summer Place, you remember that Dr Jordaan.

"After receiving his coaching certificate, he told me then that he wants to have staying power, today we know he also has standing and running power.

"Congratulations Mr Mosimane, you deserve the success you are receiving. Your success will go along way in helping our nation build our home-grown coaches.

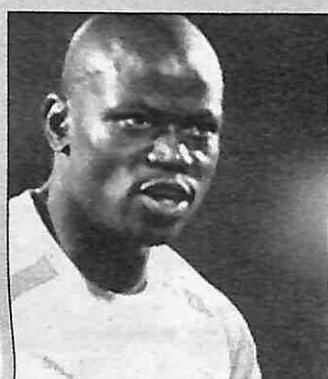
"Thank you, President Motsepe for an unwavering platform on which so much great talent was able to shine."

Sport24



HAPPY MAN: Pitso Mosimane.

I RESPECT PIRATES EVEN MORE NOW - KEKANA



REVEALED: Hlompho Kekana.

JOHANNESBURG - Mamelodi Sundowns' Hlompho Kekana has revealed he respects Orlando Pirates even more now after everything the Brazilians went through in their CAF Champions League final.

In an exclusive interview with Soccer Laduma, the Sundowns captain shared his experience in Cairo, before the team walked in to the stadium on the night that they were crowned CAF Champions League winners.

"I don't want to lie to you, if you are not mentally strong, forget about winning anything on the continent. To say 'kunjima' (it is tough) is an understatement! It is almost impossible and, like I said, I respect Pirates even more," he said.

"Those guys ngamadoda okwenene and angangihlalisa phantsi angithethise (are real men and they can sit me down and guide me), and I will listen.

In these games, you will never know how strong you are until you

come across the kinds of situations we were exposed to.

"When you make it through them, you look back and wonder how you made it.

That's when you realise just how strong you are as a person or group.

"After what we went through, I don't think anything can break us apart."

To read the full exclusive interview with Kekana, check out this week's edition of Soccer Laduma, issue number 996. *Soccerladuma*

SUPERSPORT AIM TO COMPOUND AJAX WOES

PRETORIA - SuperSport United are away today hoping to continue with their winning form as they visit Ajax Cape Town at Cape Town Stadium for an Absa Premiership clash.

Kick-off is at 8:15pm.

The Tshwane giants are fresh from two back-to-back wins in all competitions and will now head to the Mother City in high spirits.

United did not have a good start, but are now peaking at the right time as they want to finish in a decent position come the Christmas break.

Stuart Baxter's side are on the verge of bagging their third consecutive win and the fact they face a coachless Urban Warriors side puts them at an advantage. Looking at the log table, Amatsantsa A Pitso sit at No 5 with nine points from two wins, three draws and one defeat.

"Well, Ajax is always a tough team to play against, and a team that normally play with a lot of confidence and a lot of drive and spirit. They pass the ball but they are also

AIMS HIGH: Supersport United.



naive in terms of leaving so much space to exploit," said defender Clayton Daniels.

"Their defence leaves a high line and you could see against Chiefs how many breakthroughs Chiefs got with a ball behind them."

Hosts Ajax have parted ways with coach Roger De Sa just after their 2-1 loss at the hands of Bidvest Wits on Wednesday night.

The loss was the fourth for the Capetonians as they are yet to find a win this season and facing United, they will have to bounce back.

Although they played well at home against the Clever Boys, Ajax failed to convert their chances as they dominated the proceedings in the opening half. The 2015/16 MTN8 Cup champions are now placed in 15th place on the log table with two points, just ahead of Mamelodi Sundowns who have only played one match.

"I think we don't have to start to press the panic button, there's still a lot of games to play," defender Mosa Lebusa said. © Backpage TXT

CASTRO BACK IN SUNDOWNS CAMP

PRETORIA - Mamelodi Sundowns' Leonardo Castro has returned to South Africa, after he was given some time off to spend with his family in South America.

Castro sustained an injury during Sundowns' 3-1 victory of their Tshwane rivals, SuperSport United in the MTN8 competition. The 27-year-old was subsequently given a few days away from Sundowns duty, to heal and rehabilitate, and at the same time spend time with his family in Colombia. Now, Sundowns have confirmed that the player is back in the country and at the club. "Look who just touched down in South Africa!" Sundowns said on a video post of Castro on their official social media platforms. However, Masandawana's PRO, Thulani Thuswa has revealed that the club's doctors are yet to assess the striker, and confirm whether or not he can begin light training in the coming days.

Soccerladuma



RECOVERED: Leonardo Castro.

RONALDO, BALE, TEAMMATES GEAR UP FOR ALAVES TRIP

...as Zinedine Zidane's stars return for La Liga leaders

MADRID - Real Madrid's big guns are back in training and ready to fire on all cylinders after being rested for their Copa del Rey victory.

Cristiano Ronaldo, Gareth Bale and Karim Benzema did not play a part in the 7-1 win against Cultural Leonesa but are expected to return for the Alaves match. Zinedine Zidane's side are sitting pretty at the summit of La Liga, leading Sevilla by one point.

They will be confident in at least

maintaining their advantage when they visit Mendizorrotza Stadium to take on Alaves who currently lie in 13th.

Zidane will hope that despite significant alterations to the starting line-up, his team can continue their goal-scoring exploits. In the thumping victory against Leonesa, both Alvaro Morata and Marcos Asensio scored twice to stake their claims for regular first-team action. Real totally outclassed their third-tier opposition and even though there is still a second leg to be played,

the result is beyond doubt.

Alaves will need to be at their best defensively this weekend as Real have scored 20 goals in their last four matches. The absences of Luka Modric, Casemiro, Sergio Ramos and Dani Carvajal have done little to impede Zidane's resurgent side.

Real have scored at least five goals in each of their last five matches against Alaves so will be expecting another entertaining showing today.

Daily Mail

Zidane backs Ronaldo for Ballon d'Or

MADRID - Real Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane backed Cristiano Ronaldo's case for a fourth Ballon d'Or yesterday despite the Portuguese superstar's current struggles in front of goal.

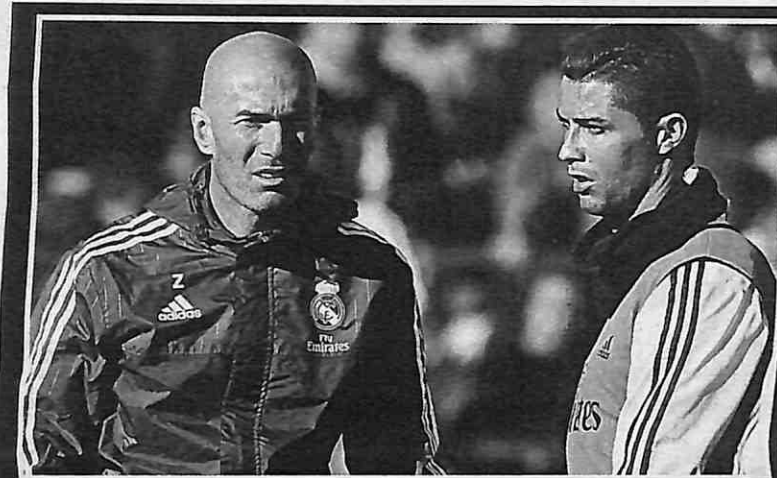
Ronaldo won both the Champions League with Real and Portugal's first ever major tournament at Euro 2016 to make him the favourite to land the award for the world's best player on 9 January next year.

"He clearly deserves the Ballon d'Or," said Zidane ahead of today's trip to Alaves in La Liga.

"Not just at an individual level, but above all on a collective level ... he knows everything he is achieving is thanks to his hard work and the work of those around him."

Ronaldo is expected to face competition from five-time winner Lionel Messi, Madrid teammate Gareth Bale and Atletico Madrid and France forward Antoine Griezmann for the award. However, his form has slumped since his return from a two-month layoff after suffering knee ligament damage in the Euro 2016 final.

"What Cristiano has done is raise the bar so high that every time he doesn't score it is a problem," added Zidane.



THE BEST: Zinedine Zidane believes Cristiano Ronaldo is still the world's best player.

Ronaldo has netted just four times in nine appearances for Madrid so far this season, by a distance his worst return at this stage of the campaign in seven seasons with the European champions.

"He is angry (about not scoring), but there is no bigger worry than that," continued Zidane.

"Every time he doesn't score there is a furore, but he has to live with these things. He is a phenomenon."

Ronaldo is expected to be partnered

by Bale and Karim Benzema once more in the Madrid front line despite the fine form of Alvaro Morata. The Spanish international came off the bench to score the winner against Athletic Bilbao last weekend and bagged a double in a 7-1 rout of Cultural Leonesa in the Copa del Rey on Wednesday.

Captain Sergio Ramos, Luka Modric and Casemiro remain out injured.

AFP

Leekens replaces Rajevac as coach

ALGIERS - The 67-year-old takes over after the firing of Serbian Milovan Rajevac following Algeria's home draw with Cameroon earlier this month in their opening game of the group phase of the African qualifiers for the 2018 World Cup.

The Algerian Football Federation gave no details of the proposed contract for Leekens, who returns to a post he held briefly for six months in 2003 before quitting for 'family reasons'. Leekens has also twice before coached Belgium's national team and was in charge of Tunisia at the 2015 African Nations Cup finals. His first assignment with Algeria will be a World Cup qualifier away against Nigeria in Uyo on Nov. 12.

After that, Algeria participate in the 2017 Nations Cup finals in Gabon in January, where they have been drawn in Group B with Zimbabwe, Tunisia and Senegal. *Kickoff*

Robben receives Netherlands recall

MUNICH - Arjen Robben has been recalled to the Netherlands squad for their friendly against Belgium and a World Cup qualifier in Luxembourg.

The Bayern Munich winger has earned 88 caps for his country, featuring at six major tournaments since making his debut in 2003.

However, Robben has struggled with a number of fitness issues in recent years, and last played for Netherlands in November 2015.

Scored

The 32-year-old has scored three goals in six appearances for Bayern this season and international boss Danny Blind has brought him back into the fold with Netherlands third in Group A of World Cup qualifying. Stijn Schaars has also returned to the squad, as the Dutch trail both

Netherlands squad in full:

Goalkeepers: Maarten Stekelenburg (Everton), Michel Vorm (Tottenham)

Defenders: Daley Blind (Manchester United), Jeffrey Bruma (Wolfsburg), Virgil van Dijk (Southampton), Rick Karsdorp (Feyenoord), Terence Kongolo (Feyenoord), Joel Veltman (Ajax), Jetro Willems (PSV)

Midfielders: Jordy Clasie (Southampton), Davy Klaassen (Ajax), Davy Propper (PSV), Bart Ramselaar (PSV), Stijn Schaars (Heerenveen), Wesley Sneijder (Galatasaray), Tonny Vilhena (Feyenoord), Georginio Wijnaldum (Liverpool)

Forwards: Memphis Depay (Manchester United), Bas Dost (Sporting), Vincent Janssen (Tottenham), Luuk de Jong (PSV), Arjen Robben (Bayern Munich)

France and Sweden by three points with three games played.

Goal

Krol linked to Ajax Cape Town job following Roger de Sa resignation

CAPE TOWN - The Absa Premiership strugglers are without a head coach after parting ways with Roger de Sa this week.

Ex-national U-23 coach Mich D'Avray is in charge of Ajax on an interim basis, and will supervise the side in tomorrow's league clash with SuperSport United at Cape Town Stadium.

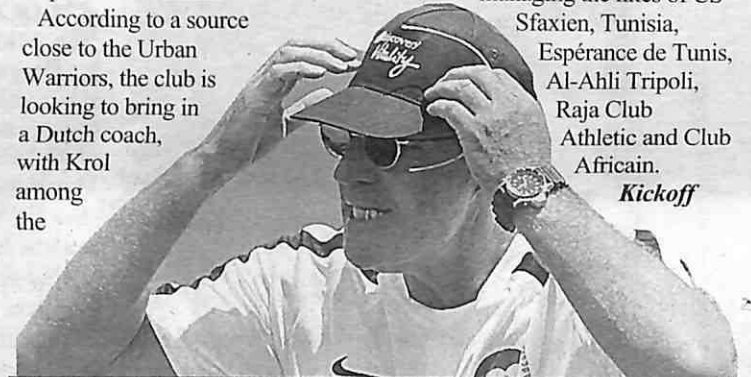
According to a source close to the Urban Warriors, the club is looking to bring in a Dutch coach, with Krol among the

favoured options being discussed. "The club is speaking to a few coaches. Krol's name has been mentioned," says the source.

"Krol remains a favourite candidate because he also understands local football after coaching Orlando Pirates."

The Holland legend won a treble with Pirates in 2010/11 before managing the likes of CS Sfaxien, Tunisia, Espérance de Tunis, Al-Ahli Tripoli, Raja Club Athletic and Club Africain.

Kickoff



EYED: Ruud Krol linked to Ajax Cape Town job following Roger de Sa resignation.

Pogba misses Juventus, Juventus miss Pogba

MANCHESTER - When Luke Shaw was asked last week what Paul Pogba had brought to Manchester United, the left-back quipped: "A lot of dance moves in the dressing room!" It was a harmless attempt at humour but nobody else was laughing - except for maybe Juventus general director Beppe Marotta, who revealed at the club's annual shareholders' assembly on Tuesday that the Italian champions had made a €72 million net

profit on the Frenchman's world-record transfer to Old Trafford.

Deal

However, the sad fact of the matter is that while Pogba's move to Manchester represents a great deal for both the midfielder's agent, Mino Raiola, who made a sickening €27m on the transaction, and the Bianconeri's bank balance, it is not working out well for either the player or his former club. Put quite simply: Pogba misses Juve - and Juve miss Pogba. *Goal*

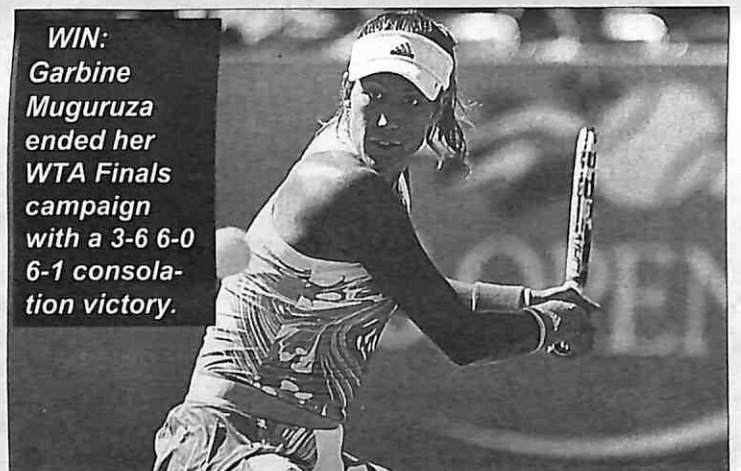
Muguruza rallies past Kuznetsova

SINGAPORE - Garbine Muguruza ended her WTA Finals campaign with a 3-6 6-0, 6-1 consolation victory over Svetlana Kuznetsova in Singapore yesterday, the Spaniard rallying from a slow start to blow away her Russian opponent.

Despite her defeat, the 31-year-old Kuznetsova still won the White Group after round robin wins over defending champion Agnieszka Radwanska and Karolina Pliskova, the Russian advancing to face Dominika Cibulkova in today's semi-finals. Poland's Radwanska and big-hitting Czech Pliskova meet in the group finale later on Friday with the winner going on to face world No 1 Angelique Kerber in the second semifinal.

Kuznetsova started her previous two matches slowly but she was quick out of the blocks against Muguruza, breaking the Spaniard in the third game to move ahead before she repeated the feat in the ninth to wrap up the opener in 29 minutes. The Russian had been fairly untroubled on her serve, not even taken to deuce in the opener, but her radar was off target at the start of the second set when a second double fault gifted Muguruza a break in the first game.

The French Open champion was suddenly back in the contest as Kuznetsova appeared to lose her range and focus, the tall Spaniard breaking twice more while holding comfortably to race through the set without dropping a game. *Reuters*



WIN: Garbine Muguruza ended her WTA Finals campaign with a 3-6 6-0 6-1 consolation victory.



MTN Premier League 2016/17

PREVIEWS

STRUGGLING SEA BIRDS EYE TAMBUTI



Tambuti vs Sea Birds
Mayaluka Stadium, 4pm

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCER - Basement side Manzini Sea Birds will be looking to obtain their second victory of the season when they take on a not so consistent Tambuti in the ninth string of the MTN premier league games at Mayaluka Stadium this afternoon.

Sea Birds have started the season in the same fashion as the previous one, only this time they have one victory to their name.

Having conceded a dozen goals so far, the same number conceded by their opponents, the writing is on the wall for the Gcina Dlamini led charges, things are not going well. They haven't scored even half the number of points they have dropped, a mere seven goals that have obtained them five points out of a possible 21.

Tambuti are occupying the second spot from the bottom and only a single point separates the two.

Tambuti have recorded the highest number of losses so far in the campaign, winning only two matches of their seven games and no draw.

The two victories makes them level in points

with both Mbabane Highlanders and Green Mamba with a poor goal difference putting them beneath the two on the log.

Seemingly, Tambuti are finding it hard to adapt to the elite league as the results don't reflect the vigilance that the latter portrayed in the National First Division last season, even emerging as the champions of the campaign.

Their last defeat to Moneni Pirates spelled lack of endurance for the Alou Badara led side as they surrendered the lead after a prolonged period and went on to lose the match 2-1.

Teams

Tambuti

Head coach: Alou Badara

Captain:

Key players:

Match winner:

Sea Birds

Head coach: Gcina

Dlamini

Captain:

Key players:

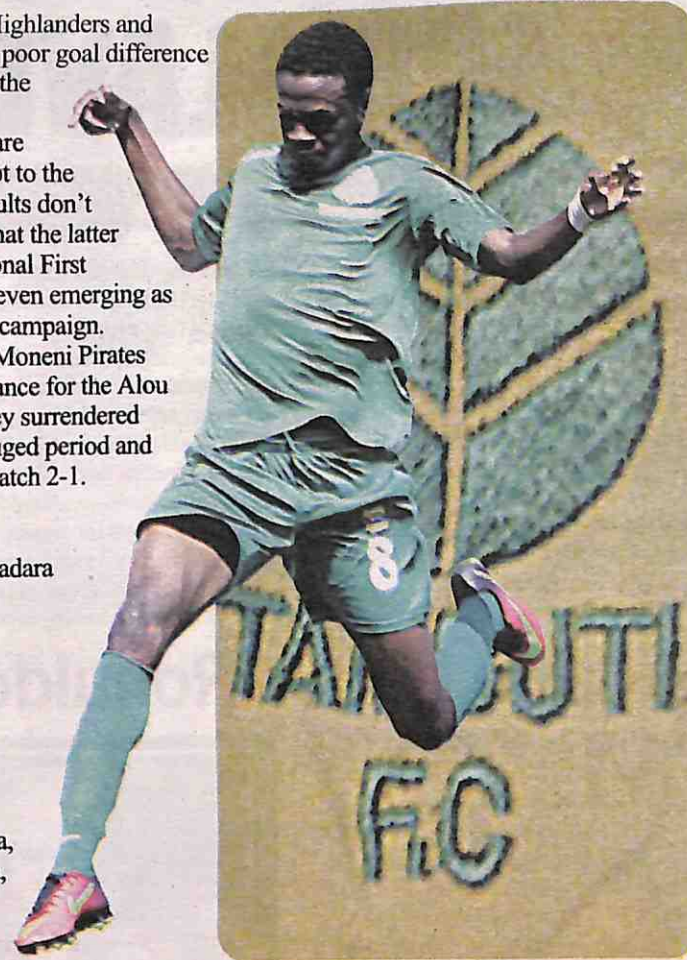
Sibonginkosi Maduna,

Theminkosi Thwala,

Muzi Tsabedze

Match winner:

Wandile Nhleko



Where the slip-up and winning streaks could lie before the Christmas period

With just a point separating the top five, the Premier League's leading lights are already looking ahead to where the gaps could open up in the coming weeks — or close up for those following behind.

Sir Alex Ferguson believes there are five teams in the title race but only one team can take the crown, and of the eight stand-out sides so far only four can fit into the Champions League-qualifying spots.

Manchester City lead the way as it stands, but Arsenal and Liverpool are level on points with the early leaders. Chelsea and Tottenham follow up a point behind the top three, splitting themselves between the Champions League and Europa League qualifying spots on goal difference. Everton, Manchester United and Southampton all have high expectations, too. Here, Sportsmail assesses the pre-Christmas course for those with aspirations of a spot among the Premier League's top ranks.

MANCHESTER CITY

If Pep Guardiola's team are struggling through something of a tough patch, they can at least be boosted by the outlook of a decent run up to Christmas.

Their biggest tests, against Arsenal and Chelsea, both come at The Etihad where they would expect to beat both.

City do not face the added complication of a late-November EFL Cup fixture following their exit from the competition this week but tough Champions League games are still to come.

October 29: West Bromwich Albion (A)
November 5: Middlesbrough (H)
November 19: Crystal Palace (A)
November 26: Burnley (A)
December 3: Chelsea (H)
December 10: Leicester City (A)
December 14: Watford (H)

December 18: Arsenal (H)

Difficulty rating (calculated on current league positions): 6/10

ARSENAL

Arsenal suffered a stutter at home against Middlesbrough last weekend and there are a few more potential stumbling blocks to come in their next eight games.

Trips to both Manchester clubs will be big tests of Arsene Wenger's side's title potential while the likes of West Ham and Everton could be tricky away outings, too.

The Gunners look increasingly resilient but maximum points against the 'lesser' teams could be much-needed.

October 29: Sunderland (A)
November 6: Tottenham (H)
November 19: Manchester United (A)
November 27: Bournemouth (H)
December 3: West Ham (A)
December 10: Stoke City (H)
December 13: Everton (A)
December 18: Manchester City (A)
Difficulty rating: 7.5/10

LIVERPOOL

A difficult opening run of fixtures this season means Liverpool now face something of an easy route through to mid-December.

Jurgen Klopp has led his team to dominating matches but questions still remain over killing off some of the Premier League's weaker sides. A Merseyside derby away at Goodison Park ends this period — otherwise it looks fairly straightforward and a great opportunity to pick up points.

October 29: Crystal Palace (A)
November 6: Watford (H)
November 19: Southampton (A)
November 26: Sunderland (H)
December 4: Bournemouth (A)
December 11: West Ham (H)

December 14: Middlesbrough (A)

December 19: Everton (A)

Difficulty rating: 4/10

CHELSEA

Chelsea no longer have the EFL Cup as a distraction and European football is not an issue this season, so their concentration can focus solely on the Premier League in this run. Two big tests come at Stamford Bridge in the form of Everton and Tottenham in the first meeting between the London clubs since last season's ill-tempered clash.

Middlesbrough and Sunderland offer lengthy trips on the road and a trip to Manchester City will be difficult.

October 30: Southampton (A)
November 5: Everton (H)
November 20: Middlesbrough (A)
November 26: Tottenham (H)
December 3: Manchester City (A)
December 11: West Bromwich Albion (H)
December 14: Sunderland (A)
December 17: Crystal Palace (A)
Difficulty rating: 7/10

TOTTENHAM

In Arsenal, Chelsea and Manchester United, Tottenham have a horrible collection of away fixtures to face before mid-December.

Mauricio Pochettino will know his team need to maximise their potential at home while trying to produce the kind of performances seen against Manchester City earlier this month on the road. That showing gave an indication that Spurs can take points off anyone in this league — their opponents will be aware.

October 29: Leicester City (H)
November 6: Arsenal (A)
November 19: West Ham (H)
November 26: Chelsea (A)
December 3: Swansea City (H)
December 11: Manchester United (A)

December 14: Burnley (H)

December 17: Southampton (A)

Difficulty rating: 7.5/10

EVERTON

Everton face five of the seven other teams in the Premier League's top eight in a section of the fixture list that has not been kind to Ronald Koeman. One source of hope will be the home comforts of Goodison Park. Manchester United, Arsenal and local rivals Liverpool are all visitors coming up and Everton are yet to lose at home.

Trips to Chelsea and Koeman's former Southampton will be testing, too. This could be a difficult period for the Toffees.

October 30: West Ham (H)
November 5: Chelsea (A)
November 19: Swansea City (H)
November 27: Southampton (A)
December 4: Manchester United (H)
December 10: Watford (A)
December 13: Arsenal (H)
December 19: Liverpool (H)
Difficulty rating: 8/10

MANCHESTER UNITED

Ferguson is backing United to remain as title candidates if they can find consistency soon, and this fixture list might just offer that opportunity. Arsenal and Tottenham both have to come to Old Trafford, plus there is a trip to Everton to consider, but most of United's opponents are in the bottom half of the table. After struggling at Liverpool and Chelsea, Jose Mourinho will be looking to go as close to maximum points as possible.

October 29: Burnley (H)
November 6: Swansea City (A)
November 19: Arsenal (H)
November 27: West Ham (H)
December 4: Everton (A)
December 11: Tottenham (H)
December 14: Crystal Palace (A)
December 17: West Bromwich Albion (A)
Difficulty rating: 5.5/10

FA EDUCATES ALL FOUR REGIONS IN FIRST AID

Stories by Sabelo Majola

SOCCER-THE National Football Association of Swaziland in conjunction with Emergency Medical Services (EMS) have rounded up all four regions of the country in tutoring First Aid in sports.

The last group to participate in the initiative was Shiselweni and their closing ceremony was held yesterday at Mphophoma Conference Centre in Malkerns yesterday.

Manzini was the first region to have participants taking part in the course aimed at equipping the first aiders with the necessary expertise to help nurse injured footballers on the spot before getting professional help.

Making her remarks during the event, EMS representative Charlotte Ngwenya urged the participants to assist not just in the sporting fraternity but also in their respective communities.

"The skills of administering first aid cuts across all spheres hence



FIRST AIDERS: FA officials and EMS instructors posing for a group photo with FA first aid course participants from Shiselweni. A closing ceremony for the course was held at Malkerns, Mphophoma yesterday. (Pics: Sabelo Majola)

it is important that you help your communities especially because nowadays we have natural disasters caused by the climate change and scenarios that require urgent help. We also urge you to improvise, use the available resources to carry out your tasks," she said. Meanwhile Nkosingiphile

Ndwandwe, who represented the participants, described undergoing the course as a great experience.

He said it was their wish to enroll on the advanced phase of the course in future.

"We are happy to be part of the medical participants and with the

expertise that we were equipped with here, we will do our best to help out where necessary," he said.

He advised the other participants to convey confidence at all times for them to do their job with ease.

Medical courses prevent unnecessary deaths - Comfort

SOCCER- National Football Association of Swaziland (NFAS) Head of Medical Dr Comfort Shongwe has highlighted that medicine courses go a long way in preventing unnecessary deaths of players.

Making his remarks during the closing of the Medical Course at Mphophoma Conference Centre yesterday, Shongwe said speed, accuracy and neatness was essential when attending to an injured player.

"Football should be the safest sport and you as medical practitioners

should know what to do in a short space of time. One key area is resuscitation and you should practice it more often because if not carried out perfectly, it could have a negative impact to a patient," he said.

Shongwe who recently attended a medical seminar in Egypt highlighted a number of countries including Cameroon and Ghana have lost multiple players due to injuries in the field of play.

Meanwhile NFAS CEO Frederick Mngomezulu emphasised on the point of improvising. He however stated that they would look into giving the participants equipment to work with.

"Health is the first largest industry in the world, after sports. Life and living healthy is a priority to everyone hence it is important to have people on the ground that will look into aiding those in need of medical attention. With extra effort and determination, one can reach greater heights, even end up with the national team as a doctor," he said.

He concluded by saying that they would enforce the inclusion of a medical team in every team so that the participants can get jobs.

"...Health is the first largest industry in the world, after sports. Life and living healthy is a priority to everyone hence it is important to have people on the ground that will look into aiding those in need of medical attention."



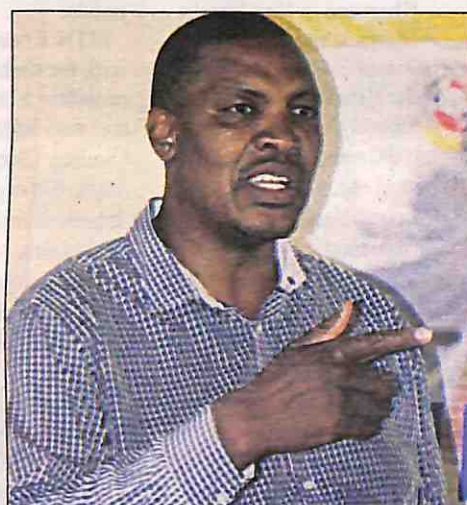
LIGHT MOMENT: FA CEO Frederick Mngomezulu, EMS's Charlotte Ngwenya and Hhuka Dlamini sharing a light moment.



SIYABONGA: Mngomezulu making his remarks.



UNIFORM: participants listening to speeches.



LIKE THIS: FA head of medical Dr. Comfort Shongwe making his submissions.



WHAT A GREAT EXPERIENCE: Nkosingiphile Ndwandwe speaking on behalf of the participants.



I feel very sorry for all those that are not able to find the time and means to come down to Mavuso Sports Emporium and witness the exhilarating best Swazi Basketball has to offer. I am extremely disappointed that even the other Basketball players are missing out in the action.

I cannot put into words how sensational the game between Lady Jazz and Enjabulweni Griffins was. From the word go this game looked like it was going down to the wire. Samkelisiwe was providing Jazz with all their points and Griffins' Hope was answering basket for basket. Griffins were making it clear they were going to do better than their last game even taking a five point lead in the second quarter. Lady Jazz were finding it hard to find their rhythm without their shooter Linda, point guard Dudu and super scorer Penny. Two minutes left and Griffins were closing in on the Lady Jazz, until Samkelisiwe got the ball on the fast break drove straight to the hoop, looking to have double dribbled the ball and finished, giving Lady Jazz enough separation to hold on for the win. Lady Jazz 39 – Griffins 37

I genuinely thought I was in for a high level contest between Raiders and Heat but due to the wholesale changes the Heat has made to their squad Raiders just had way too much talent for Heat to stay in the game. It only got worse when their young talented point guard, who was giving them some great moments of brilliance, fouled out early in the second half. Raiders took full advantage of the one man advantage and ran away with the game. Finishing, Raiders 73 – Heat 34.

The Knicks are on a winning streak! These are words I know I am not going to use very often. The Knicks convincingly beat Pacers. As much as I say convincingly there was a big moment of controversy where the table officials keeping score made an error at a crucial point of the game with Pacers staging what seemed a strong comeback from being 20 points down to closing it to within seven. However the score keepers misplaced two baskets and Pacers were recorded to be down 11 instead. The long break caused Pacers to lose their momentum and Knicks to regain their composure. Knicks stretched the lead again and won the game 74 – 57.

Today's fixture doesn't need any build up on why these games really shouldn't be missed. All I have is questions, just lots of questions. Questions like, will the momentum Knicks have got going for them give us another close game against the Jazz?

Which team will finally end their losing streak, Pacers or Tridents? Both teams are in dire need for a win to improve morale and motivation.

Will Imbembe have enough to slow down Steels? Steels look like they have found their speed again so Imbembe are going to have to find a way to slow them down. Steels are also going to have to keep an eye on that sharp shooting Mr. Bones.

Raptors lost by only one tiny little point the last time they played Superstars. The question is will Raptors bring the same intensity they brought in their last game and have enough to pull off what some may call an upset?

And the last question of the day is can the Lady Jazz beat the Super Ladies?

Let's all get the answers today at Mavuso. This is Swaziland Basketball.....

RUBBER LEAVES A PROUD MAN

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCEER – Resigned Mbabane Highlanders Boss Bheki Rubber Simelane is a proud man after successfully bringing the team back to the elite league.

Simelane said he was happy with his achievements with the black and white ensemble. Addressing the media during the press briefing held at the BPL offices at Sidwashini on Thursday, Simelane said he was happy with his achievements in his time as the teams Managing Director (MD).

"I am proud with the things I have managed to do with this team. When I got here all the players were out of contract but I, together with the MC I had appointed, managed to take care of that situation.

"About 11 players left the team then but we managed to maintain the likes of Chocco, Mphucuko



DELIGHTFUL: Bheki Rubber Simelane.

and the twins whom we made a base for the team because they were hungry for success. It worked well because we got promoted back in just one season and did well in our first year back in the league fishing on position five before winning the first

Rubber takes a break from football

Mbabane Highlanders resigned Managing Director Bheki Rubber Simelane has noted he is taking a break from football.

Simelane said there were teams in both the elite league and lower division that have started approaching him to join them. "After the incident last Sunday, I have been receiving a number of phone calls from

teams asking I come and join them. However that will not happen because I am taking an indefinite break from football," he said.

He said he would now shift focus to his family and other business ventures.

"While in football, I had very little time for my family and they will be happy to have me back full time," he said.

round and finishing as league runners last season. To me these are great achievement but I have done my part," he said.

Simelane said he was confident the team would well even in the current campaign despite not being in a good position on the log.

"Yes the team didn't start well this season but all is not lost looking at the other team. The race is still very open because even the

first on the log can still fight for relegation come end of the league," he said.

Simelane however noted he was worried about the future of the team because of the conduct of its supporters.

"No team in the world can be run by supporters and their conduct will destroy this team. Supporters should just let those in charge run the team if they want it to be successful," he said.



CYCLING: Similo Nyoni (c) flanked by teammates.

MTN KHEMANI' SIMILO NYONI THIS YEAR'S KING OF THE ROAD

By Qondile Ntiwane

CYCLING – MTN Khemani cyclist Similo Nyoni is the Cycling Association of Swaziland (CAS) King of the Road this year.

Nyoni topped the charts after snatching the most points after the five road races held this year.

According to the Total Road rankings released by CAS Secretary Menzi Tsela, the MTN Khemani cyclist accumulated a total of 650 points and is ahead of fellow teammate Muzi Shabangu, who is fresh from winning the Siteki Brickcon race held last weekend. Shabangu is second on 630 points while Newcom Wheels' Mduduzi Zwane is third on 510 points.

In the ladies category Velo Eswatini's Carol Du Pont walked

away with the crown on 350 points and was followed by Inyatsi's Wendy Reed on 310 points.

MTN Khemani walked away with the club award after accumulating a total of 2 700 points and was followed by 4Eva Cycling Club on 1 316 points while Newcom Wheels and Inyatsi shared the third spot with 844 points.

Tsela extended gratitude to all stakeholders for their contribution to the development of cycling.

"Your commitment to cycling will be forever cherished. Congratulations are also in order to the winners of the Total road ranking. We hope to see you on the Mafutseni mtb and Inyatsi Toy ride in November and December respectively.

The rankings

Men	Cycling club	points
Similo Nyoni	MTN Khemani	650
Muzi Shabangu (*JM)	MTN Khemani	620
Mduduzi Zwane	Newcom Wheels	510
Sibusiso Msibi	4EVA	460
Morgan Rudd	4EVA	450
Sicelo Phiri	MTN Khemani	420
William Kelly	MTN Khemani	400
Lungelo Mlangeni	MTN Khemani	394
Sifiso Mhlanga	Inyatsi	360
Darren Dunn	MTN Khemani	230

Joseph Waring	4EVA	180
Ncamiso Dlamini	Newcom Wheels	170
Artwell Ndzinisa	MTN Khemani	92
Dumi Mhlongo	MTN Khemani	90
Ronny Nxumalo	MTN Khemani	90
Sabelo Maziya	MTN Khemani	88
Esau Du Pont	4EVA	86
Mark Wilsch	4EVA	70

Ncamiso Ntshalintshali	MTN Khemani	70
Richard Cunningham	Inyatsi	66
Carlos Malinga	Newcom Wheels	60

Ara Monadjem	4EVA	60
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Sebbie Dupont	Velo cycle Eswatini	50
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Sihle Mahlalela	MTN Khemani	40
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Gideon Mthembu	MTN Khemani	16
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Zakhele Lukhele	MTN Khemani	14
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Dave Roberts	Inyatsi	12
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Vusani Mkhabela	MTN Khemani	10
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Clinton McNamara	4EVA	10
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Vito Oliveria	Inyatsi	6
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Sive Mamba	Newcom Wheels	4
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Mduduzi Nkambule	MTN Khemani	4
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Women Elite		
Carol du Pont	Velo Eswatini	350
Wendy Reed	Inyatsi	310
Linda Loffler	Velo Eswatini	200

Clubs	
Men	
MTN Khemani	2 700
4Eva	1316
Newcom Wheels	844
Inyatsi	844
Women	
Velo Eswatini	550
Inyatsi	120

HIGHLANDERS' BIG MEET TOMORROW

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCEr - Estranged Mbabane Highlanders will host a big Indaba to address the problems engulfing the team.

The meeting, which has been sanctioned by the team's Patrons, will be held at the MDS primary School tomorrow starting at 9am.

Information gathered by this publication is the meeting will be attended by amongst others the patrons and the team's players.

National Supporters Committee (NSC) Secretary Mduduzi Fakudze confirmed the meeting yesterday.

"We have been sent by the team's elders to call everyone who associates themselves with



COME IN NUMBERS: Mbabane Highlanders are urged to a big Indaba to address the problems engulfing the team.

Mbabane Highlanders to attend this very important meeting. One of the issues that would be discussed during the meeting is the current situation in the team and

what will happen next. Therefore all supporters should make sure to attend without fail," he said. The much anticipated meeting comes after the resignation of

Managing Director Bheki Rubber Simelane on Thursday. Simelane who took over the team in 2013 took the decision after he was attacked by the team's supporters after their 0-3 defeat to police outfit Royal Leopard at the Somhlolo National Stadium last Sunday.

The conduct of the supporters, who were demanding for his exit in the team, resulted in Simelane being driven away in a police caspir.

The team's Patron led by Isaac Shabangu have since taken over the team and have appointed a task committee to help normalise the situation in the team. The committee comprises of former Chairman Charles 'Ace' Jele, former MC Chairman Musa Masuku, and Sandla Mamba.

Rubber-less Landers to face Sea Birds on Tuesday

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCEr-Mbabane Highlanders will play their first game in three seasons without former MD Bheki 'Rubber' Simelane who has relinquished his position.

The black and white ensemble will face Manzini Sea Birds at the Mavuso Sports Centre on Tuesday night.

This will be the team's first game in a space of two weeks after requesting their game against Moneni Pirates, initially slated for today, to be postponed following the problems at the team.

According to the fixtures released by the Premier League of Swaziland (PLS), Highlanders will be in the same arena with arch rivals Mbabane Swallows who will be visiting Red Lions in the first game on the night.

On Wednesday, Midas City will co-host with Young Buffaloes at the Somhlolo while hub giants Manzini Wanderers will co-host with town rivals Manzini Sundowns at the Mavuso Sports Centre.

Midas City have a date with Green Mamba while Buffaloes will face with Moneni Pirates at 8am. Sundowns will battle with it out Royal Leopard while Wanderers will take on Tambuti. The full fixture:

Tuesday at Somhlolo National		
Red Lions	vs Mb Swallows	6pm
Manzini Sea Birds	vs Mb Highlanders	8pm
Wednesday at Somhlolo National Stadium		
Midas City	vs Green Mamba	6pm
Young Buffaloes	vs Moneni Pirates	8pm
Wednesday at Mavuso Sports Centre		
Manzini Sundowns	vs Royal Leopard	6pm
Manzini Wanderers	vs Tambuti	8pm



Official Sponsor

'BULL' PLAYERS BACK AT TRAINING

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCEr- After a week in the wilderness, Mbabane Highlanders players are back at training.

The players reported to training for the first time yesterday after the saga involving former Managing Director (MD) Bheki 'Rubber' Simelane and the team's supporters which started last Sunday.

Highlanders' players have not reported for training since the incident occurred with the fear of the hostile and rowdy fans which bayed for the MD's blood after their 0-3 defeat to Royal Leopard at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

The players have been caught up in numerous meetings after being left stranded following the resignation of Simelane.

A source close to the matter confirmed the players started training yesterday.

"The players are now back at training in preparation for their



BACK IN TRAINING: Mbabane Highlanders players are back at training.

mid-week game against Manzini Sea Birds at the Somhlolo National Stadium on Tuesday night.

Highlanders will lock horns with basement side Manzini Sea Birds at Somhlolo after their weekend fixture against Moneni Pirates was shifted to a date still to be confirmed.

The PLS was forced to cancel

the scheduled game after Highlanders wrote a letter asking the game be cancelled due to security reasons.

Highlanders have only managed a mere six points out of a possible 21, having won just one game and played three times to a stalemate in seven matches. They are currently plunged three places from the basement.

MAMBA VENOM TOO STRONG FOR RED LIONS

By Sabelo Majola

Red Lions..... (0)0
Green Mamba..... (1)2

SOCCEr - A brace from Njabulo Thwala and a lone goal from Banele Dlamini handed Green Mamba their second victory of the season against Red Lions.

This was during an MTN league encounter played at the Somhlolo National Stadium last night.

It took the Correctional Services outfit just six minutes to find the back of the net through Thwala who tapped inside the box

THE TEAMS

Green Mamba: Japter, Lawrence, Samkelo, Sanele, Siyabonga, Mxolisi, Mcebo, Sande, Banele, Njabulo, Shaka, Xolani

Red Lions: Banele, Qiniso, Sicelo, Mphumuzi, Siphilile, Rodger, Enzo, Mancoba, Sandile, Sibusiso, Solomon

across from Mxolisi Mkhontfo to put his side ahead.

Red Lions were passive on attack with Green Mamba enjoying possession in the first half.

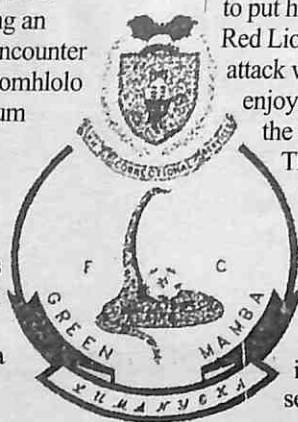
Thwala completed a brace eight minutes in the second

half with a fine shot after Muhle Shiba's defence splitting pass found him unmarked in the box. Red Lions were unlucky not to find an opener in the hour mark when Muzimkhulu Nhlengethwa, who rested Sibusiso Mabelesa's shot while face to face with goalkeeper Japter Merese missed the target by a few inches.

Green Mamba were at it again in the 67th minute with Dlamini putting the nail on the coffin

when his free header resulting from a Muhle Shiba's cross went past his namesake Banele Dlamini at the Red lions poles.

Green Mamba has jumped from the 10th spot to position six on the log with nine points.



Unstoppable Birds do it again

By Sabelo Majola

Swallows..... (1) 2
Sundowns..... (0)0

SOCCEr - Mbabane Swallows have done it again. This time they beat Manzini Sundowns, a side that beat them in both the first and second round games of the league last season. The sensational 'Birds' cruised past the Kappa Boys beating them 2-0 to record their straight eighth victory of the season and now have one hand on the E300 000 first round incentive

A match that looked to be fairly balanced in the first quarter was eventually dominated by the unstoppable 'Birds' as they tormented the opposition making their intentions of winning the game very clear.

Swallows made their first threatening move through Mike Mohammed whose free header following a Tony 'TT' Tsabedze cross eight minutes into the game went slightly over the bar. It was 10 minutes later when Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko put Swallows ahead.

The seasoned winger finished off a shot that was initially an attempt by Mohammed. The ball landed on the winger's feet after Sundowns goalkeeper Jim Knowledge failed to grab it but instead punched it back to play and be made no mistake but to rattle the net.

Marshaled

Sundowns' Darren Christie who was used as a lone striker could not break from the solid 'Birds' defence marshaled by Mandla Palma who was rested for the Zimbabwean born Talent Maphosa after he was injured..

Sundowns' first scoring chance came through Sicelo Mkhwanazi in the 53rd minute when he connected a cross from Darren but his header hit the top pole. On form Swallows striker Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa extended the lead in the 67th minute when he converted a Tsabedze cross with a clinical header to earn the maximum points for his side.

Swallows goalkeeper Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza came to the party in added time when he pulled a brilliant save to deny Christie who outsmarted the Swallows defence.

TEAMS

Swallows: Sandile, Sifiso, Sanele, Palma (Talent), Siphamandla, Papy, Wonder, Banele (Phathizwe) Sabelo, Mohammed (Njabulo), Tony
Sundowns: Jim, Jean, Sandile, Paito, Phumalini, Sicelo, Mlamuli Banele, Ndumiso, Mzwandile (Melusi), Justice, Darren

RESULTS

MTN PREMIER LEAGUE			
Red Lions	0	Green Mamba	3
Swallows	2	Sundowns	0
NATIONAL FIRST DIVISION			
Matsapha Utd	3	Vovovo	0

THE MTN PREMIER LEAGUE LOG:

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Swallows	8	8	0	0	18	3	15	24
Young Buffaloes	7	3	3	1	9	5	4	12
Royal Leopard	7	4	0	3	10	7	3	12
Wanderers	7	3	2	2	9	5	4	11
Sundowns	8	3	2	3	7	10	-3	11
Green Mamba	8	2	3	3	5	5	0	9
Moneni Pirates	7	2	3	2	7	11	-4	9
Red Lions	8	2	2	4	8	14	-6	8
Midas City	7	1	4	2	6	7	-1	7
Highlanders	7	1	3	3	7	8	-1	6
Tambuti	7	2	0	5	5	12	-7	6
Sea Birds	7	1	2	4	7	12	-5	5

Yesterday
ABSA PREMIERSHIP
 Maritzburg Utd 2-2 Golden Arrows
 Chippa United 1-1 Platinum Stars

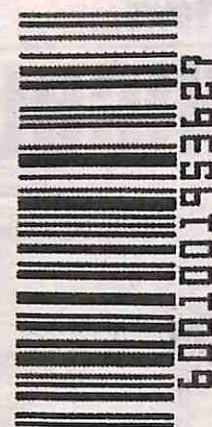
RESULTS

Today
ABSA PREMIERSHIP
 15:30 Orlando Pirates v Kaizer Chiefs
 20:15 Ajax Cape Town v SuperSport United
 20:15 Bloem Celtic v Bidvest Wits

PREMIER LEAGUE
 13:30 Sunderland v Arsenal
 16:00 Man United v Burnley
 16:00 Middlesbrough v Bournemouth
 16:00 Tottenham v Leicester City
 16:00 Watford v Hull City
 16:00 West Bromwich v Manchester City
 18:30 Crystal Palace v Liverpool

SPORT

IF SPORT IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE'RE YOUR CHURCH



October 29, 2016

IN THE BULL'S KRAAL:

HIGHLANDERS'

BIG INDABA



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- Patrons to address supporters on way forward following the resignation of MD 'Rubber'
- Meeting scheduled for tomorrow morning

HIGHLIGHTS

● ACTION:

MTN LEAGUE
MID-WEEK FIXTURE

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● PROUD:

RUBBER PROUD
OF ACHIEVEMENT
WITH
HIGHLANDERS

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● END:

NFAS, EMS
COURSE CLOSING

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● PREVIEW:

MTN LEAGUE
PREVIEW

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KOEMAN SHOWS INTEREST IN ROONEY

LONDON - Everton manager Ronald Koeman has said he would be interested in bringing Wayne Rooney back to Goodison Park from Manchester United.

The striker's future has been uncertain since he was dropped by United manager Jose Mourinho last month, with possible moves to the United States and China being touted.

A return to his boyhood club which he left for United for £27 million in 2004 would offer the 31-year-old Rooney a way to stay in the

Premier League without even moving from his Cheshire home.

Asked yesterday if he would like to sign Rooney, Koeman said: "He is a great player and he still hasn't finished his career. I don't know what his situation is, I need to respect that."

Possibility

"But even if there is a possibility that Rooney was an option for Everton, I would be very pleased."

Rooney's dealings with Everton have been strained, with some supporters critical of the way he left, but

he has also been linked with a return by his former Everton teammate Leon Osman.

"I think he has been mending bridges for a couple of seasons now and you know he is an Evertonian at heart," Osman said.

"I am pretty sure he would love to come back and I hope it happens."

Rooney has not started a league game for United since facing Watford on September 18 and missed last weekend's rout by Chelsea with injury.

Reuters

