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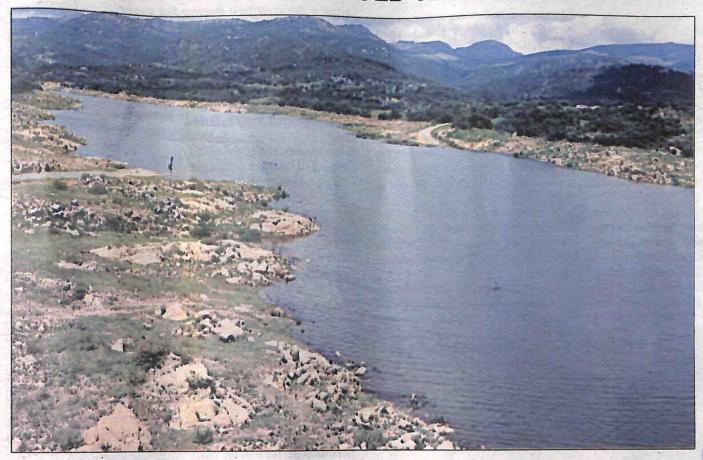
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WATER FLOWING OVER OLD NKOMANZI BRIDGE



CHANGE: An improvement in water levels has been witnessed at Nkomazi River after the heavy rains experienced by the country last Friday. The water is now flowing over the old bridge. (Pic: Lucky Simelane)

THE BUCK STOPS HERE...







STORY ON PAGE 3



MBHULENI CHIEF THANKS KING FOR ENDLESS SUPPORT

Chief Makhosonkhe Dlamini thanked His Majesty for sending his regiment to Mbhuleni Royal Residence to take part in the Ummemo event that took place at the royal residence, which is situated in Badplaas, South Africa

Stories by Mbono Mdluli (Badplaas, South Africa)

MBHULENI Chief Makhosonkhe Dlamini wishes that His Majesty King Mswati III continues supporting the SA subjects in terms of culture.

Dlamini said this on Saturday during an interview.

He thanked His Majesty for sending his regiment to Mbhuleni Royal Residence to take part in the Ummemo event that took place at the royal residence, which is situated in Badplaas, South Africa.

The chief said the King had shown support over the years by sending his regiment to Mbhuleni to take part in cultural events in that area.

The royal residence, according to the chief, was built by His Majesty King Mswati III.

Hence, he said, King Mswati III must not forsake Mbhuleni because the royal residence also belongs to him (King Mswati III).

He mentioned that the preservation of culture was very important to his people and the Swazi nation at large.

"That is why even the tropical cyclone Dineo did not wreak havoc among Swazis because they still hold on to their culture given to them by God," Dlamini said.

He urged the Swazi regiment to continue supporting the people of Mbhuleni because they learn a lot from Swazis about culture.

The chief is in charge of Mbhuleni, which includes places like Badplaas, Tiakastad, Nhlazatje (Lukwatini),

and Carolina. This is one of the places that were occupied by the Boers before South Africa gained freedom in 1994.

They used to do a

farming before they left the place. Dlamini said the farming activities that were done by the Boers posed a challenge to the residents of his area.

People of Mbhuleni now have to practice farming in order to feed them-

There are people who practice this trade at the moment, but it seems as if they are just a fraction of the population of Mbhuleni. A lot of land in the area lies fallow and this is a concern to Dlamini, who urged his people to start making use of it.

Other people in the area, which is less than 50 kilometres from the Oshoek Border Gate, are teachers in schools like Engabezweni High and Sunduza Primary.

Some work in hotels situated in the area, while others are health professionals who work in places like Mbhuleni District Hospital and Prince Mkolishi Health Centre. Some are miners at Komati Mine, where platinum is being extracted. Other residents work in tourist attraction places like Indalo Hotel and Forever Resorts. The place is 69km from Barberton and 97km Nelspruit.

SIYABONGA: Mbhuleni Chief Makhosonkhe Dlamini during an interview in his office.



SWAZI PRIDE: Sagila SeMnikati showing the audience a thing or two during the event. (Pics: Mbono

Culture protects nations - King

NATIONS of the world should hold on to their culture in order to be protected from calami-

His Majesty King Mswati III delivered this message to Mbhuleni Chief Makhosonkhe Dlamini.

This was on Sunday, the last day of the Ummemo ceremony which was held at Mbhuleni Royal Residence over the weekend. The King was speaking through his emissary Sigombeni Dlamini, whom he had sent to deliver the message on his behalf to the chief and his subjects. "The King encourages you to continue working hard in protecting our culture because it defines and protects nations. You can see for yourself that even the tropical cyclone (Dineo) could not cause damage to Swazis because they are still living according to God's plan," Dlamini said. He told the chief that he should encourage the Mbhuleni residents to make it a habit to engage in community



OBSERVED: King's emissary Sigombeni Dlamini making remarks on behalf of His Majesty King Mswati III.

projects (kuhlehla). The King also encouraged Chief Makhosonkhe to maintain the peace that exists

He said peace did not just come from thin air. It came as a result of mutual respect between leaders of a place and its people.

The King praised the chief for showing respect for his people and urged him to continue that

Mbhuleni maidens are proud Swazis

MBHULENI maidens are proud of being Swazis and vowed to do everything in their powers to learn about the beautiful Swazi culture.

The maidens say they have to know their culture to be better persons in the future. Mbhuleni Imbali regiment leader Dansile

Mnisi (18) said Swazi culture was capable of protecting people from getting sexually transmitted infections (STIs) because it dictated that young girls should preserve their virginity until it was time for them to marry.

Support

Another maiden, Sinothando Shongwe (17) said they were happy to be part of the Ummemo because it taught them more about Swazi culture.

This was an excellent opportunity for them because it was almost impossible for them to learn about Swazi culture.

This, according to Sinothando, could be caused by the fact that many members of the youth saw no importance in preserving Swazi culture.

Dansile and Sinothando said they were happy with the support received from Swazi delegates because they taught them about the importance of knowing Swazi culture.

They were proud of being Swazis because that defined them from other nations found elsewhere in South Africa.

Isibaya actors 'Mkabayi', 'Nkabinde' grace event

THE Ummemo at Mbhuleni was a place to be this past weekend as well-known celebrities graced the event.

This was good news to people of the area, who attended the event in their numbers and the delegation from Swaziland.

The celebrities included Isibaya actors Zakhele Msibi, who is known as Sunday Nkabinde in the soapie, and Thembi Nyandeni, who plays the role of Mancwane 'Mkabayi' Zungu.

Another well-known figure at the event was Ligwalagwala FM Radio personality Stanford Mvikeli Mhlanga, popularly known as 'Magidz'eludzakeni.'

Culture

He was directing the proceedings at the event. All of the celebrities had one message to the people of Mbhuleni and those that came from afar to witness the occasion. They said it was important to preserve culture because that's what defined nations and it determined the

future of each nation.

'Mkabayi', who showed the exact attitude she normally portrays on the soapie, was happy to be part of the event. "This is a very important occasion. I urge everyone to take it

seriously and to the youth, I specifical-'Mkabayi' took to the stage,

ly request you to stay away from drugs," Nyandeni said.

Fear

She said she loved the youth because they were the future of the nation.

'Nkabinde' said even though he was at the event for the first time, he was already feeling at home. The two actors then started talking about their roles on Isibaya, on a light note

> flashing the middle finger she usually shows her enemies on the soapie and told the spectators how she was powerful than

> > 'Nkabinde'. the feared witchdoc r on the soa

abayi is m owerful th kabinde

M

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because she deals with Mbobozehluzo, who is a more powerful inyanga than Nkabinde. Even Ngwenya (played by Menzi Ngubane) will end up not doing anything to Mkabayi," she said.

She then called upon 'Nkabinde' to speak for himself. He also told the spectators how he was still going to be a pain in the life of the Zungus because of his fearful powers.

The two actors were brought to the event by Chief Makhosonkhe's advisor Vusi Shongwe, who is also a member of the African National Congress (ANC). Shongwe was appointed as the advisor by the chief himself to help in developing, Mbhuleni area. 'Magidz'eludzakeni' also urged his fellow Swazis to preserve their cultural heritage in order to protect the nation from being extinct. He said it was easy for Swazis to determine their future if they held on to their culture given by God to them. He also implored Swazis to buy any material that could teach them about Swazi culture. It could be music, books, or anything that could enrich Swazis about their culture.

HOSI AMAKHULU: Isibaya actors ele Msibi, who is known as Sunday nde and Thembi Nyandeni, who is n as Mancwane 'Mkabayi' Zungu.

NATIONAL BUDGET WON'T CHANGE, PM TELLS MPS

By Mbono Mdluli Lobamba

COVER STORY

AS the shocking national budget rejection by MPs debate goes on, the Prime Minister Dr Sibusiso Dlamini is reported to have told stunned legislators yesterday that nothing will change.

MPs threw out the E21.8 billion budget last week, arguing it was not people driven and it fell short in addressing pressing needs faced by the country.

Motion

They gave Finance Minister Martin Dlamini 48 hours to bring back to the House a revised budget that addressed all the concerns they had raised.

The motion, that enjoyed majority vote, was moved by Dvokodvweni MP Sitezi Dlamini, who was seconded by Nkwene MP Sikhumbuzo Dlamini.

Yesterday, the finance minister was expected to table a revised budget but that did not happen.

What happened was that MPs went into a caucus meeting where the mat-

... A source close to the caucus revealed that the PM made it clear that what the MPs called for last week (budget revision) would be impossible to achieve, stressing it would be politically wrong. The PM is reported to have further advised MPs to get going and discuss the budget in the various committees. However, sources said the MPs would hear none of this.



FORGET IT: Prime Minister Dr Sibusiso Dlamini.

ter was deliberated for four hours. The PM led his Cabinet team where he stood his ground. A source close to the caucus revealed that the PM made it clear that what the MPs called for last week (budget

revision) would be impossible to achieve, stressing such would be politically wrong.

The PM is reported to have further advised MPs to get going and discuss the budget in the various committees. However, sources said the MPs would hear none of this.

Debate

They stood their ground.

When the MPs were advised on the dangers of rejecting the budget, which in Parliament terms is known as the Appropriation Bill, they cared less.

"Procedure dictates that when a Bill is brought to Parliament and is rejected by MPs, that particular Bill would have to be re-tabled in the next session. It cannot be debated in the same session it was rejected," stated the Parliament source.

The source said given the obtaining situation, the Appropriation Bill

that was rejected last week, it meant its debate would have to be shifted to the next session.

"Now this could effectively mean the country has no budget, something that would ground governmet operations. When this was highlighted to the MPs, they said they were aware of this technicality, an indication that they intended grounding operations," added the source.

Report

However, it was stated that there are certain Standing Orders that would need to be suspended and others invoked to correct the mess caused by the MPs' vote of last week.

After a lengthy debate that failed to yield any fruits, it was agreed that a select Cabinet team that comprised the finance minister, Ministers Owen Nxumalo and Mduduzi Dlamini was tasked with meeting with the Finance Committee and budget sessional committee and find a lasting solution.

The solution, it was gathered, must have nothing with revising the whole budget. Sources close to the committees disclosed that once again there was a deadlock. The committees are expected to report to Parliament today.

"We have gathered that they failed to reach common ground. MPs are adamant the budget must be redone. We would hear tomorrow (today) what the way forward would be," stated the source.

MPs want revised budget to address;

- · Elderly grants
- Potable water
- Roads rehabilitation
- It must be 2022 driven
- · Must address national needs.

Warder arrested for raping 'girlfriend'

Stories by Observer Reporter

Manzini

A warder based in one of the correctional facilities in the country has been arrested for allegedly raping a 19-year-old girl.

Njabulo Ntokozo Dlamini (26) of Magubheleni area was arrested by Mankayane police over the weekend and he made his first court appearance before Manzini Magistrate Mthokozisi Dlamini yesterday. The accused faces a charge of rape and according to the court record, which was presented before court, he allegedly had sexual intercourse with Nomsa* (not her real name) a female who is 19 years old, without her consent.

The incident is said to have happened at Mangwaneni area over the weekend. Information gathered is that the warder was in a relationship with the complainant. It is alleged that Nomsa, who is employed as a security guard, paid the warder a visit at his place and the two had a heated argument after Dlamini accused the complainant of having an affair with a police officer.

However, it is alleged that Nomsa denied she was in a relationship with anyone except for Dlamini.

The altercation between the two is said to have gotten physical as the warder allegedly beat up his girlfriend using a belt and open hands. Sources close to the matter stated that the accused thought all was well as the following day he accompanied her to the bus station, however, later on he learned that his girlfriend opened a case with the police.



ACCUSED: Njabulo Ntokozo Dlamini leaving the Manzini Magistrate's Courts yesterday.

Close friends stated that the two were spotted together and they were surprised to hear the warder has since been arrested for allegedly raping his own girlfriend.

The accused was remanded into police custody until March 15.

He was advised that should he seek to apply for bail, he must approach the High Court due to the serious nature of the offence.

The crown presented to court that it contends that the offence is accompanied by aggravating factors in the accused allegedly beat up the complainant using open hands and a web belt.

The web belt is part of His Majesty's Correctional Service's uniform. This belt is also known as the Military Belt since it is often used in the uniforms of armed forces.

When asked if he is going to be conducting his own defence or hire the services of an attorney, the accused stated that he intends to conduct his own defense, he did not enter a plea yesterday, he was simply remanded back into custody pending his next court appearance.

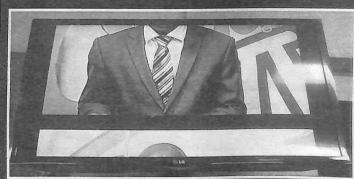
Warder sent to Mdutjane

DUE to his status as His Majesty's Correctional officer, the prosecutor applied that the accused be remanded to Mdutjane Juvenile Detention Centre.

Magistrate Mthokozisi Dlamini told the accused that since he is an officer who remands accused people at Zakhele Remand Centre, for safety reasons he cannot be remanded to the same centre while awaiting trial.

The magistrate told the accused he will be remanded at Mdutjane Juvenile Facility. Mdutjane Juvenile Facility is one of the wings which cater for minors who are convicted or awaiting trial in the country. Worth noting is that usually when a police officer or a warder is put in a remand facility other prisoners do not take kindly to that and use such instances as an opportunity for revenge.

SWAZI TV....DOUBLE TRAGEDY



SIGUJANA: This was the situation during Swazi TV news bulletin for 7 yesterday. Visuals were blurred and cut the faces of the presenter and interviewees.

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UMMEMO: Mbhuleni Chief Makhosonkhe Dlamini (c) delivering his message to the people during the Ummemo traditional event at Badplaas, South Africa over the past weekend. He was surrounded by his

MBHULENI UMMEMO IN PICTURES



IN SONG: Swazi regiment singing Umgubho on Saturday while Mbhuleni Chief Makhosonkhe Dlamini was still sitting and perusing his phone.



OVERSEER: Swazi regiment overseer Hlangabeza Mdluli, after making some brief remarks at the event.



MC: Magidz'eludzakeni directing proceedings on the day.



IMBALI: Mbhuleni Imbali leader Dansile Mnisi (in feathers) leading the maidens as they entered the arena for their performance.



FRONT LINE: Mpumalanga Province chiefs also came in support of their Mbhuleni counterpart.



DANCING: Chief Makhosonkhe Dlamini (4th r) pictured with Prince Bukhosi (r) and Qethuka Dlamini (l).



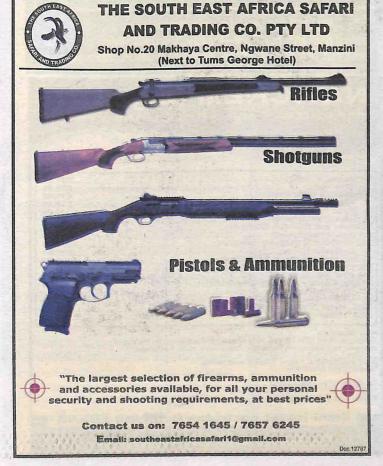
PRESENT: Zodwa Dlamini, Jabu Mndzebele and Thando Dlamini formed part of the Swazi delega-



ISIBAYA: Sunday Nkabinde and Mkabayi Zungu posing with a maiden from Mbhuleni.



RELAX: Director of Culture Prince Bukhosi (r) upon arrival on Saturday. He is with Sijabuliso Ndzinisa and Sagila Sellinikati head Peter Maseko.







OVER 10 000 CASES

By Lungelo Nkambule Mbabane

THe shortage of judges in courts of the land resulted in a backlog of 10 231 cases in the third quarter of the current financial year.

According to the ministry of justice and constitutional affairs' performance report, the courts saw themselves with a huge backlog. The backlog was as a result of many factors which included the Supreme Court not taking on any cases as there were no judges to hear the matters.

Supreme Court judges were only appointed recently.

The 10 231 cases include

The backlog was as a result of many factors which included the Supreme Court not taking on any cases as there were no judges to hear the matters



both backlogs and new cases that were recorded between vear.

October and December last

ACC gets 64 corruption complaints, actions 16

WITH corruption reportedly so rife in the country the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) is currently investigating only 16 cases.

The commission which is mandated with investigating any alleged or suspected cases of corruption got 64 complaints in the current financial year and is currently investigating 16.

This is according to the annual performance report of the ministry of justice and constitutional affairs.

The report states that there were three cases that were referred to the director of pubic prosecutions to be actioned while 24 were referred to other agencies.

The commission was last week criticised by members of Parliament when debating the 2017/18 budget speech. They said the commission was as good as non-functional as it only pursued cases against political figures when there is corruption in government offices.

55 569 emergency cases in three months

By Gugu Simelane Mbabane

THE Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) received 55 569 cases between October and December 2016.

Of those cases, 3 539 were not attended. This is contained in the ministry of health's annual performance report for year ending financial year.

The Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) is the ministry of health's vital public emergency service that coordinates and delivers pre-hospital medicine, epidemic preparedness response and disaster risk management for health to victims of sudden and serious illness

In the three months, the emergency communication centre received 2 225 road traffic accidents and they attended to all these cases.

Cases	reporteur	Attenueu
Asthma-	4 093	4093
Heart	3 887	3 676
Diabetes	1 583	1 449
Epilepsy	4 456	4 323
IHT	2 101	2 024
Chronic	5 085	4 3 6 0
Maternal	8 953	8 489
Urinal	517	453
Trauma	10 016	9 554
Gynecological	468	2 294
Gastro intestinal	9 871	9 088
Gasuo intestina		
Total	55 569	52 030

RECORDED IN 2016 000 ACCIDENTS

Stories by Lungelo Nkambule

DESPITE efforts aimed at reducing road accidents by government and the Royal Swaziland Police, 6 933 accidents occurred in the ending financial year.

The performance report of the ministry of works and transport shows that of the 6 933 accidents 75% were caused by human error. These, the report states were avoidable had drivers been more attentive and focused on the road.

The errors by humans included error of judgement, negligence, over speeding, reversing negligently, improper overtaking, influence of alcohol, negligence amongst others.

Govt worried with 'rotting' UNISWA

THE state of the University of Swaziland is a huge concern for the ministry of edu-

In its annual performance report, the ministry said the institution's dependence on government subvention had caused difficulties for its operations as it was inadequate.

This, the report stated was a clear indication that there was a serious need of driver training and development.

Risk Pedestrians are at high risk of being involved in road fatalities. At least 178 people who died in road accidents between January

The report pointed out that this inadequate revenue deferred

The road networks in all three campuses have reportedly continued to deteriorate. Further, the operations and core business continued to be compromised in the period under review.

and December last year, 44 per cent of them were pedestrians.

The ministry's annual report shows that only 178 people died in the 6 933 accidents that occurred on national roads.

Passengers follow in risk as they accounted for 28 per cent with drivers at 26 per cent.

TSC considering electronic file management system

new posts were allo-

cated to schools

100 Form One class-

Education (FPE).

Free

By Gugu Simelane Mbabane

The frustration that is usually encountered by teachers in the ministry of education and training where they find that their personal files are lost will be a thing of the past.

This is because the Teaching Service Commission (TSC) is considering an electronic file management system for teachers' personal files to

avoid the problems that comes with handling the hard copy files for the high number of teachers in the country.

This revelation is contained in the ministry of education and training's annual performance report for 2016/2017.

The report states that the tracking of the movement of teachers' personal files and their security is of major concern hence the implementation of the computerisation of the TSC file management records will be given high priority.

"At present the files are in hard copies and there is no back-up filling system in place when a teacher's file is misplaced, this then causes unnecessary delays. We are hoping that should the file management system

be put in place, the predicament of handling hard copy files and important documents will be resolved," it is stated in the report.

The report further states that the TSC is challenged by the lack of teachers' posts for old schools that have added classes, streams, upgraded, new schools and those that have diversified their curriculum.

"Every financial year the ministry submits requests for posts but because of the country's

economic constraints, TSC "During 2016/2017 gets minimal post numbers financial year, no and the cycle of shortage is carried over to the following year," further reads the report.

Financial

despite the fact that "During 2016/2017 finangovernment had built cial year, no new posts were allocated to schools despite the fact that government had es to accommodate built 100 Form One classes the influx from the to accommodate the influx Primary from the Free Primary Education (FPE).

Magojela High, Dvudvusini High and Emnotfweni High

were opened in January 2016, teachers were employed and sent to these schools with the anticipation that posts would be released, but that was not the case.".



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Standard Bank Moving Forward

COPS GIVE CONTRADICTING EVIDENCE IN TEACHERS' TRIAL

Stories by Phesheya Kunene Mbabane Magistrate's Court

ATTORNEY Bonginkosi Xaba has questioned the glaring contradictory descriptions of clothes worn by state witnesses in the trial of two teachers who allegedly placed a stone in the middle of the road leading to Cabinet.

Xaba said this when defending his clients as he labelled the evidence paraded against Mxolisi Ngcamphalala and Mbongwa Dlamini as a fubricated story.

The evidence-in-chief led by three policemen in Mnakekeli Dlamini, Sipho Sitsebe and Henry Khumalo triggered the lawyer to land a few punches as the descriprition of the clothes allegedly worn by the two suspects on February 3, 2016 did not match.

This was during the march from the Cabinet ofices to the Coronation Park, whereby the two are said to have acted jointly and placed a big stone in the middle of the road.

The latest state winess Henry Khumalo told the court that accused



one, Ngcamphalala, wore a red Tshirt with white pair of trouser while Dlamini wore a black T-shirt with khaki pair of trousers which is totally different from what Mnakekeli said in the court while leading evidence late last year. He said the first accused person was wearing a navy blue T-shirt during the march.

Xaba further asked why the piece of concrete was brought before court as an exhibit as there is no evidence proving it was placed by the two teachers. Moreover, Xaba had a field day when Khumalo said he was about 100 metres away from the scene of crime yet his two colleagues told the court they were about 20 to 30 metres

"You are lying to the court, if not you then your colleagues lied to the court because you are trying to make a case against the two," he said.

The two suspects are charged with contravening Section 11 (1) (a) and (c) as read together with Section 11 (2) (b) of the Public Order Act No. 17 0f 1963. However, Khumalo made it clear he had no reason to either frame the two or tell a lie before

He said he reported what he saw during the march. However, he said he could not identify the complexion of the two men but did note that one of them was wearing sunglass-

As per the norm, the public gallery

at the court was filled to the brim as teachers came in their numbers to support their colleagues.

Xaba and seasoned Crown Counsel Buddy Masango clashed several times as the former constantly ojbected to questions asked by the latter.

Challenged

Xaba and Masango had tense moments when the former told the witness he was being made a fool by Masango and this did not go down well with the experienced prosecutor, who challenged the lawyer to withdraw his statement.

"He must give us the respect we deserve Your Worship, nobody is fooling anyone here," he said.

Worth noting is that Xaba apologised and withdrew his statement but insisted the policemen were framing his clients as he alleged they were innocent. "We pleaded not guilty to the offence hence it is my duty to show the court the two are innocent. My learned friend should not rush as this is my time," Xaba said in one of his responses to Masango. The matter was postponed to today for continuation

'Witnesses broke the law by discussing evidence in chief'

STATE witnesses are not supposed to discuss their evidence in chief amongst each other before being led in court and if such happens, an unlawful act is being committed, said attorney Bonginkhosi

A shocked Xaba made this statement after he learnt that state witness Henry Khumalo discussed with one of the other witnesses with regards to the matter before court as he was preparing to being paraded as the last state witness in the matter.

This was after he had asked about the exhibits brought before court, to which Khumalo said he called the other state witness and asked about the exhibits brought before court.

"You mean to tell the court you discussed the evidence with Dlamini yet he led evidence before this court. According to my knowledge, you were not supposed to discuss it with anyone," he siad.

He asked this until the witness clarified that he called and asked about exhibits but never discussed the evidence while also saying he did not directly talk to Dlamini.

The two suspects remained seated inside the accused's dock as they chuckled from time to time and also displayed tense moments.

The court adjourned for an inspection in loco at the road where the stone was placed and it was found near the road.

DROWNED NHLAMBENI BOY (10) STILL NOT FOUND

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi Manzini

IT'S now five days and the police have still not found the body of a 10-year-old boy of Nhlambeni who drowned while swimming at Lusushwana River at Ngonini.

Kwanele Dube disappeared last while cooling off from the scorching heat with his friends. Kwanele went for a swim as he was on his way home from school.

His friends later reported him to be missing and all they could find were his school bag and uniform. Fears are STILL SEARCHING: that the young lad Chief Police might have fallen Information and victim to crocodile attacks.

It has been reported Officer Superintendent that residents alleged Khulani Mamba. they had seen a couple

of crocodiles around the area. Just recently another crocodile was captured at Tubungu Estate by police officers after residents spotted it in the area.

Communications

Since the boy's disappearance, police officers, scuba divers and residents of the area have been combing the place without success.

Drowning incidents are on the increase in the country after the rains that lasted almost a week.

The rains resulted from the much feared Cyclone Dineo, which was expected to hit the country by full force last month but took a different direction before it could cause much damage. However, the storm only

caused torrential rains which led to flash floods and water levels rising from dams and rivers.

Young people taken advantage of the water levels and made it a habit to go for a swim after classes, which has proven to be a hazard as already another been confirmed dead after he was devoured by crocodile at Nkomazi River in

Mpofu area. Suspicions are that even this time around the 10-year-old was devoured by crocodiles. Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba stated they were still conducting the search but at the time of compiling the report yesterday, the missing boy had not been found.

IFAD, SD relationship highly productive - PM

Stories by Gugu Simelane Mbabane

THE 30-year relationship between Swaziland and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has been a highly productive one.

This was said by Prime Minister Dr. Sibusiso Dlamini during a courtesy call visit from the IFAD President Kanayo Nwanze yesterday at the Cabinet office.

The PM said IFAD has been a very generous and skillful development partner with Swaziland for many years.

He said IFAD have funded five substantial projects worth approximately E910 million which has benefited over 41 000 households in the rural areas.

"Our partnership goes back to over 30 years, starting with the Smallholder Agriculture Development Project and has been multi-faceted, reflecting of course the diverse aspects of providing opportunities, irrigation facilities and relevant skills at smallholder level.

When special needs have risen, IFAD has assisted Swaziland in addressing them, as in the case of the Smaller Credit and Marketing Projects and the Rural Finance



GOOD RELATIONSHIP: The Prime Minister Dr. Sibusiso Diamini posing with IFAD President Kanayo Nwanze. (Pic: Gugu Simelane)

and Enterprise Development Programme," said Dlamini.

He said the projects enabled rural dwellers to obtain access to finance, the lack of which has always been a pervasive limiting factor throughout the rural econo-

He said the last programme; the Smallholder Market-Led Project emphasises the vital need for smallholders, when making the transition from subsistence to commercial farming, to focus on producing what the market demands.

The project received financial support worth approximately E340 million.

The PM highlighted that the biggest projects between the partnership has been the Lower Usuthu Smallholder Irrigation Project (LUSIP) where IFAD gave a loan of approximately E195 million.

IFAD president impressed by women passion in

IFAD President Kanayo Nwanze told Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini he was very impressed by women from Siphofaneni with the passion they put into farming.

Nwanze said he was impressed by the economic aspects that women are putting into farming. He was particularly impressed by a Nxumalo woman who operates a

feedlot and makes a great turnover in just three months. "The lady said she bought the bull at E6 000 and fed it for three months and the feeding cost her E1 500 and after three months she sold the bull

This is good money, what other business can give you such a turnover in just a short space of time, I am quite impressed

because it is operated by a woman," he said.

The president further said he was impressed to find a large number of women owned and operated sugarcane farms in the areas he visited. "I like the entrepreneurial spirit they have. To them it is not just about farming but they are looking for economic opportunities," he said.



UNITED: The Swaziland Police officers in a group photo after the workshop.

NATGOM APPEALS FOR HONESTY, INTEGRITY

By Nozipho Sibiya Mbabane

NATIONAL Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula has appealed to all officers to uphold the virtue of honesty and integrity so that the security force could continue having a good image in the country.

NATCOM was speaking through his representative, Deputy National Commissioner Fana Maseko during the official closing ceremony for Station Commander's Workshop and Basic crime prevention Course held at the Police College over the weekend.

Maseko said he was honoured to represent the National Commissioner of Police at the Police College, a ceremony that marked the official closing of two training programmes.

"The two courses include the Basic Crime Prevention Course, which was attended by 35 Police officers drawn from the various policing specialisation units of the organisation and the training intervention of the week-long Station Commanders' Workshop that was attended by commanding officers to capacitate them on their role as principals and managers in their station area," he said.

Maseko highlighted that the national commissioner was not able to be present at the event, but had asked him to express his gratitude to all who have made this training intervention possible and a success.

"Capacity building remains invaluable for any corporate entity, hence, as the Police Service we have prioritised this thematic area as it ensures that the Police Service delivers on its mandate in a proficient and competent manner.

Infact, as a learning organisation, he said they should always keep pace with the dynamic and ever-changing crime environment, so that we do not lag behind criminals, whose nefarious activities get complicated and sophisticated by the day.

"To participants of the Basic Crime Prevention course, you have been inducted on the fundamental concepts involved in crime management, such as the basic

understanding of our policing model of Partnership Policing," he said.

Maseko further told the police that model takes into consideration that the police alone cannot win the battle against crime, hence, it advocates for the promotion and strengthening of bonds of partnership, through the creation of strategic alliances and synergies with various stakeholders in communities involved in the crime fighting value chain in order to turn around the tide against crime.

"Suffice to appreciate that you were equipped with the skill to conduct crime surveys and data analysis, which are critical in informing decision-making and the development of pragmatic crime prevention enhancement programmes."

He also emphasised on some specialised presentations such customer service because law enforcement agents were there to provide effective service delivery, as well as ensuring that in our interactions with the various categories of society we treat the public with civility, empathy and respect.



APPEALS: National Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula.

COPS COME UP WITH NEW CRIME PREVENTION METHODS

POLICE officers came up with new crime prevention programmes to ensure that they keep crime levels at the barest minimum possible.

Deputy National Commissioner Fana Maseko said some of the programmes they came up with, included enhancing visible policing programmes through conducting regular and intensified patrols in both urban and rural areas including public spaces, crime hotspots, business and other strategic areas such as Tinkhundla centres and Imiphakatsi.

"Educational Programmes -Public education and awareness programmes will continue to be conducted countrywide to build a rapport between the police and various strategic stakeholders in communities," he said.

He said the stakeholders will include traditional leadership authorities, community policing structures, businesses and corporate entities, churches and schools just to mention a few.

"All these programmes and

others not mentioned today, but encapsulated in our Crime Prevention Strategies and Operational Plans, will implemented in partnership of the various stakeholder categories involved in the crime fighting value chain as well as those who are still to join the wagon of fighting criminality."

This will be done within the spirit of our guiding operational mantra of "Together Let Us Create a Barrier against Crime and Road Traffic Accidents"

Hence, he also appealed to the public to continue cooperating and working in close collaboration with police, who cannot be everywhere, every time.

"Be the ears and eyes of the police and be free to proffer information to the police so that criminal elements do not have the liberty to harass communities. Communities were also encouraged to create crime clubs, which encapsulate establishing neighbourhood watch schemes within their jurisdiction to fortify efforts for crime prevention.'

USDF apprehends illegal items worth E2.9m

Stories by Gugu Simelane Mbabane

CRIMES taking place across borderlines seem to be on the

In 2016 alone, Umbutfo Swaziland Defence Force (USDF) apprehended items worth E2 865 449 from illegal cross border activities. This is contained in the ministry of national defence and security annual performance report for financial year 2016/2017.

During the cause of the year the USDF successfully controlled the smuggling of 58 cattle valued at E261 000 and 34 goats worth E34

A 15 ton truck worth E750 000 was also impounded.

The report further revealed that during the USDF patrols, the officers confiscated dagga worth E1

"A drum loaded pistol with three rounds of ammunition worth E13 000 was controlled, along with different items at the value of E738 528.02," states the report.

The USDF report further states a total number of 67 illegal immigrants were apprehended along the border line of the country.

The USDF handed over all the confiscated items and people to the Royal Swaziland Police.

USDF NEEDS INCREASED BUDGET ALLOCATION

USDF needs an increase in the USDF needed a budget

This is according to the ministry of national defence and security annual performance report for financial year 2016/2017. The report revealed a number that a number of departments were in dire of increased funds in the army.

The report states that the USDF needed a budget allocation increase for food rations due to market price increase which is affected by the inflation.

"The budget allocation for army uniform is insufficient," states the report.

The report further states that

2017/2018 national budget allo- increase because USDF vehicle body works and mechanics department had shortage of parts and delay in the fixing their vehicles which impacted on timely service delivery.

"The workshop infrastructures needs to be upgraded because it cannot accommodate all vehicles brought in for repairs as the number of vehicles had increased. The network failure for the terminal was also a challenge.

The fuel pumps are unserviceable. There is a need to increase the quota to cover all the allocated fuel bowsers," states the report.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR APPLICATION FOR A SPECIAL CONSENT IN TERMS OF THE MANZINI TOWN PLANNING

We, MA Props (Pty) Ltd, owners of the property in question, hereby make a Public Notice in terms of Clause 1.5 of the 2013 Manzini Town Planning Scheme that we wish to apply for a Special Consent to establish 4, two bedrooms apartments on Lot 661, Zakhele Township, Extension No.3, Manzini District.

Anyone having an objection to this application may lodge their objections in writing, with the Municipal Council of Manzini at P.O. Box 481, MANZINI M200, SWAZILAND not later than 03 March 2017, that is 21 days from the last date of publication of the notice namely on 14 March

TURKEY INVITES SWAZIS TO APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Stories by Simon Shabangu Mbabane

THE Turkish Embassy in Swaziland has announced that applications for scholarships are now open.

The embassy has invited Swazis to apply and stand a chance to win scholarships to study in Turkey. Turkish Honorary Consul, İsmail Ölmez said the Türkiye Scholarships undergraduate applications started on March 1 and runs until the end of the month. He said this would be a good opportunity for local students who aspire to study in Turkey to be granted the scholarship, stating that there is a limited number of spaces available, estimating it at around five this year. He said this fully covered scholarship is sponsored by the Turkish government to the African continent. "The 2017 Türkiye Scholarships applications for undergraduate level is now open as from the on 1st March. Türkiye Scholarships provided scholarships to about 5 000 students from over 150 countries in 2016 around the African continent. Applications are

exclusively for all candidates from all countries who wish to study at undergraduate level. Undergraduate applicants must be born no earlier than 01.01.1996," he said, in a statement. He said, apart from providing students with education opportunities at an international quality, Turkey also offers a wealth of knowledge, experience and expertise, and opens doors to undergraduate education for successful international students from all over the World. "Applications will only be made at www.turkiyeburslari.gov.tr. Candidates are required to submit/upload their application's and/or documents requested from them into the applications system. I must stress that the applications are done only online and go straight to the scholarship board in our country who then do the short listing and send us back the shortlisted names. We then conduct the interviews locally and later announce the students who will be awarded the scholarships,"

He said for more information about Türkiye Scholarships and applications, interested citizens

visit the website www.turkiyeburslari.gov.tr, contact their call centre at 0 850 455 0 982, or send an e-mail to info@turkiyeburslari.org.

Asked to elaborate on the criteria used to award the scholarships, he added that this was strictly by merit. He further pointed out that they selected individuals based on the marks the student attained and the potential they had to make it through their course of choice.

"I must also add that there is a variety of courses available for the aspiring students to choose from. But all the information is available on the website provided above. There are a variety of courses on offer but those who want to pursue Social Sciences and Political Sciences fields stand a good chance," he said.

He added that so far there are 19 students studying in Turkey in different fields and are all doing well. He said this group was made up of the annual intake of small groups of about five since 2012. The intake depends on the number of spaces available for



APPLY: Turkish Honorary Consul Ismail Olmez.

Swaziland in that particular year.

He said since he was appointed the Consular, every year they always invite students to go and study in their country. He noted that apart from those who are on government scholarship in Turkey, there is also a group of 10 students who are self-sponsored and pursuing different courses, especially in engineering. "They are also doing well and we are excited that they chose to study in our country and encourage others to consider this because it is an interesting place to be, especially because it is strong in culture just like Swaziland. We want these people to come back and be our ambassadors in their own country," he added.

Turkish Culture Centre to open in Johannesburg

ON another note, the consul said they are promoting the speaking of the Turkish language in the continent while exposing the beauty of

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Physical Sciences/Business Studies

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the country to the African continent.

He also stated that this was their country's way of giving back to the African continent through empowering its peo-

ple. He said as a sign of commitment to promoting their language they will soon be opening the Turkish Culture Centre in Johannesburg. "The centre will be opening before the end of the year where people can go and take Turkey language courses. This will be the first of its kind in the SADC region and we are looking forward to its opening soon, where we are expecting even locals to go and undertake courses there so they are able to communicate and

do business with Turkish people," he added. He noted that his country was very strong culturally with strong cultural and traditional values with high respect for human rights, which makes it a conducive environment for a person from any background to settle and feel at home.

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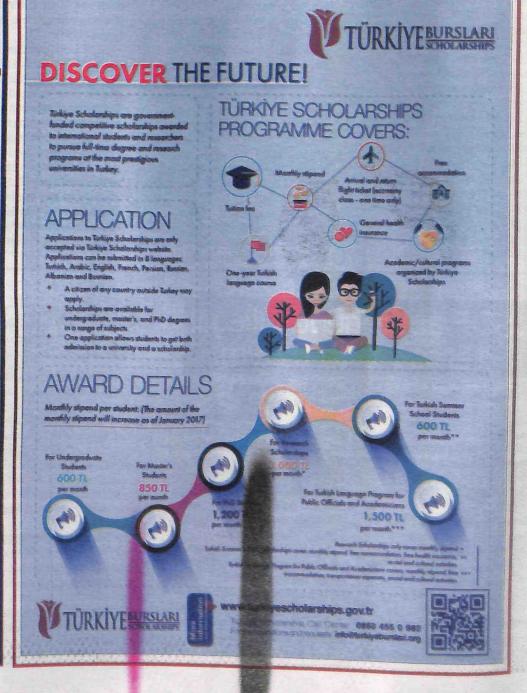
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ICT overspends by E15m on BioTech Park Project

By Mbono Mdluli Mbabane

THE ministry of information, communication and technology (ICT) is accused of over-spending by over E15 million.

The department overspent by E15 491 861.19. This was observed by Auditor General Phestecia Nxumalo, who said over-expenditure was done on Project M33170, which is the construction of the biotechnology park in Nokwane.

This is contained in the auditor general report for the financial year ended on March 31, 2016. Expenditure in excess of a budget provision and released funds, according to Nxumalo, was ille-

gal as it distorted the fiscal budget of a country. This was supported by Financial and Accounting Instructions 0202 (ii) and 0404, which disallowed expenditure in excess of funds released.

In this regard, Nxumalo advised controlling officers in ministries to encourage their officers to use funds according to their budgets so as to avoid being surcharged in accordance with Section 20 of the Finance Management and Audit Act.

Approved
An amount of E44 million was approved and E25 412 399 was released for implementation of the biotechnology park.

The actual expenditure amounted to E40 904 260.19, resulting in an over-expenditure of E15 491 861.19. This means the ministry over-spent by 61 per cent.

Ministry of ICT's Controlling Officer Sikelela Dlamini concurred with the findings of the auditor general.

He was quoted in the report as saying the project was partly donor-funded. He explained that some warrants were erroneously not captured into the system, resulting in the over-expenditure

Dlamini was further quoted as saying his ministry had taken the initiative to engage the ministries of finance and that of economic planning and development to find ways of reconciling the anomaly

Meanwhile, the ministry was further accused of under-spending in two projects.

It under-spent by E1 247 413.94 in Project G55799, which is the development of a document management system. An amount of E4 516 000 was approved for this project and the actual amount spent was E3 268 586.06, resulting in an under-expenditure of 27.6 per cent.

Over-spending

The AG stated that under-spending was as wrong as over-spending because if funds were locked up and not used, economic growth of a country ended up being retarded.

Controlling Officer Sikelela Dlamini said the project encountered many problems and this resulted in it not functioning as planned.

The other project in which the ministry underspent was Project E38199, which is the Swaziland National Library and Bibliographic Network. The ministry under-spent by E1 039 510.80 in this project.

An amount of E3 million was released and the actual expenditure was E1 960 489.20, resulting in an under-expenditure of 35 per cent.

Dlamini concurred with the findings of the auditor general. He stated that part of the project funds were for procurement, installation and maintenance of a microwave communication system.

All procurement procedures that were supposed to be carried out before the actual procurement method were granted by the Tender Board.

The company awarded to supply, install and maintain the prorowave communication equipment first gave the quotation of E1 444 760.00.

On tender opening day, the tender price on the tender document given by the same company reflected E14 million, which was above the project allocated funds.

The Swaziland National Library could not therefore procure the equipment.

Bulembu sits on precious metal belt

By Sizwe Dlamini
Bulembu

BULEMBU sits on the richest precious metal belt in the world, BMI Mining Chief Executive Officer Lloyd Birrell has said.

He said the country also had large gold reserves underground.

Birrell was speaking at the official sanctioning of the asbestos mine dump rehabilitation project held at the Bulembu Lodge last Friday.

"This venture will be responsible for the rehabilitation of over 200 hectares of asbestos dump sites at Bulembu. As a company, we are delighted to be involved in such an exciting venture in Swaziland. A lot of people think that Swaziland no longer has gold or platinum reserves anymore as they were all mined in the 1950s, this is a wrong perception.



METAL MAN: BMI Mining CEO Lloyd Birrell.

Research has shown us that these precious metals are still available in the country only underground," said Birrell.

Bulembu was situated along a very rich precious metal belt that runs all the way from South Africa past Ngwenya through to Lufafa. He said they would call this the Barberton

green belt

"We as a company have three main objectives rehabilitation, revenue production from mineral extraction as well as providing a central facility that could ignite gold mining in Swaziland. The Barberton green belt has reserves of gold, platinum, nickel, chrome and silver all of these metals when mined and processed will bring much needed revenue to Swaziland," said Birrell.

Concerned

His Majesty King Mswati III is concerned at the high rate of unemployment in the country.

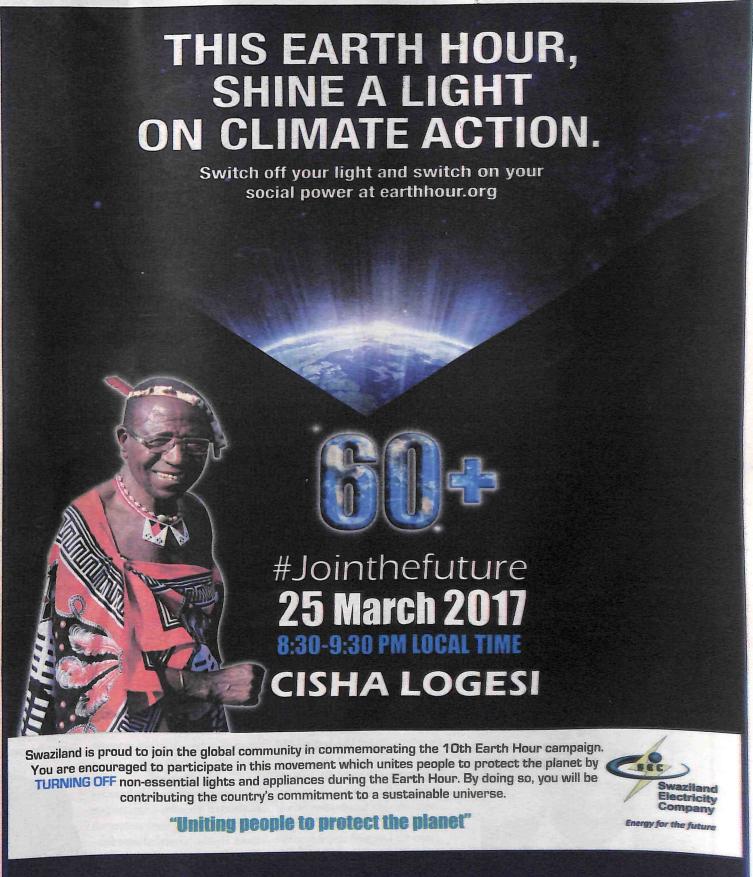
Hhohho Regional Administrator Prince Tshekedi said as a result, the King is determined to improve the quality of life for all Swazis through Bulembu and other natural resources.

"Our King has sleepless nights over the rate of unemployment in the country, therefore he is always looking for innovative and comprehensive ways to make sure that everybody has the opportunity improve their lives," he said during the official sanctioning of the asbestos mine dump rehabilitation project that was held at Bulembu Lodge.

He said Bulembu is one of the areas chosen by the King to help bring much needed foreign revenue to country.

The RA said the area had risen like the mythical phoenix bird rising from the ashes, as the King had invited foreign investors to look at the vast mine dumps and extract all the precious materials found inside them. Thereafter, the mineral would be sold.

"This shows that our King thinks only of the wellfare of his people as everything found and sold will come back to the country one way or the other. This will inturn boost the country's economy and the lives of all Swazis," said the RA.



THE THEORY THEORY THE SAME

What the MPs had to say;

LAST week, Members of Parliament (MPs) made history by throwing out the national budget, which they claimed did not represent the interest of the people. Below is what MPs had to say during the lively and exhausting debate that lasted over seven hours last Wednesday.

'Budget not in line with King's speech'

HIS Majesty King Mswati III demands that government should help the people yet the national budget does not address that.

This was said by Dvokodvweni MP Musa Sitezi Dlamini when he moved a motion without notice last Wednesday. He was moving that the E21.8 billion budget be rejected because it was not responding to the needs of the people of Swaziland.

When motivating his motion, Dlamini said there were three things that should motivate the budget. He had been given an oportunity to motivate by Speaker of the House of Assembly Themba Msibi.

The MP talked about international protocols. He said the budget should be motivated by the international instruments to show that the country was fully committed to them. The budget, Dlamini submitted, did not show that it was supporting any of the international protocols. The second factor to influence the budget should be the Speech from the Throne.

MP Dlamini cited page 10 of the Speech from the Throne, where the King talked about job creation, food production, and water supply. He complained about the ministry of agriculture recieving given a small budget yet it was tasked with an important assignment of making sure that the country attains food security by 2022. He also said the budget did not address the issue of job security.

Legislator

The last motivator for the budget, according to the legislator, was the motions from the House of Assembly. "We directed government to secure a loan for water supply in the whole country. People stated during the People's Parliament (Sibaya) that they needed water, electricity, and roads. But the budget does not address that," Dlamini said.

The MP wondered if the country would be able to reach the first world status by 2022 if the budget would be misdirected in such a manner. He praised the effort made by government to increase the elderly grants, but felt the senior citizens should be given at least E1 500 to be able to withstand inflation.

He was also irked by the fact that there was no money allocated for construction of earth dams especially in the lowveld.

"Just recently, we have been hit by drought and farming was severely affected. Now, we are lucky to receive rains as a country, but it looks like we are doing nothing to harvest the water for our plants and animals," he said.



MOTION MOVER: Dvokodvweni MP Musa Sitezi Dlamini.

MPS SPEAK ON BUDGET REJECTION:

MY CONSTITUENCY TASKED ME TO BRING WATER - MP SIKHUMBUZO



OUTSPOKEN: Nkwene MP Sikhumbuzo Dlamini.

Stories by Mbono Mdluli Lobamba

NKWENE MP Sikhumbuzo Dlamini says the budget does not help him to fulfil the mandate he was given by his constituency.

That is the reason he was so vocal in making

sure that the budget was rejected. Interestingly, MP Sikhumbuzo was part of the finance sessional committee that discussed the budget before it was given to the public.

The legislator was the seconder of the motion that was moved to reject the budget speech.

"Nkwene people gave me a mandate when they sent me to this Parliament. They told me that they wanted water.

They told me that some MPs before me failed to ensure the availability of water at Nkwene.

They mentioned three of the former legislators who served before me," MP Sikhumbuzo said. The MP voiced his disappointment in the fact that up to this day, he failed

to fulfil the mandate from the people. He told his colleagues that he had been passing budgets over the years that were not responsive to the needs of the people.

He did this in the hope that he would be able to correct the budget when it was time for budget debate for ministries. However, such did not hap-

"This makes the

Tinkhundla system a

mockery of the world.

People will find this as

ammunition they could

use to bad-mouth the

system and you can

sometimes be tempt-

ed to listen to them if

they argue about such

tangible things."

pen as many MPs believed it was not feasible.

Convince

The MPs said the problem with ministers was that they were able to convince many MPs to pass budgets for their ministries. The Nkwene law-maker said people's concerns

He then warned government what that meant for the Tinkhundla system.

addressed by the budget.

raised during Sibaya were not

"This makes the Tinkhundla system a mockery of the world. People will find this as ammunition they could use to badmouth the system and you can sometimes be tempted to listen

to them if they argue about such tangible things," MP Sikhumbuzo said.

Budget promotes looting – MP Sikhumbuzo

THE only thing that the budget promotes is looting of state funds.

Nkwene MP Sikhumbuzo Dlamini said what he observed about this budget was that it promoted looting of state funds. Dlamini could not understand how E20 million could be allocated for Christian education overnight when there were many issues raised by Parliament but were not taken seriously.

The lawmaker said it was painful

that the executive did not take people seriously.

Wanted

If money was wanted for capital projects, the Executive would be slow in executing those capital pro-

iects

When the Executive wanted loans to serve its own interests, it would hastily approach Parliament so that the loan could be approved without wasting time.

I consulted with MPs - Finance minister

MINISTER of Finance Martin Dlamini consulted with Members of Parliament (MPs) before the budget speech was delivered for the nation.

The minister was referring to the MPs sitting in the finance sessional committee.

They were debating the budget before it was delivered to the nation. The MPs included Mahlangatja MP Bongani Hlophe, Nkwene MP Sikhumbuzo Dlamini, Shiselweni II MP Mthokozisi Kunene, Ludzeludze MP Bambumuti Sithole and Nkhaba MP Menzi Dlamini.

Minister Dlamini said it was not like he just discussed the budget with his technicians from the ministry of finance.

He consulted and discussed the budget with MPs, who were representatives of the House of Assembly and ultimately, of the people.

The minister was responding to the MPs who wanted the budget rejected. He was speaking after a submission made by Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini, who was the head of government business in Parliament.

The DPM also wanted the budget to be accepted because time was not on the side of government. Work needed to be done.

Pleaded

He pleaded with the MPs to accept the budget because it touched on all the issues they were concerned about. He also reminded them that the government was in debt so there was not enough money to satisfy the needs the MPs had back in their consituencies.

He said it was unfortu-

nate that MPs could not see that budgets for microprojects and

the Regional Development Fund (RDF) were increased.

The minister was also surprised to see MP Sikhumbuzo moving to reject the budget yet he was part of the committee that discussed the budget.

The minister said the budget addressed all the issues the MPs were talking about.

He pleaded with them to accept and debate the budget, saying they would deal with any challenges as they moved forward.

The MPs responded to Dlamini by saying they had no vendetta against him.

All they wanted was for him to re-structure the budget by taking an amount of money for a certain project and put it in projects the MPs felt were important.



CONSULTS: Minister Of Finance Martin Dlamini.

MPS SPEAK ON BUDGET REJECTION: -

Budget should address 2022 – MP Gideon

He said the person should first know

his destination so that he would be able

THE budget speech should give a clear picture on how far the country has gone towards attaining the first world status.

Mkhiweni MP Gideon Dlamini said this when MPs were debating on whether they were accepting or rejecting the budget. He said what was disappointing with the budget was that it did not give any statistical fact about where the country was in terms of attaining the first world status.

Dlamini said it was important for the budget to state such facts because they would give a picture on how hard Swazis needed to work to attain the first world status. The country has set itself a goal of reaching the first world status by 2022, which is five years from now.

There is nothing in the budget on how many people are still living below poverty line. The budget does not speak on what it hopes to achieve In that regard.

Dlamini said the budget should also touch on issues of unemployment. Issues of Gross Domestic Products (GDP) were also not articulated in the budget.

The former cabinet minister likened a budget to a situation where a certain person would want to travel to Johannesburg, from this country. The person would need to have his own car and he should know how much he would need to fill up his car to reach the city

Dlamini should be allowed to go on to budget accurately, otherwise, he would with his debate as he not be able to reach his destination. was still debating As Dlamini was making his subthe motion. mission, Minister of Housing and Dlamini Urban Development Phiwayinkhosi thanked the Mabuza stood up on a point of speaker and order. said it was His problem with the imperative Mkhiweni lawmaker was that that every he was no longer debating organisation what was put on table, but should have was now debating the targets to be budget itself. He wantable to reach ed Dlamini to debate its goals. the motion on whether the budget should be accepted or rejected.

2022: Mkhiweni MP Gideon Dlamini.

We won't drink Bibles - MP Buthelez

THE country needs water to drink, not Bibles.

These were the words of Matsanjeni North MP Phila Buthelezi, who wondered why the budget was not addressing the needs of the people. He said his constituency has been having road problems for a long time. Buthelezi said he was born into the problems that were engulfing his constituency.

The MPs even mentioned that when his father (former MP Timothy Buthelezi) was still an MP at Matsanjeni North, he was speaking about the same problem. Other MPs before him were also speaking about problems of roads and availability of clean water.

Buthelezi wondered how a budget of E30 million would be able to provide clean water to the people. "We are in a

situation where one person felt that he was more virtous than others and took a decision to have Christianity as the only religious subject taught in schools. Now we hear that E20 million is committed to religious education yet only E30 million is committed to water supply. The country needs water to drink, not bibles," Buthelezi said. Buthelezi wondered how the E30 million would serve all the constituencies when E200 million was needed to supply only three constituencies with water.

However, Speaker Themba Msibi said

MEMBERS O

MEMBERS of the finance sessional committee in the House of Assembly also took time to give a picture of what happened when the budget was

Mahlangatja MP Bongani Hlophe, Nkhaba MP Menzi Dlamini and Shiselweni II MP Mthokozisi Kunene were the three MPs that rejected the budget yet they were part of the com-

Hlophe said in the committee, there would be time for the MPs to debate on the budget. The MPs would weigh in their opinions in the interests of the people and changes would be made here

"Let me make an example of the issue of E20 million. We talked about this issue and the minister promised us that

he would look into it. What is unfortunate about this whole thing, is that we do not get to see the final draft of the budget speech. We were surprised to find out during the budget speech that nothing had been done to the E20 million," Hlophe said.

The MP went on to state that he would not allow such a budget to pass when his constituency was having bad roads. The Mahlangatja residents, Hlophe said, were not able to move from one place to another. The MP said he had become tired of passing budgets that did not address the needs of the people of his constituency.

Shiselweni II MP Mthokozisi Kunene said he was also invited to participate in the committee. What Kunene observed was that in most cases, members of the committee had no power to change anything in the budget. The sessional committee was told what to do in most

He even told MPs that it was possible for a 30-second phone call to change the outcome of what they had debated for about six hours. However, he urged MPs not to allow such a thing to hap-

Nkhaba MP Menzi Dlamini also observed that members of the committee were not considered during the budget. He said the issue of E20 million budget on Christianity was to be re-allocated, but it came back as it was. He said it was better for him to reject the budget because at Jubukweni, a place under his constituency, there was a school that was not accessible due to overflowing rivers.

Dismissal is bad timing -MP Gundwane

THE rejection of the budget is a bad decision as the people will think of MPs as selfish people who reject budgets when their time in office is up.

Siphofaneni MP Gundwane Gamedze said he understood the concerns the MPs raised but he was worried about the time in which they were raised.

"The people in our constituencies are going to be angry with us because we are only doing this now. They will ask us why we have not been doing this all along," Gamedze said.

He went on to state that the budget should be accepted and the opportunity to reject would be used during ministerial budget debates.

Gamedze was seconded by Lobamba Lomdzala MP Marwick Khumalo, who said the 48 hours in which the budget should be re-allocated was unrealistic. He said it was possible for the budget to come back even worse than what it was.

MP Thuli Dladla was also of the view that the budget should be accepted. In her submission, she made it known that she was supporting Khumalo.

Rejected

She said nothing better aside from the rejected budget could be presented. Dladla suggested that the budget should be debated and the sessional committee would be sent to negotiate with the ministry on how the budget should be re-allocated.

Madlangemphisi MP Bongani Mdluli said the time had come for them as MPs to communicate political will on the budget by rejecting it. He was supported by Motshane MP Phesheya Hlatshwayo, who said they should not be worried by time.

He said this even if they did not win in next year's elections, others would take over from what they would have done and move

Works minister failing country - MPs

MPs threw a salvo at Minister of Works and Public Transport Lindiwe Dlamini.

However, the minister had already left the House when the MPs grilled her ministry. The MPs were left to complain about the bad state of the roads of the country in her

Almost all of the 40 MPs made a submission talked about how bad the state of the roads was in their constituencies. Unfortunately, the minister was no longer there to hear what the MPs had to say.

Mbabane West MP Johane Shongwe was the first MP to talk about how ineffective the works ministry was. The minister had already left at that time.

"That is another ministry that is ineffective, Mr Speaker. That is why even the minister has left now. Can you still see her, Mr Speaker?

To prove what I am saying, we have a crisis at Malagwane Hill, where there are no lines on the road to direct traffic. This is happening in the busiest road in the country," Shongwe said. He was addressing Speaker Themba Msibi.

Kukhanyeni MP Bongani Mabuza said the situation was even worse than the time he joined Parliament in 2013. He said the minister toured his constituency and could not reach Ngcayini because of the problems of the roads in that area.

Motshane MP Phesheya Hlatshwayo said his constituency was visited by three Cabinet ministers. However, the ministers could



UNDER SCRUTINY: Minister Lindiwe Dlamini.

not reach the Inkhundla centre in Sigangeni. He said the situation on the D78 (Siphocosini-Motshane) Road was just bad and driving on it was sometimes impossible.

Shiselweni II MP Mthokozisi Kunene said there was just corruption in that ministry and nothing was done to uproot it. He even suggested that the ministry should be closed if possible because it did not help the country in any way.

He wondered why the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) was given money from the public purse if people within a ministry would commit corrupt acts with such impunity.

He attacked the ACC, saying all it was capable of doing was to hunt down certain political figures yet there were people committing corruption in government.



VICTORY: STA's Information Officers Mbali Tsabedze and Henrietta Mdluli, pose with Big Game Parks' Nicki Jacobs, Beeld Show's Hamper De Kock, and Big Game Parks' Michelle at the Swaziland stand which won an excellence award last week at Beeld Holiday Show, Midrand, in South Africa. (Courtesy pic)



INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A REFERRAL AND

Tender No: H330/15299

Tenderers are invited from locally registered Mechanical (Lifts) Contractors for the proposed construction of the Mbabane Government Hospital Referral and Emergency Complex at Mbabane Government Hospital. Only firms that hold a valid registration certificate issued by the Construction Industry Council (CIC) and of which at least 60% of the controlling shares are owned by Swazi citizens will be considered

Bonafide tenders should comprise the following:

- Certified copy of a valid registration certificate issued by CIC for Mechanical (Lifts) Contractors, Sr and
- A completed set of Tender Document
- A tenderer's valid tax clearance certificate (for Government Tender)
- Certified copy of a valid Trading License,
- E50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand Emalangeni) Tender deposit be in the form of either a bank certified cheque, letter of credit, or a bank guarantee from a banking institution, or a bond issued by an
- Certified copy of a valid Labour Compliance Certificate from the Ministry of Labour
- Submission of a valid Company Form J, stamped by the Registrar of Companies with certified copies of
- Shareholders and Directors IDs and
- Submission of a valid Company Form C, stamped by the Registrar of Companies
- Audited Financials for 3 years
- Tender Documents will be available from 11:00am to 4.00pm from Wednesday, 01st March 2017 to
- Tuesday, 7th March 2017 at 09:00am Swaziland time and may be collected from:

Microprojects Programme

Suite 102, Dlan'ubeka House, Corner of LaLufadlana & Mdada Streets

Tenderers are advised to pay a E2 500.00 (Two thousand five hundred emalangeni only) non-refundable amount at the Government Revenue Office and should use code 233/1201/04199/G51299 when making payment. Companies are advised to consult Microprojects Unit office on the availability of tender documents prior to payment. The unit will not be liable for the refund in the event one pays for unavailable tender documents.

A compulsory site inspection is scheduled as follows;

DATE AND TIME OF SITE INSPECTION MEETING PLACE Mbabane Government Hospital Old OPD Tuesday, 07th March 2017: 10:00 am **Parking Lot**

Please note that Tenderers who will not attend the site inspection will be declared as non-responsive.

- Date and place of tender submission: Wednesday, 29th March 2017 at 11:00am at the Office of
- Time for submission 11:00am Prompt Swaziland time (No late submission shall be entertained for whatsoever reason)

:11:05am Swaziland time

Completed tenders should be delivered in a sealed envelope to the Microprojects Office and the envelope should only show the Project Name, Project Number and addressed to:

The Coordinator Microprojects Programme First Floor Dlan'ubeka Building P.O. Box 2122 MBABANE

Any action or tendencies that will be interpreted as an attempt to interfere with or influence the tendering process will result in immediate disqualification of the Tenderer. Enquiries and/or clarification must be in writing and addressed to Mr. M. Dube at sd393mmd@gmail.com. Microprojects Programme does not bind itself to award the lowest or any tender.

STA WINS EXCEL

Stories by Nomthandazo Nkambule Mbabane

THE Swaziland Tourism Authority (STA) has once again bagged another award for the country.

This time around the parastatal has won the prestigious 'Excellence Award' at the just ended Beeld Holiday Show, held last week in Midrand, South Africa.

Last year, the Swaziland stand at the Tourism Indaba 2016 in Durban won a Silver Medal.

Held at the grand Gallagher Convention Centre, last week's show attracted exhibitors from all corners of Africa. These, according to STA Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini, comprised destination marketing organisations, as well as established and emerging players in the tourism, hospitality, and travel industry. STA, who shared a stand with Big Game Parks, were awarded for excellence in all aspects: size, theme. relevance, information dissemination, and impact.

"We are extremely enthralled over this recognition, given that

it is the first time we are winning it in the last decade of participation at this esteemed show. This surely bolsters our image as a country, and solidifies our disposition as the 'destination to visit,' seeing that our collective marketing efforts are being significantly noticed and appreciated at such shows," said Dlamini.

Dlamini said the Beeld Holiday Show has proven over the years to be a good value show for

Swaziland to attend. "Our proximity

to South Africa TOURISM AUTHORITY allows us to fully take advan-

tage of the South African market, while establishing synergies with trade from that country as well as from other countries. When participating at

trade shows, we always aspire to keep Swaziland top of mind for all consumers and trade who attend the same; something we resoundingly achieved at this year's Beeld," he added.

Dlamini revealed that Beeld Holiday Show attracted high quality clientele, most of whom were serious and keen buyers. He said STA used that and other shows to position Swaziland strategically as a preferred and ultimate tourist destination in

> Southern Africa. This, he said, was done by means of face-to-face networking, as well as scheduled meetings with trade, tour operators, and travel media.

> > About 1 200 Swaziland Discovery' brochures as well as 600 'Swaziland Explorer' maps were distributed over the two-day show. Big

Games Parks, on the other hand, ran a competition that aimed at driving traffic to their social media platforms - increasing product knowledge in the process.

ABOUT BEELD HOLIDAY SHOW

THE Beeld Holiday Show is an annual launchpad for leading manufacturers in the caravan and camping industry, giving the opportunity to showcase new and improved products.

It also attracts Africa's leading destination exhibitors, as well as 30 000 consumers over two days.

Well-known for its quality exhibitors, its view and the amazing turnout of visitors, the expo provides destination marketing establishments with a platform to market their product to thousands of holiday planners, holiday makers and trade partners. Many visitors

attending the show were a clear indication of the event's success, proving why the 'camp world' continues to be number one leading pillar in the travel and tourism industry.

The show is traditionally held at the Gallagher Estate in Midrand, South Africa, every February.

Screw drivers drawn as pupils fight in school

By Samukelisiwe Ginindza Nhlambeni

TEACHERS watched in shock as two male pupils drew out screw drivers at each other as they were fight-School.

The fight between the two allegedly broke out during the sports hour at the sports ground, where the two lads, one in Grade Seven and the other in Grade Six exchanged blows.

As the fight climaxed, they drew screw drivers and spectators started screaming for help from the teachers as they sensed danger. This was confirmed by the school's

Headteacher Thembekile Mathunywa, who said they managed to break-up the fight



before the two could harm each other with the weapons.

"Yes it did happen, but we were quick to maintain peace and before long they were the best of friends again," she said. Mathunywa added that the bone of contention began at home, away from school, but the two maintained they would sort each other at school and when they eventually met on the Wednesday, all hell broke loose, as they came prepared for the worst.

What is said to have shocked the pupils the most was to see the two draw out weapons, possibly to harm each other, so they had to make sure that the teachers deal with the situation before anything bad happens to either of the two.

PM TABLES SUPPRESSION OF TERRORISM BILL OF 2016

Stories by Lungelo Nkambule Lobamba

AFTER being deferred several times, Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini finally tabled the Suppression of Terrorism Bill of 2016 for the second reading.

The Bill which has been deferred a number of times in the process angering senators was last Thursday tabled by the Acting Prime Minister Paul

Dlamini was standing in for the Prime Minister Dr Sibusiso Dlamini who had left the country for South Africa for a medical check-up.

Before the Bill was tabled, Senator Ngomuyayona Gamedze said as per the constitution, the PM could be represented by the DPM in the event he was out of the country.

When tabling the report, DPM said the Bill was in line with United Nations policies as it mandated governments to put instruments in place to fight terrorism. The Suppression of Terrorism Bill of 2016 is an amendment of the Suppression of Terrorism Act of 2008. The Bill that was tabled comprised amendments on Section Two, 11 and 28. The amendments to the Bill come after recommendations were made by

the International Labour Organisation. The Act was seen by the organisation as having excessive restrictive measures. Meanwhile, President in the House of Senate Ngomuyayona Gamedze implored senators to fill the questions and motions box so that they can start working on issues that affect people.

Gamedze said the senators had a task to ring in motions and questions that could be debated in the house as there were many things that were affecting Swazis at home that needed to be dealt. "Like I have said before we need to work hard, we need to represent the people out there who can't be here. We shouldn't let the people at home down,

What happens once Bills pass?

SENATOR Chief Kusa wondered as to what exactly happens to Bills after they were passed by the house. He said this was because after they had been approved he could not hear anything about them.

He made reference to the Sexual Offences Bill which he said as Parliament they had passed but it seemed it had died a silent death as it was not applied anywhere.

"What exactly happens to the bills that we pass here in Parliament because we never hear about them being implemented anywhere, like the Sexual Offences Bill, the people still think it is in Parliament," he said.

He wondered if there was an instru-

they are counting on us to deal with issues affecting them," he said. Gamedze said he did not want to get to a point where he walked up to senators and

ment that parliament had in place to do follow-ups on the passed Bills if there was indeed something done with them.

President Ngomuyayona Gamedze responded that there was infact a committee that had to do follow-ups. "We have the government assurance committee which is for that and members of that committee should start working," he said. Members of the committee as it turned out included Chief Kusa, Princess Phurnelele, Prince Mahlaba, David Dlamini and Menjeni Mahlalela. Gamedze then mandated the committee to meet before yesterday and report back to him before the day ended.

asked for their questions and motions because he knew that they had many of these they were just not bringing them forth.





INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A REFERRAL AND EMERGENCY COMPLEX AT MBABANE GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL (ELECTRICAL AND FIRE ALARM INSTALLATION):

Tender No: H330/15299

Tenderers are invited from locally registered Electrical Contractors for the proposed construction of the Mbabane Government Hospital Referral and Emergency Complex at Mbabane Government Hospital. Only firms that hold a valid registration certificate issued by the Construction Industry Council (CIC) and of which at least 60% of the controlling shares are owned by Swazi citizens will be considered.

Bonafide tenders should comprise the following:

- Certified copy of a valid registration certificate issued by CIC for Electrical Contractors, E1 category,
- A completed set of Tender Document
- A tenderer's valid tax clearance certificate (for Government Tender)
- Certified copy of a valid Trading License,
- E50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand Emalangeni) Tender deposit be in the form of either a bank certified cheque, letter of credit, or a bank guarantee from a banking institution, or a bond issued by an insurance or bonding
- Certified copy of a valid Labour Compliance Certificate from the Ministry of Labour
- Submission of a valid Company Form J, stamped by the Registrar of Companies with certified copies of Shareholders and Directors IDs and
- Submission of a valid Company Form C, stamped by the Registrar of Companies
- Audited Financials for 3 years

Tender Documents will be available from 11:00am to 4.00pm from Wednesday, 01" March 2017 to Tuesday, 7th March 2017 at 09:00am Swaziland time and may be collected from:

Microprojects Programme

Suite 102, Dlan'ubeka House, Corner of LaLufadlana & Mdada Streets

Tenderers are advised to pay a E2 500.00 (Two thousand five hundred emalangeni only) non-refundable amount at the Government Revenue Office and should use code 233/1201/04199/G51299 when making payment. Companies are advised to consult Microprojects Unit office on the availability of tender documents prior to payment. The unit will not be liable for the refund in the event one pays for unavailable tender documents.

A compulsory site inspection is scheduled as follows;

MEETING PLACE
Mbabane Government Hospital Old OPD
Parking Lot

Please note that Tenderers who will not attend the site inspection will be declared as non-responsive.

- ice of tender submission: Wednesday, 29th March 2017 at 11:00am at the Office of the Employer
- Time for submission 11:00am Prompt Swaziland time (No late submission shall be entertained for whatsoever
- reason) Tender Opening....... 11:05am Swaziland time

Completed tenders should be delivered in a sealed envelope to the Microprojects Office and the envelope should only show the Project Name, Project Number and addressed to:

The Coordinator Microprojects Programme First Floor Dlan'ubeka Building P.O. Box 2122 **MBABANE**

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INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A REFERRAL AND EMERGENCY COMPLEX AT MBABANE GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL (AIR CONDITIONING & MECHANICAL VENTILATION) : Tender No: H330/15299

Tenderers are invited from locally registered Mechanical (HVAC) Contractors for the proposed construction of the Mbabane Government Hospital Referral and Emergency Complex at Mbabane Government Hospital. Only firms that hold a valid registration certificate issued by the Construction Industry Council (CIC) and of which at least 60% of the controlling shares are owned by Swazi citizens will be considered.

Bonafide tenders should comprise the following:

- Certified copy of a valid registration certificate issued by CIC for Mechanical (HVAC) Contractors, Sa/Saf category,
- A completed set of Tender Document
- · A tenderer's valid tax clearance certificate (for Government Tender)
- · Certified copy of a valid Trading License,
- E50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand Emalangeni) Tender deposit be in the form of either a bank certified cheque, letter of credit, or a bank guarantee from a banking institution, or a bond is sued by an insurance or bonding institution;
- Certified copy of a valid Labour Compliance Certificate from the Ministry of Labour
- Submission of a valid Company Form J, stamped by the Registrar of Companies with certified copies of Shareholders and Directors IDs and
- Submission of a valid Company Form C, stamped by the Registrar of Companies
- Audited Financials for 3 years

Tender Documents will be available from 11:00am to 4.00pm from Wednesday, 01th March 2017 to Tuesday, 7th March 2017 at 09:00am Swaziland time and may be collected from:

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A compulsory site inspection is scheduled as follows;

DATE AND TIME OF SITE INSPECTION	MEETING PLACE		
	Mbabane Government Hospital Old OPD		
Tuesday, 07th March 2012 10:00 am	Parking Lot		

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- Date and place of tender submission: Wednesday, 29th March 2017 at 11:00am at the Office of the Employer
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- Tender Opening.......11:05am Swaziland time

Completed tenders should be delivered in a sealed envelope to the Microprojects Office and the envelope should only show the Project Name, Project Number and addressed to:

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LUBOMBO NEWS

Siteki Office



Siteki Market Offices, 2343 5779 Office No: 15



Cell: 7643 6549 Email: observersiteki@realnet.co.sz ...With Wonderboy Dlamini

SITSATSAWENI COMMUNITY RAISES E23 000 FOR WATER PROJECT

HAVING survived the hardest times of drought, residents of Sitsatsaweni have since raised a sum of E23 000 towards a water project, which is expected to benefit over 500 homesteads.

The project, which will see the rural community situated along the border line separating Swaziland and Mozambique having potable water, will start before this end of the year. This has been reported by Lugongolweni Constituency Headman, Matius Matsebula.

Speaking during an interview, Matsebula stated that the constituency was working hard to implement a water project worth E2.3 million.

He said they have submitted proposals to several non-governmental organisations to seek financial assistance. Matsebula said the constituency proposed the project last year after it became evident that residents of the area were struggling to have clean water.

Apparently, residents of the area were walking long distances to fetch water from dams which they shared with livestock.

The proposed project would draw water from the main piping system

which supplies Siteki, from Mhlumeni. Matsebula said they had asked residents to contribute a fraction of the total cost, which they quickly did.

Contributions

"As we speak we have E23 000 in a bank account, which is contributions by the residents," said Matsebula.

The project will see each homestead having its own tap.

Meanwhile, Matsebula said another water project at Mhlumeni, which was completed last year, had recently started working.

The project was stalled after the dam ran dry as a result of the drought which hit many areas in the region.

But the situation improved following the recent rains, which brought a huge relief to the residents.

Some of the improved dams which are also used for commercial purposes are in Mahenjane, Luhhwahhweni and Mahhuku area. Matsebula said these dams are

currently full.

He then urged organisations which use the said dams for commercial purposes to use them sparingly.

Recent rains damage gravel roads

A number of gravel roads under Lugongolweni Constituency have been left in a bad state following the recent rains.

Constituency Headman, Matius Matsebula said some of the roads are currently inaccessible due to their bad state.

The roads which are currently characterised potholes developing in the middle include Mzilikazi-Magugu, Matsetsa-Mvutjini road and Martin-Luhhwahhweni. These are mainly roads which lead to Siteki town.

Reported

Matsebula said they had already reported same to the ministry of public works and transport for assistance.

He said the constituency was currently working on digging sand near Ka-Langa to be used in filling up the potholes in the roads.

"Our main challenge is that we do not have trucks as a constituency, otherwise we would have attended to the damaged roads by now," said Matsebula.

On another note, he said the constituency has funded a total of 11 electricity schemes which the connection of electricity to over 600 homesteads expected to take place just at the beginning of the 2017 financial year.

The schemes are situated in areas such as Makhewu, Mlindazwe and Ka-Langa.

New Post Office to start functioning at Mpolonjeni

ELDERLY people of Mpolonjeni Constituency may soon heave a sigh of relief as the newly constructed post office is expected to start operating by next month.

This means that services such as the payment of elderly grants will now be provided at the post office, which is situated at the inkhundla. This was confirmed by constituency Headman, Moses Maziya. The construction of the post office started last year. Maziya said this was after it was realised that residents of the constituency travelled long distances to get services provided by a post office. The nearest post office is in Siteki.

This meant the arrangement by government to have the elderly paid their grants through a nearest post office brought no change to the elderly of Mpolonjeni as they were still required to board a bus to Siteki. Maziya said this resulted to the elderly spending almost all their grants on transport.

On another note, Maziya reported that the constituency has so far managed to have at least 60 per cent of the area provided with clean water supply. The constituency has five chiefdoms, with most of them having been hit hard by the drought experienced last year.

Maziya said they had funded water projects through the Regional Development Fund (RDF) as a way of addressing in the delicate situation. He disclosed that they were still undertaking other projects which are more likely to be completed before the end of this year.

Maziya added that they would also be implementing entrepreneurship training to the youth of the area in the near future, especially in agri-business.



BLACKOUT: Some parts of Siteki yesterday morning experienced a brief power blackout after a motor vehicle belonging to the Swaziland Electricity Company knocked down an electricity pole situated near Galp Filling Station. It could not be immediately ascertained as to what led to the driver of the vehicle losing its control as nobody was found at the accident scene. (Pic: Wonderboy Dlamini)

Divided Maphungwane residents likely to affect 2018 election

RESIDENTS of Maphungwane Chiefdom foresee a situation where the 2018 elections will be engulfed by controversy as they remain divided.

Maphungwane is the largest of four chiefdoms under Matsanjeni North Constituency.

This has also been evidenced by the fact that a majority of former members of parliament came from this chiefdom.

It consists of areas such as Makhewu in Siteki, Ka-Ntuli, Ndlalane, Bhekizwe, Hhukwane,

Tingodvweni and Magwanyana. In fact, the three other chiefdoms, namely; Mambane, Lukhetseni and Tikhuba can hardly make the size of

Maphungwane when combined.

It is on record that Maphungwane is currently engulfed by chieftaincy disputes as some residents have over the past years refused to accept Chief Maliwa Maziya as the rightful leader of the area.

This has led to some calling for the relevant structures to bring order and unity amongst the residents before the elections. "It makes common sense that the next member of parliament must come from this chiefdom since it is the biggest, but this will be impossible when the residents remain divided," said John Mamba, who is a resident of Hhukwane. Mamba stated that the current MP, Phila Buthelezi, who is from Mambane, has also done tremendously well thus far. He said they were concerned about the disunity among Maphungwane residents.



GOOD JOB: Matsanjeni North MP Phila Buthelezi.

one in Xaba's car.

easily identified.

not find anything. Airtime vendors, who

are usually found doing business next to the filling station, said they saw no

With the filling station installed with surveillance cameras, a footage of the surroundings was shown and an image

of a man was seen fiddling with the car and taking something but he was not

The next morning the 'Bizemoyeni' team were requested to get into the filling station with the possibilities of find-

LANDELA GANG STEAL KOMBI OWNER'S E10 000

By Starsky Mkhonta Nhlangano

THE infamous Landela gang last week pounced on a transport operator, stealing his E10 000 he had just withdrawn from a bank.

Jerome Xaba, owner of Sihle Transport, was with a close family member when withdrawing the money and then left it in a car, only to find it stolen later.

It is claimed that members of the 'Landela gang' kept following Xaba who had parked his car near the Galp Filling Station, which is located across

Standard Bank.

It is suspected that the 'Landela gang' had tailed him just when he was preparing to park the car next to the filling station.

Not taking any notice that there were individuals monitoring his movements, he got into the bank and apparently one of the Landela gang members had seen that he just withdrew money.

Some suspect it could be that the 'Landela gang' had information that Xaba was planning to make a huge withdrawal, thus they tailed him.

After Xaba had finished the withdrawal, he later realised that his card



was missing, whilst in his car.

Xaba rushed back to the bank to find out if he had not forgotten the card in the ATM. When he rushed back to the bank, the members of the 'Landela gang'

struck and took the money he had just withdrawn.

When he returned to the car, the E10 000 was gone.

Xaba searched inside the car and did

ing out from them if they could identify the man.

No one could identify who it was and even after the arrival of the police, everyone was clueless as to who the suspect could be. To this day no arrest has been made. Police mouthpiece Superintendent

Khulani Mamba confirmed the incident and mentioned that investigations were continuing. "It is true that a man withdrew money from the bank, but only to find it stolen after he had left it in his car. There is no doubt that this is the evil work of the 'Landela gang," said Supt

Gang of bandits terrorise Sandleni residents

By Starsky Mkhonta Nhlangano

A gang of thugs has literally taken over areas under Sandleni Constituency, robbing people their items and also attacking them.

Mostly targeted are businesspeople, and their families.

Almost weekly, incidents of robbery and attacks take place especially along the Nkhungwini, to *Phans's ambulungwane* corridor as well as further up from M belebel en i (*Etukw'ambulungwane*) as well as Mashayikhatsi.

It is said the criminals are armed and dangerous as some of the victims are now hacked and shot at with firearms.

So terrifying is the situation such that other residents now prefer to be indoors early, despite that the thugs strike even during broad daylight.

It is believed the terror gang consists of people also known in some of the communities.

Shops and other businesses, including liquor outlets, are some of those targeted by the bandits.

"We are now living in fear as this gang is seemingly in full control of all areas under Sandleni. Businesses are raided and the criminals strike even during the day. People are shot at and others are hacked by these criminals.

There are several businesses which have fallen victim to these criminals and we have many innocent people whose lives are threatened. It's no longer safe to live in any area which is under Sandleni," said one of the residents.

Residents feel the situation has gone out of control and joint operations were fundamental to fight this.

"This has to come to an end



WORRIED: Sandlani Member of Parliament Jameson Simelane.

or we will resort to mob justice. There are some of us who are capable of facing these criminals and we may find ourselves killing them and it's going to be regrettable as we are being cornered. We call upon the relevant authorities to do something before we decide to take the law into your hands," said another member of the community.

Sandleni Member of Parliament Jameson Simelane said he was also worried by the rate of crime in the constituency.

He said what was sad was that the people who were linked to some of the criminal activities were known and elders of the various chiefdoms had to do something.

"It's frightening and I feel the community leaders should start confronting all those involved.

Businesses will close if no action is taken against the perpetrators," said MP Simelane.

Drunk driving suspect fined E1 500 after tripling scale

By Wonderboy Dlamini Siteki

A drink-driving was lucky to get leniency of the court after he was nabbed by traffic police after having tripled the legal limit of alcohol consumption.

Mbongwa Dlamini appeared before the Magistrate's Court after he was charged with contravening Section 91(1) as read with Section 122 of the Road Traffic Act 6 of 2007.

He was nabbed along the Siteki-Lukhula road while driving his motor vehicle, a Mazda 3 sedan.

The court record indicates that the accused person wrongfully and unlawfully drove the afore-

mentioned vehicle while the alcohol content in his breath specimen read as 1.63 mg/l, which is way above the legal limit of 0.37 mg/l.

Particulars of the offence included that the accused was talkative and struggling to maintain his balance.

He was said to have also had a strong smell of alcohol coming from his mouth.

When the charge sheet was read to him, the accused pleaded guilty to the charge while conducting his own defence. His plea was accepted by the crown without leading evidence to prove commission of the offence.

The accused asked the court to be lenient when passing sentence, saying he was attending to an emergency when he was nabbed by the police.

He was accordingly found guilty by the court and was sentenced to four months in a correctional facility with an option to pay E1 500 fine.



Meanwhile, Sabelo Khumalo also faced a similar offence, in that he wrongfully and unlawfully drove his motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol.

He was arrested near Mzilikazi Filling Station with the breathalyser test indicating he had an alcohol content of 1.30 mg/l in his system.

He pleaded guilty to the offence and was convicted by the court. He was sentenced to four months in a correctional facility with an option to pay E1 500 fine.

'Govt making notable strides under PM's leadership'

By Starsky Mkhonta Nhlangano

CHAIRPERSON of the Portfolio Committee for Education at Senate, Senator Ndumiso Mdluli says government has made notable strides under the leadership of Prime Minister Dr Sibusiso Dlamini in terms of delivery.

The senator said the PM has ensured that the country's authorities' wishes were fulfilled, especially in bringing service to the people.

He was speaking during the launch of the Teaching Services Commission (TSC) decentralised operations last week. The launch took place at the teachers resource centre at the Shiselweni Regional Office.

In his remarks, Mdluli said all good things were happening during Dlamini's tenure. He cited the launch of TSC decentralised operations an example.

"It is a landmark achievement and it is happening while you are the head of government. You have been tasked with being the captain of this government and I must state that you have not disappointed in carrying out your duties," said Mdluli.

He also praised government for its stand on Religious Education (RE) syllabus.

Subject

He said as a nation of Christianity, having the RE subject taught in schools should not even be debated.

By having schools taking RE seriously would assist in seeing the nation starting at grassroot level to value Christianity.

"This has happened during your tenure as head of government and you are implementing the wishes of the country's leaders and Christianity, it's what we are and it is a good idea to have it taught to children in schools," said the senator.



PRAISE SINGER: Senator Ndumiso MdIuli.

Tunisia preparing to join COMESA

By Lungelo Nkambule

Mbabane

TUNISIA is preparing to sign the COMESA Treaty during the next COMESA Summit in October 2017.

The signature will herald the admission of Tunisia to the regional economic community as its 20th Member State. A press statement by COMESA Head of Corporate Communications Mwangi Gakunga said Tunisian Prime Minister and Head of Government Yousef Achahed told a visiting COMESA delegation that his country was ready to conclude the negotiations early in readiness for the accession to the COMESA Treaty.

The COMESA delegation led by

the Secretary General Sindiso Ngwenya is in Tunisia this week to discuss with the government the steps towards joining the largest regional bloc in Africa.

The mission is in fulfillment of the decision of the 19th COMESA Heads of State Summit held in Madagascar in October 2016 that mandated the Bureau of the Council of Ministers to enter into negotiations with the Republic of Tunisia on the terms and conditions of accession to the COMESA Treaty.

The bilateral talks focused on the activities to be undertaken by Tunisia as part of the preparations to accede to the COMESA Treaty.

The secretary general briefed the prime minister on COMESA and explained that the membership of Tunisia will be a single undertaking;

"What this means is that it will require Tunisia to simultaneously join COMESA financial, technical, semi-autonomous and autonomous institutions," the SG told the prime minister.

COMESA has nine institutions, two specialised agencies and a judicial arm all located in different member states

As part of the preparations for launching the negotiations between the Bureau of Council and Tunisia, the COMESA delegation held separate discussions with the Minister of Trade and Industry Zeid Ladhari and with the Minister of Development Investment and International Cooperation Mohamed Fadhel Abdelkefi.

The two ministers reiterated the readiness and commitment of Tunisia to contribute to the realisation of the

objectives of COMESA, once the country is admitted. The COMESA delegation which includes the Director of Trade and Customs Dr Francis Mangeni and Director of Legal Affairs Brian Chigawa will be meeting with other ministers and private sector representatives in the coming days. Tunisia first applied for observer status in COMESA in 2005 but the matter was not concluded.

In February, 2016 the country formally wrote to the secretary general making inquiries on joining COMESA.

This set in motion the current process towards its admission. Once successfully concluded, Tunisia will become the 20th member of COMESA.

Article four of the Treaty provides that the COMESA Authority may admit a country which is an immediate neighbour of a member state upon fulfilling conditions set forth including acceptance of the COMESA aims and objectives, compliance with the general undertakings and fundamental principles and wishing to co-operate with COMESA.

According to the procedure, the application is communicated to the Member States, and then tabled before the Council of Ministers to make appropriate recommendation for the attention of the Authority of the COMESA Heads of State and Governments.

A new member, upon admission, is bound by the provisions of the Treaty and shall within six months thereafter deposit the instruments of acceptance and accession with the Secretary General.

Corban Build to open another branch at KaThumbela

Stories by Simon Shabangu Sigwe

CORBAN Build Hardware who recently opened a branch at Sphambanweni area will open yet another branch at Kathumbela once the hardware project proposed by the local cooperative is finished.

This was revealed by the company's Marketing Manager Reggie Kunene at the Sigwe area during the commissioning of a over E600 000 market structure by Prince Lindani who was the guest speaker on Saturday. The Prince also blessed the construction of a hardware next to the market, a project he said will resume and be complete by 2018.

The event was organised by the area's Member of Parliament David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala and members of Buhle Buyabukwa Multi Purpose Cooperative who are the owners of the market which was part-

ly funded by Micro Projects among other sponsors. The cooperative expressed their desire to build a hardware next to their market to develop the area and also attract customers to their market. Corban who recently opened a branch at Sphambanweni said they are ready to occupy the hardware as tenants to the cooperative. Kunene said as a company they are eagerly waiting for commencement of the project and ready to take over its operations once it is complete. "The company has committed to spreading across the country hence we are always looking for opportunities everywhere we go. We are excited about this proposed project and I must say we are waiting to take it up. To prove our support and commitment to this project we will donate bags of cement once the project begins. I will not mention figures now but we will definitely make a reasonable contribution to ensure the project becomes a success," he said.

He also made a donation of five dancing drums towards Elulakeni

ANOTHER BRANCH: Corban Build Hardware Marketing Manager Reggie Kunene and Sigwe Inkhundla MP and Sports Culture and Youth Affairs Minister David 'Crusier' Ngcamphalala in a jubilant mood during the commissioning of a market at Kathumbela on Saturday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

High School Sibhaca and Ingadla teams saying as a company which supports culture they will make the contribution to encourage the school to engage more in the culture activities. He also announced that they will sponsor a culture competition for culture groups under the *Inkhundla* as their way of promoting culture.

The company also recently sponsored a local church in the area with roofing worth over E30 000 among other many projects they have sponsored under the Sigwe *Inkhundla*.

Dups Insurance Partners with Sigwe Inkundla...

DUPS Insurance has partnered with the *Inkhundla* and will soon launch a fund which will help the community in the event of death.

Bongani Shongwe said this would help the residents to be less burdened in the event their loved ones pass on as Dups would cater for the funeral and let their loved ones have a dignified send off.

Contributions

He said they would soon be launching the partnership and giving details to the community on how they can make contributions to ensure they are covered.

The area's MP is aggressive and committed to his people and always wants the best for his people.

That is why we frequent this area and support him in the many projects that they do in the constituency.



HAPPY: A joyful member of the cooperative singing in joy.



CELEB: SBIS Radio Personality Shlabani was a hit among the residents as they posed for pictures with him after the event.





CRUISING:
Minister David
Ngcamphalala
leading the
gathering in
song as he
danced with
the members.



FEATURES & OPINION

REFRESH WHAT YOU THINK ...

info@observer.org.sz

and the state than the said the constituents



AS the 21st Century unfolds, leadership is not getting any easier. The market's obsession for continued performance stifles even the best strategists.

Customers and high performing employees have more choices. Extreme transparency has replaced closeddoor inner workings and all the business environment forces make many leaders feel like they have a big load on their backs. Leadership requires a balance between business competence and personal connection. It's no longer enough for leaders to be capable. They must also build authentic bonds with employees, customers, and other stakeholders and that makes leadership a daunting task to succeed in. To be more effective, we list some of the key areas that have to be prioritised in order to increase effec-

Self-Development

Expectations of leadership have risen beyond the capabilities of most senior executives. The best leaders know they need to be compelling and inspirational, but they are often challenged by how to do it.

As a leader you have to cast an objective eye. Know how you measure up to today's higher standards and what impact your actions have. It's easy to dismiss feedback as

PRIORITISING KEY ISSUES I LEADING AN ORGANISATION

grumbling, especially when it is coming from the people you are leading because the tendency is that most annoying employees are the first to point out your flaws. It is critical as leader you have to listen, not argue. As a leader to take time to reflect on what drives you personally. Personal values fuel confidence and effective communications. To be inspirational, you need to be inspired yourself.

Correct cultural dishonesty

Compliance with laws and regulatory requirements might keep you out of jail and your organisation out of the headlines, but it will not build a sustainable, high-performing organisation. Cultural corruption is not about breaking the law. It's about bad business practices that undermine commitment. It's about the rift between leaders' talk and actions.

Watch for the little things that do not seem right. Audits and culture scans can identify practices that may support short-term financial gain at the expense of productivity and engagement. They also measure pride, which is a prerequisite to retention of high performance.

Pay attention to behaviour not rules. A culture that operates with ethical intent at every level is created by leaders who model desired behaviours, not by team members who fol-



low policy. Paperwork that satisfies the scrutiny of regulators will not inspire the contribution you need from every team member. Further, as a leader you have to encourage people to do the right thing, even when no one is looking.

Earning trust

Earn trust every day. In a well-managed organisation, only half the workforce will say they trust senior leaders, yet most executives rate themselves as trustworthy.

This intent/effect gap results from employees drawing conclusions with minimum information, what is said in a meeting or a decision communicated through the proper ranks, not the other 90 per cent of what leaders do each day. So, leaders need to explain the decision making process and motivation for their actions.

Drive productivity and innovation through Engagement.

Leaders need to own team members engagement because engaged employees are more productive and they tend to treat customers better, they innovate and continue to stay with the organisation. As a leader, you should not confuse employee engagement with satisfaction and assume that a few human resource initiatives can give poor employee

survey scores a boost. Engagement goes beyond satisfaction to reflect contribution. Engaged team members are committed and aligned to apply their unique skills to contribute to priorities.

To boost engagement, leaders should find a way to decrease and or reduce disengaged team members. It can happen that some team members may not have started out so well in that when coming on board they had to deal with; alienation, bad practices or it could be that poor leadership may have pushed them over the

edge. Such team members undermine productivity by dragging everyone down around them.

Provide meaning

It's up to leaders to help their people find meaning at work. That meaning can take the form of personal connection with ambitious goals or achievement of more personal career aspirations. Leaders need to articulate goals, paint a compelling vision of the future, and help team members to connect the dots. Leaders should make sure you are engaged. Disengaged leaders lack the clarity of purpose or energy to engage oth-

Make talent management a business priority.

Leaders need to have the right people in the right jobs focused on the right priorities and ensure that employees have the information and support they need to align their interests and career aspirations with the organisation's goals.

That dual focus can reduce unwanted turnover and create a sustainable competitive advantage. To achieve it you should not just 'manage' your top talent.

These people have marketable skills, and so if they have their fate decided by a succession planning committee or a well-intentioned manager, they may head for the door. Top talent demand to be involved.

Government officials, media, the people: democracy 2017

price democracy? And what responsibilities come with each of these? These are question which many have grappled with across the last 23 years since that May Day when Nelson Rolihlala Mandela took that oath of office to become the first democratically elected president of the Republic

WHAT price is freedom? What of South Africa. More than the election results of 27 April 1994, it was the inauguration of Mandela at the Union Buildings in Pretoria days later which sealed the process which ushered in post-apartheid South Africa. Of course, the habits of the past have been hard to shed, more so for

some than for others. The censorship

of apartheid, the authoritarianism of the Vorster and Botha regimes, and the lack of accountability of all apartheid governments, and of all colonial governments before them, bred habits of being and of thinking in many. Abdullah Ibrahim once called it 'madness'. The precarious and dangerous existence inside liberation movements,

the constant threat of attack and extirpation from apartheid operatives, also bred habits of being and of thinking in those who actively fought against apartheid. Habits are hard to shed. And in the last quarter century the value of a free press, of freedom of expression, of freedom of association, without fear or favour, has been

unevenly internalised. Many of us who barely survived the tyranny of apartheid remember it as a time when books were banned or sequestered in libraries so as to be accessible only upon request, when newspapers had sections blacked out, and state television and radio in the form of the SAUK/SABC output relayed only the official 'truth', which of course was always a lie. eNCA

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...**MARCH 7**

1955 - Phyllis Diller made her debut at the Purple Onion in San Francisco, CA.

1959 - Melvin C. Garlow became the first pilot to fly over a million miles in jet airplanes.

1965 - State troopers and a sheriff's posse broke up a march by civil rights demonstrators in Selma, AL.

1968 - The Battle of Saigon came to an

1971 - A thousand US planes bombed Cambodia and Laos.

1975 - The US Senate revised the filibuster rule. The new rule allowed 60 senators to limit debate instead of the previous twothirds.

1981 - Anti-government guerrillas in Colombia executed the kidnapped American Bible translator Chester Allen Bitterman. The guerrillas accused Bitterman of being a CIA

1983 - TNN (The Nashville Network) began broadcasting.

1985 - "Commonwealth" magazine ceased publication after five decades.

1985 - The first AIDS antibody test, an ELISA-type test, was released.

1987 - Mike Tyson became the youngest heavyweight titleholder when he beat James Smith in a decision during a 12-round fight in Las Vegas, NV.

1989 - Poland accused the Soviet Union of a World War II massacre in Katyn.

1994 - The US Supreme Court ruled that parodies that poke fun at an original work can be considered "fair use" that does not require permission from the copyright holder.

1994 - In Moldova, a referendum was rejected by 90% of voters to form a union with Rumania.

1999 - In El Salvador, Francisco Flores Pérez of the ruling Nationalist Republican Alliance (Arena) was elected president.

2002 - A federal judge awarded Anna Nicole Smith more than \$88 million in damages. The ruling was the latest in a legal battle over the estate of Smith's late husband, J. Howard Marshall II.

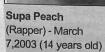
2003 - Scientists at the Stanford Linear Accelerator Centre announced that they had transferred 6.7 gigabytes of uncompressed data from Sunnvale, CA, to Amsterdam, Netherlands, in 58 seconds. The data was sent via fiber-optic cables and traveled 6 800 miles.

2009 - NASA's Kepler Mission, a space photometer for searching for extrasolar planets in the Milky Way galaxy, was launched from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida.

2012 - The successor to Apple's iPad2 was unveiled.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY







Brandon T.Jackson (movie actor) - March 7,1984 (33 years old)



The 2010 Soccer World Cup that was hosted for the first time on African soil, was a major milestone for Africa and especially SADC of which His Majesty the King is leading as Chairman.

As I was praying, the Lord revealed that the World Cup brought many opportunities to Southern Africa, but then again there were many spirits that were brought into this part of the world by visitors who came to witness this great tournament.

We saw the birth of many false teachings and false teachers since the start of the preparations for the great event. Now that the tournament has passed, we remain with a lot of spiritual battles that we need to fight and win, in order for our world to be a better place for all to live in. In South Africa, the ruling party is the African National Congress aka ANC. But ANC also is an outcry that Africa Needs Christ (ANC).

Today as this is the first Tuesday in this new month. I wish to commence a new series looking at different kinds of pastors we have today. We will look at their descriptions, motives, demerits and possible solutions to their dilemma.

INTRODUCTION

If we are to bring back the 'glory, honour, respect' and 'sacredness' of the church, we must start with "pastors." The condition of the church today is a direct result of 'the quality of pastors' the church has produced over the years. Every Sunday, tens of thousands of pastors mount the pulpit to preach and talk to people. They have different motives, characters, habits and beliefs. They display various personality traits. While some are happy, others are hungry; while some are joyful, others are sad; while some are positive, others are negative; while some are honest, others are deceitful. While some are saints, others

And I will give you pastors according to my heart, shall feed you knowledge and Jeremiah 3:15

12 KINDS OF TODAY'S PAST

are chronic sinners and while some it. They are in absolute control of are real, others are fake and charlatan.

In my years of researching, teaching and interacting with pastors, I have come to discover 'various kinds of pastors.' I hope pastors will through this teaching discover *who they really are,* where they stand and reposition themselves.

The Place of Pastors (Jeremiah 3:15)

Pastors must be Men of God, true, genuine, godly, relevant and transparent. They must be called, commissioned and commanded by the Lord. They must be God's men in God's place at God's time. pastors are crucial to the life and vibrancy of the church. The church cannot rise above her pastor. God will not do anything in the absence of the pastors. The conditions of the churches today are simply a reflection of the kinds of pastors leading them.

Kinds of today's pastors

I have come to discover 12 kinds of pastors that are visible in the church today. Though not all, but these 12 represent majority of pastors leading churches today. I hope you can find who you are among these 12 descriptions.

1. BUSINESSMEN PASTORS (1 Timothy 6:35; Isaiah 56:10,11; 2:14).

Description: They are businessmen and women who see the ministry as avenue to make money. They function as the chief executive officers of their churches. The church is run with business principles. Their major emphasis is money, finance, prosperity and how to make everything.

Basic Motive: Gain and profit. Their programmes are targeted at how much money is realised. They are using God's name, the church and the Bible to make money and enrich themselves.

Demerits: No heaven-mindedness, discipleship and godliness. They breed Christians who are greedy for gain, profit-oriented, thieves and crooks. They engage in lying, fantastic promises and spurious prophesies. They apportion 'church position' to the highest bidder. Way Out: True repentance, freedom from financial lucre and restoration of balanced truth to the church. Business pastors have brought much bad image to the church.

2. FUNKY PASTOR (2 Timothy 4:3, 4; Jeremiah 6:13)

Description: Worldly, carnal, ungodly pastors who watered down the gospel to please people. They dress anyhow and they allow anything in the church. They are immoral and sex-maniacs who take advantage of people. Their messages are the 'church liberty, ministry on the broadways, easy way to heaven and making you somebody in life.'

Basic Motives: Keep the people happy. Don't offend them by telling them the truth. They exert influence and power over people in order to get their money. Youth and young people enjoy these kinds of pastors.

Demerits: No mention of sin, evil, hell or righteousness. Their focus is miracles, blessings and breakthroughs. Secular talk shows are allowed. Immorality, extra-marital affairs and pre-marital sex are overlooked all in the belief that God is a loving God. Funky pastors have brought much shame to the pastoral ministry and their name.

Way Out: Genuine repentance and restitution.

3. VOCATIONAL PASTORS (Ezekiel 34:2, 3)

Description: They are in the ministry, not as a result of God's call, but by the call of men. They see pastoring as a hobby. They love the honour and respect being given to pastors. Tribal sentiments, ethnic bias, connection to authority, wealth, status and oratory power are what was used to make them pastors. Educational qualifications and greasing of palms also figure here.

Basic Motive: To rule over others and to be seen and respected by them. No vision, purpose and commission from the Lord. They therefore lord themselves over the people, using threats and position to oppress those who are genuinely called.

Demerits: They are not concerned with anyone or the church once their position is secured. They lead the church backward through secular management systems. They don't train, develop or empower anyone. The church is always malnourished and spiritually weak under such pastors. Their ministrations are always devoid of God's power and their sermons always make people sick. Vocational or honorary pastors have caused much havoc for the church today.

Way Out: Seek the face of God as to His plan for your life, resignation and functioning where God wants you. We will continue next week.

IDEAS AND THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION IN SOUTH AFRICA



LET us forget for a moment that the US **President Donald Trump** is an attention seeking junkie, dictatorial and judgmental about others in a way that bothers on the indecent. Instead let us consider the merits of his recent presidential executive order.

Last week, President Donald Trump signed a presidential executive order dedicating himself to the advancement of Historically Black Colleges and Universities, HBCU, as they are commonly called.

One of the key issues in the executive order is that

Historically Black Universities will no longer be located in Department of Education. They

will be elevated, moved from the Department of Education to the White House. That is to say they will be given special treatment, tender care by



President Donald Trump. Historically

Black Universities and Colleges in America have been a vital force

through the years.

Like all universities, the value is in their experience and what they have produced. They produced some graduates who went on to

become powerful forces in the world, shaping and directing the progress of humanity. Some of these graduates are Oprah Winfrey, one of the most powerful media moguls in modern history. They also produced the movie superstar and film producer Samuel L Jackson. Also Dr Martin Luther King, the most fascinating figure that towers above all America in terms of respect and iconic status.

IS ZUMA'S TRANSFORMATION PLAN RADICAL ENOUGH?

Since President Jacob Zuma announced that his government will pursue 'radical economic transformation', different versions of what this means have been brought forth.

For Mr. Zuma, the issue is clear and simple: South Africa needs to do something drastic in order to overhaul its current economic structure which does not support equitable distribution of opportunities across society.

With our unemployment rate sitting at 27%, indeed something drastic has to be done to address this. Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan cautioned that the idea of radical economic transformation should not be used to agitate the masses with an intention to drive the populist agenda by exploiting the plight of the people.

Gordhan is right to be suspicious about his colleagues in Cabinet; that some of them only want to use this radical transformation mantra to line their pockets.

I would like to sound another warning regarding what radical economic transformation ought not to be about.

Firstly, it appears that radical transformation has been reduced mainly to the issue of land restitution. Indeed our inability to deal with the question of land has created another bottleneck in our society and created many lost oppor-



tunities to utilise land to spearhead agricultural production and subsequently address part of the unemployment scourge.

However, I am no longer fully convinced that the historic land issue remains a stumbling block to involve the majority of poor people in farming.

The world is experiencing major shifts in terms of farming methods and ways of pursuing agriculture as an economic activity. We are shifting towards technology based farming to an extent where ownership of vast land would soon no longer be a factor when it comes to who farms.

Further, the manner in which land restitution has been pursued and talked about in South Africa has nothing to do with farming as an economic activity, but only focused on land ownership as part of restoration of people's dignity. I have no

problem with this approach because indeed people have been dispossessed of their land as a means to take away their identities and dignity. Historically, this has resulted in structural impoverishment of the majority of black people.

What we are dealing with now should not only be the restoration of that dignity and identity, but we should also focus on ensuring that the process allows for economic inclusion in the form of pursuing agriculture.

This is partially what I think President Zuma means by this idea of radical transformation.

The problem, however, is that returning the land to the people suppose this can be achieved within the next 50 year period - will not guarantee that land is also used for agricultural purposes to ensure economic inclusion of the marginalised.

This is where I think the radicalism of Mr. Zuma and his fellow comrades seem to run short of creativity. There is a need to also engage in the radicalism of ideas; instead of only focusing on recycled ideas that have passed their shelf lives. Indeed we need to restore the dignity of people by restoring land to them, but we should acknowledge that this does not on its own address the questions of economic exclusion. It is not sufficiently radical.

What I think would be sufficiently radical is to engage in the process where people in rural areas get back to working on the land that is already there, so we do not wait for that which will only be redistributed in the next fifty years.

We need to understand that we have a more urgent problem that needs to be addressed by involving people in technology based farming.

This can be pursued while we dream about bigger, radical transformation.

My fear is that if we do not pursue some of the already existing methods of farming at a slow space and use technology, by the time we achieve full land restitution it would already be economically nonviable to farm on bigger land.

At some point in the near future, people will be producing more food in smaller spaces due to technological innovations such as vertical farming.

We can start working on this approach in some rural areas.

That will be more radical than the much talked about radical economic transformation, which is based on soon to be outdated methods of farming. News24

"A day without sunshine is like, you know night."

— Steve Martin

"Never put off till tomorrow what may be done day after tomorrow just as well.

"Have you ever been in love? Horrible isn't it? It makes you so vulnerable. It opens your chest and it opens up your heart and it means that someone can get inside you and mess you up.

- Neil Gaiman, The Sandman, Vol. 9: The Kindly Ones

"Love all, trust a few, do wrong to none." – William Shakespeare, All's Well That

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the one who'll decide where to Dr. Seuss, Oh, The Places You'll Go!

"The Paradoxical Commandments

People are illogical, unreasonable, and self-centered. Love them anyway.

If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives. Do good anyway.

If you are successful, you will win false friends and true enemies. Succeed anyway.

The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.

Honesty and frankness make you vulner-Be honest and frank anyway.

The biggest men and women with the biggest ideas can be shot down by the smallest men and women with the smallest minds Think big anyway.

People favour underdogs but follow only Fight for a few underdogs anyway.

What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight. Build anyway.

People really need help but may attack you if you do help them. Help people anyway.

Give the world the best you have and you'll get kicked in the teeth. Give the world the best you have anyway."

- Kent M. Keith, The Silent Revolution

Dynamic Leadership in the Student Council

"That which does not kill us makes us stronger."

— Friedrich Nietzsche

"If you judge people, you have no time to love them." - Mother Teresa

"For every minute you are angry you lose sixty seconds of happiness."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

"There is never a time or place for true love. It happens accidentally, in a heart-beat, in a single flashing, throbbing moment."

— Sarah Dessen, The Truth About Forever

WE NEED A HOLIDAY FROM OUR COUNTRY

I recently had a discussion with Bathabile Dlamini's press cona colleague about the state of the country - ironically after the State of the Nation Address.

Although I was in the midst of the chaos and our Parliamentarians were wreaking havoc on the night in the National Assembly, I viewed it as something that was really not unexpected. The writing was on the wall with all the EFF warnings beforehand.

Besides, we had a dose of this reality at last year's proceedings

So when my colleague said, "we And what was need a break man - a holiday from our country," I laughed. I thought it was funny. Fast forward to today and I'm not laughing anymore. Not so much.

This business of adulting in South Africa and making sense of what is happening in government and the broader society is complicated-let's not forget confusing and highly traumatising at times.

Big ups to you if you can give a concise and sensible rundown of what exactly is happening and where we are headed at this very moment. If you can make sense of Social Development Minister ference on Sunday, you deserve extra brownie points.

The entire saga is just one big, chaotic mess. We can only despair at the utter lack of respect for the 17 million grant recipients affected by the SASSA saga. For three years the social development department knew that it needed another

service provider -that's at the back of a Concourt ruling ordering as much in 2014. really done to remedy the situation

and comply with the court judgement?

According to the minister the tendering process started and a suitable company was not found. In her words: "The tender was not awarded due to non-responsive bids.'

In other words, there's no service provider. But don't worry South Africa, because the president, deputy president and the social development minister say payments will be made next month. Yes. But how, where and at what time, I ask you? What are you telling the most vulnerable of society - the elderly especially, about what the process will entail? My mother, a pensioner, watched the press conference with me. She listened to the minister's speech, turned to me and asked: "What is going on?"

Well, that is the million rand ques-

tion isn't it? On Friday the Director General of the Department of Social Development, Dangor, Zane resigned. So naturally the reporters at this press briefing want-

ed the minister's reaction to this. They were met with "this is OUR press briefing", "we are not going to address that matter".

All the while, the rest of Mzansi is watching this spectacle, and the minister's inability to string one sentence together that inspires confidence.

So with no service provider in place at the end of the month, will big trucks of money move in and out of suburbs and townships dishing out cash to millions of people on a list? Will people have to queue

at new venues and be prepped on a new collection process? Can a new service provider be found at this time? People depend on this money for their survival. This mess leaves them with little else to do but sit, wait and watch how things unfold.

Labour federation COSATU says the president must intervene and heads must roll - that the minister and those responsible for the mess must either resign or be dismissed. COSATU describes the situation as a political own goal, one that smells of corruption. This we know. The Constitutional Court questioned the process and its legitimacy back in 2014. Cabinet says it will discuss the SASSA crisis with all affected parties this week and get a comprehensive report from all teams. Dlamini will also appear before Parliament's standing committee on public accounts, if she pitches.

But even if she does - all these measures seem a bit too late.

The damage has been done. The gaping hole in terms of leadership has been exposed. And we are watching it all happen, live.

We are reacting to it on social media, but other than that, what else are we doing? We're all just waiting for proper leadership to emerge. News24

PHISIONESS CONTINUES NEWS

CONTACTS

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VITALS

2404 6463

Prime Rate 10.75%

First National Bank
Inflation Rate 8.2%

Central Statistical Office

Mortgage Rate 9.75%

Swaziland Building Society

Bank Rate 7.25%

Central Bank

Petrol (u) E11.80 per litre
Replacement E11.85 per litre
Diesel E11.70 per litre
Paraffin E 7.95 per litre

Engen Garage

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

RATE

Correct as at 3	MAR 2	017
CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	13.1050	13.1550
British Pound/SZL	16.0733	16.1346
Japanese Yen/SZL	8.6819	8.7112
Swiss France/SZL	12.9470	12.9875
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.2515	1.2602
Australian Dollar/SZL	9.9034	9.9478
Canadian Dollar/SZL	9.7879	9.8245
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	5.5211	5.5942
Euro/SZL	13.7851	13.8377
Gold	1,231.8500	
Oil	53.9500	

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



FARMERS POCKET OVER E7M FROM NAMBOARD SALES

Stories by Manqoba Makhubu

FARMERS pocketed about E7 million sales from the National Agricultural Marketing Board (NAMBoard) between April and December 2016.

The highest sourced produce during the reporting period was tomatoes with 455MT, with farmers receiving total value of E1 714 426, according to the board's report attached to the ministry of agriculture annual performance report 2016/17.

According to the report, the second highest produce was beetroot at 361MT, with a value of E1 129

"For baby vegetables, it was baby marrow at 56.68MT with a value of E445 347, green beans at 42.8MT valued at E361 106 and patty pans at 16.59MT with a monetary value of E158 522.

The report said as part of the board's strategy to facilitate sales of local produce, the company started an initiative to promote direct sourcing of local produce by retail shops.

...prioritised vegetables include; potatoes, onions, tomatoes, green pepper and beetroot

"Farmers in the NAMBoard database with reliable supplies were linked with the major retail shops for direct purchases. Since this was started in 2014, purchase of local farm produce has soared to E68 million in the year under review," reported NAMBoard.

NAMBoard reported that although producer prices started on a record high, it decreased as the water situation improved, with periods of gluts and oversupply between July and September.

Oversupply

"Affected vegetables in the oversupply period were tomatoes, beetroot and butternut," said the board. This led to an increase of produc-

er prizes, for instance, cabbage increased from E5 per head and close at E8 per head in December.

Adding, NAMBoard said an increase in commodity prices was noted and is expected to continue into the first quarter of 2017 as shortages of major commodities was projected, theses

included cabbage, tomatoes and pota-

With regards to exports, the board continued to develop the export market, building up the pedigree for local farmers to use in the long run.

Direct exports from the market constituted of baby vegetables and conventional vegetables.

The board said these were exported mainly to South Africa including the Johannesburg Fresh Produce Market (JFPM), "and two other agencies were sold produce to the value of 312MT, with an economic value of E1 842 678. The bulk of exported produce was baby vegetables, generating income of E368 046, beetroot with a value of E158 000 and green beans with a value of E208 094."

However, the board said the exports dropped slightly due to shortage in local commodities and as a result, reduced excess in any of the products.

"The organisation will be pursu-

...Scheduled imports increased by 25.3%

THE value of scheduled imports increased by E174.5 million in 2015, to E864 million in 2016, according to the ministry of agriculture annual performance report 2016/17.

The report said yellow maize was the largest contributor with E189 million, followed by rice with E163 million, wheat at 148 million and fruit and vegetables with E81 million.

"In terms of volumes, 226 842MT of produce was imported into the country compared to 190 192MT in 2015, showing an increase of 36.6MT and translating to 25 per cent increase," said the report.

Vegetables imports of the year included but not limited to; onions, carrots, tomatoes, cabbage, beetroot, pumpkins, lettuce, spinach and green beans.

Using this trend, NAMBoard had prioritised the production of the major vegetables lines which are potatoes, onions, carrots, tomatoes, green pepper and beetroot.

ing a fully defined export strategy in the year 2017 to exploit opportunities that have been identified in the region and beyond," said NAMBoard.

> PARTNERS: Nkwene MP

FARMERS CAUTIONED AGAINST HAPHAZARD FRUIT TREE PLANTING

By Linda Dlamini

MINISTER of Agriculture Moses Vilakati has cautioned farmers against indiscriminate planting of fruit trees as it can have adverse effects.

Vilakati said this could bring about some challenges with control of pests and diseases that affect fruit production establishments.

"It is therefore important that any fruit tree planted is properly accounted for and managed.

"The country is currently on the lookout for a very destructive exotic fruitfly. This pest is very common in our neighbouring states, especially North of Swaziland," he said.

Surveillance

The minister said the country had to institute some measures in terms of setting up pheromone traps for surveillance, monitoring and early warning so that in case it is observed in the country, it could be dealt with.

"With regards to the government fruit tree project, it is important that the people receiving the fruit trees are properly capacitated to be able to look after the trees appropriately or else this project may bring about a situation where the country will no longer be able to export its agricultural products due to the pests and disease infestation," he



Sikhumbuzo Dlamini, Minister of Education Phineas Magagula, Minister of Agriculture Moses Vilakati and Swaziland Beverages Director of Corporate Affairs Mphumelelo Makhubu watering a newly-planted fruit tree at Nkwene. (Courtesy pics)

said

Vilakati was speaking at the official hand over of fruit trees under the national Tinkhundla Fruit Tree Project at Nkwene High School last Friday.

"This project started after government observed that an amount of money estimated at over E100 million was being spent on the importation of fruits from neighbouring states," Vilakati explained.

The minister said the huge imports

and resultant exportation of the cash revenue deprived the country of the huge much needed internal investments that otherwise could be used for the physical, social and economic development of the country.

Potential

"Swaziland has great potential as it has the ideal climate and capable young people who, if properly capacitated, could use this invaluable resource to benefit the country in many ways," he said.

Vilakati said the government initiative of growing the fruit trees by individual households, communities and institutions was aimed at creating the critical mass in terms of fruits to reduce dependence on imported fruits.

"It is also to ensure that every Swazi has access to fresh, high quality fruits and to build the capacity for value addition as well as exports of both fresh fruits and processed products of fruit origin," he said.

PUBLIC, PRIVATE SECTORS OUTSTANDING BONDS AT E2.2BN

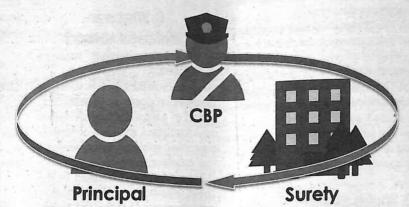
By Linda Dlamini

THE total outstanding bonds for both the public and private sectors as at December 31, 2016 stood at almost E2.2 billion, reflecting a 16.1 per cent increase from the total outstanding as at the end of the third quarter of 2016.

Out of this total, government bonds were about E2.15 billion whilst corporate bonds closed at E720 million.

An examination of the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA) Capital Markets Division Quarterly Bulletin indicates that corporate bonds fell in the fourth quarter whilst government bonds outstanding increased.

The CMD said during 2016, government, through the Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS), maintained 13 bonds with different maturities, ranging from three, five, seven and 10 years. The increase in the level of bonds in the capital markets of the country during the last quarter of 2016 was attributable to the issuance of



SG027 government bond, whose value was E150 million.

"The issuance was exercised with a green shoe option which saw a total allocation of E171.65 million being allocated. The quarter also saw a sale of various government bonds to the value of E80.85 million in the secondary market," the CMD said.

The department observed that year on year, total government bonds outstanding increased by 64.2 per cent.

"This significant increase saw government raise an additional E800 million in the local bond market. The significant increase was attributable to a combination of factors, primarily being efforts by government to raise more money for expenditure purposes, while on the other hand, it was an effort to contain inflation which reached new highs due to the drought in the region and upward inflationary pressure from a lower valued lilangeni," the CMD said.

In terms of the private sector, the CMD said the fourth quarter of 2016 realised five notes maturing, these

being Newera NWR201 and NWR203 which had nominal values of E15 million and E35.8 million respectively

In terms of coupon rate, or rather the rate of return, the Newera NWR201 and NWR203 bonds had coupon rates of prime plus 100 basis points and 10 per cent, respectively.

Other corporate bonds which matured during the period under review include the Swaziland Development Finance Corporation (FINCORP) FIN006 which had a nominal value of E32 million and the Inyatsi ICL201 bond which had a nominal value of E20 million.

"This saw the total bonds outstanding as of 31 December 2016 decline to E721 million, representing a 4.41 per cent decrease from the previous quarter's outstanding amount of E754 million. FINCORP returned to the market to raise an additional E70 million in October through FIN109, while Select Limited sought to raise E15 million through SML405," the CMD said



MTN's 21 Days of Y'ello Care beneficiaries in jubilation. The company has once again opened its doors to partnerships to jointly contribute towards the improvement of quality of life through its CSR programme this year.

ALL SMILES:

MTN INVITES PARTNERS FOR 21 DAYS OF Y'ELLO CARE

By Mangoba Makhubu

SWAZI MTN has once again opened its doors to partnerships to jointly contribute towards the improvement of quality of life through its flagship 21 Days of Y'ello Care Corporate Social Responsibility programme (CSR).

During last year's edition of the programme themed, 'Investing in Education for All,' the company worked with 20 companies, who contributed financial and material resources towards improvement of education.

According to Corporate Affairs Manager Mandla Luphondvo, through collaborating with other local companies, a total investment of E1.7 million was made from 1 June to 21 June 2016 in different primary, high schools and tertiary institutions across the

...campaign budget starts with E393 000 won by the company last year

country.

"This is without question, an unprecedented social investment in education made in three weeks. Additionally, this level of investment proves the value of partnerships," he said.

The 21 Days of Y'ello Care is an annual employee volunteer initiative launched by MTN in 2007. The campaign promotes participation of MTN staff, and partners, in high-impact social projects.

Organised as different teams, they go out to interact, and work with communities in different education projects.

Luphondvo said they had officially started conceptualising education projects that would be implemented during this year's edition of the 21 Days of Y'ello Care.

Luphondvo said from experience, a couple of companies and individuals would like to be involved in supporting educational projects, whilst others could come through as beneficiaries.

Life-changing

"All companies, schools, and individuals who would like to be part of this life-changing initiative are invited to come through to register their interest, indicating how they would like to be involved," said Luphondvo.

"At this point, Swazi MTN's interest is to engage those who are bringing specialised skills, financial and material resources that can be pooled to change both the content and infrastructure of education in Swaziland.

"Educational institutions that will be benefitting are often provided by the ministry of education and training, which is well versed with the obtaining needs in schools," he explained further.

He said last year, the main project for the campaign focused on introducing pupils to robotics, programming and coding.

This was meant to mobilise young people, make them innovators, creators of ICT products.

By virtue of participating in this flagship programme, the company inevitably competes with 21 other MTN operations across three continents. The company will start off the CSR campaign with an extra prize money of about E393 000 (\$30 000) won last year after being crowned the best MTN operation in Southern Africa following its thriving implementation of the 21 Days of Y'ello Care

CBS expects food prices to be moderate

By Linda Dlamini

THE Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) expects food disinflation to occur as food inflation pressures are expected to be moderated.

According to the CBS quarterly report released yesterday, following two subsequent years of maize deficit, South African farmers anticipate a maize surplus in the 2017 as a result of favourable weather conditions during the 2016/17 planting season.

The report said the country is also expected to record a better harvest compared to the previous year where production fell below 40 000 tonnes.

"These developments are expected to result in food disinflation in the short to medium term.

"However, the rate at which food prices will fall is expected to be slower as second round effects of the El'nino induced drought will continue to weigh heavily on processed foods where input costs have risen significantly," the CBS said.

The report said international food prices recorded by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) food price index as well as regional maize prices recorded through the South African (SAFEX) maize prices points towards a moderation in food prices particularly cereals.

Stabilise

Thus consumers can expect food prices to stabilise in the short to medium term.

Another factor which could cushion the effects of inflation on consumers is the recent appreciation of lilangeni against major currencies.

"The strengthening of lilangeni has a lagged effect on inflation outcomes and would also help counter the negative impact of steadily rising international oil prices, which have risen almost 20 per cent," reads the report in part.

The CBS said energy price experts such as the United States Energy Information Administration (EIA) and the Goldman Sachs forecast international oil prices to remain anchored below US\$60/barrel at least in the first half of 2017.

"This, coupled with a strengthening rand/lilangeni exchange rate, would keep domestic fuel price increases at modest levels in the short to medium term," the CBS said,

These observations made by the CBS will come as goods news to consumers. However, the CBS noted some inflationary pressures which could affect headline inflation during 2017.

"Administered prices, which accounts for approximately 25 per cent in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket, continue to depict upward pressure particularly prices of utilities.

"Other administered price adjustments include the 50 cents increase in the price of bread affected in December 2016, which resulted from increased prices of cereals and other products observed in 2016 as a result of the drought," the CBS said.

Frequently asked questions on capital markets



THE word capital market refers to a market where individuals and institutions trade equity or debt instruments - mainly shares or

If government or a company requires capital to finance its operations, it can raise the money through the sale of shares or bonds, thereby giving individuals and institutions the opportunity to invest their money by purchasing shares or bonds and earn interest and or dividends on them.

Q. What is the role of **Capital Markets?**

Mobilising funds

Capital markets contribute immensely towards speedy economic growth and development. It mobilises funds from people for further investments in the productive channels of an economy, activating idle monetary resources for proper investments.

Capital formation and resources

Capital formation is the net addition to the existing stock of capital in the economy. Through mobilisation of ideal resources, capital markets generate savings; the mobilised savings are made available to various industrial segments. Thus it provides an investment avenue for people who wish to invest resources for a longer period of time. It provides suitable interest rate return also to investors. Instruments such as bonds, equities, units of mutual funds, insurance policies, etc. provide diverse investment avenues for the public.

Enhancing productivity of econ-

Capital markets enhance production and productivity in the economy through the generation of employment and development of infrastructure.

Access to foreign capital

Capital markets provide access to foreign capital for domestic industries, thus playing a constructive role in the overall development of an economy. The capital market further provides an avenue for raising the longterm financing needs of business through equity and long term debt by attracting investors with a long term investment horizon.

Terms used in the capital markets as explained by the Securities Act

Q. What are Collective **Investment Schemes?**

Collective investment scheme means any arrangement in respect of property of any description, including money, the purpose or effect of which is to enable a person taking part in the arrangement, whether by becoming the owner of the property

or any part of it or otherwise, to participate in or receive profits or income arising from the acquisition, holding, management or disposal of the property or sums paid out of such profits or income and where:

(a) The persons who are to participate in the arrangement do not have day-to-day control over the management of the property in question;

(b) The contributions of the persons who participate in the arrangement are pooled; and,

(c) The property in question is managed as a whole by or on behalf of the operator of the scheme;

Q. What is a dealer?

A 'dealer' means a person who carries on the business of dealing in securities whether or not that person carries on any other business, but does not include an exempt dealer.

Q. What is a dealer representative?

A dealer's representative means a person, by whatever name described, who is in the direct employment of, or acting for, or by arrangement with, a dealer, and who performs for that dealer any of the functions of a dealer, other than work ordinarily performed by accountants, clerks cashiers, whether or not the remuneration of that person is by way of salary, wages, commission or otherwise, and includes any director or officer of a company

who performs for the company any of those functions, whether or not the remuneration of that director or officer is as aforesaid;

Q. What is an investment advisor?

An 'investment adviser' means a person who:

a) Carries on the business of advising others concerning investments; as part of a regular business, issues or promulgates analyses or reports concerning investments; or, pursuant to a contract or agreement with a client, undertakes on behalf of the client, whether on a discretionary authority granted by the client or otherwise, the management of investments, including the arranging of purchases, sales or exchange of securities through a licensed dealer.

Q. What is an investment advisor representative?

An investment adviser's representative means a person, by whatever name described, in the employment of, or acting for or by arrangement with, an investment adviser and who performs for that investment adviser, any of the functions of an investment adviser, other than work ordinarily performed by accountants, clerks or cashiers, whether the remuneration of that person is by way of salary, wages, commission or otherwise, and includes any director or officer of a company who performs any of those functions for the company, whether or not the remuneration of that director or officer is as aforesaid;

Q. What is a Collective **Investment Scheme manager?**

A 'manager' means, in relation to a collective investment scheme, a person, by whatever name called, who is authorised to manage, operate or control that scheme;

Q. What are securities?

Securities include: shares; debt securities; government and public debt securities; warrants; depositary receipts; option contracts; securities futures; contracts for differences; participatory interests or units in a collective investment scheme; any instruments commonly known as securities; or, any other instruments deemed by the registrar to be securities for the purposes of the Securities Act, 2010.

For further comments or enquiries please contact the Financial Services Regulatory Authority at 2406 8000 or email us at info@fsra.co.sz alternatively you can visit our offices at the 2nd and 5th Floor Ingcamu (PSPF) Building, Mhlambanyatsi Road in Mbabane.

Nedbank rebrands to get new clients

JOHANNESBURG - Nedbank, majority owned by Old Mutual, is repositioning its brand to reassure its clients of the company's commitment to do good and invite nonclients to bank with the company.

The brand repositioning comes after the bank had seen its brand value nose-diving for the past two consecutive years.

This is according to UK-based branded business valuation consultancy, Brand Finance.

Thulani Sibeko, Nedbank Group Executive for Marketing, said the reason behind the brand repositioning was to invite the public to reconsider and reappraise the bank in line with its product and service improvements.

"Nedbank is a healthy and growing brand. However, to continue attracting and retaining more clients, we saw an opportunity to revitalise the brand to reflect some of the business changes already taking place," Sibeko said.

Last month, Brand Finance said Nedbank's brand value for 2017 was \$934 million (R12.14 billion); it ranked the bank's brand value at 182 out of the worlds 500 banks it rated.

This was down 12 places from the 2016 ranking, but a massive 42 places compared with

The list, which was compiled in partnership

he Banker magazine, provided analysis of financial and revenue data, market demand and the bank's position in relation to market com-

Standard Bank was the highest ranked South African bank on the list, sitting at position 130, after it grew its brand value to \$1.5 billion. Absa was the second most valuable bank in the country at position 144, with a brand value of \$1.3 billion.

BUSINESS REPORT

Now Mercedes recalling cars over fire risk

JOHANNESBURG-Ford is not the only car company putting out fires. Mercedes-Benz has just announced a global recall that affects around one million cars, over a fire risk caused by a starter

The recall covers certain C-Class, E-Class and CLA sedans as well as GLA and GLC crossovers, all from 2015 through 2017.

Mercedes-Benz SA said its technical team is still in the process of determining how many local vehicles are involved, but promised to make all relevant information available in due course.

So far 51 fires have been reported worldwide, with about 30 in the



United States. However, no injuries have been reported as yet.

According to Mercedes-Benz SA,

the starting current limiter on the aforementioned models could overload under certain conditions during the starting procedure.

"In situations where the vehicle's engine is damaged and cannot crank (e.g. when the engine has hydrolocked), and the customer repeatedly attempts to start the vehicle, a very high electric current can flow through the starting current limiter, causing it to overheat.

"As our top priority is the safety of our customers, we will install an additional fuse in the electrical line to the starter, as a precautionary measure. This is expected to take approximately one hour to complete and will be performed free of charge," the statement said.

According to AP, Mercedes started investigating the problem in June last year after getting field reports of "thermally damaged" current limiters. IOL Motoring

JSE closes weaker on gold, platinum stocks

weaker on Friday as retailers, banks and financials rallied toward the close, offsetting a weaker opening, but gold and platinum stocks retreated on the day.

Property stocks were the star performers for most of the session on a firmer bond market as the rand marginally regained lost ground against the dollar.

Gold and platinum stocks were weaker on the stronger dollar as the possibility of a rate hike this month by the US Federal Reserve increased following hawkish views expressed by Fed officials.

"Investors may have been slow on the uptake to begin with but this week that not only is a rate hike imminent but that it could come at the Fed meeting in two weeks time," Oanda analyst Craig Erlam said.

The market was awaiting Fed chair Janet Yellen's speech on Friday, which was set to come after the JSE's closure. This would be her last public views on rates, ahead of the March 15 decision.

The market will closely scrutinise Yellen's speech as to clues on a probable rate increase. The forward market is already pricing in a 80% possibility that a rate hike will occur this month.

Locally the focus has shifted to the release of GDP data next week. GDP

JOHANNESBURG - The JSE closed has really driven home the message for 2016 is expected to come in at 0.5%, with growth in the fourth quarter amounting to 0.6% from 0.7% in the third.

"Growth was expected to improve somewhat, to a still weak pace of recovery of 1.1% in 2017, and only reach two percent by 2020," said Investec economist Kamilla Kaplan.

However Capital Economics analyst John Ashbourne expects GDP growth to accelerate to a better than expected two per cent this year, only to slip to 1.3% in 2019.

The better performance this year is partly ascribed to a looser monetary policy. "We now forecast that the Reserve Bank will reduce rates from seven per cent to 6.5% by the end of the year," Ashbourne said.

Spot gold was 0.57% lower at \$1 227 an ounce and platinum dropped 0.62% to \$985.09 an ounce. Brent oil lifted 0.56% to \$55.41 a barrel.

The all share closed 0.36% lower at 51 708.60 and the blue-chip top 40 lost 0.45%. General and food and drug retailers both rose 0.93% respectively, with property ending the day up 0.89%. Banks rose 0.74% and financials gained 0.58%. Platinum lost 2.39% and the gold index shed 2.26%. Resources were down 1.15%.

The all share was up 0.19% for the week and has gained 2.08% so far this year.

The Dow had gained 0.10% at the JSE's close. European markets were mixed, with the FTSE 100 flat. The Paris CAC 40 added 0.64% and the German Dax lost 0.21%. iNet Bridge



Mugabe 'resumes work tomorrow'

HARARE - Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe returned home on Sunday from Singapore where he had flown earlier this week for a medical review, his spokesperson George Charamba said.

Mugabe returned "this morning", Charamba told AFP.

He had travelled to Singapore last Wednesday, just days after he celebrated his 93rd birthday, for what Charamba had described as a "scheduled medical review".

"As for the review, well he resumes work tomorrow," Charamba said.

The veteran leader, who has been in power since 1980, appeared frail at his birthday party on February 25.

Two journalists were arrested on Friday over a report that claimed Mugabe was "in bad shape".

They were charged with undermining and insulting the office of the president, and released hours after their arrest. They have not yet been brought before a court.

Mugabe's health has been the subject of increased speculation in recent years, and he regularly flies to Singapore for medical attention. AFP



BACK: Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe.

UN expert urges greater protection of people with albinism

UNITED NATIONS - A United Nations independent expert is calling for additional oversight of traditional healers who use body parts in witchcraft rituals and so-called medicines or muti.

The call comes in the wake of a recent high-profile conviction in South Africa of a traditional healer for masterminding the gruesome murder of a woman with albinism, whose genitals, arm and other body parts were mutilated for muti.

Bhekukufa Gumede, 67, a leader of the Zion Congregation Church with 15 branches across South Africa, was sentenced to life imprisonment last month in the Mtubatuba High Court in northem KwaZulu-Natal for the murder of 20-year-old Thandazile Mpunzi in August 2015. Three men he hired to kill Mpunzi were already behind bars after pleading guilty to the murder.

Presenting a report to the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva last week, the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by people with albinism, Ikponwosa Ero, said the demand for the body parts of people with albinism for the purposes of witchcraft rituals, or in traditional medicine known as muti or juju, has led to the existence of a clandestine market for body parts operating at regional, national and international levels.

"The issue is further complicated by the lack of effective oversight over the practice of traditional healers, the secrecy that often surrounds witchcraft rituals and the absence of clear national policies on the issue," Ero said. *TMG Digital*

Tunisia, Germany strike new immigration deal

TUNIS - German Chancellor Angela Merkel announced a new agreement with Tunisia on tackling illegal migration during a visit Friday, following tensions over the case of the Tunisian suspect in the Berlin market attack.

Merkel, on a two-day trip to North Africa that also included a stop in Egypt, said Germany and Tunisia had agreed on faster repatriations for rejected asylum seekers and job training for Tunisians.

The German leader, who faces elections in September, is under pressure to reduce the number of asylum seekers coming to her country, which has taken in more than one million migrants since 2015.

Merkel, who also addressed Tunisia's Parliament, has urged North African states to step up border controls and expedite procedures to repatriate migrants whose asylum applications are rejected.

Germany has said Tunisian bureaucratic delays meant it could not expel Anis Amri, the suspect in the truck rampage at a Berlin



NEW DEAL: German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Christmas market that killed 12 people, even though his asylum application had been rejected six months earlier.

Merkel said the two countries had agreed that questions from Germany on the identities of Tunisian asylum seekers will be answered within 30 days.

"We will also help Tunisia to set up a registration system. Replacement passports are then meant to be issued within one week," she said at a joint news conference with President Beji Caid Essebsi. This agreement "will satisfy Tunisia and will satisfy Germany", Essebsi said, adding it concerned about 1 500 Tunisians whose residency requests have been turned down by Germany.

"Measures will be taken in the Tunisian consulates in Germany to help in their identification," he added.

Merkel's talks also covered ways to respond to years of instability exploited by people smugglers in neighbouring Libya, where winter departures on perilous boat crossings to Europe have spiked.

"We know the political situation in Libya is difficult," she said, welcoming Tunisia's efforts to help resolve the turmoil.

"No-one is more interested in political stability in Libya than its neighbours, but I'll say, because of the migration issue, it's also important for us Europeans."

The migrants issue had already been contentious in Germany where sexual assaults by large groups of mostly North African men on New Year's Eve 2015-16 against women in Cologne provoked outrage. *AFP*



EMERGENCY: The 88-year-old former dictator could be seen being stretchered into a helicopter ahead of a court appearance in the Egyptian capital, Cairo. Sitting in his wheelchair in a defendant's cage, Mubarak denied involvement in the killing of demonstrators during the upheaval six years ago that ended his 30-year rule. (AP)

Zimbabwe doctors call off strike

HARARE - Zimbabwean junior doctors on Sunday called off a three-week strike, saying the government had partially met their demands.

They acted a day before a oneday walk-out by other public sector workers.

Doctors at public hospitals went on strike on February 15, demanding annual bonuses, an increase in on-call allowances and cheaper cars. Nurses joined the strike last week.

The Zimbabwe Hospital Doctors Association (ZHDA) said in a statement it had decided to end the strike after "seeing the plight of patients". The government had deployed army medics to work at major public hospitals after the doctors walked out.

The government increased allowances to \$360 (R4 690) per

month — rather than the \$720 demanded by doctors — promised a car-loan package and created 250 new posts for doctors with immediate effect.

"The ball is now in government's court to deliver on promises and improve on doctors' conditions of service, failing which, as the ZHDA, we remain resolute that we will take decisive action to defend the best interests of the health profession in Zimbabwe," the ZHDA said.

Reuters

BRIEFS

Pirates release Russian, Ukrainian sailors

MOSCOW - Nigerian pirates have released seven Russian and one Ukrainian sailors after they were captured last month on the cargo ship the BBC Caribbean, Russian news agencies reported on Sunday, citing a human rights activist in Crimea. The sailors were released after talks between the owners of the ship and pirates. Interfax news agency quoted human rights activist Pavel Butsay, in the city of Sevastopol, as saying the sailors were at a Frankfurt airport and planned to return home next week. *Reuters*

UN gives \$5m in aid for DRC

KINSHASA - The United Nations announced aid worth \$5m on Saturday to help people affected by the humanitarian crisis in the violence-wracked Kasai region of the Democratic Republic of Congo. The remote, central region has been plagued by violence since mid-August when government forces killed a tribal chief and militia leader, Kamwina Nsapu, who had rebelled against the central government of President Joseph Kabila. At least 400 people have been killed since September, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in DR Congo. AFP

Bringing water to Kenya's wildlife

NAIROBI - In a wildlife sanctuary in southern Kenya, the relentless sun has bleached savannah grasses and dried up rivers, turning water holes first into muddy pits



and now, dust bowls. Herds of elephant, buffalo and zebra have gathered near one of the holes, where for six months, pea farmer Patrick Mwalua has been delivering water to them in a rented blue truck. After the rains failed for the third time in November, Mwalua was so distressed by the obviously weak and thirsty animals that he began seeking donations to bring water to the Taita Hills sanctuary. AFP

British man shot dead in Kenya

NAIROBI - A British man was shot to death by pastoral herders in central Kenya who have been invading large farms, some of which double as wildlife conservation areas, officials said. Rancher Tristan Voorspuy was shot sometime after going to inspect some of his lodges, which had been burned by the attackers on Friday, said Simon Kipkeu, commander of police in Laikipia County. Kipkeu said the victim's body was found on Sunday lying next to his injured horse and witnesses were being interviewed about the incident 190km north of Nairobi. AP

11 Malian soldiers killed in attack

BAMAKO - At least 11 soldiers were killed in Mali on Sunday in an attack on an army base near the border with Burkina Faso, as rival armed factions surrounded the flashpoint city of Timbuktu. The jihadist attack on the border village of Boulekessi killed 11 troops and wounded five more, according to an official toll from the defence ministry read out on national television." One of our positions was attacked early Sunday morning by terrorists, on the border with Burkina Faso," a highly-placed Malian military source told AFP on condition of anonymity earlier Sunday.

AFP

Focus on Sa

Calls for Dlamini to be charged over defiance of ConCourt ruling

JOHANNESBURG - Today is D-Day for embattled Social Development Minister Bathabile Dlamini who will then have to appear before parliament's Standing Committee on Public Accounts (SCOPA).

She and her department have been embroiled in controversy over the likelihood that the 17million recipients of social grants will not get their money at the beginning of next month because of wrangling over the contract with the company that makes the payments on behalf of the depart-

The department has admitted it has no plan for making payments if the contractual impasse is not resolved.

In the past 48 hours, Dlamini has faced calls that she be criminally charged and held in contempt of a 2013 Constitutional Court order.

"She has put people in danger, she was negligent, and that is a criminal offence," said constitutional law expert Marinus Wiechers on Sunday.

"It's blatant dereliction of duty. It's blatant criminal behaviour if you know something is wrong and you know there is a court ruling.'

TIMESLIVE



CONTROVERSY: Social Development Minister Bathabile Dlamini.

SASSA's 3 phase plan to take over grant payments

PRETORIA - Social Development Minister Bathabile Dlamini says the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) has a plan in place to take over the distribution of social grants to 17 million beneficiaries.

- Phase 1: Planning for the transition, including the phase-out of the current service provider, which must be done between the 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial years. SASSA has told the Constitutional Court the following:

We don't know what the most satisfactory rapid solution to the problem might be. We can merely say that it seems unreasonable for SASSA to cling to its decision to go it alone by paying social grants itself if it will cause undue delay in putting the payment of social grants on a lawful footing.

"For instance, if SASSA can run a competitive bidding and have a new process in place in, say, one year from now, then it would in our view be unreasonable to continue with the unlawful arrangement with CPS for two or three years only because SASSA requires that time to go it alone.

"SASSA is in our view obliged, within reason, to minimise the duration of its unlawful arrangement with CPS, if needs be by running a competitive bidding process and appointing a new contractor without delay," it said in its updated progress report filed on March 3.

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Resigning from Parly last resort - Malema

Economic Freedom Fighters might consider resigning from Parliament if they had the support of the Democratic Alliance.

In an interview with the SABC EFF President Julius Malema, he described this option as a last resort.

He said he had talked to the DA about the possibility.

"If we combine the EFF numbers and the DA numbers and we resign from Parliament, then this thing is no longer a properly constituted Parliament."

But the DA has denied it was in talks with the EFF about resigning from Parliament.

"No. It's not true," James Selfe, Chairperson of the Federal Executive of the DA said.

However, in the interview which was made public yesterday Malema said this is a strategy that might still work in future.

For now, the EFF was still weighing its options and still fighting from within Parliament. "Maybe we might come to a conclusion where we resign and then once Parliament does not reach its quorum as prescribed in the Constitution, we can approach the Constitutional Court to instruct the Speaker to dissolve Parliament and for the president to declare elections," Malema said.

But, he again reiterated, this

might be the last resort. Asked how long they would take to make the decision, Malema said it would take time. "A revolution is not

like a birthday party, you have to work for it, you have to ensure that every-

body else is convinced and there is no longer an option but to resign from Parliament."

The party would make a pronouncement once it was ready, he told the SABC.

They were currently pursuing all options, including approaching the Constitutional Court, to force Parliament to hold President Jacob Zuma

accountable. News24

RESOLUTE: EFF President Julius Malema.

We are at a crisis - ANC Western Cape

CAPE TOWN – Divisions within the tripartite alliance were clear on Sunday as the Secretary of the ANC in the Western Cape, Faiez Jacobs, called for unity, saying the ruling party has reached crisis point.

"I am making a plea for all of us. This movement, and our country indeed, is at a crossroads. We are at a crisis," Jacobs told a group of about 400 ANC supporters.

Jacobs was one of a number of alliance members who spoke at the memorial service of the late Judge Essa Moosa at Belgravia High School in Cape Town. Moosa died on Sunday February 26 at the age of 81.

"We remember a better ANC, we remember a unified ANC. We remember an ANC true to its people and in service of the people. And so I call on you to roll up your sleeves, to come back. Come back to the movement, let us give our people a better ANC," Jacobs pleaded to the audience.

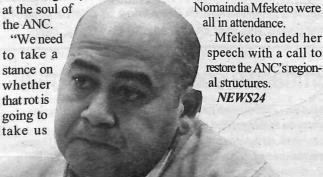
Following Jacobs'

address, Chairperson of the SACP in the Western Cape Anthony Dietrich said the party is strongly considering contesting elections.

"And so we are contemplating – we need to consider the fact [whether or not] the national democratic revolution is on track," Dietrich said.

"And if it veered, then certainly someone must step in and ensure that we bring the national democratic revolution [to] its conclusion."

Dietrich said factional politics is eating away at the soul of



down with the ANC," he said. The leader of COSATU in the Western Cape expressed concern over the direction the tripartite alliance was taking.

"[Moosa] told us so many times in no uncertain terms that the liberation of our country cannot be only voting every five years and ensuring that the black wealthy class legitimises the grand theft of apartheid," he said.

Tourism Minister Derek Hanekom, Police Minister Nathi Nhleko and Deputy Minister of International Relations

> all in attendance. Mteketo ended her speech with a call to restore the ANC's regional structures.

NEWS24

Mayor sent packing from Soshanguve

PRETORIA - Executive Mayor Solly Msimanga remained committed to serving the people despite being sent packing from Soshanguve on Saturday, where he and Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs MEC Paul Mashatile were engaging the community on service delivery.

"He will do that no matter how difficult it proves," his spokesperson Samkelo Mgobozi told the Pretoria News on Sunday.

"We are making progress despite resistance, often rooted in nefarious party political considerations and not in the best interests of the people who need services."

Msimanga had to be whisked off by police after angry crowds booed him off stage and prevented him from speaking at the KT Motubatse Community Hall.

In contrast, Mashatile received a standing ovation, and so did ANC councillors.

The same crowd, the majority of them singing pro-ANC songs, warmly received MECs Panyaza Lesufi and Jacob Mamabolo when they opened the Soshanguve East Secondary School on Sunday. But, a day earlier, they had greeted Msimanga with thumbs-down gestures and rotating hand movements used to signal a time for change. A week ago, the DA-led council Speaker Katlego Mathebe and MMC Michael Mkhari were rescued by police from people wearing ANC T-shirts while opening the Klip-Kruisfontein Cemetery. Pretoria News



BOOED: Tshwane Mayor Solly Msimanga is whisked away by police from a rowdy crowd during a community meeting in Soshanguve. (Pretoria News)

Government considers policing social media

JOHANNESBURG - State Security Minister David Mahlobo says the government is considering regulating social media in an effort to curb the prolifer ation of what he described as "false" information.

"The false narrative in the social media, it's one of the challenges that South Africa faces," Mahlobo said at a press conference in Pretoria on Sunday.

Mahlobo acknowledged that such a move would probably draw a wave of criticism and fears of stifling human rights, but added that "even the best democracies ... regulate" social media.

"Regulation is the way to go," the 45-year-old minister said, adding the planned measures would also go after misleading photoshopped images.

"We will actually be discussing how do we regulate it." The move to curb the spread of misinformation comes amid efforts by Facebook, Google, and a group of international media to stymie the spread of fake news.

LET'S UNITE: Western Cape ANC Secretary Faiez Jacobs.

enguins surprise guests by waddling down the aisle

CHESIRE - Well. that's one way to pp-p-perk up your wedding.

Waddling down the aisle, a pair of Humboldt penguins made a surprise entrance on Adam and Tracy Winterton's big day.

In addition to the two penguins which accompanied Tracy, 32, and Adam, 34, at their nuptials, they had a third in reserve in case the endangered birds got 'stressed'.

Fortunately the wedding venue Sandhole Barn, Congleton, Cheshire, had a lake so the penguins 'could have wandered off for a swim if they wanted to', on the day.

The wedding party which also included nine bridesmaids. a flower girl and page boy, seven ushers, a retriever, spaniel and Spinone Italiano dog -rehearsed the ceremony before the main event with 100 guests took place last month.

A friend of the 32year-old bride, who is the penguins' owner, coaxed the pair of Humboldts up the aisle with a bucket of dead fish before Winterton made her entrance.

According Winterton, a business owner, the penguins' welfare was considered at all times, but they preferred to follow guests "having their heads cuddled and stomachs stroked."

She claimed the birds had come from the friend's private zoo, had been bred in captivity and would have been euthanised had they not been taken

After the ceremony, the wedding party posed for photos with several dogs, just feet away from one of the penguins.

Winterton, said: "My friend, Emma, owns a private zoo and trains animals for TV work. These penguins were bred in captivity in another zoo which closed. They were going to euthanise the penguins so my friend rescued them.

"There were three penguins but only two walked down the aisle before me because they did not want to put pressure on all of them.

"A rehearsal was done before to make sure they were happy.

"The two penguins walked down the aisle before me, following a friend who was carrying a bucket of fish and out of a side door.

"There was a lake at the venue, so they could have wandered off for a swim if they wanted to but they didn't.

"I know a lot of people see it as

aisle with them. (Daily Mail)

UNIQUE: Happy couple Adam Winterton, 34, and Tracy

Winterton, 32, tied the knot in Chesire and were joined

by a pair of Humboldt penguins who waddled down the

Accommodation 3STAR

Return Flights with SAA

Transport in Tanzania

Shuttle from Swaziland and Back

11 March 2017 - 13 March 2017

R7 550

expires on 10 March 2017.

controversial but, for me, it is a private zoo, the animals have complete choice, they have carers, they have their enclosure."

The penguins were bred in captivity and were borrowed by the couple from a friend's private zoo. They were keen to point out that the welfare of the penguins was assured

"They are bred in captivity. It is different from animals which have been rescued from the wild. They don't know any different and they quite

like human contact. "If they didn't do the outings zoo stuck with people staring through the screen like my wedding, the penguins would be stuck in an enclosure all the time. They'd be in a public

at them."

Daily Mail





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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO SUPPLY AND CUSTOMIZE AN INTERGRATED MICROFINANCE & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

The Swaziland Industrial Development Company (SIDC) is committed to supporting its customers with quality services through:

- Loans and Equity
- Asset leasing,
- Advisory services and
- Leasing of industrial buildings

In order to continue to be effective in the industry, SIDC is looking at improving its business processes by implementing an integrated information management system to manage its service offerings i.e.

- Credit Management,
- Finance/Accounting as wall as
- Property Management.

Applications are hereby invited from suitable and qualifying firms/companies to tender for the Supply, Customization, Implementation, Training and Support of an integrated Microfinance and Property Management Information System.

Full information, including the Tender Documents can be obtained from info@sidc.co.sz. on business days from 0800 hrs to 1600 hrs before 10 March 2017.

Tenderers (or representative(s)) are to submit a soft copy of the Technical proposal, as well as hard copies of both the Technical and Financial Proposals. Detailed guidelines will be provided within the RFP document. Completed tender proposals, signed and sealed marked "Request for Proposal to Supply and Customize a Microfinance & Property Management Information System" must be submitted (hand delivered or couriered) by 1530 Hrs, 24 March 2017 and addressed to

Swaziland Industrial Development Company P.O. Box 866, Mbabane Kingdom of Swaziland

Vendor Suitability Evaluations and Proposed Solution Evaluation shall be done separately and independently of any financial consideration.

SIDC reserves all rights, including rejecting any or all tenders and is not bound to accept any or the lowest offer. Late or faxed tenders will not be considered.

The Chief Executive Officer

BRIEFS

Pilot found alive after crash in Turkey

ANKARA - A Syrian military pilot whose aircraft erashed in Turkey near the countries' border is in hospital having been found after a nine-hour search, the Anadolu news agency said on Sunday. According to the Turkish report, the pilot was recovered during an air and ground search and taken to a local hospital. The plane went down on Saturday night in the Turkish province of Hatay. Anadolu, a state-run agency, did not give further details on the pilot's health but said he had been flying alone. A Syrian military source quoted by state television on Saturday said "contact was lost with a military aircraft on a reconnaissance mission near the Turkish border". AFP

Russia delivers eight metric tons of aid

MOSCOW - The Russian Centre for reconciliation of opposing sides in Syria delivered eight metric tons of humanitarian aid to the Syrian provinces of Aleppo and Damascus with last 24 hours, the Russian Defence ministry said on Sunday in a humanitarian bulletin issued on its website. "Within last 24 hours, the Russian Centre for reconciliation of opposing sides has held 2 humanitarian events in the provinces of Aleppo (1) and Damascus (1) ... Within last 24 hours, 2 120 citizens have received humanitarian aid. Total weight of humanitarian aid provided to the Syrian population has reached eight tons," the bulletin said. African News Agency

World marks women's day under attack

PARIS - No selfcongratulations but calls to action will mark many celebrations of the 40th International Women's Day



tomorrow, as the fight for equality faces new threats. Murders of women in Latin America, anti-abortion movements in Europe, and machismo talk from men in power are among the growing concerns that have brought millions of women into the streets of world capitals these past few months to defend their rights." March 8 is not only to commemorate suffragettes and to celebrate successes from the past, but more to reflect on the present situation," said Barbara Nowacka, a Polish politician and representative of the committee "Save Women". AFP

Thousands flee offensives in Iraq, Syria

MOSUL - Tens of thousands of civilians have fled offensives against the Islamic State group in Iraq and Syria, where the Jihadists are battling to keep what remains of their territory, the UN said on Sunday. ISIS overran large areas of both countries in 2014, declaring a "caliphate" in territory it controlled, but the Jihadist group has since lost ground to Iraqi forces and faced advances from different groups in Syria. Amid intense fighting in recent days, the thousands of displaced have been seen arriving in areas outside ISIS control, many hungry and terrified after years under Jihadist rule. AFP

Fierce gunbattle kills three combatants

SRINAGAR - Anti-India protests erupted in Indian-controlled Kashmir following a fierce gunbattle in which two rebels and a counter insurgency policeman were killed, police said on Sunday. Government forces, acting on a tip, encircled a civilian home in the southern Tral area overnight, said Police Chief SP Vaid. He said fighting erupted after militants hurled grenades and fired automatic rifles to break a security cordon. Two militants and a policeman working with a counterinsurgency unit were killed, he said. AP

World News

FBI rejects Trump wiretapping C

PALM BEACH - FBI Director James Comey has asked the Justice Department to publicly refute President Donald Trump's explosive, unsubstantiated accusation that Barack Obama tapped his phone during last year's election campaign, US media reported on Sunday.

Comey's extraordinary measure questioning the president's truthfulness provides an indication of the implications of Trump's incendiary claim about his predecessor. The department has not made any statement.

Trump's aides were scrambling on Sunday to limit the political fallout of Trump's accusation 24 hours after it was made - admitting it was still unproven, and calling on Congress to investigate.

Citing still undefined "reports" of "politically motivated investigations,"



NOT TRUE: FBI Director James Comey .

Press Secretary Sean Spicer said Trump was calling on Congress to "determine whether executive branch investigative powers were abused in 2016".

Trump spokeswoman Sarah Sanders echoed those comments.

"If this happened," she told ABC, "this would be the greatest abuse of power, and overreach, that has ever occurred in the executive branch".

Trump, who has returned to Washington from a weekend at his Mar-a-Lago estate in West Palm Beach, Florida, has not publicly commented further on his allegations.

On Saturday, he tweeted: "How low has President Obama gone to tapp my phones during the very sacred election process. This is Nixon/Watergate. Bad (or sick) guy!" He provided no evidence to back up the claim. Watergate is the generic term for the scandal that brought down president Richard Nixon in 1974. It began with the revelation of a secret wiretap in the offices of the Democratic

National Committee at Washington's Watergate Hotel.

Obama, via a spokesman, denied Trump's new allegation as "simply

US presidents can't legally order such wiretaps, which require the approval of a federal judge and reasonable grounds for suspicion.

Obama's Director of National Intelligence James Clapper told NBC there was "no such wiretap activity mounted against the president-elect at the time as a candidate or against his cam-

Trump's comments appear to have been based on unverified claims made by the right-wing Breitbart News outlet. His chief strategist, Steve Bannon, used to run it.

The New York Times, citing senior US officials, first reported that Comey believes Trump's claim to be false.



SAD MOMENTS: Iraqi forces have taken more territory in the west of Mosul from ISIS as the number of civilians fleeing the city reaches 45 000. Since launching an offensive on February 19, Iraqi soldiers have seized much of western Mosul but their pace has slowed as bad weather has muddied streets and made air support more difficult. Thousands of civilians are caught in the middle of the fighting.

Britain will 'fight back' if no EU deal

LONDON - Britain will "fight back" if the EU will not strike an acceptable deal on Brexit, Finance Minister Philip Hammond said on

He said Britain would "do whatever we need to do" to be competitive if the country left the European Union without concluding a trade agreement.

"If there is anybody in the European Union who thinks that if we don't do a deal with the European Union, if we don't continue to work closely together, Britain will simply slink off as a wounded animal, that is not going to happen," he told BBC

"British people have a great fighting spirit and we will fight back. We will forge new trade deals around the world.

"We will do whatever we need to do to make the British economy competitive and to make sure that this country has a great and successful future."

Hammond, the chancellor of the Exchequer, refused to be drawn on whether that meant Britain would cut its corporation tax, set to fall to 19% on April 1 from 20%, in a bid to attract investment away from Europe. AFP

Israel to relax marijuana laws

JERUSALEM - The Israeli government on Sunday approved a plan to partially decriminalise marfines and treatment, officials said.

First-time users who confess will be fined 1 000 shekels (R3 520). The fine will be doubled on the second offence, with the third time forcing a probation period on the user.

Police will refer a user to criminal procedures only on the fourth time they catch someone in possession of or using cannabis in public.

The plan, based on recommendations from a committee set up to study the issue, applies only to instances of personal use. Producing, selling and buying cannabis remain illegal in Israel.

Public Security Minister Gilad Erdan

called the approval "an important step on the way to implementing a new policy that will emphasise eduijuana use in public in favour of cation and treatment instead of criminal enforcement"

> Erdan had formed the committee in July when tasking his director-general with examining Israel's enforcement policy on the personal use of cannabis.

> Sunday's decision was met with mixed feelings by two of the lawmakers most active in reforming Israeli law on cannabis.

Sharren Haskel, a lawmaker from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud, said the decision was "an important step but not decriminalisation," since users could ultimately face criminal charges.

AFP

North Korea fires missiles, three reach Japan waters

SEOUL - Nuclear-armed North from North Pyongan province into Korea launched four ballistic mis siles yesterday in another challenge to US President Donald Trump, with three landing provocatively close to America's ally Japan.

Seoul and Washington began annual joint military exercises last week that always infuriate Pyongyang, with the North's military warning of "merciless nuclear counter-action".

Under leader Kim Jong-Un, Pyongyang has ambitions to develop an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) capable of reaching the US mainland - which Trump has vowed will not happen.

Seoul said four missiles were fired

the East Sea - its name for the Sea of Japan - and that South Korea and the US were "closely analysing" tracking data for further details.

The missiles travelled around 1 000 kilometres and reached an altitude of 260 kilometres, said a spokesperson for South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff, adding they were unlikely to be ICBMs.

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said three of the North Korean missiles came down in Tokyo's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) waters extending 200 nautical miles (370 kilometres) from its coast.

AFP



UNISWA RE-OPENS WITH A BANG

By Majaha Nkonyane

FOLLOWING an abrupt closing of the university which lasted for two weeks the Institution will be hosting an opening bash which will see the students partying for the whole weekend.

On Friday March 10 the Mbabane Campus will host their Fresher's Ball which was put on hold when students were sent home.

Whilst Saturday will see the students partying with DJ Tira, Naakmusiq, DJ SK, Switch, DJ Mfundo, DJ Vesta, Lyrical Busta and The Scientists at the

BOLESWA Opening Bash to take place

 Tira, Naakmusiq to perform Partying starts on Friday till Sunday

Lidvuba Lodge in Matsapha. UNISWA SRCs Minister of Internal

Affairs Sandile Gazelle Gama said they were thrilled to yet again welcome their compatriots's from Botswana and Lesotho as part of the

> Intervarsity games. "Sunday will see the staging of Miss Intervarsity; this will be a combination of the freshest of them all, with representatives

from all three countries."

Gama also invited fun lovers to join them as they party for the last time before going back the university basics

"this will be one of the best organised events. Attendees need not worry about safety as security will be tight at the event", he said.

ON A HIGH NOTE: DJ Tira and Naakmusiq.

Sotho DJs promise fireworks

By Phumelele Mkhonta

SOTHO deejays who go by the name 'Zagro Deejay' promised to deliver nothing but the best of themselves at the BOLESWA Intervarsity Games Opening Bash on Saturday.

The duo is made of Nthethe 'Allegro' Sekoli and Moeketsi 'Skizo' Chefa from Maseru in Lesotho and they are acquainted with Swaziland as they visited as students during the same Intervarsity Games while studying at National University of Lesotho. According to Allegro, they were

invited to Swaziland by the organisers, Rock The City SA, whom they have worked with in securing some gigs even in Lesotho.

"It is an honour to be back in Swaziland after so many years and we are humbled be to invited for the opening of BOLESWA Intervarsity games," he said.

Zagro Deejays is a duo of DJs and producers and they perform with conga drums and a djembe while playing commercial house music. We are bringing an awesome performance to Swaziland, something new to the scene," added Allegro.



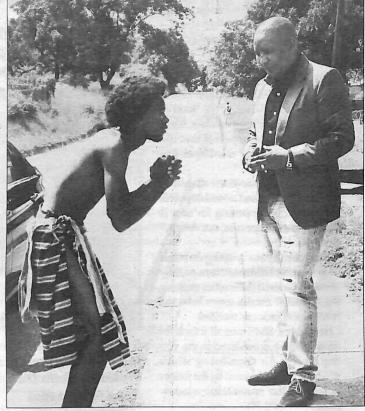
LIVE: Lesotho spinners Zagro Deejays.

... More About Zagro Deejays

FORMED in 2004 as a DJ camp, "Zagro" was coined from the names of the two founding partners and high school friends, Dj KhebZA Mohlomi and Dj AlleGRO Sekoli.

Zagro Deejays was later joined by Dj Thizozo, Smallz, Mr. Beekay and DJ Skizo. But since then four members left Zagro Deejays to pursue solo careers in music industry, leaving DJ Skizo and DJ Allegro in the group.

It was during then that the duo changed Zagro Deejays from a DJ camp to a music production group / band. Zagro Deejays is known for their unique production of Tribal /Dance /Club House music, which is guaranteed to 'make people dance'. Both members are selftaught deejays and producers with Allegro also a percussionist. The duo has since released a number of promotional singles, first Imithandazo, which was released in 2010 and was well received in Lesotho, by radio stations and house music heads and also received love from some parts of South Africa and Botswana and Swaziland.



CAMERA ROLLING: Macford Sibandze acting as Gama, a businessman who listens to the outcry of a villager in 'Akuhlali Kunje' move.

Swazi Movie to premier on Mzansi Magic

By Phumelele Mkhonta

THE long awaited 'Akuhlali Kunje', a 100 per cent locally produced movie, will be premiered and aired on Mzansi Magic, a widely viewed DSTV Channel.

Mzansi Magic's Maxwell Mathebula confirmed that the channel that caters for the South African market will air the movie.

"The Mzansi Magic team is waiting on the production team of 'Akuhlali Kunje' movie to deliver the final product so we can assess it and air it promptly," informed Mathebula.

Bhekisisa Nkambule who is the producer of the movie said the exact date has not been fixed as the movie is still going through some sound engineering and editing.

"The movie has been shot and completed; we are now in the studio editing it. After that, it

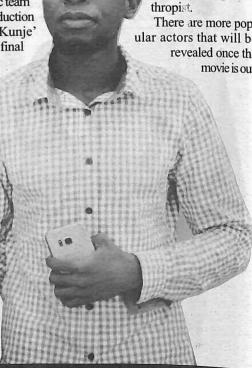
terry fraging

will be handed over to Mzansi Magic," informed Nkambule.

The movie which started shooting over a month ago is now complete and features people who are not new to the entertainment scene.

It features vernacular rapper Diba Diba who acts as a villain, DJ Crooks who is a shopper and Macford Sibandze who acts as Gama a businessman and philan-

There are more popular actors that will be revealed once the movie is out.



MOVIE PRODUCER: Bhekisisa Nkambule.

MTN SWAMAAWARDS VOTING HASN'T BEGUN — ZOX

By Nomfundo Sifundza

THE Chairman of the MTN SWAMA Awards Melusi 'Zox' Dlamini, pressured by the flood of SMSes on their nomination lines, has explained to hopefuls that the voting process for nominees has not started.

"We have felt the need to inform the entire public and award hopefuls that all that is happening for now is the nomination process, not voting," Zox said.

The chairman was speaking on behalf of his public relations team as they also encountered difficulties explaining to social media users how the nomination process worked.

He said one SMS was all it took for an artist to be considered in the vetting process for short listing which will be solely conducted by the judges as soon as the nomination window closes on April 30.

"Nominating or better yet sending many SMSes for one nomination or artist does not increase chances of that artist being nominated," he empha-

Zox further assured award hopefuls that before nominees are announced on June 3, they would be contacted prior in writing to either accept or

...not until April 30 when nomination window closes ... nominees to be announced on June 3 ...PM expects all genres to be awarded

GUEST: Prime Minister Dr Sibusiso Dlamini, Chairman of the MTN SWAMA Awards Melusi 'Zox' Dlamini and SWAMA President Lutfo Dlamini. decline the nomination. New Comer, Best Female, Best Male Upon the announcement of all nom-Artist) must have released an album. inces, then the highly anticipated and Only albums released between most crucial stage called voting would January 2015 and April 30, 2017 qualify for nomination.

"For these top four categories, mix

do for the

tapes and EPs do not count, but they

other categories," he said.

An EP is an extended playlist, a project too short to be an album. An LP (Long Play) is a full length album. A mix tape is a compilation of songs that are given out for free whilst an album is a compilation of songs that is put out for sale to the general pub-

He continued: "the most downloaded caller tune will be obvious. No need to nominate there. The genre specific categories, on the other hand, won't depend on albums, as long as an artist has written and performed music of that particular genre then they qual-

Touching on the gospel category issue, which has rocked and confused many artist of the genre, the chairman said he will not dwell much on the category as he had no new details that would differ from what the Prime Minister, Dr Sibusiso Dlamini said at the launch of the awards.

Zox said, these were the premier's words during the launch and quoted; "Last December I had the honour of attending the Swaziland Gospel Music Awards and today we are launching a new event- an

awards ceremony that covers ALL forms of music, including gospel."

At the end Dlamini concluded; "we salute the artists and the public for their con-

structive criticism and promise nothing but the best."

Disabled to gain free entry- Leserato Events

Contrary to popular belief that one

was forced to have an album under

their belts in order to score a nomi-

nation in all of the categories, Zox

explained that only the top four

categories (Artist of the Year, Best

By Phumelele Mkhonta



Saved Group performing alongside Nothando Hlophe, Joyous Celebration's Sibusiso 'SbuNoah' Mthembu and Ayanda Thabethe, Nhlakanipho Dlamini, Sihle Mamba and many more artists at Mavuso Trade Centre.

Also, tickets are now available at outlets. This was confirmed by Leserato Events Manager, Sijabulile

Tickets are available at Nandos outlets and Mgavuza in Mbabane and they sell at E100 for general and E300 for VIP. Also, children under the age of six will gain free entry and those six to 12 years at half price (paying only at the gate).

"We are looking forward to an exciting event on April 1. The lineup is packed with the most sought after artists both in Swaziland and the Republic of South Africa. We are excited about their availability on this day and hope to have a great

"Worth noting is that all artists will give us a full set of 45 minutes to an hour, which is not always possible and their fans will get a real treat. We encourage people to buy their tickets early to avoid disappointment. The tickets will cost more at the gate, so pre-sale is definitely the way to go," commented Vilakati.

TO PERFORM: Nothando Hlophe.

SANDS RESUMES SA RADIO TOURS By Nomfundo Sifundza AFTER months of feeding the masses with perfor-

mance and taking bookings from music lovers, Sands' team has gone back to doing radio tours in Northwest province and Free State. The artist's management

team Icon PB Music, led by Phila Dlamini, otherwise known as 'Phila Koshini,' said their main aim was to spread the Swazi language in music throughout the neighbouring countries.

"We will be mainly targeting SABC owned radio stations, which have already started flighting the music.

It is without doubt that siSwati will be made fashionable before winter in most parts of Southern Africa as Sands sings in his home language and his diction is unfainted," Dlamini said.

Tigi, which is currently second biggest and most played song in South Africa, also has a video constantly playing on Channel O, Trace and MTV. "The momentum cannot stop there, we are then introducing the album tour themed SANDS OF TIME TOUR. We aim to cover the whole of Southern Africa," he said.

The album tour will begin

with KZN. First event will be at Richards Bay Umfolozi Casino on March 31. The next day April 1 the tour will be at Pitermaritzburg Intulo Lounge and ending on the April 2 in Durban Mamas Just Jazzing.

Dlamini added; "the tour will further continue to other regions. Swaziland will have it in May 2017. We are yet to reveal everything on the Swazi leg." The album will also play a part in taking part on the tour as Dlamini said fans could win tickets to any of the above shows simply by tagging Sands Music on Facebook or @sandsmusic01 on Twitter and Insta with their CDs.

TMS PARTNERS WITH DUBAIFASHION

By Phumelele Mkhonta

AFTER weeks of negotiations with a gigantic fashion entity based in Dubai, Top Model Swaziland (TMS) sealed a deal with this entity, forming a new relationship.

Since last year after being incorporated in Tshwane Fashion Festival, organised by Retro Vintage Collection in Pretoria, this modelling house has been showered with blessing on top of blessing.

As much as they were not being incorporated as a group but members, on different days and events, they were able to hoist the brand of Top Model Swaziland up high and the country's flag too.

Top Model Swaziland has sealed a deal with ALITI Africa-Dubai . 12 Models for Dubai in July

Fashion Week (AADWF) where the agency will provide 12 of its models during the time of the fashion week.

According

According to Top Models Swaziland Director Mbalenhle Manana, the team initially contacted Alina Liwo, who is the founder of the ALITI Africa-Dubai Fashion Week (AADFW), as they intended to secure top models with an opportunity to show off Swazi modelling talent on the Dubai fashion scene.

"Liwo was impressed with our agency portfolio and extended an invitation for Top Models Swaziland to be the official title sponsor of

ON THE RISE: TMS Director Mbalenhle Manana.

their event; for example, 'The Top M o d e 1 s Swaziland 2017 ALITI Affica-Dubai F a s h i o n Week," said

Manana.

Top Models SD role in the AADFW

TMS's partnership with AADFW is based on the provision of 12 ethnic Swazi runway models.

Advantages:

- Promoting and exposing Swaziland on an international level.
- Selected models that travel to Dubai will play a pivotal role in promoting Swaziland as a whole.
- International exposure for Swazi models and expansion opportunities into the Dubai, African international and US markets.
- Corporate branding at the 2017 ALITI Africa-Dubai Fashion Week (AADFW)
- Corporate branding on all event related promotional and advertising material
- Company write-up, logo

and direct link to corporate homepage from event website

- International publicity on all ALITI social media platforms and YouTube channels
- Corporate logo and write-up in event pamphlet
 Full screen logo display during intermissions between runway showcases on the main screen
- Corporate mention in all interviews and press releases

Top Models Swaziland, through Manana, has invited potential sponsors to join TMS as partners in such a huge initiative.

"This partnership(s) will ensure Top Models Swaziland's smooth participation in the ALITI Affica-Dubai Fashion Week (AADFW)".





International Celebrity News



Adele confirms she is 'married now'

BRISBANE - Okay, for realsies this time: Adele has confirmed that yes, she is married.

At the 2017 Grammys last month, the Grammy winner had thanked her "husband" in an acceptance speech, fueling longtimé speculation that she and Simon Konecki, with whom she shares fouryear-old son Angelo, COMMITTED: Adele

Kardashian sisters

know how to do

married.

had quietly gotten and husband Simon Adele, known for her Konecki.

haunting breakup songs, made her through with those feelings because comments while introducing her ballad

"Someone Like You."

"I was trying to remember how it

was I felt at the beginning of the relationship that inspired that record, because as bad as a break up can be, as bitter and horrible and messy as it can be, that feeling when you first fall for someone is the best feeling on earth and I am addicted to that feeling," she said.

"Obviously I can't go I'm married now." TMZ

Ed Sheeran wins hearts at iHeartRadio awards

CALIFORNIA - Ed Sheeran just his guitar skills and singing voice on

delivered one special

performance. During Sunday night's 2017 iHeartRadio Music Awards, the 'Photograph' singer took to the stage to perform his smash-hit single 'Shape

of You.' In the centre of The Forum in Inglewood, Calif., Ed was able to put

display But wait, there was

> more! A full band later joined the singer to perform his latest hit 'Castle on the

Hill. Based on the standing ovation, we'd say the audience loved the performance. **Eonline**

GOOD PERFORMANCE:

Ed Sheeran.

LOS ANGELES - Celebrities are heartbreakingly losing their parents these days. Its not even funny.

Mel B's father Martin Brown has passed away, aged 63.

The TV personality took to Instagram to share the sad news on Sunday, revealing that Brown had died after a five-year battle with cancer.

Alongside a black and white photo of her and her sister holding her father's hands, Mel, 41, wrote: "It is with great sadness after a five-year battle to multiple myeloma cancer our loving father Martin Brown passed away aged 63 peacefully yesterday.



RIP: Mel B and his dad.

"Both of us his children were by his side and would like to say thank you to St Gemma's and all the doctors and nurses for there amazing care and support over the years." DailyMail

Sunday funday. Kourtney, Khloe and Kim Kardashian-West CRUISE: Kourtney, Khloe took to their Snap accounts on Sunday Kardashian and Kim. to share first-person accounts of their day cruising around

Kardashian sisters brunch and cruise

California in a classic car. Before setting to the open road, the 'Keeping Up With the Kardashians' stars enjoyed a nice brunch where Kourtney, 37, sat stirring a drink and Kim, 36, shared a photo of her hot

chocolate, with the words 'Hot Koko' typed across the screen. Khloe, 32, got the honours of driving the beautiful piece of machinery while Kourtney posted a video to Khloe's account of them riding three deep across the front seat MTO

SA Celebrity News







Bahumi won't live in Somizi's shadow

JOHANNESBURG - The 22-year-old student recently scored

an acting gig on the SABC 2 telenovela 'Keeping Score' and is excited about her new role.

she got the gig because HUSTLER: Bahumi. But if you thought

Speaking to Move, Bahumi said



of her famous family, think again.

she had to undergo gruelling auditions for the role and was determined to make it on her own.

parents who really care about my future. My mom and dad are my inspiration and considering that they have been in the industry for so long alongside grandparents...I will

"I'm blessed to have

also excel in my own right. I am not going to live under their shadow, but am going to make sure I also build a name for myself," Bahumi said. Sunday World

Kwesta gets father-in law's approval

JOHANNESBURG - Kwesta and It turns out that Yolanda's parents are

his long-term girlfriend Yolanda are set to tie the knot soon, but it seems the rapper won't need the approval of his future fatherin-law because he already has it.

The hitmaker surprised his fans recently that he and Yolanda were finally engaged.



'Ngud' ANOTHER LEVEL: Kwesta and when he confirmed girlfriend Yolanda.

already fans of the rapper and told Move they were excited for the upcoming marriage. "I'm very happy for Yolanda and Kwesta. It's a beautiful thing they are taking their relationship to the next level," Yolanda's father Vusi Mvelase said.

Kwesta and Yolanda have a four-year-old daughter together and Vusi said he was glad the couple would raise their daughter in a united home.

"I woke up one

change and it was

Sowetan

LootLove was never my side chick - Reason

JOHANNESBURG - After a year or so of an open secret relationship, rapper Reason finally confirmed he is dating presenter Luthando Sosha, aka LootLove.

The confirmation came in the form of a picture from Loot and Reason having to defend his gal.

The pair have never openly confirmed the dating rumours and always maintained they are friends. But after LootLove posted a picture of them - where Reason was giving her a peck on the cheek - some of the people in the comment section said she was the reason for Reason's divorce.

Reason had been married for seven years before he and the mother of



OUT: Reason and Luthando.

his children went through a divorce, after which he started dating LootLove.

LootLove did not play victim, she went on to say how her relationship is her business and how people from outside should refrain from sharing their opinions as fact. Timeslive

I had no soul - Nonhle Thema

JOHANNESBURG -She was once the ultimate

It girl: admired by adoring fans, many of whom wanted to be just like her.

In a tell-all interview with DRUM, Nonhle Thema shockingly reveals that while many thought she was on top of the world, deep down she was sad and depressed.

"Everything was going well for me and I was at

the peak of my career, but my soul was gone," she says. "I was in the darkest space of my life. I was depressed and didn't know why".

The mother of four-year-old Star



DEPRESSED: Nonhle time. Now

Thema.

becoming older and wiser and I want to share my wiscom with other people. Being a mother made me want to explore a whole different space," she tells us.

(a) ISIBAYA **TODAY**

The Zungus reel from emotional turmoil, whilst Zama continues to defy her parents. Desperate to save his loved ones, Mpiyakhe finds himself faced with a terrible choice.



DEFIANT: Zama.

TODAY

The stress of the past few weeks takes its toll on Lincoln. Tyson confronts Kgothalo. Zukisa is shocked when an unexpected visitor arrives



CONFRONTATION: Tyson.

Muvhingo TODAY

KK reveals his plans to build on sacred land. Vusi secures another appointment with the Mapetlas - will things go as planned. Mulondo makes a move on his cougar.



APPOINTMENT: Vusi and Katlego.



closing around Bash. Nox hears that her insurance money has been made available. Emmanuel scorns his father's efforts to forge closeness. Gumede finds



CAUGHT: Bash.

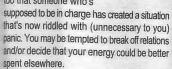
out that Sabelo has been stealing merchandise. Cuba is relentless in her efforts to impress Kop.



TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn December 22 January 19

A chasing your tail feeling is likely. You may be up against an imaginary deadline. It's possible too that someone who's



Aquarius January 20 - February 18

A colleague could drop out of an arrangement. Another possibility is that vou're asked to cover for someone at short notice. An extra journey might



be necessary. The day is unlikely to go according to plan. Concern about a younger person could result in you dropping everything to help out. There might even be a knock on effect in your love life where you are brought closer to someone through a series of chaotic events

Pisces

February 19 - March 20 You could oh-so-easily lose your temper when it seems that others aren't quick enough to respond to your needs. It's possible

that you've credited at least

one person with psychic ability. Yet they may not have your gift for mind-reading and you may have unwittingly thrown someone offscent anyway. A frank exchange of views to put this right may be necessary. Quite separately an urgent shopping trip may be required.

March 21 - April 19

A display of emotions could

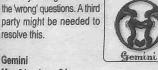
leave you confused. You might be as disturbed by someone's fashion style. However given that all this might tease curious

elements in your brain, you could come up with interesting design and artistic ideas. New sounds could be part of this too. You might even feel the need to change your mobile phone trill. Most important though could be getting someone close to talk about something that's clearly been bothering them for days

Taurus April 20 - May 20

Communications with a colleague might at best be described as 'sparky'. True, you could be sparking ideas off one another. However, if you are meeting up after a few days' break, then you could hit all the wrong

notes by asking each other the 'wrong' questions. A third party might be needed to



Gemini

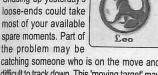
May 21 - June 21

Mentally you could be so, so, in the fast-lane. The upside of this is that meeting new people is exciting and that small journeys (even within a building complex) give you chance to chat en route from meeting to meeting.

Cancer June 22 - July 22 You might feel a sudder

urge to make changes to your nest or even your desk space. It may be that you just have to be clutter free - and NOW. This could be necessitated by a group of new acquaintances descending on you.

July 23 - August 22 Chasing up yesterday's loose-ends could take most of your available spare moments. Part of



catching someone who is on the move and difficult to track down. This 'moving target' may be thinking of you though and, by the time you do make contact, have information that begins to restore harmony. You might both need to get some anger out of your systems first

August 23 - September 22 You might be good at multitasking but even you could blow a fuse if you end up with too much to do: which is now likely. Part of you might feel



you're fighting on all fronts. A sense of urgency is probable. But really, it could be that your nervous system is just too finely tuned and it's you that needs to slow down. You might also try writing with a calming ink colour and reducing the vibrancy of other colours around you too.

September 23 - October 23 A computing system could give you a headache. Or it may be that you are mixing with people who think fast -

and who are pushing you to make decisions before you are really ready. Involvement with a training scheme is likely. Fashion too could assume even greater importance than usual with you guizzing someone who's supposedly 'in the know' about general trends.

October 24 - November

Your imagination could be working over-time. If you are susceptible to green-

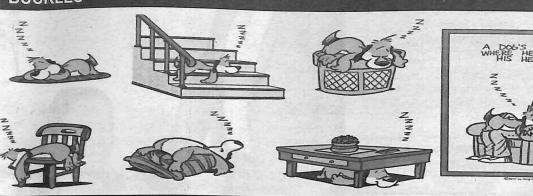
eyed monster attacks, then one could be provoked today. This same energy could be productive in helping you locate items though. Following your nose, you could uncover a few truths. An Air sign friend is likely to be dumbfounded by your tenacity - and the results.

Sagittarius November 22 December 21 Both at home and at

work you could Sagittarius experience constant

interruption. You might even be on the end of at least one panic phone call. For as much as there's concern about how an event will be run (or when a repair or delivery-person will actually arrive), there may be delight at news from someone who has been in some difficulty but is now clearly fighting





HAGAR THE HORRIBLE













PUZZLE CHOICE

Can you find the hidden words? They may be horizontal, vertical, diagonal, forwards or backwards.

X-WORDS

S T K S F X L H X B N O R O F L B V E T K L L E L G I E E I N X I J R G X L J E C T V T E N V B D I C I E B I V E V J R T S L M X N P Z U V T L R I X X P E H V V D Z W O L R Q T J T E A V C V A C L I M A X C C N E E A F L H I I I P V X O B E K U J L X M L E M I B C N P V O A O V E P P E N U R U L Z E E D E S G N N R E X C R M M L A T I X B E N U S B X R T U E M E T I M D S T O X D F R U P E T H O L I F X H X X O X O I F B L R R T X O P P E I U N O O I S X I E I I T C R L D N M L X Y D L R P Z X A X P T A E O N O F O V R A B A T R A N S F I X X A V N X V C A R O R D U P L E X I M L L I I K J B L A X W	V	W	K	C	B	V	0	S	S	T	A	X	N	1	J	В	X	E	X
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PUZZLE CHOICE

ending in X hidden in the box? They may be horizontal, vertical or diagonal, forwards or backwards. ANNEX, APPENDIX, CLIMAX, COMPLEX, CONVEX, CRUCIFIX, DUPLEX, EQUINOX, EXECUTRIX, FLUM-MOX, HELIX, IBEX, ICEBOX.

Can you find the words INDEX, INFLUX, JINX, JUKEBOX, LARYNX, LETTERBOX, MATCH-BOX,

MATRIX, MULTIPLEX, ONYX, ORTHODOX, PARADOX, PERPLEX, PREFIX, REFLEX, RELAX, SPHINX, SUF-FIX, SURTAX, TELEX, TOOLBOX, TRANS-FIX, VERTEX, VOR-TEX.

THE MARUUANA **SUPERINTENDENTS**

Scott and Peter had applied for jobs at a large company and had to take an intelligence test.

They each found the test a breeze, except that they admitted to being momentarily stumped by the final question: "Name a 14



letter word for someone in charge of a plant." "How did you answer that last one?" asked Scott.

"I was a bit puzzled at first, but then I thought of Superintendent." "I think I got it right too," said Pete, "but I wrote down Horticulturist."

USELESS FACTS

1. The characters Bert and Ernie on Sesame Street were named after Bert the cop and Ernie the taxi driver in Frank Capra's "It's a Wonderful Life."

3. A goldfish has a memory span of three seconds.

4. A dime has 118 ridges around the edge.

5. It's impossible to sneeze 2. A dragonfly has a life span with your eyes open.

BRAINTEASERS **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

Yesterday's brainteasers

of 24 hours.

1. If a plane crashes on the border between the US and Mexico, where do they bury the survivors? Answer: Survivors generally are never buried.

2. If it took eight men ten hours to build a wall, how long would it take four men to build it? Answer: No time at all it is already built.

Today's brainteasers

1. How much dirt is there in a hole 3 feet deep, 6 ft long and 4 ft wide?

2. How can you lift an elephant with one hand?



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NEWS



HIGHLIGHTS



Arsenal v Bayern Tonight 21:00 | SuperSport 3 Africa HD (223)

UEFA Champions League 2016/17. Round of 16, 2nd Leg: Arsenal vs Bayern Munich from Arsenal Stadium (Emirates Stadium) - London, England. LIVE.

DStv Premium customers can catch the action via live video streaming on supersport.com, on DStv Now (for Android and iOS) and on the SuperSport App.



Greed and Desire Tonight 19:30 Mzansi Magic 161

Greed and Desire explores the themes of ambition, wealth, power, secrets and desire. This telenovela takes viewers in a world established in Bloemfontein.



Good Deeds Tonight 20:00 M-Net 107

Wesley Deeds is engaged and merrily travelling along the path set of it for him. But when he helps struggling single mom Lindsey Wakefield (That die Newton), his world is "pended for good.

Strut To igist 19:30 | Vuzu AMP (103)

S1/E1 - 1/1". Models try to balance life, work and love in the series premiere of this reality show that follows top models at an agency that caters to transgender individuals.



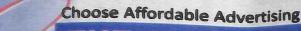
SHUGA BACK ON SCREEN...TOMORROW 21:30 | MTV BASE (322)

SET in the homes, cafés, schools, parks and hangouts of a fictional township, Zenzele, and real-life Braamfontein, MTV Shuga: Down south is the fifth instalment in the award-winning drama series, mtv shuga.

With powerful contemporary storylines, relatable characters and an ensemble cast of talented actors and contemporary musicians, MTV Shuga: Down South uses drama to disseminate important public health messages. In keeping with the contemporary tone of the drama, popular musicians Seyi Shay, Fifi Cooper and Kwesta make cameo appearances as themselves, while Mohau Cele returns in the role of dissatisfied schoolgirl/singer Bongi. Emmanuel Ikubese returns as HIV+music promoter Femi, while Nick Mutuma reprises his role of good-boy-gone-bad Leo. Vanessa Mdee plays Storm, wife to Clint Brink's Rakeem.







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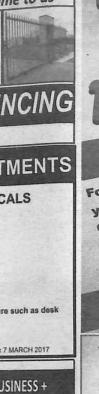
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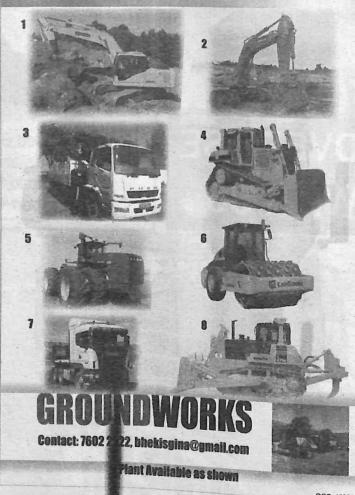
Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 51 (2) of the Administration of Estates Act No. 28/1902 that the First and Final Liquidation and Distribution Account will lie open for inspection at the office of the Master of the High Court of Swaziland, Mbabane branch First Floor Miller's Mansion for a period of Twenty One (21) days from the date of publication of this notice.

Any person objecting to the account may lodge his or her objection in writing with the executor and with the Master of the High Court at any time before expiry of the said period.

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Mayweather tells McGregor to kick him for a lot of money

LAS VEGAS - Floyd Mayweather has told Conor McGregor to get inside the ring with him before it is too late.

McGregor's rise to superstardom in the UFC has been nothing short of incredible, leading fans to call for a super-bout between him and the undefeated boxer.

The combat sports icons have gone back and forth over the proposed match-up for months now and Mayweather has urged the Irishman to get a deal done whilst he remains a top draw.

'The difference between me and him is this: He has to fight. If I was him and I was smart, before I lose again in the UFC I'd let Floyd Mayweather kick my a** for a lot of money. It makes business sense,' the American told The Telegraph.

'This guy said I'm a pussy, I'm scared, I'm a chicken,' Mayweather added. 'All 49 said the same thing and all the results were the same. So with that being said, if Conor

...before he loses in UFC



KICK ME: Floyd Mayweather and Conor McGregor.

McGregor really wants to fight me, we can make it happen. But is he blowing smoke up everybody's a***? We need to know.'

A big hold-up over any potential agreement is McGregor's existing contract with the UFC.

'There's a difference between being an employee and an employer, the Money Team leader explained. 'McGregor has bosses. I don't have a boss.

'If someone says "I want to fight Floyd Mayweather", I can simply say "yes, let's make it happen". But when you've got a guy like Conor McGregor he has to talk to Dana White (the UFC president). Dana has to talk to Dana's bosses.'

Another stumbling block is the two rivals' opinions over who would deserve to make more from what would be one of the biggest payper-view events in combat sports history with Mayweather believing McGregor, who makes somewhere in the region of \$10million (£7m) a fight in the UFC, is overestimating his worth.

"If you haven't made \$10m you can't ask for \$10m, said Mayweather. 'What you have to do is go to the Forbes and see what he's worth. 'I'm going to give you what you're worth. If he's worth five, we'll give him 10. If he's worth 10, we'll give him 20. We're talking about just one fight. We're going to choose one fight. In one fight I made more than Conor McGregor has made in his whole career.'

Daily Mail

Chelsea plans for new £500m stadium at Stamford Bridge

LONDON - Chelsea have had plans for their new £500million stadium on the site of Stamford Bridge approved by the Mayor of London.

The Blues' plans for the 60 000-capacity venue were approved at a Hammersmith & Fulham Council meeting in January, but still required the approval of city Mayor Sadiq Khan.

They received that

approval yester-day, with Khan praising the 'high-quality and spectacular design' of Chelsea's new home.

Chelsea aim to be playing in their new stadium by the start of the 2021-22 season, with three

of the 2021-22 season, with three years in exile from the summer of 2018 as the bulk of the construction work is undertaken.

Wembley is a likely temporary venue for the Blues, as it will be for Tottenham during their redevelopment of White Hart Lane from next season.

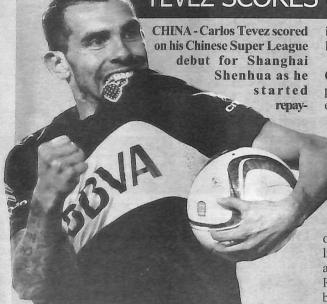
While there are still hurdles to be crossed before construction can begin, it is likely the first stage of the demolition process will start with on-site ancillary buildings while the team continue to play at Stamford Bridge next season.

Once Chelsea have left for their temporary home, the old stadium itself will be demolished and earth removed to enable the new pitch to be sunken below ground level.

The rebuilt Stamford Bridge is being designed by Herzog & De Meuron, the team behind the iconic Bird's Nest Stadium in Beijing and Bayern Munich's Allianz Arena.

The new stadium will include the construction of an elevated walkway over the nearby District Line, linking the stadium to Fulham Broadway station. *Daily Mail*





ing wages that have reportedly made him the world's best-paid player.

The former Manchester United, Manchester City and Juventus striker struck from the penalty spot and had a hand in two others as Gus Poyet's team beat Jiangsu Suning 4-0 on Sunday.

Jiangsu finished second behind Guangzhou Evergrande last year but their horror start to the season was compounded when 50-million-euro signing Alex Teixeira was sent off in second-half injury time.

According to Argentine media, 33-yearold Tevez commands a salary of 38 million euros (\$40 million) a year at Shenhua, a figure that would lift him above Cristiano Ronaldo as the world's highest-paid footballer. Tevez's signing in January came just before Chinese football authorities announced a crackdown on "irrational" spending including a cap on transfer fees, wages and the number of foreign players per team.

Poyet said Sunday's win was the perfect response after Shenhua were dumped out of the AFC Champions League last month in a shock 2-0 home defeat to Brisbane Roar.

"I don't want to think too much about all the goals we scored," said the Uruguayan former Sunderland and AEK Athens manager

"But it proves the ability we have, that we were able to overpower such a strong team like Jiangsu. Now we have proved ourselves I hope the fans can have renewed confidence in us." *AFP*

'Amajita' through to U20 AFCON semi-finals, qualify for World Cup

LUSAKA – The South African National Under-20 Men's football team, 'Amajita' have qualified for the FIFA Under-20 World Cup in South Korea in May this year after beating Sudan 3-1 in the final Group match at the Heroes National Stadium in Lusaka, Zambia.

By winning this CAF U20 Africa Cup of Nations match, *Amajita* have set a date with hosts Zambia in what has become a regional derby between the two sides. The semifinal match will take place tomorrow.

"This was a major achievement and the boys have made the country proud. After our U17 side qualified for the World Cup last year, it is this type of progress that has seen our Vision 2022 take immediate shape. "The semis against Zambia will be a typical final before the final and the boys must look forward to this game," said SAFA President, Dr Danny Jordaan who



THROUGH: Phakamani Mahlambi of South Africa celebrates goal with teammates during the 2017 Total Zambia U-20 African Cup of Nations match between Sudan and South Africa at Heroes National Stadium.

flew to Zambia on Saturday to give the boys moral support.

Goals by Phakamani Mahlambi, Grant Margeman and Sibongakonke Mbatha gave *Amajita* a good win in this tight game. While Sudan's lone goal was scored by Khaled Osman, the Falcons of Jediane gave *Amajita* a run for their money and matched them man for man especially in the first half. Mahlambi netted a beautiful goal after Singh

had done all the work on the left flank but Osman responded 10 minutes later after South Africa's defence had gone to sleep as the two teams went into halftime deadlocked at 1-1. African News Agency

SA guicks target NZ unbeaten streak

WELLINGTON - South Africa are backing their pace attack to snap New Zealand's unbeaten run at Dunedin's University Oval when the first Test starts tomorrow.

After surveying a typically green New Zealand wicket and learning the Black Caps have won three, drawn four and lost none of the seven Tests on the ground, opener Dean Elgar said yesterday: "It's something for us to try and correct." "It looks a bit juicy," he added of the wicket, warning that South African quicks Vern Philander and Morne Morkel were likely to be a handful.

Philander has 32 Test wickets against New Zealand at 15.53, and Elgar expects he will again be a central figure.

"I'm glad he's on my side and I don't have to face him with a new ball," Elgar said, while Morkel: "I'm glad I just have to face him in the nets." Morkel has played little cricket since suffering a back injury four months ago but is still set to figure in the South African line-up alongside Philander and the impressive Kagiso Rabada. South Africa go into the Test series on the back of beating New Zealand 3-2 in the recent one-day international series, where Rabada topped their bowling figures. AFP

mirates

CHAMPIONS UEFA LEAGUE°

Ronaldo, Bale back for UCL clash

MADRID - Cristiano Ronaldo and Gareth Bale were named yesterday in Real Madrid's Champions League squad for the last-16 secondleg tie against Napoli after missing the weekend win over Eibar. Fourt-time Ballon d'Or winner Ronaldo was sidelined with an injury which coach Zinedine Zidane described as "nothing serious".

Also back in the squad for tonight's clash is Welshman Bale after completing a one-

Tonight

Arsenal

Napoli

Tomorrow

Barcelona

Borussia Dortmundv

match ban. Both were absent from Saturday's 4-1 victory at Eibar in which Karim Benzema and James Rodriguez were outstanding. Reigning European champions Real lead Napoli 3-1 going into the second leg in Italy and tipped as favourites for a quarterfinal berth. AFP

REINA OUT TO STOP

MADRID - If Napoli goalkeeper Pepe Reina reproduces the kind of form that was key to Saturday's 2-1 win over Roma against Real Madrid in midweek, a Champions League upset could be on the cards.

But the former Barcelona and Liverpool shot-stopper would be forgiven for also hoping Cristiano Ronaldo forgets his shooting boots tonight when Napoli bid to overturn a 3-1 first leg, last 16 defeat against the 11-time European champions.

At the Santiago Bernabeu last month, Reina and Ronaldo were meeting for the first time since the 2008-2009 season, when they both played Premier League football. In England, they met a total of six times and, with three victories, a draw and two defeats while playing for Manchester United, Portugal's four-time Ballon d'Or winner

FIRED UP: Napoli goalkeeper Pepe Reina.

Ronaldo comes out on top.

Ahead of tonight 's clash at what Reina hopes will be a "redhot" San Paolo, the odds, and statistics, are firmly stacked against Maurizio Sarri's hosts.

If Napoli are to go through on away goals, they will have to do what no team has managed since Wolfsburg beat Madrid in the quarterfinals nearly a year and 46 games ago - keep a clean sheet against Los Blancos. As Napoli look to reach the quarter-finals for the first time, Madrid are poised to reach their seventh in succession. Yet even defeat last time out. Reina was defiant in their chances, saying post-match: "We have to believe in the comeback, because we can beat Madrid 2-0 at home."A goal away from home is very important. We have nothing to lose. Real were and are the

can expect a red hot reception at the San Paolo."

If Reina's performances for a slick Napoli side currently being



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Signed and completed tende is should be accompanied by the following:

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Submission of current form C, stamped by the register of Companies (certified copy)
Certified copies of identity documents for shareholders listed in form C

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Tender documents will be on sale from the World Vision Swaziland Head Office (Ning Group Office Park, Somhlolo Road, Mbabane), Admin. Department, from Tuesday 7 March 2017 at 14:00hrs up to Thursday 09 March 2017, between 0845hrs and 1500hrs, at E300.00 per copy.

There will be a compulsory site clarification meeting on Friday I 0 March 2017. Tenderers are advised to assemble at the Siphofaneni Inkhundla, youth Centre at 10:00hrs.

Deadline & Place for Tender Submission: Wednesday 22 March 2017 - World Vision Head Office

1200hrs · Time

· Tender Opening : 1215hrs

Completed tenders should be delivered in a sealed envelope to World Vision Head office and the envelope should only show the project name, project number and addressed to:

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Barca seek miracle in UCL

favourites, but they

BARCELONA - Barcelona striker Neymar vowed his side will throw everything at Paris Saint-Germain in their bid to overturn a four-goal deficit in the Champions League last 16 this week.

PSG fired a significant warning of intent throughout Europe with a 4-0 rout of Barca in the French capital three weeks ago and will aim to complete the job in the return leg at the Camp Nou tomor-

But the Catalan giants go into the game buoyed by thumping 6-1 and 5-0 wins in their past two league matches and haven't given up hope of staging an unprecedented comeback.

No side has lost 4-0 away from home in Europe gone through in a two-legged tie, but with Barca's

prolific front three of Neymar, Lionel Messi and Luis Suarez they cannot be entirely dis-

counted. "Against PSG we will run and fight and then we will see what hap-

confidence too. I see us on the up and with confidence. On Wednesday we are going to play really well." Barca knocked PSG out at the quarterfinal stage in both 2012-13 and 2014-15, but the reigning French champions have the upper hand this time and January signing Julian Draxler is confident of reaching the last eight for the fifth year in succes-

pens," said Neymar.

"It's really important that our

spirit is on the way up and our

sion. "Many teams have lost 5-0 at the Camp Nou, we know that anything is possible," Draxler told PSG's club website. "But deep down I'm convinced we'll qualify for the quarterfinals. "I think it will be important to attack and not just think about defending." Bayern Munich have one foot in the next round after thrashing Arsenal 5-1 at the Allianz Arena and look set to eliminate the Gunners in the last 16 for the third time in the past five seasons. Goal

ASSASSINS: Luis Suarez, Lionel Messi and Neymar.

CHAMPIONS UEFA LEAGUE®

WOES WILL HAUNT EMBATTLED WENGER

LONDON - Radiating anger and resignation in equal measure, Arsene Wenger wore the exasperated expression that has become all too familiar to Arsenal followers during their club's futile attempts to conquer Europe.

Wenger's frustrated demeanour on the touchline at the Allianz Arena last month was provoked by the sight of Arsenal being outclassed by Bayem Munich -- again -- in the first leg of their Champions League last-16 tie. Each Bayern goal was a fresh twist of the knife for Wenger and by fulltime, Arsenal had been hammered

5-1, a chastening loss that seems certain to make tonight's second leg at the Emirates Stadium a mere formality for the Germans

There was an unmistakeable feeling of deja vu as Wenger and his players trudged back to the changing room, once again assailed by the harsh realities of Europe's elite club competition. Arsenal have been eliminated in the first knockout round of the Champions League in each of the last six seasons, twice by Bayern, and Wenger appears no closer to solving the problem.

This season's likely exit would

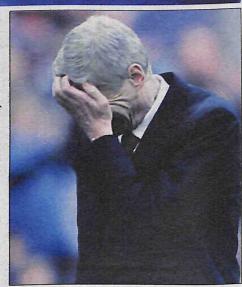
sting even more for Wenger because it could prove his final taste of the Champions League after 21 years as Arsenal manager. Amid mounting speculation Wenger is ready to quit when his contract expires at the end of the season, the Frenchman has refused to give a firm assurance he will return next term. If that is the case, his failure to master the unique demands of the Champions League will surely be Wenger's biggest regret.

Wenger was just 14 minutes from lifting the trophy in 2006 when Arsenal led Barcelona despite the

dismissal of goalkeeper Jens Lehmann. But Sol Campbell's goal for the Gunners was relegated to a footnote as Barca's pressure finally paid off with late strikes from Samuel Eto'o and Juliano Belletti.

That Wenger's most painful moment in Europe came at the end of by far his most impressive run made it doubly hard to bear. Memorable victories over Real Madrid, Juventus and Villarreal had carried Arsenal to the final as Wenger deployed a cagey gameplan at odds with his purist principles.

Daily Mail



UNDER FIRE: Arsene Wenger.

Ozil ruled out

LONDON - Arsenal will be without German playmaker Mesut Ozil when they bid to turn a 5-1 deficit around against Bayern Munich

The Gunners must score at least four goals against the German champions if they are to have any chance of progressing in the Champions League, following their humbling during the first leg in Bavaria, but will have to do so without Ozil.

The midfielder missed Saturday's 3-1 loss at Liverpool through illness but Manager Arsene Wenger has now revealed he will not be ready in time to face Bayern.

He will, though, likely be available for Saturday's FA Cup quarter-final clash with Lincoln.

"Ozil is not in the squad, he only had one session and isn't physically ready to be in the squad," Wenger said during his pre-match press conference.

The Gunners boss also insisted he has yet to decide whether to restore Alexis Sanchez to the

starting line-up, after he was benched for the Anfield loss, amid reports of a training ground bustup - which OZIL Wenger has since denied.

Regardless of the team he picks,

the Frenchman is keen for his players to make a fast start and try and worry their German opposition.

"That's the ideal situation but we want to give ourselves a chance by attacking and scoring goals," he said. "But no matter what happens it's about our honour and pride to speak for 90 minutes." Defender Per Mertesacker wants to see a response from his players when they take on Bayern as they bid to win back the support of their fans.

"We have shown we are not up for a fight and that's what I want to see tomorrow. We need to come around. Against Liverpool we had a real chance to push it and show we are a real

"It's hard for the manager to select but he does it with his best knowledge and we trust him.

"We need to make the first step to get the fans on board again. We need our fans. We've done something wrong in the last few games and we have to learn from our mistakes quickly."

Daily Mail



NOTICE OF OFFICE RELOCATION

The Swaziland Public Procurement Regulatory Agency (SPPRA) is pleased to inform the nation that with effect from 1" March 2017, the Agency will relocate to its new offices at Rhus Office Park, Karl Grant Street, Mbabane. The main telephone and facsimile numbers will remain unchanged. To allow for the relocation process, the Agency will run minimal operations from 2nd March 2017 to 6th March 2017 and will resume normal operations on the 7th March 2017.

In case of Emergency, please contact the following;

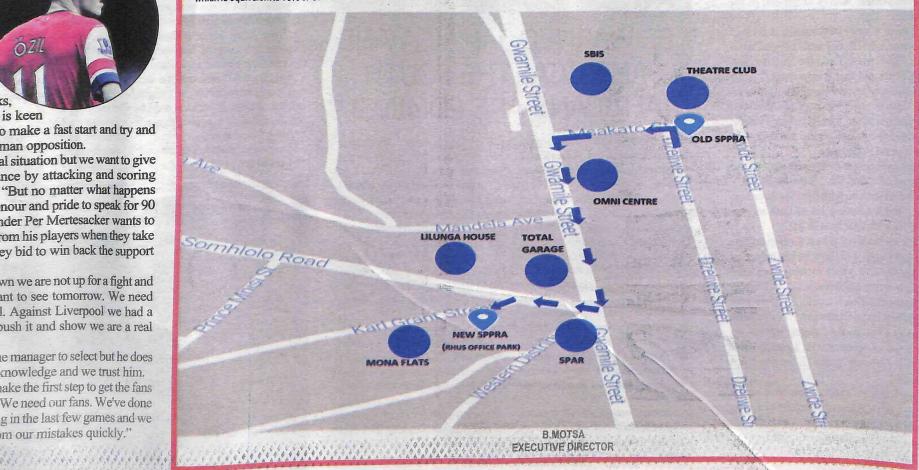
For general Enquiries: Reception +268 7606 1641

: Mr. Mbuso Dlamini +268 7606 1638 ForICT

: Mr Buhle Dlamini +268 7606 1420/7644 2915 For Legal

Mr. Sifiso Dlamini +268 7677 0075 For Procurement

"The Swaziland Public Procurement Regulatory Agency (SPPRA or "the Agency") is a public enterprise, established under section 9 of the Public Procurement Act, 2011 (the Act), to serve as an independent regulatory body that oversees the procurement of goods, works, and services conducted by 91 public procuring entities comprising: 19 Government Ministries; 9 Government departments and Agencies; 50 category A public enterprises; and I3 local government authorities. The annual value of this procurement averages E I0 billion per annum, which is equivalent to 15% of GDP



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enger rubbishes Sanchez rift rumours

LONDON - The Gunners boss was responding to reports of a bust-up which led to the Chilean being dropped against Liverpool on Saturday.

Arsene Wenger said: "Yes, that's completely false, but I understand you have to fill newspapers.

"When you don't win games... we have to accept that."

Wenger once again reiterated that the decision whether Sanchez would be with the club next season is entirely in Arsenal's hands.

He added: "He's a committed player and sometimes has excessive behaviours but you look back to the history of the same in every squad.

"When you don't win the game it's down to real stories and we have to accept that.

"Honest and normal like with every single player. "Alexis Sanchez has 15 months on his contract so the decision will depend completely on Arsenal football club, not anyone else."

Reports had claimed that Wenger's patience with Sanchez had finally snapped last week.

His stalling on a new contract and attitude towards the manager and his team-mates meant he started on the bench at Anfield.

Liverpool went on to win the Premier League match 3-1 and Wenger has been criticised for his selection decision since. dailystar



Serena Williams remains on top

LONDON - Australian Ashleigh Barty jumped 66 places into the world top 100 in the latest WTA Tour rankings released yesterday following her victory in the Malaysian Open.

After coming through the qualifiers, Barty, now ranked 92nd, beat Japan's Nao Hibino in straight sets in Kuala Lumpur for her first WTA title.

The top rankings remain unchanged with the leaders all out of action last week, but Ukraine's Lesia Tsurenko moves up nine places to 41st after winning in Acapulco while her beaten final opponent, Kristina Mladenovic of France, rises four places to 26th, her highest ever ranking.

Latest rankings:

- 1. Serena Williams (USA) 7 780
- 2. Angelique Kerber (GER) 7 405
- 3. Karolina Pliskova (CZE) 5 640 4. Simona Halep (ROM) 5 172
- 5. Dominika Cibulkova (SVK) 5 075
- 6. Agnieszka Radwanska (POL) 4 670
- 7. Garbine Muguruza (ESP) 4 585
- 8. Svetlana Kuznetsova (RUS) 3 915
- 9. Madison Keys (USA) 3 897
- 10. Elina Svitolina (UKR) 3 795
- 11. Johanna Konta (GBR) 3 600
- 12. Petra Kvitova (CZE) 3 310
- 13. Venus Williams (USA) 3 280
- 14. Caroline Wozniacki (DEN) 3 020
- 15. Elena Vesnina (RUS) 2 340
- 16. Timea Bacsinszky (SUI) 2 303
- 17. Victoria Azarenka (BLR) 2 131
- 18. Samantha Stosur (AUS) 2 120
- 19. Barbara Strycova (RUS) 2 050 20. Kiki Bertens (NED) 1 939

Neymar having his best season with Barcelona

BARCELONA - Brazilian star Neymar believes he is having his strongest season with Catalan giants Barcelona.

The ever-impressive forward has netted 12 times and produced 16 assists for Luis Enrique's side so far this campaign.

His contribution has helped put Barcelona to the top of the La Liga rankings and fired them to the Copa del Rey final, where they will meet Alaves at the end of the

"I think it's my best season at Barca," Neymar told Barcelona's official website. "Both myself and the team are getting better and that is important."

However, despite enjoying a successful season with the La Liga holders, Neymar is upset that Manager Enrique has decided to quit in the summer after three years in charge.

"It's sad because he is someone we have a lot of affection for," Neymar added.

"We have been with him for three seasons and we have a lot of faith in him. We wish him the best in life.

"He knows what is best for him and we are just happy with how he has helped us in the last few years in which we have won so many trophies."

Neymar and his Barcelona team-mates face Paris Saint-Germain tomorrow night in their Champions League second-leg as they look to overcome a massive 4-0 deficit from the game at the Parc des Princes.

The Parisians ran riot last time out at home, with goals coming from Julian Draxler, Edinson Cavani and a double from Angel di Maria.

Daily Mail



BE WARNED JAMAICA AND AMERICA: THE SOUTH AFRICANS ARE COMING!

JOHANNESBURG - Move over, Jamaica; watch out, America South Africa's sprint sensations

Akani Simbine spearheaded an impressive 18 hours of homegrown speed at the weekend, with his Tuks teammates, Clarence Munyai and Thando Roto, producing times that offer depth to SA's potentially formidable 4x100m relay team.

Simbine's name — like Wayde van Niekerk's and Anaso Jobodwana's is already in lights, although he cranked up the luminance with electrifying runs in his season-opener in a Gauteng North league meet at the Tuks athletics stadium in Pretoria on Saturday.

Simbine became only the seventh man in history to achieve a sameday sub-10-second/sub-20 double in the 100m and 200m, first going

9.93sec and some two hours later breaching the 200m barrier for the first time in 19.95.

The other six feature Ato Boldon and Justin Gatlin and five of them boast Olympic silverware.

But Simbine's effort has come earlier in the year than any of the others managed, more than a month before the mid-April 2002 performance by American Shawn Crawford, who went 9.99 and 19.85, also in Pretoria.

Coach Werner Prinsloo expects Simbine, holder of the 9.89 100m SA record, to going much faster by the world championships in London.

"The plan is for him to be at 100% in August for the world champs, not to peak before that," he said. "Look, I'm not someone to do predictions, but the aim is to go low 9.8 at least." TMG Digital

Verratti wants Champions League trophy with PSG

PARIS - Italian midfielder Marco ject and there are not many like this Verratti has revealed that he dreams of claiming the Champions League trophy with Paris Saint-Germain.

The 24-year-old has been attracting interest from a number of top European clubs, but after signing a five-year deal last year, he is focused on achieving big things in Paris.

PSG take a 4-0 lead into the second leg of their Champions League last-16 tie with Barcelona tomorrow, and Verratti is hoping to go all the way this season.

Speaking to Stade 2, Verratti said: "I want to stay. I am part of a proone in Europe.

"My dream is to win the Champions League here with PSG."

Verratti went on to praise PSG Manager Unai Emery, who has shown faith in him, adding: "I must thank the coach because he always made me confident enough to play - that was the only way I was going to get back into the swing of things.

"Now I feel good and I can play three matches in a week without physical problems or fatigue. In modern football, the most important thing is to be physically fit."

Kick off is at 21:45. sport24



2 SigombeniJuventus 0

Save Mor Kwaluseni First Division

Weekend Sports Results

SwaziBank Cup last 16 resul	lts:		
(Vovovo won 7-6 after penaltic	4	Vovovo	1
Hub Sundowns	2	Red Lions	0
(City won 6-5 after penalties) Manzini Sundowns	0	Midas City	0
(Sundowns won 5-3 after pena Moneni Pirates	1 Ities)	Sisonke	1
(Tambuti won 5-4 after penaltic	0	Tambuti	0
(Wanderers won 3-2 after pena	0	Manzini Wanderers	0
woabane Highlanders	1	Sea Birds	0
Mbabane Swallows	1	Matsapha United	2

Esibayeni Lodge E200 (Swallows Red Lions Manzini Wanderers Sea Birds Green Mamba Midas City PLS reserve League	0 2 6 0 3	Buffaloes Highlanders Pirates Sundowns Royal Leopard Tarnbuti	2 1 1 1 1 2
Swallows	1	Buffaloes	1
Red Lions	0	Highlanders	2
Wanderers	2	Moneni Pirates	2
Sea Birds	0	Sundowns	4
Green Mamba	0	Royal Leopard	1

Swallows	1	Buffaloes	1
Red Lions	0		2
Wanderers	2	Moneni Pirates	2
Sea Birds	0		4
Green Mamba	0	Royal Leopard	1
Mandla Mahewu Juni	ors I earn	Α.	
PMT	3	SOS	0
Classic	0	Umbelebele	3
Dark City	0	Super Sport	3
All Out Lobamba Juni	iors I eam	IA Outpot Opoit	
U13	olo Louge		
Comsos	1	Ebuka Stars	2
Gunners	4	Junior Stars	0
Sunrise	0	Dynamos	1
U15		Dynamico	
Y. Bombers	3	Umlilo	0
Sunrise	3	Junior Stars	0
Gunners	0	R. Masters	1
PMT Mbabane Knocko	ut Tourna		
White City	0	Darkies	3
Corporation	3	Supersport	2
Sandla	6	Flying Stars	4
Vaal Stars	3	Junior Stars	2
Mb. Celtics	1	Manzana	2
Veni Comsos	5	Pine Valley	6
Swazi Trac Hhohho Su	per Leagu		
Southern zone			
Tinyosi	6	Mv. Invaders	1
Umbelebele	3	Burning Spear	2
Wizards	2	PMT	1
Sibuyeni	3	Vusweni Killers	2
Northern zone			
Nkonjaneni	2	19 Celtics	2
N. Swallows	0	Horo Spinners	0
Ndeva Galaxy	2	M. Arsenal	5
Ndlalambi	1	Vultures	1
Sikhumbuto Timpisini L	eague		
Mb. Swallows	1	Blue Birds	2
Choppers	2	Mv. Sundowns	1
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Matsamo	5	Ak47	0 .
Soccer Rose	3	Red Lions	1
Msahweni	1	H. Pirates	2
MP Bakhanyisele Mal	oulala& Me	nzi Dlamini Maphalai	eni League
Eastern Stream			
Liselesele	1	Hotspurs	1
Khulangwane	4	Killers	2
Luvinjelo	2	Rangers	5
Professionals	0	XI Experience	1
Barcelona	2	Manchester	4
Blue Birds	1	Young Stars	0
Western stream			
Top Classic	1	Hill Stars	1
Love & Peace	1	Happy Fighters	0
	0	Forty Conses	2

Gunners

Professionals	0	XI Experience	1	Lonhlalane
Barcelona	2	Manchester	4	Ematfombeni Mdzimba Leag
Blue Birds	1	Young Stars	0	Timbungulu
Western stream				Swallows
Top Classic	1	Hill Stars	1	Chiefs
Love & Peace	1	Happy Fighters	0	Rhumba Stars
Lunkanka	2	Early Sunset	3	Swallows
Jubukweni	1	Mighty Birds	3	Rangers
Siphambanweni	2	Rollers	3	Monaco
Sunrise	1	Academy	1.	Mashuba
Ntabinezimpisi Leagu	ie			Barcelona
M. Sundowns	1	Manchester	1	Sompisi Ntfonjeni League
R. Bombes	7	Super Stars	0	Mbabatane
Y. Professionals	1	City Stars	3	Teenagers
Карра Карра	5	Buhleni Aces	1	United Aces
Skom Boyz	1	Special Killers	1	Barcelona
Fontotie	3	Golden Arrows	1	Liverpool
Seven Stars	1	Mduez United	1	Zibonele
City Cosmos	1	Hungry Lions	1	Seven Up
Sigodlo	2	Mahombe Arsenal	1	Severiop
Pot Construction Siga	ngeni Lea	que		Manzini Regional Football As
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Ntsetse	5	Express	2	Fairview Cosmos
Community	6	Chiefs	3	Fairview Cosmos
Sharks Mhlangatane L	eague			Seven Dreams
Professionals	0	Chelsea	4	Nyakeni Heroes
Aces	1	City Stars	5	Sacrament Village
NUCO .		Only Otons	,	Ludzeludze Killers



BALL CONTROL: Matsapha United's John Neguyani controls the ball while Mbabane Swallows' Sifiso Mabila closes in during the SwaziBank Cup last 16 at Somhlolo National Stadium on Sunday. United won 2-1. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



TIGHT MARK: Mbabane Highlanders' Sabela Mohammed marking Manzini Sea Birds' Sibusile Mamba during the SwaziBank Cup match at Somhlolo National Stadium. Highlanders won 1-0.

Arsenal	2	Thuluzobona	1	CNB Rovers	6	Boyane Young Aces	1	
Movers	1	Weirma	1	Stumbo's XI	3	Star Point	0	
Celtics	1	Fighters	1					
Lonhlalane	1	Zinyane	1	Riverview Manzini Promotion League				
Ematfombeni Mdzimba L			Young Tigers	0	Two Sticks Cormades	1		
Timbungulu	2	Arsenal	2	Combine Stars	0	African Chiefs	0	
Swallows	1	Sundowns	0	Superstars	0	Siboniso Selwandle	3	
Chiefs	0	All Stars	0	fC North	1	Fairview Chiefs	1	
Rhumba Stars	2	Rhinos	1	Wise Kids	0	Kholwane Flying Birds	3	
Swallows	1	Sundowns	0	Mhlaleni United	5	Home Sparrows	2	
Rangers	3	Cosmos	0	Villa Stars	3	Lwandle Classic	0	
Monaco	2	Kasiko	1					
Mashuba	2	Rebels	2	Riverview Manzini First Division League				
Barcelona	2	Drikkoppies	0	God's Property	2	Lwandle Young Tigers	4	
Sompisi Ntfonjeni League				Chaos LTD	0	Old Zakhele	3	
Mbabatane	2	Ntintinyane	0	Manzini United	6	Hot Beans	0	
Teenagers	3	Pirates	2	Ngculwini All Stars	0	Nhlambeni United	2	
United Aces	0	Uprises	0	Villa Sport	3	Manzini Bullets	0	
Barcelona	2	Chelsea	0	Green Way	0	Wonderful Touch	1	
Liverpool	3	Trounge	2	The Bones	2	Skom Boys	0	
Zibonele	4	Royal Madrid	3					
Seven Up	3	Express	1	Save Mor Kwaluseni Promotion League				
				Lozitha Spurs	1	Kwaluseni Rebels	2	
Manzini Regional Football Association				Nsenga Comrades	0	FC Matsapha	1	
FA Rainbow Stationery Manzini Super League				Zama United	3	Kudzeni United	0	
Fairview Cosmos	2	Young Warriors	1	Zombodze United	6	Dark City	0	
Seven Dreams	3	Malkerns	1	Royal Swallows	6	Matsapha Auto Zone	1	
Nyakeni Heroes	1	Luve Cosmos	0	Mhlane .	2	Swazi Wire	2	
Sacrament	0	Milling Hotspurs	1	Nhlambeni Real Heroes	2	Ntunja Arsenal	1	
udzeludze Killers	2	Gocweni Trompies	1					
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Supersport	2	SigombeniJuventus	0
Umtfunti Fashion International	2 5	Ludzidzi	0 2
rasilion international	5	Shali United	- 4
S &S Malkerns Promotio	n Lead	ue	
Troublemakers	1	Makhungutshà	3
Current Toasters	1	Vickery Nomads	2
Ndinda Volcanoes	1	Swazi Can United	0
Home Talent Mahlanya United	3	Izinyokanyoka Gebeni	0 3
Ngodini	2	Phondo	1
regounn		THORIGO	
Malkerns First Division L	eague		
Dynamite Hotspurs	3	Thunderbolt	1
Happy Masters	2 4	Golden Arrows	2
Mdonjane Arsenal Usuthu Rangers	1	Skom Boys Ntondozi	3
Vuka Aces	0	Home Boys	0
	16:	Tiomo Boyo	
Mkhiweni Promotion Lea	gue		
White Killers	0	Sangcotfo	5
Mantshonga	1	Colani United	1
Thuluzobona Zama United	3	Ngonini Young Aces All Stars	0
Manchester United	5	Luve Classic	0
Step ahead	2	All Nations	1
Toronto	1	Liverpool	0
		10 PE	
Kukhanyeni Inkhundla Pr			
NyakeniTrompies	3	Kukhanyeni	7
Mphola Celtics Mdayane	1	Dortmund Nyakani Cosmos	0
Young Killers	4	Nyakeni Cosmos Lion Heart	1
Submarine	2	Ngwazini	1
Brave Lion	2	Mbijwana Rovers	0
1995 Mbuluzana	1	Louis XIV	3
NyakeniTrompies	3	Kukhanyeni	6
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Shudla Celtics	4	Vultures	1
Moyeni United	5	SicameloSa-Chief	1
Vkonga Pirates	3	Madubula Rovers	1
Timbutini	2	Dynamos	0
Young Camibals	0	Vulamehlo Classic	0
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Rhinos	1	Superstars	0
Othandweni Swallows	4	Zamalek	0
Youngstars	1	Classic	0
International	4	Buffaloes	0
Peacemakers	1	Bhunya Black Aces	0
Nsingweni Promotion Lea	auno		
Vifeni Pirates	1	Taliban	2
All Stars	1	AC Milan	1
Young Madrid	1	Red Lion	2
McengeniSundowns	1	Highland Blues	2
Bhudweni	0	Matsantsantsa	2
Nsuka United	3	Ngcayini Black Aces	2
MP Mankayane Promotion	a Loani	10	
vie mankayane Promotion Total	4	Brazillians	2
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Emahlokohloko	4	Siweni United	3
Ovokondvweni	2	zamalek Black Mamba	0
luventus Malahleni	2	Black Mamba Promising Stars	1
Malindza United	2	Promising Stars Home Sweepers	0 2
Gabi GABI	2	Lubhuku	2
Bhelebane	0	Seven Stars	0
wazi Trac Lubombo Sup			
lovo	2	Ngcina	1
uventus	3	Young aces	0
Rail United Callies	2 3	Xi Man Barcelonia	1
iverpool	0	Richmond Aces	0
Jbombo flyers	2	Dangerous Darkies	1 2
quator	2	Black Swallow	0
PL	0	Magwanyane	1
	1000		
SSC Siyakha Under-15 M			
Macetfuka Fc	0	Peace makers	2
rofessional hiba FC	1	Super league	0
lighlanders	0	Lomkhehle FC Stambo fc	1
oung Reds	1	Thiba Fc	0
Cang Mode		TIIDUTU	2
RSSC Siyakha Under-15 Ta	abanku	lu League	
sambokhulu Rovers	1	Tabankulu Callies	1
abankulu Celtics	1	Equator	1
oung killers	0	Tabankulu FC	n

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PICTURES



TUSSLE: Mbabane Swallows' Banele 'Pupu' Sikhondze and Matsapha United's Vusimuzi Zungu in a tussle for the ball. United won 2-1.

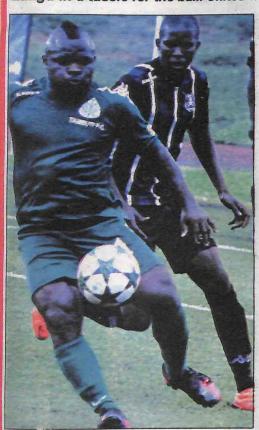
More on SwaziBank Cup games



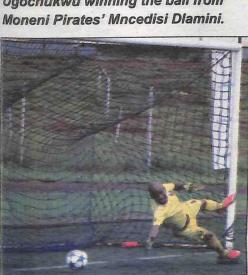
VETERANS: United's Dennis 'Yuki' Masina being challenged by Swallows' Tony 'TT' Tsabedze.



MY BALL: Mbabane Highlanders' Xolani Sibandze winning the ball from Manzini Sea Birds' Muzi Tsabedze. Highlanders won 1-0.



BALL CONTROL: Tambuti's Ohakwe Ugochukwu winning the ball from Moneni Pirates' Mncedisi Dlamini



INSIDE: Pirates goalkeper Thabiso Mkhize watches the ball as it kisses the back of the net during the penalties shoot out. Tambuti won 5-4.



IN TEARS: Swallows fan Nozwelo Dlamini being comforted by friends after her side lost against the National First Division team.





TOP- THROUGH: Tambuti goalkeeper Thokozani
Mkhulisi leading his teammates in celebration.
BELOW- DON'T RUSH: Highlanders goalkeeper Sidumo
Vilakati taking his time after making
a brilliant save.



EKHAYA: Dejected Swallows'
Tshishimbi Kabamba and Njabulo
'D4D' Ndlovu leaving the pitch after
the final whistle.



IT WAS TOUGH: Swallows goalkeeper Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza having a tough time.

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LOSERS: Dejected Pirates players and officials leaving the pitch. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



YOU DID WELL: Highlanders supporters celebrating Matsapha United's victory against Mbabane Swallows.



TWO AGAINST ONE: Wanderers Kola Aledeon sandwiched by Green Mamba players. Wanderers won 3-2 after penalties.



DOWN AND OUT: A soccer fan sleeping.



WE ARE TOGETHER: United players celebrating the victory with supporters.



tain Xolani Sibandze in celebrating his goal.

YES: Highlanders goalscorer Sabela Mohammed followed by the team's cap-



IN DEEP THOUGHTS: Some of the dignitaries who were present to witness the action.



YELELE: Matsapha United players celebrating the vic-



BIG BOSSES: Matsapha United directors and supporters celebrating the team's victory against last year's SwaziBank Cup winners Mbabane Swallows on Sunday. (Courtesy pics)



IN FULL SPRINT: United reserve goalkeeper Mxolisi Dlamini in full sprint after the referee blew the final whistle.



ON CLOUD NINE: A jubilant Wanderers fan.



PSG leading in signing Sanchez

PARIS ST - PSG are leading the chase to sign Arsenal forward Alexis Sanchez, 28, with the Chilean set to leave following a row with his Gunners team-mates and Manager Arsene Wenger. (Daily Mirror)



Wenger was to drop Ozil

WENGER was also prepared to drop Mesut Ozil, 28, for Saturday's defeat by Liverpool, had the Germany midfielder not been missing through illness. (Daily Telegraph)



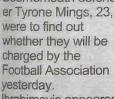
Arsenal agree Juventus boss deal

ARSENAL have agreed a deal in principle for Juventus boss Massimiliano Allegri to take over from Wenger next season, if the Frenchman decides to leave. (Daily Express)



Ibrahimovic, Mings to be charged

MANCHESTER United forward Zlatan Ibrahimovic, 35, and Bournemouth defender Tyrone Mings, 23, were to find out whether they will be charged by the



Ibrahimovic appeared to elbow Mings, and

Mings appeared to stamp on Ibrahimovic, at Old Trafford on Saturday. (Guardian)

Bonucci on target

CHELSEA and Manchester City target Leonardo Bonucci, 29. says he wants to see out his current contract at Juventus, which runs until 2021. (Daily Mail)



Pochettino wants to sign Zaha

TOTTENHAM boss Mauricio Pochettino is confident of signing Crystal Palace Winger Wilfried Zaha, 24, in a potential £30m move this summer. (Daily Mirror)

The second of the second

GOOD SHOW MATSAPHA UN

THAT'S the SwaziBank Cup for

It makes the seemingly impossible, possible. Now, Matsapha United will be scripted in our football history books as the team that stopped the seemingly invincible Mbabane Swallows, who had won 28 of their last outings in all

The ambitious National First Division side made history in front of a filled to capacity Somhlolo National Stadium, as their star-studded team stunned the team nicknamed as the 'Van Damme' of Swazi soccer. They were responsible for the wild celebrations at the stadium, and this reminded us of what the SwaziBank Cup really is. This is indeed a cup of historic moments. They only come once, and we will forever tell tales of what we witnessed.

Since they came through the scenes, Matsapha United have established themselves as a team hungry for success, and they have proved their worth, somehow, at least for now.

Armed with an experienced team, the striving 'Deep Blue Ocean' has proved their worth in local soccer or should we wonder if they really have proven themselves. It will be interesting to see how they progress in the competition. Congratulations to the



UNITED: Matsapha United players celebrating their first goal.

team. They beat the team of the moment and judging from their performance on the day, one would really expect them to go all the way in this competition. They did not only beat Swallows but the defending champions of the tournament

It was a great game, they wanted it more. Swallows also expected this happen at some point in time but I don't think they were expecting to lose in

this match. This is a game of football and anything is possible. One can also commend Swallows for accepting results on the day even though at some stage it looked like an ill-tempered match. To think that their goal was questionably disallowed, I think the reaction from the players was much matured. We now still have to see some team beat their record of winning 28 games in a row.

I must also say that maturity has settled in the team. Like true champions, they left the field with their heads high. This tells me they had accepted it was not their day. Meanwhile, more shocks in this round included Royal Leopard being booted out by Vovovo. The National First Division side has proven they are no pushovers, and that their win against Manzini Wanderers was

They were also all out to win this match and eventually grinded the desired result. Moneni Pirates also crashed out against Tambuti, who are led by seasoned Malawian mentor Alou Badara.

One would have expected Pirates to win this match but this being a game of football, it was not the case.

A youthful and inexperienced Manzini Wanderers side managed to also beat a star-studded Green Mamba and the victory gets the crowd pulling 'Weslians' three games away from the coveted Elmillion prize money for the champions, and an opportunity to end the dreadful decade long trophy drought. They, however, have to dig deep into their reserve of courage to go it all the way in this tournament.

Mbabane Highlanders managed to narrowly escape with a solitary goal against a determined Manzini Sea Birds.

The 'Black Bull' had to hold onto their 1-0 lead to eventually make it through to the next round of the tournament. We are now patiently waiting for the quarterfinals draw to see how the teams square up in this

It has now narrowed down to eight teams and may the best prepared team win. #YELELE

HIGHLANDERS FANS A CONFUSED I

TALK of identity crisis. Mbabane Highlanders fans' behaviour has inspired some few schoolgirl giggles and triggered many comments, some positive and some negative, among soccer fans.

One minute they are this and the next they are something else. One then wonders if Mbabane Highlanders fans know what they really want.

Bogging

It's really mind bogging how the fans reacted during the SwaziBank Cup games at Somhlolo National Stadium on Sunday. I know for sure I am not the only one, who noticed this Judas Iscariot behaviour.

To show that these fans are confused, they started booing Matsapha United players when they were going for the warmup and one would assume they did that because they are still angry some of their ex-players joined the 'Deep Blue Ocean'.

Fair and square, they booed Matsapha United and logic dic they should then support Swallows or rather not pick sides. Booing can be tricky, because it isn't always clear just who is being



GROW UP GUYS: Highlanders supporters celebrating their lone goal.

booed but on Sunday they booed Matsapha United players.

The booing continued when the players were going back to the dressing rooms.

The funny side is that it did not end there as they were again heard saying 'Puuu, puuu, puuu' during the course of the game.

They can be forgiven for that as they had won their game and it's theirs to mock other teams, if I may say. Things changed when Matsapha United scored the winning goal against Swallows. You would swear they would rip the stadium roof apart in celebration. It was as if they were cheering and celebrating a goal by their

This then made me draw the conclusion they are just a confused lot. This is when the identity crisis comes in. Seriously, we expect more from this big team and not this madness. It's high time they start being fans not hawlers or else they will confuse their own players and get relegated.

They once booed their own player in Sabella Mohammed but yesterday he was the messiah. All these goes to show how confused they are.

So De Jongh is new Sihlangu coach

MAY I take this opportunity to thank the FA for appointing a new Sihlangu coach and again welcome him to Swazi football.

The new Sihlangu coach Pieter De Jongh has a mountain to climb. The Dutchman comes through to the hot seat, amid the unceremonious exit of local messiah Harries 'Madze' Bulunga, who made history with the side, inheriting it at its worst ever FIFA ranking, 186 to its best 99th.

De Jongh must know he comes to the team where no one, but the few, who hired him are happy. We don't know anything about him at all. Just a few things we learnt when he was announced and his biography that popped up when we searched his name on Google. We still aren't happy with how the local lad was fired. I personally feel 'Madze' should still be in charge of the team. The national team will soon be taking part in two competitions and unfortunately the new coach doesn't know a thing about Swazi soccer as of yet. I know he will do his research but that can only take him somewhere. I am still scratching my head as to how he will be able to get the squad ready in time.

I mean firstly, he has to get used to our style of play, then the culture, yet the games are coming thick and fast. His first assignment will be the 2019 AFCON qualifiers where the national team will take on Niger, Egypt, and Tunisia. Thereafter, he is expected to lead the nation's pride in two other competitions namely the CHAN 2019 Qualifiers, and the 2017 COSAFA Cup. Honestly, I am not expecting much from him but a surprise will do.

Siyakwemukela mntfwana De Jongh.

best Mbabane Swallows the

BEFORE I leave you, may I take this opportunity to wish Mbabane Swallows the best of luck in their continental assignment.

We are hopeful the 'Beautiful Birds' will once again hoist the country's flag sky high. They are

experienced campaigners, who are not new to this kind of games.

They will be playing against Azani FC from Tanzania in the CAF Confederation Cup on Sunday night. They have already beaten Orapa United from Botswana in

this tournament and we trust they can replicate that dazzling form and represent the country well. Games

Despite losing their first match in 28 games, we hope they will regroup and do us proud.

Azani are a closed book to Swallows but we hope the 'Birds' will make it to the next stage of the tournament, something they have failed to achieve in the past.

Let us all support them as they are now representing the county; it's not about Swallows but the nation now. Good luck Mkhonto KaShaka.

SWALLOWS VOW TO MEND AHEAD OF AZAM CLASH

By Sabelo Majola

soccer – The country's envoys in the CAF Confederations Cup Mbabane Swallows are already over their startling crash out of the SwaziBank Cup tournament and have vowed to recuperate before they face-off with Tanzanian side Azam Football Club this weekend.

Swallows will leave the country either on Friday or Saturday headed for Tanzania to play Azam in the first round of the CAF Confederations Cup at Complex Stadium on Sunday night.

The match will commence at 8:30pm.

Mbabane Swallows CEO Sibusiso

Manana has implored their supporters
to rally behind the team ahead of the
foreign assignment.

Manana reminded the team's beloved supporters that they were a big club that had achieved greatly in the country and one loss to Matsapha United shouldn't overshadow what they had accomplished.

"We have the Castle Premier Challenge and Ingwenyama Cup under on our



REGROUPING: Mbabane Swallows CEO Sibusiso Manana.

belt; we are on the brink of clinching the MTN Premier League and we are currently playing in the CAF Confederations. All those things are not attained miraculously hence it goes to show how big a team Mbabane Swallows are. The focus has shifted to the task ahead and we would regroup in the quest to attain a positive away result." he said.

Manana said fans who wished to accompany the team to Tanzania should book flight tickets which costs around E6 500. Swallows' delegation will comprise of 30 members including players, officials and the head of delegation from the Football Association.

Swallows will then host Azam at Somhlolo National Stadium next weekend for the return leg.

Sundowns wallop Sea Birds in reserve league

By Sibusiso Dlamini

Manzini Sundowns(1)4 Manzini Sea Birds.....(0)0

SOCCER – MANZINI Sundown's Mlondi Mamba grabbed a brace as Manzini Sundowns claimed the bragging rights in emphatic style, beating neighbours Manzini Sea Birds 4–0 in a mini Hub derby encounter played at the Manzini Club on Sunday.

The game seemed to be dull in the first few minutes, with both sides seemingly holding back on attacking.

Manzini Sundowns were then forced to make a forced substitution in the 29th minute, introducing Mlondi Mamba for the injured Senzo Shongwe.

The towering goal poacher scored

PLS reserve League results

Swallows	1	Buffaloes	1
Red Lions	0	Highlanders	2
Wanderers	2	Moneni Pirates	2
Sea Birds	0	Sundowns	4
Green Mamba	0	Royal Leopard	1

with his first touch, a free header in the 18 yard area to break the dead-lock. The game went to half time with the 'Kappa boys' leading by the solitary goal. After the recess, Manzini Sea Birds tried to search for the equaliser as they showed more urgency, but they still failed to trouble the vacationing Lwethu Simelane between the poles. Instead, it was Manzini Sundowns, who scored after Mahlalela Muziwakhe capitalising from a lapse in concentration by the Sea Birds defence to beat

the keeper. At the stroke of the hour mark, Sundowns scored the third through speedy winger Thandokuhle Dlamini, who broke free from the error riddled Sea Birds defence before unleashing a low volley past Khulani Mamba.

Mlondi Mamba then grabbed his brace in stoppage time, finishing off after a good interplay of passing to finish off a great day for the 'Kappa Boys'.

The opening match which was an Under-17 game Sundowns narrowly edged Sea Birds 1-0.

Mandla Mahewu juniors league off to a good start

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCER - THE Mandla Mahewu Mbabane juniors football leagues grand opening held at Msunduza on Saturday had all the winning teams scoring three goals, including the defending champions SuperSport.

The event was graced by Mandla Mahewu Hhohho Regional Football Association (HRFA) Chairman Comfort Shongwe, Mandla Mahewu Sales and Marketing Manager Paula Marques, HRFA Secretary Nigel Shongwe and member Ntokozo Tsela. The champions, who were E800 richer for winning the league last season played against Dark City and won 3-0.

The full results

Mandla Mahewu under-15
PMT 3 SOS 0
Classic 0
Umbelebele 3
Dark City 0
SuperSport 3
All Africa under-13:

Cosmos 1 Ebuka Stars 2
Gunners 4 Junior Stars 0
Sunrise 0
Dynamos 1
All Africa Under-15:
Y Bombers 3 Umlilo 0
Sunrsie 3 Junior Stars 0
Gunners 0 R. Masters 1

Other results saw PMT triumphing over SOS with a 3-0 score line while the same score was the outcome in the clash between Umbelebele and Classic with the former claiming all three points.

The other games scheduled for the police and United sports ground were called off due to unplayable conditions caused by persistent rains.

Meanwhile, the All Out Africa Under-13 and 15 grand opening also started off on a high with HRFA Secretary Nigel Shongwe revealing that they would be paying more attention to the juniors as per the HRFA calendar.

All Out Africa defending champs Real Masters also emerged victorious over Gunners, winning 1-0.

AZAM GETS CONFIDENCE BOOST AHEAD OF BIRDS CLASH

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCER-MBABANE Swallows' CAF Confederations Cup opponents Azam Football Club is upbeat ahead of this the encounter after triumphing 2-0 over their league counterparts United Stand over the weekend.

This comes at the wake of dismay for Swallows, who were astonishingly knocked out of the SwaziBank Cup last 16 games at the hands of National First Division side Matsapha United, marking an end to a historic 28 games winning streak.

Following the victory over United Stand, Azam took to their official Facebook page to point it out that focus is now on the match against the 'Birds' side in the CAF tour-

nament

"The task of carrying three points against United Stand is completed ovenight; we now turn to our upcoming battles in the game of the first round of the African Confederation Cup against Mbabane Swallows. The match will be played at Azam Complex Stadium on Sunday night," reads part of the post.

Azam are currently third in the Tanzanian league known as the Ligi Kuu Bara and have lost four games thus far while Swallows are yet to drop a point in the MTN Premier League.

Having survived the preliminary stage of the CAF tournament for the first time, Swallows will be hoping for a fair away result before hosting the Tanzanian side at Somhlolo National Stadium where they haven't lost in five games of the competition over the years.

SWAZIBANK CUP UNDER-20 LAUNCH TOMORROW

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCER - THE fourth edition of the SwaziBank Cup Under-20 tournament will be officially launched tomorrow at the SwaziBank Auditorium in Mbabane.

This was revealed by SwaziBank PRO Phesheya Vilakati.

He said the event would commence at 11:30am and it would be graced by the bank's Managing Director Zakhele Lukhele, who would

speech and announce this year's sponsorship package. "A prize breakdown of the tournament is also expected to be

make his

announced during this occasion.

This will be the fourth edition of the tournament which was

incepted in 2014. Representatives

of all participating teams are

expected to attend the launch," he said.

Development powerhouse Young Buffaloes were crowned champions of the third edition of the Under-20 competition after triumphing 2-0 over

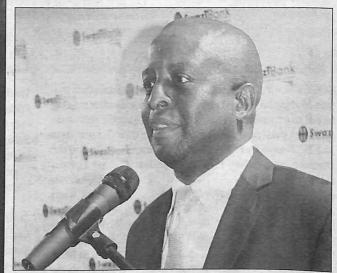
Correctional Services Green
Mamba junior side in the
finals last season. The
victory for

'A m a t h o l e
Ezinyathi' came
when they had
won back to back
Reserve League
crown and the
Under-17 league
which they all won
in the three-year old

y o u t h development programme.

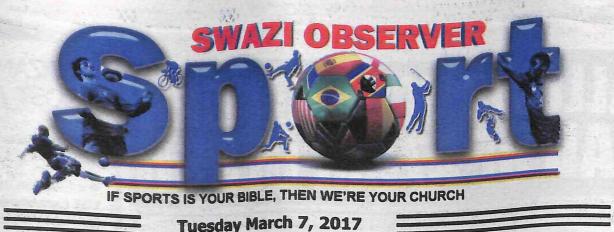
Bufft loes earned E30 000 in rewards for clinching the title while Green Mamba pocketed E15 000 as runners-up.

The Under-20 knockout will commence when the main tournaments' quarterfinals get underway.



IT'S TRUE: SwaziBank PRO Phesheya Vilakati.





DEJONGH DOE MEET FA REQUIREMEN

- He only had a questionable six-month stint with Rwanda FA as TD
- FA wanted 10 years national team experience
- Hungary FA said to have questioned his UEFA Diploma in 2014

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER - RECENTLY appointed Sihlangu head coach Pieter De Jongh doesn't meet the coaching experience requirement demanded by the National Football Association of Swaziland when advertising the post for the nation's pride hot seat.

In the advert, the national mother body stated that the candidate should possess 10 years'experience in national team football which De Jongh doesn't have since he only had a six months stint with the Rwandan Football Association where he was the Technical Director (TD).

However, he went on to beat the likes of Matsapha United coach Zimbabwe national team assistant coach Saul Chaminuka, Belgian Tom Santief, former Sihlangu coach Harries 'Madze' Bulunga and Anthony Mdluli, who had all applied for the job.

De Jongh became the sixth European mentor to lead the national team after the likes of the late Ted Dimitru, Van Wan Winkel, Raoul Savroy and Valere Billen, to name just a few.

Expected

De Jongh is expected to arrive in the country within the next week where he will meet the FA executive to finalise contractual terms and further discuss the appointment of the two assistants.

According to information sourced from Kenyan online newspapers, Jong allegedly submitted fake UEFA Diploma in 2014 which was questioned by the Hungary Football Association, earlier that year while he was still in charge of AFC Leopard.

He is expected to lead Sihlangu in three international competitions which the CHAN qualifiers, 2019 AFCON qualifiers and the 2017 COSAFA

There was no explanation from the FA when they were asked on the

NO EXPERIENCE:

Sihlangu head coach Pieter De Jongh.

MTN Premier League returns this weekend

Stories by Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER - THE MTN Premier | eague will finally return thi weekend following its four-veek absence due to international club competitions and domestic cup tournaments.

According to a fixture released by the Premier League of Swaziland Chief Operations Officer Pat Vilakati, the matches will be played both on Saturday and Sunday.

Saturday will see the battle for survival between struggling capital city giants Mbabane Highlanders, who will travel to Mayaluka Stadium to face their hoodoo side Tambuti FC.

A win for either of the two sides will ease their relegation worries as both teams are tied at 14 points and Tambuti will go into this match as favourites after knocking their opponents out of the Ingwenyama Cup last month.

The hub will come to a standstill on the same day when Manzini The fixtures:

Saturday at Mavuso Sports Centre Manzini Sundowns

vs Manzini Wanderers Saturday at Mayaluka Stadium Tambuti FC vs Mbabane Highlanders 3pm

Saturday at Somhlolo National Stadium Red Lions vs Royal Leopard 2pm Midas City vs Young Buffaloes 4pm Sunday at Somhlolo National Stadium Green Mamba vs Sea Birds 3:30pm

Sundowns host their sworn rivals Manzini Wanderers at the Mavuso Sports Centre where both teams will be out to consolidate their

positions in the top eight and further compete for bragging rights after settling for a 1-all stalemate during the corresponding fixture.

1:30pm

3:30pm

Full name: Hendrik Pieter de Jongh 8 December 1970 (age 47) Asperen, Netherlands [1] Place of birth Senior career

(GIs) NAC Breda Sparta Rotterdam

Teams managed

1990-1994 RKC Waalwijk (youth coach)

1994-1997 KNVB (youth 1997-1999 VRC

1999-2001 Heerjansdam 2001-2004 De Zuidvogels 2004-2006 RKSV Schijndel

2006-2007 Dordrecht (assistant manager)

2009-2010 AZ (assistant man-2010-2011 Dronten 2011-2012 Putten 2012-2013 Moldova Olympic 2013-2014 Budapest Honvéd (academy director) 2014-2015 A.F.C. Leopards

2015-2015 F.C. Cape Town

2016-Ulaanbaatar City F.C.

2008-2009 Woerden

2007-2008 Vitesse Delft

The advert

The National Football Association of Swaziland (NFAS) hereby invites

ving Full-time Position at the NFAS Secretariat: Head Coach of the Senior National Men's Football Team position of the NFAS (Full-time)

Qualifications and Skills:

- Graduate/Diploma in any professional field related to sports or teaching. - A minimum of a CAF 'A' Coaching License or better. If from abroad; a
- Experience in club and national team football; with at least 10 years
- experience in coaching national teams football;
- Have a developed coaching philosophy of elitism and industriousness;
- Pedagogical knowledge of management, planning and communication; High degree of interpersonal skills and ethical codes of behavior,
- including high levels of emotional intelligence; - Hard worker and disciplinarian.
- Football contextual knowledge; ability to identify, monitor and evaluate information about players and their social strata;
- International football knowledge, including international football

arty paupei

City Warriors

Sikhalo Se-Africa

SOCCER-PARTY paupers Matsapha United will be out to consolidate their top spot position in the MTN National First Division when they visit

relegation threatened Bad Boys at the Mavuso Sports Centre on Sunday. The bid spending outfit will be

hoping to maintain their promotion hopes after making headlines over the past weekend with their 2-1 win over Mbabane Swallows in the SwaziBank Cup. Former

Premier League side Malanti Chiefs will take on Sikhalo Se-Africa in their quest to make a return to the

elite league.

The fixture: Friday at Mavuso Sports Centre Vovovo **Hub Sundowns** 8pm Saturday at Prince of Wales Ground Amalanda VS Mbabane Citizens 3pm Sunday at Somhlolo National Stadium Madlenya Ludzeludze Brothers 1:30pm Sunday at Mavuso Sports Centre Matsapha United 3pm **Bad Boys** Sunday at Mayaluka Stadium

VS

Hlathikhulu Tycoons

Malanti Chiefs