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NAMBA-NAMBA COMMITTEE...



PERSONALISED: Minister of Transport and Public Works Lindiwe Dlamini with the board from (L-R) Erick Sibanda, Phumzile Masilela, Ncamsile Mthethwa and Hlobisile Ndlovu who is the chairperson. The minister warned the committee to be vigilant. (Pic: Lungelo Nkambule) **STORY ON PAGE 6**

TSC'S NKAMBULE WINS AGAIN AGAINST GOVT

>>Page 3

STANDARD BANK BRANCH CATCHES FIRE

>>Page 6

LOMAHASHA BORDER TO OPEN TILL MIDNIGHT

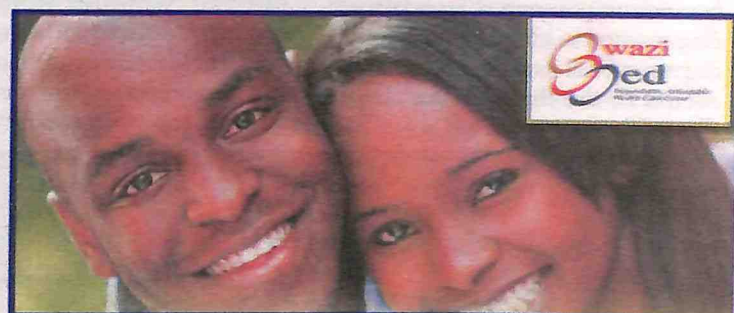
>>Page 6

DISASTER STRIKES FOR THE NDMA



STORY ON PAGE 3

...it has run short of food and clothes



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2 NATIONAL NEWS

PAC FURIOUS AT GOOD SHEPHERD SPONSORSHIP

● Hospital had no board of directors, but govt still gave it E360m

Stories by Mbono Mdluli
Lobamba

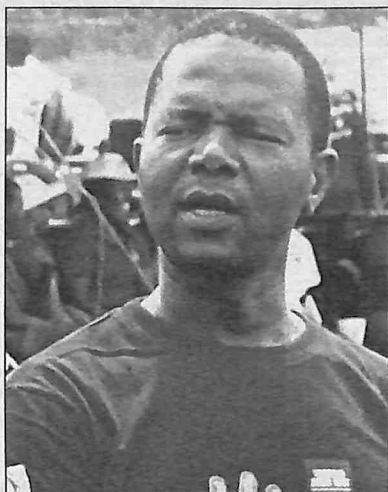
THE Public Accounts Committee (PAC) is hot under the collar because of the fact that Good Shepherd Hospital (GSH) was given money when it had no board.

The PAC yesterday fired on all cylinders when it learned that the Siteki-based hospital was given huge amounts of money when in fact it had no board of directors. Members of the PAC took turns in throwing a salvo on Ministry of Health Principal Secretary (PS) Dr. Simon Zwane and his officials from the ministry. Government asked for an amount of E360 million to transform its workers to become fully-fledged civil servants.

This happened after Zwane informed the PAC that GSH had no board of directors for the better part of last year. He told the committee that the last board of directors' term of office ended on July 31, 2016.

This happened until Wednesday when the board was appointed by Minister for Health Sibongile Ndlela-Simelane.

Zwane found himself divulging this information to the PAC after the members of this government financial watchdog wanted to know why this hospital did not submit its audited financial statements to the then Auditor General Phestecia Nxumalo.



FRIED: Ministry of Health Principal Secretary Dr Simon Zwane.

According to the 2016 report of the auditor general, GSH last submitted such statements in 2015.

The principal secretary wanted members of the GSH management to respond why they had not done so. However, he then informed the PAC that GSH had no board of directors for the better part of 2016.

This infuriated the members of the PAC, who did not understand how that happened. Nkhamba MP Menzi Dlamini said the act of giving money to the hospital was like leaving the money next to a road because no one was going to be accountable for that money. He said

it could never happen for a company to operate without a board of directors.

Manzini North MP Jan Sithole was of the view that a whip should be severely cracked on the person responsible for appointing the board of directors at GSH.

"In a parastatal, the minister responsible should see to it that a decision-making body is always functional. We spend a lot of money on the ministry of health because we care about health as a country.

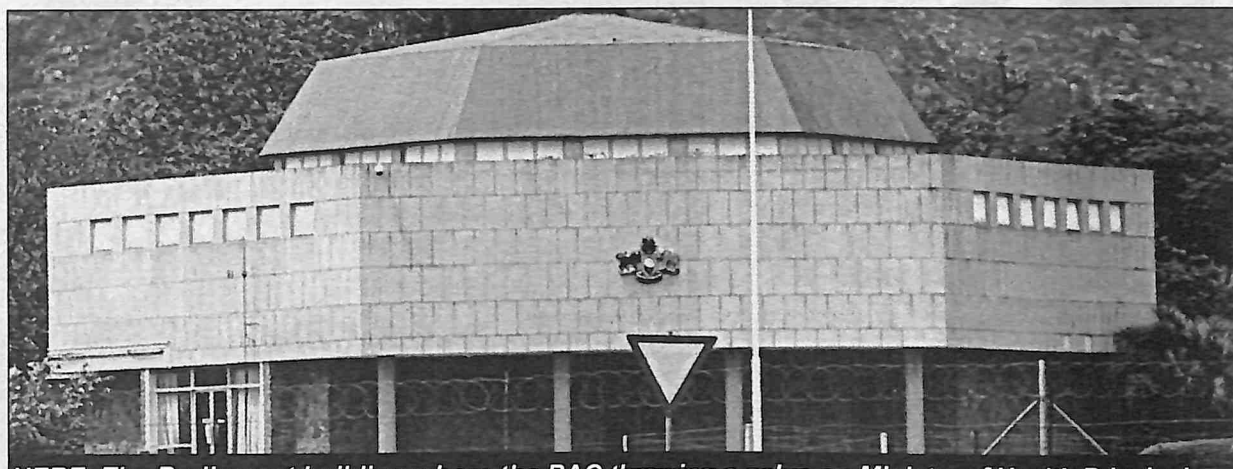
"We cannot then afford to have a situation where we spend money on an organisation without a board of directors," Sithole said.

Matsanjeni North MP Phila Buthelezi said he was very worried about what was happening at the hospital. He said the workers at the hospital were engaging in a strike action almost every month. Buthelezi said this was happening because workers were not paid on time.

The Matsanjeni North lawmaker said what was unfortunate was that GSH's charges were very high.

"It costs E60 to be attended by a professional health practitioner at GSH yet when they also do not have medicine at the hospital. Many private health institutions in Siteki are now absorbing clients from GSH," he said.

He also said others used the Siteki referral hospital because it charged less than GSH.



HERE: The Parliament building where the PAC throwing a salvo on Ministry of Health Principal Secretary (PS) Dr. Simon Zwane after he informed the former that Good Shepherd Hospital had no board of directors for the better part of last year. He told the committee that the last board of directors' term of office ended on July 31, 2016.

PAC wants answers on hospital's status

THE Public Accounts Committee (PAC) now wants to know what the status of Good Shepherd Hospital (GSH) is.

Such is the case because the workers at the hospital are said to be in a process of being in a transition of being fully-fledged civil servants. Nkwene MP Sikhumbuzo Dlamini urged Ministry of Health PS Dr. Simon Zwane to find out about the status of the hospital. The ministry is supposed to give the right answers on the status of the hospital when they appear again before the PAC next week Thursday.

"The ministry of health asked for E360 million for the process whereby they want to convert their workers to become fully-fledged government workers. I want to know what the status of the hos-

pital is, right now. Will the hospital remain a parastatal or will government take it under its wing to become a fully-fledged government hospital?" MP Sikhumbuzo submitted.

Status

PAC Chairperson Thuli Dladla urged PS Zwane to go with his officials to find out about the status of the hospital. She said the ministry should appear before them with the right answer before the PAC next week Thursday. Dladla advised the ministry to check the right instrument that was used to transform the workers to become fully-fledged civil servants.

Nkhamba MP Menzi Dlamini said the ministry, when appearing before the PAC next week Thursday, should be ready to state the person who received

the money which was given to the hospital when there was no board. He also wanted to know who had the authority to use that money when there was no board at the time it was given to the hospital.

Ministry of Health PS Dr. Simon Zwane promised to appear before the PAC with the right answers next week Thursday. He apologised to the PAC for a situation whereby the hospital had received money without a board of directors. He said they had done their part on the appointment of the board of directors, but government processes had been slow, resulting in the hospital having no board of directors for the better part of last year. This made the PS to run the hospital, which became a tall order for him.

Ministry to investigate E1m drugs

THE ministry of health has promised to investigate the matter involving a situation where a E1 million drug bust was made in Gauteng, South Africa last month.

This was said by Ministry of Health Principal Secretary (PS) Dr. Simon Zwane yesterday when his ministry appeared before the Public Accounts Committee (PAC). Zwane said this after the PAC asked him to clarify on the matter. The drugs are said to have expired at the time. They were caught by South African Police on transit from Swaziland.

Zwane said they heard about the matter from one of the local newspapers.

He said the writer of the article called them to find out if the drugs were taken from them as the ministry of health. He told the PAC that the expired drugs were not from the ministry of health because government had a way of destroying its drugs.

He suspected that the drugs were from the private sector.

The PS said he was aware that the

drugs were reported to have been stolen and it would be easy for people to assume they came from government because it was easy to steal drugs from government. He assured the committee that his ministry would investigate the matter and find its origin and its destination because such things were traceable.

Members of the PAC expressed their disappointment on the fact that the ministry had still not investigated such a case, which they found to be very critical. Matsanjeni North MP Phila Buthelezi said this matter was critical and he hoped the ministry would be telling them how they went about with their investigations in the matter and they would tell them about the outcomes of the investigations.

Manzini North MP Jan Sithole said such drugs were dangerous because they were often used to manufacture dangerous drugs such as nyaope.

He urged the ministry to make a follow up on the matter and find out about the origin and destination of the expired drugs.

STVA audit out July, Aug, Sept

THE audited financial statements for the Swaziland Television Authority (STVA) will be out from July to September.

This was said by STVA (commonly known as Swazi TV) Board of Directors' Chairperson Nozizwe Mulela. She said this yesterday when the ministry of information, communication and technology (ICT) appeared before the Public Accounts Committee (PAC). She said this after the PAC wanted to know why Swazi TV had failed to submit its audited financial statements for the 2015/16 financial year.

Mulela admitted that the 2016 report of the auditor general was true when it stated that Swazi TV had not submitted the financial statements. She said the audited financial statements for 2015/16 would be available by the end of July this year. She also promised that the audited financial statements for 2016/17 would be available in August or September this year. She apologised to the PAC for that anomaly and stated that there were reasons that made them as a station not to submit the financial statements.

She said at the time, they wanted to engage new auditors Mulela went

on to tell the PAC that they also had to do a special audit at that time because there was a public outcry about the operations of the TV station and the station was also going through a financial crisis. The special audit ended in September 2016.

At the time of the special audit, Chief Executive Officer Bongani 'Sgcokosiyancinca' Dlamini had been suspended together with the chief financial officer of the company. Mulela said the absence of those people made it difficult for the audits to be conducted.

Members of the PAC admitted that they understood the situation that was explained by Mulela. However appointed MP Jomo Dlamini wanted to know if the auditor general was consulted before Swazi TV took a decision not to submit the statements. He said such had to happen because the statements were statutory. Nkhamba MP Menzi Dlamini wanted to know who gave Swazi TV a go-ahead not to submit the reports. Mbabane West MP Johane Shongwe said there was a lot that was happening at Swazi TV. Many things were not done according to the law and some people deserved to be punished. Shongwe was certainly not happy with Mulela's explanation. He called for more investigations to be done to uproot the anomalies he said were happening at the station.

Mulela, when responding, said they did not consult the auditor general when they took the decision not to submit the financial statements. However, they consulted the Public Enterprise Unit (PEU) and the ministry of ICT about the decision and they were given a go-ahead. Mulela then stated that a report on the special audit was yet to be tabled before the House. It was going to give details on what really came out of the special audit. The PAC cautioned Swazi TV to live up to its promise.



AUDIT COMING: STVA Board of Directors Chairperson Nozizwe Mulela.

Slain taxi man's friends suspect something fishy

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

SLAIN taxi man Anthony Dlamini's friends are suspecting that what led to the late taxi man's death was not just an ordinary hijacking.

One of Dlamini's close friends said even though it is just suspicions, before

the taxi man was murdered the previous day he seemed uneasy after some people who were travelling in a VW Golf sedan who are alleged to have come from Nhlengano sought audience with the deceased.

The friend who preferred anonymity said Dlamini referred to the people as 'bosbali'.

Muzi* said he was aware that the

deceased owed a lot of people money but it was not like he owed these individuals huge sums of cash. He added that it was normal for taxi men to owe each other cash.

Dlamini's friend said what puzzled him even more was that the late taxi man's belongings which included cash and a cellphone were with him when his body was discovered.

He stated that this clearly showed that whoever was after his late friend was not after his money but was after his life. He further added that if the criminals were after Dlamini's vehicle they wouldn't have abandoned it.

Speculations amongst the late taxi man's friends is that the people who killed Dlamini may have

been South Africans who just came to the country with the intention of killing him and leaving the country.

Dlamini who was a taxi man was killed this past Sunday night by unknown people, he was found with two bullet wounds on his body. It is suspected that he was shot and his body was found dumped near Kae Kae.

*not his real name

DISASTER STRIKES FOR NDMA

COVER STORY

By Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane

DISASTER has struck for the National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) as it has run short of food and clothes.

This is the desperate situation for the NDMA and other stakeholders, including the Baphalali Swaziland Red Cross as well as other Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) that have a mandate to provide relief to those affected by disasters.

There is nothing left in their store-rooms.

As a result, the NDMA and NGOs are currently not distributing food to affected areas that are desperate for food as well as assistance for clothes.

The NDMA Chief Executive Officer Russell Dlamini revealed this sorry situation during a donation by the Nazarene Church in Mbabane at the church yesterday. The donation was made by Pastor Grace Masilela on behalf of the church.

Dlamini revealed that the only building material left in the store-room. In this regard, he was grateful to the Nazarene Church for the donation, which was mostly clothes.

It was then that Dlamini highlighted they the agency had run out of food and clothes in their store-room.

"It is within our mandate to provide relief to all affected families



Nazarene Church to the rescue

The National Disaster Management Agency (NDMA) received a donation in the form of clothes from the Church of the Nazarene under Pastor Grace Masilela in Mbabane yesterday.

The agency's Chief Executive Officer Russell Dlamini was overwhelmed by the gifts of kindness that were donated to the organisation, meant for the victims of drought and other emergencies. Dlamini further invited other churches, organisations and companies to copy what the Nazarene Church

has done.

"We also appreciate that some companies during the severe drought donated immensely to their respective communities," he said.

On the other hand, Pastor Grace of the Nazarene Church said clothes were a mixture of shoes, dresses and blouses.

"We appreciate the donation from the Nazarene Church and we further invite other organisations, companies, churches and the public to donate their unused clothes," he said.

He also mentioned that Swaziland is amongst the countries that were hard hit by the devastating effects of the El Nino and La Nina during the past seasons.

Emergency

On February 18, 2016 the government declared a national state of emergency due to the drought,

HELPING HAND: National Disaster Management Agency CEO Russell Dlamini receiving a donation of clothes from Nazarene Pastor Grace Masilela at the church yesterday. (Pic: Nozipho Sibiya)

Meanwhile, Pastor Masilela said they hoped the donation would go a long way in helping the agency in its heavy task.

"Even though the donation is small but we believe it will go a long way in helping the needy citizens of the country," she said.

Masilela said it did not have to be much but it should come from a willing heart. She therefore thanked NDMA CEO for fitting the donation in his busy schedule and further invited other churches and members of the public to donate their unused clothes to needy neighbours and other citizens of the country.

as El Nino impacts become more apparent.

Maize production fell by 31 per cent in 2015, and there was a lower harvest in the 2016 crop season, placing at least 300 000 people; a third of the population in dire need of assistance, specifically with for food and water.

Over E1 million goods seized at the border

By Samukelisiwe Ginindza
Mbabane

ABOUT E1 121 655 worth of contrabands were seized from entering the country in the past four months alone.

These goods are said to have been seized in the country's borders, where the culprits attempting to sneak them in were put to justice.

This matter was confirmed by Umbutfo Swaziland Defence Force (USDF) Acting Public Relations Officer Nkosinathi Dlamini, who added that most of these goods were confiscated at Lomahasha.

"We would just encourage the borderline users, to declare their goods at the border, because when we apprehend them and we find they are not declared, we seize them," Dlamini clarified.

He added that they hand the goods over to Swaziland Revenue Authority for taxations, after that they do not become part of the process.

"We work hard at ensuring that no goods enter the country without taxation and after that we strongly believe that Swaziland Revenue Authority then does what they know best," he explained.

Dlamini further added that another headache at the borderlines is the smuggling of dagga, where in the past four months about 1 126 kg of dagga was seized at the borders of the country.

"That dagga is worth E788 200 in street value and all that cannabis was handed over to the various police stations in the country, depending on the places the cannabis was apprehended," he mentioned. However, no arrests have been made since the beginning of the year, as all the people busted with either the contrabands or cannabis evaded arrest by fleeing the scene, leaving the goods behind.

"They are not the troop's main priority especially when compared to human, weapons and livestock smuggling but all those goods are handed over to the police for final deposition," he said.

TSC's Nkambule wins again against government

By Phesheya Kunene
Supreme Court

The Teaching Service Commission (TSC) Executive Secretary Mduzuzi Nkambule has scooped yet another win against the government after the appeal by the Anti-Corruption was dismissed.

Nkambule had won a case of allegedly breaching the Prevention of Corruption Act of 2006 after he placed his wife's name before the TSC as the only candidate to be considered for the post of head teacher of Manzini Practising Primary School.

Nkambule was freed by Judge Titus Mlangeni after revealing that he had no case to answer. He was acquitted and discharged something that evoked emotions from him, his wife and other family members whilst at the Mbabane Magistrate's

Court.

The appeal was heard before the Supreme Court by a full bench of Judges Benjamin Odoki, Phesheya Dlamini and John Cloete.

The case was heard on May 7 before the judgment was delivered yesterday.

"Petition for leave to Appeal Section 6 (1) of the Court of Appeal Act read with Rule 9 (1) of the Court of Appeal Rules, 1971, Petition for leave to appeal fatally flawed and dismissal thereof on that basis, no order of costs," reads the judgment.

Nkambule has been recalled at his work station after being put on ice for close to three years. He was charged by the Anti-Corruption in October 2013.

The judgment revealed the applicant was dissatisfied with the judgment issued out by Judge Mlangeni and thus made the decision to appeal

against it.

The judgment stated that the petition was not in accord with rule 9 (10 which provides that the petition shall state shortly the reasons upon which the application is based and where the facts are alleged they shall be verified by affidavit.

Reference

"Notwithstanding the reference to a Petition, the Crown's papers did not comply with rule 9. More significantly, the Petitioner did not comply with both form and contents of petitions under the law in general. The Crown's papers were more in line with an application as opposed to a petition," reads the judgment. It was also mentioned that the petitioner did not reply to the preliminary points and seek to address the legal points in any meaningful way in the heads of argument.

"To the contrary, as already stat-

ed, the Crown conceded to all the points from the Bar but implored the court to overlook them because, according to the Crown, they were purely technical. Furthermore, the Crown implored this court not to shut the door against its decision to appeal the judgment of the court a quo because of technicality and that it was in the interest of justice that it be allowed to appeal," continues the judgment.

The court also revealed that the Crown was warned of the defects through the answering affidavit of the respondent.

The Crown elected not to reply and take any corrective measures but simply left the matter at the hands of the court.

The court said the law was not followed when the application was made and it also had so many defects. This left Nkambule a winner once again after his initial charges were

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IN TERMS OF THE MANZINI TOWN PLANNING SCHEME OF 2013

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To Neighbourhood Service Centre, C-3 in order to develop the site as a butchery and an office.

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SWAZILAND not later than (date) 9 June 2017 that is 21 days from the date publication of the notice namely on 19 May 2017.



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Reporting: The incumbent shall report to the UNISWA Foundation Board of Trustees and the Vice Chancellor.

Responsibilities:

The incumbent shall assist the Board of Trustees in fulfilling the UNISWA Foundation's mandate enshrined in the Notarial Deed of Trust. Specific responsibilities shall include:

- Development and implementation of the UNISWA Foundation Business Strategic Plan.
- Raising funds to create a self-sustaining financial base of the University.
- Engaging the University's stakeholders and others into a strategic partnership to actualise the University's vision;
- Ensuring the economic buy-in of University stakeholders and other strategic partners.

Qualifications and Experience:

- 7 – 10 years' experience in Executive Management position with experience in serving at board level.
- Postgraduate degree in related field with an accredited University.
- Proven record of handling and managing multimillion programs.

Competency Profile and Attributes:

- The Board anticipates that the core competency for the incumbent will include, but not necessarily limited to, strategic planning and management, project management, and marketing skills;
- The incumbent will need to have a passion for education, be goal oriented, self-motivated, go-getter, pro-active and have proven ability to deliver;
- Analytical and well developed project writing skills;
- Appreciation of the value proposition offered to stakeholders and partners; and
- Sound interpersonal relations with good public speaking skills.

Remuneration and Benefits:

A competitive package will be offered to the right candidate.

Applications should include the following: (1) a detailed Curriculum Vitae, (2) certified copies of academic and/professional qualifications, (3) the names and email addresses of three referees, posted or sent in an envelope marked "confidential" and sent to:

The Board Secretary
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Private Bag 4
Kwaluseni, Swaziland

Closing date: **Thursday, 18th May 2017**

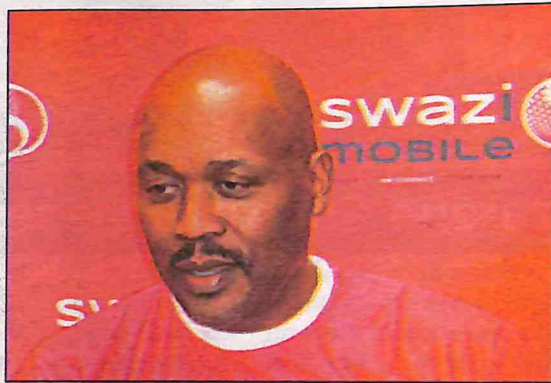
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4 PICTURES

ICT MINISTER TOURS SWAZI MOBILE OFFICES



TOUR: Minister of Information Communications and Technology (ICT) Dumisani Ndlangamandla with other senior officials from the ministry and members of media during the tour of Swazi Mobile premises.



INVESTMENT: Swazi Moble Chairman Victor Gamedze making his remarks during the minister's tour. (R) **EXCITED:** ICT Minister Dumsani Ndlangamandla speaking after touring Swazi Mobile's switching area where he was told that the first test call would be done next week.



OPPORTUNITY: Swazi Mobile staff members with Minister Dumisani Ndlangamandla.



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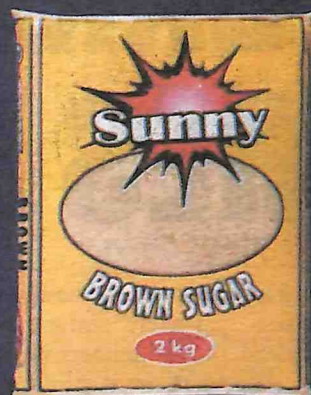
12⁹⁰



Sunny
Sunflower Oil
750ml

SAVE 4.41

16⁹⁹



Sunny Brown
Sugar 2kg

SAVE 5.40

24⁵⁰



Top Score Maize
Meal 2.5kg

SAVE 6.83

22⁶⁰



Bakers Pride
Cake Flour
2.5kg

SAVE 5.89

22⁵⁰



Sunny Thai
Rice 2kg

SAVE E5

16⁹⁰



Sunny Marie
Biscuits or Lemon
Creams 150g Each

SAVE 0.80

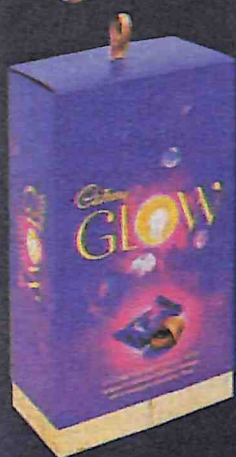
3⁴⁰



Cadbury Glow
Luxurious
Pralines 160g

SAVE 13.09

56⁹⁰



Cadbury Glow
Luxurious
Pralines 240g

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82⁵⁰



Parmalat Vanilla
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Custard Assorted
1 Litre Each

SAVE E10

19⁹⁰



Parmalat PureJoy
100% Fruit Juice
Blend Assorted
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SAVE E7

13⁹⁰



Dove Beauty Cream
Bar Assorted 100g
Each

SAVE 4.40

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SPOIL MOM WITH THESE SAVINGS



SAVE 15.50

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PnP Mother's Day
Bunch Per Bunch

SAVE 13.59

68⁹⁰



Easy Waves
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750ml Each

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36⁹⁹



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750ml

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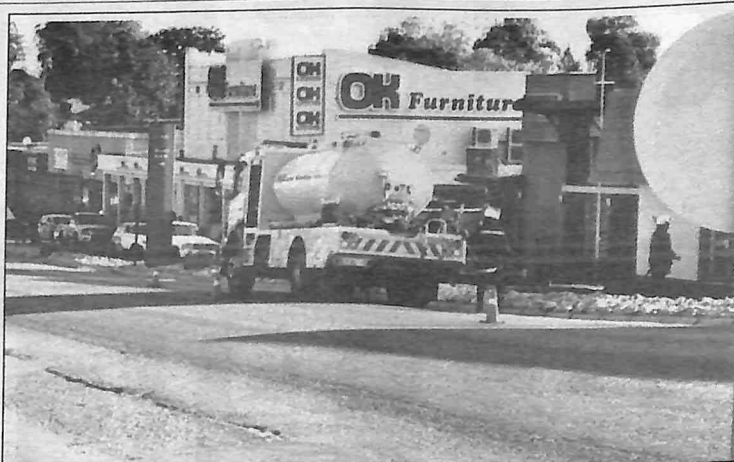
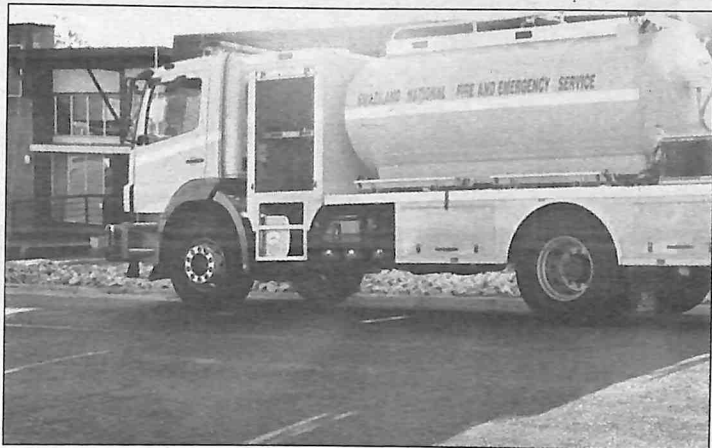
Manzini: The Hub Shopping Centre, Plot 2468, Shop A, Manzini Township. Tel: 00268 2505 3875
Mbabane: The Mall Shopping Centre, Portion 638, Farm 2, Mbabane. Tel: 00268 2404 0571/2
Riverstone Manzini: Shop G18, Riverstone Mall, Plot 1206, Nivane Street, Manzini. Tel: 00268 2405 45262

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Pick n Play

PRICES VALID 12 - 14 MAY 2017



Emergency services attending a fire at Standard Bank Pigg's Peak branch yesterday afternoon.

STANDARD BANK PIGG'S PEAK CATCHES FIRE

By Sizwe Dlamini
Pigg's Peak

THERE was panic and commotion when the Standard Bank Pigg's Peak branch caught fire yesterday afternoon.

Firefighters from the Pigg's Peak fire department worked overtime as they tried to put out the fire as smoke engulfed the bank and was visible from outside. Though it has

still not been established what triggered the fire, some reports suggested that it was a result of an electric fault.

A source close to the matter said a fire alarm was triggered from inside the bank at 3:30pm.

"The fire alarm inside the building went off and there was panic as the staff ran helter-skelter. This was followed by firefighters from the Pigg's Peak fire department along with an ambulance rushing

to the scene amidst much pandemonium," said an eyewitness. Bank staff members were seen exiting the bank as the firefighters entered the building.

"Though I cannot say what triggered the fire but the fact that the alarm was triggered could point out that something might have been going on inside the bank.

"This was the second time such an incident occurred at the bank and it is safe to say the fire depart-

ment was very prompt in their response," added the source.

When interviewed, a firefighter on the scene said he could not divulge any details but a small fire was detected and extinguished very quickly.

"We did have a report of a fire incident but we managed to deal with it promptly enough that not much damage was caused," said the firefighter.

Lomahasha border to open till midnight

By Lungelo Nkambule
Mbabane

GOVERNMENT, through the ministry of home affairs, will today launch the extension of operation hours of the Lomahasha Border Gate.

In what will come as good news to travellers, the ministries of home affairs in both countries have reached an agreement to have the border operate longer hours. The border which operated for 13 hours a day will now operate for 17 hours.

Ministry of Home Affairs Principal Secretary Anthony Masilela confirmed this development but stated that most details would be revealed during the launch today.

Extension

"It is true that there will be an extension of hours at Lomahasha following fruitful talks with the Mozambican side," he said. Masilela said they were excited that it had come to this but refused to divulge any more information.

Information gathered from a highly placed source is that the border that operated from 7am to 8pm daily would now close down at 12 midnight. The launch of the extension will take place today at the Lomahasha border gate where ministers of home affairs from both countries will be present.



PROMOTED: Popular police officer Isaac 'Kaire' Lukhele who was recently promoted from the rank of constable sergeant after 27 years in the service. 'Kaire' is the President of the Police Staff Association. (Courtesy Pic)

TEMPERATURES DROP FOR THE WEEKEND

By Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane

TEMPERATURES are expected to drop this weekend due to a cold drizzle to be experienced in some parts of the country.

This will then see the country experiencing a cold weekend especially on today.

According to the Swazi Met, the Highveld will have maximum temperatures of 7/14 Degrees Celsius while the Lowveld will have maximum temperatures of 9/25 Degrees Celsius. Today, expect morning fog at places, otherwise partly cloudy becoming cloudy and mild but cold in the Highveld with isolated rain showers.

Today					
Mbabane	Mankayane	Manzini	Siteki	Mhlume	Big Bend
9/16	10/17	11/21	11/20	12/23	13/24
Tomorrow					
Morning there will occasional light rain and fog, otherwise partly with sunny intervals and mild but cold in the Highveld.					
Mbabane	Mankayane	Manzini	Siteki	Mhlume	Big Bend
7/14	8/15	7/22	9/18	10/21	11/24
Sunday					
Morning fog at places, otherwise cloudy with sunny intervals and mild becoming warm mainly in the Highveld.					
Mbabane	Mankayane	Manzini	Siteki	Mhlume	Big Bend
5/17	6/18	7/22	7/21	8/24	9/25

530 women take part in EBC workshop

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlangano

TO make sure that the forthcoming national elections have a fair representation including the election of more women into Parliament, the Elections and Boundaries Commission (EBC) has decided to engage members of Imbali and Lutsango from around the Kingdom in a workshop.

This will help in educating the regiments on the importance of electing more women in next year's elections and also help in motivating the different communities about the campaign.

From the Shiselweni region, at least 530 people who are members of these regiments are taking part in the workshop. The two-day workshop was announced during a meeting for chiefs from the Shiselweni region held at Vocational Rehabilitation Centre from yesterday, ending today.

It was explained to the chiefs that the country's authorities found it necessary to act on the issue of having fair representation in Parliament and therefore decided that there should be educators in communities ahead of the next elections next year.

Prince Bukhosi, who is Director of Culture, and Imbali Overseer Sijabuliso Ndzinisa met with the chiefs and other community leaders of the region to deliver the message from the country's authorities. The message is that the country's authorities want to see more females being part of the elections process. "Their Majesties have seen it wise that something is done to address this issue of more women being represented in parliament.

It is this reason that they have assigned us to alert the chiefs that they should select those that will be equipped with the necessary knowledge to go out there and educate the communities on the importance of the elections and also to help in motivating more-women not to take back seats but to be fully involved," said Prince Bukhosi.

He said by having educators deployed in the communities to focus on motivating females to be part of the elections process, should not sound like this was meant to discourage voters voting for males. He said the educators would be deployed to make it a point that females were encouraged to take part in the elections and also to vote for one another. "That the representation is not a good one it is possible that maybe there is something lacking in teaching them (females) about the process itself. The figure should be an acceptable one even in the eyes of the international community.

It should be clear, we are not advocating for men to be left out but we want to see women feeling empowered," said the Prince.

HLOBI-LED COMMITTEE WARNED TO BE VIGILANT

Stories by Lungelo Nkambule
Mbabane

THE committee of personalised number plates which was presented to the public yesterday has been mandated to guard against number plates that may have political connotations.

Speaking yesterday when presenting them to the public, Minister of Public Works and Transport Lindiwe Dlamini said the committee was put

in place to preside over applications for personalised number plates. She said this included the screening, evaluating and approving of the applications.

Needs

"The committee needs to screen the request to see that they are in line with cultural norms of the country, no derogative language or insults are used and make sure that there are no names of political connotations," she said. Dlamini said the committee needed to make sure that there were

no cars that were registered using names of banned entities. "We all know that there are entities that are banned and therefore they must not be seen as registration on cars.

The committee therefore has a mandate to guard against anything that is not in line with who we are as Swazis," she said. Dlamini explained that the committee was assigned its functions by the Road Traffic Regulations (Amendment) of 2009. "The committee must acquaint itself with the Road Traffic Regulations



WARNS: Chairperson of the board Hlobile Ndlovu addressing the media yesterday after she was named chairperson of the personalised number plates committee.

(Amendment), 2009 because that is where its functions are clearly outlined," she said.

She added that she had faith in the committee as the members had vast experience in their different lines of work. "The committee members are well experienced and we have faith in their capabilities," she said.

She said she was confident in the leadership of former minister Hlobile Ndlovu who is chair of the committee as she had seen her orchestrate her great leadership when they were in Cabinet together. "I have seen Ndlovu work and I know for sure that she will see to it that the committee performs to the best of its capability.



POSE: Minister of Transport and Public Works Lindiwe Dlamini posing with the committee from (L-R) Erick Sibanda, Phumzile Masilela, Ncamsile Mthethwa and Hlobile Ndlovu who is the chairperson.

Media a key stakeholder - Hlobi

FORMER Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Hlobile Ndlovu believes her committee will only thrive if they are in good terms with the media.

Speaking yesterday after the Minister of Public Works and Transport Lindiwe Dlamini presented the personalised number plate committee, which Ndlovu is leading, the former minister said the media was very pivotal in their line of work as they would be using it to communicate with the public.

"The media is a major stakeholder and we will be using them throughout our term," said the student of journalism. She said because they needed to communicate with the public often they needed to be on good terms with the media and she hoped that their relation-

ship would remain a good one in the three years they are in office.

Ndlovu will be chairing a four man committee, which is made of Erick Sibanda a lecturer at the University of Swaziland, Ncamsile Mthethwa an employee at the Ministry of Transport and Public Works and Phumzile Masilela who works at the Master of the High Court.

Ndlovu is currently a student at the University of Swaziland where she is pursuing a degree in journalism.

The committee:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| ● Hlobile Ndlovu | Chairman |
| ● Ncamsile Mthethwa | Secretary |
| ● Erick Sibanda | |
| ● Phumzile Masilela | |

MISSING LION REMAINS ELUSIVE

By Nozipho Sibibi
Mbabane

THE Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA) still has no leads on the remaining lion that went missing earlier this week.

According to information sourced from Times Live, MTPA Spokesperson Kholofelo Nkabinde said rangers were still searching for the predator.

"At this stage it's still unknown. It might be that it's

gone into hiding or returned to the park. We will continue to update the public on the progress. We urge the public to assist in informing us, in case it gets spotted," she added.

Escaped

The lion is one of five which were reported to have escaped from the Kruger National Park on Monday. The other four were recaptured on Tuesday afternoon after being spotted near the N4 in the Mananga area.

Rumours circulated on social

media that the lions had been spotted in town and had attacked someone, but authorities confirmed that no one had been injured and that the animals had stayed away from densely populated areas.

The lions were spotted by community members near the border post later that night, but they continued to elude the search party.

It is suspected that the animals split up and made their way into sugar-cane farms. Thick morning fog also complicated the search operation.



Vacancies

Swaziland Stock Exchange

The Swaziland Stock Exchange (SSX) was formally established in 1990 to be pivotal to Swaziland's financial system, and in particular capital markets, as an avenue on which government, quasi-government and the private sector can raise debt and equity capital.

Currently the SSX operates under the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA). Its main mandate is to operate and regulate the equities and fixed income securities market. Furthermore, the SSX plays host to the most pre-eminent companies which represent a spectrum of industries and commerce, from Banking and Financial Services to Wholesaling and Retailing, Tourism and Property doing business in Swaziland.

1. ATS and CSD Officer

Job Purpose

Reporting directly to the Manager Swaziland Stock Exchange, the purpose of the position is to plan, organize and manage the settlement and clearing of trade transactions emanating from the SSX, including the timely settlement and clearing of trade transactions, trade validation and control as well as monitoring trade affirmation and or confirmation.

Summary of responsibilities

- Ensures compliance with the Swaziland Central Securities Depository Limited Rules by participants to protect the interest of the investors and the integrity of both the Swaziland Central Securities Depository Limited and the Exchange.
- Ensures the effective and efficient administration of a clearance and settlement system.
- Supervises and monitors post trading activities as well as log book maintenance.
- Manages both dematerialisation and rematerialisation of securities.
- Uploads securities into the system in respect of Initial Public Offerings (IPOs) and further issues.
- Generates entitlement schedules to facilitate Corporate Actions.
- Assists in the marketing of Automated Trading System (ATS) and Central Securities Depository (CSD) and value adding facilities available in the ATS and CSD system (e.g. pledging, freezing, etc. of securities).
- Ensures the preparation and submission of reports on trading data and dematerialization of companies' client holdings.
- Manages new issues (IPOs), subsequent issues and corporate actions in the ATS and CSD System in respect of institutions and/or products of which the Swaziland Central Securities Depository Limited has been appointed transfer secretaries.
- Ensures that participants comply with the Swaziland Central Securities Depository Limited rules, (e.g. liquidity and exposure rules).
- Negotiates favourable interest rates from the Settlement Bank on behalf of participants.
- Provides input for the development of the Strategy of the SSX and the Swaziland Central Securities Depository Limited.
- Undertakes other such duties as directed by the Manager SSX.

Qualifications, Experience and Competencies required

- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Finance, Economics or related area.
- Master's Degree in Finance, Accounting, Economics or related area and/or professional qualification such as CFA or equivalent) can be an added advantage.
- 0-1 year of work experience in the financial sector in an Exchange, Bank, or Broking Company preferably in dealing with settlements related issues or areas.
- Must be an analytical, innovative, decisive and assertive strategic thinker.
- Should possess excellent advocacy and negotiation skills.
- Must be a quality oriented person with a strong business acumen.

2. Monitoring and Surveillance Officer

Job Purpose

Reporting directly to the Manager Swaziland Stock Exchange, the position assists in coordinating and implementing processes and procedures for new listings and flotation, ensuring compliance with the listing rules of the Exchange and the delivery of cost effective and efficient service to members and other stakeholders.

Summary of responsibilities

- Assists in the review of listings and trading rules as directed by the Manager SSX.
- Assists in the monitoring of post listing activities to ensure compliance with the rules of the exchange as directed by the Manager SSX.
- Assists in the evaluation of listing applications for consideration by the Listings and Trading Executive Committee.
- Ensures the inclusion of new listings onto the Exchange's database as directed by the Manager SSX.
- Ensures efficient and effective administration of daily trading activities as directed by the Manager SSX.
- Assists with monitoring trading activities to identify potential breaches of SSX Rules and instances of non-compliance
- Assists in carrying out detailed investigations into suspected malpractices and makes recommendations related to breaches of rules and non-compliance.
- Contributes to the timely publication and dissemination of market information including the updating of SSX's website and resolves queries relating to information.
- Undertakes other such duties as directed by the Manager SSX.

Qualifications, Experience and Competencies required

- Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, Finance, Economics or related area.
- Master's Degree in Finance, Accounting, Economics or related area and/or professional qualification such as CFA or equivalent) can be an added advantage.
- 0-1 year of work experience in the financial sector in an Exchange, Bank or Stock Broking Company.
- Must be an analytical, innovative, decisive and assertive strategic thinker.
- Should possess exceptional research, presentation, advocacy, communication, negotiation, planning, organizing and information management skills.
- Must be a quality oriented person with a strong business acumen.

Closing date for applications is **Tuesday, 16 May 2017**. No late applications will be accepted. Should you not receive further correspondence within one month of the closing date, please consider your application unsuccessful.

Emailed applications are to be submitted together with a complete Curriculum Vitae and copies of certified academic certificates to:

The Human Resources and Corporate Services Manager
Financial Services Regulatory Authority
5th Floor, Ingcamu Building
Mhlambanyatsi Road, Mbabane
Email: recruitment@fsra.co.sz

POSE: Local retailers under the Puma Energy brand posing with Swazi Lubricants Director Dan Simelane and his team during the launch of lubricants new products which will be distributed locally. The launch was held at S&B Restaurant on Wednesday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

PUMA ENERGY LUBRICANTS



ADDRESS: Senior Energy Officer at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy, Peterson Dlamini speaking on behalf of the ministry.

Condolences



REST IN PEACE Dr Nick Gumede Your dedication to the Veterinary Profession Your gentle and kind spirit will forever be in our hearts. Our heartfelt condolences to the Gumede Family and friends.



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NOTICE TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS

Let's Serve You Better

We will serve you better if we know you.

- 1.0 In order to establish a proper customer database, and to comply with our credit policy, The Swazi Observer is updating all existing and future customer information. You are hereby requested to supply the requisite information on the appropriate form.
- 2.0 Our Sales Representatives will be in contact with all our customers and will distribute the requisite form as stated above, with regard to this exercise.
- 3.0 Should you require further information and/or clarification do not hesitate to contact the following:-
 - Ms. S Mkhonta (Marketing Manager) 76052296
 - Mr. B Mvubu (Marketing Officer) 76074326
- 4.0 This information is requested to be submitted by not later than **31 May 2017**.
- 5.0 Your co-operation in this matter will be highly appreciated.

BY MANAGEMENT

* All customers that will remain non-compliant by 31 May 2017, risk their accounts being suspended.

Swazi
OBSERVER

OBSERVER
ON SATURDAY

OBSERVER

PRODUCTS LAUNCH



DONE DEAL: Swazi Lubricants Director Dan Simelane and Ernest Roux Lubricants Commercial Manager Africa concluding the deal while Puma Energy Swaziland MD Hloniphile Dlamini endorses.



Lubricants Technical Advisor Africa Calvin Ranjit explaining to the retailers.



ALL EARS: Retailers under the Puma brand following the presentations made by the Puma team.



MY TURN: Ernest Roux addressing the retailers.

VACANCIES

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates (BUILDING, CIVIL AND EARTHWORKS) for the following vacancies:

1. QUANTITY SURVEYORS (SENIOR & JUNIOR)

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

- Diploma/Degree in Quantity Surveying
- Demonstrate experience in an Engineering role in a highly pressurised environment requiring tact, judgment and discretion in handling a construction project.
- Cost Control/Billings/Collections/Change Management/Monthly Status Reports
- Complete understanding of cost estimating, budgeting and forecasting
- CCS literate.
- Commercially astute/sound knowledge of contracts

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES AND COMPETENCIES

- Management of all project team members
- 100% Detailed/hands-on knowledge of Project Scope
- Solid & capable of understanding of construction processes and systems
- Key point of contact with Owner and Architect
- Challenge & support jobsite and Self Performed Work team
- Accountable for project completion and financials, Critical Success Factors, Customer Satisfaction Results
- Dedicated results-oriented and client focused individual with extensive knowledge in all aspects of Civil Engineering.
- Effective verbal and listening skills and very strong decision making skills.
- Must be fluent in English.
- Honest, trustworthy, respectful and flexible.
- Able to deal with clients in a positive, courteous and respectful manner.
- Project and employee management skills are essential.
- Able to work as a team member/team environment.

2. SITE ENGINEERS (SITE ENGINEERS & YOUNG ENGINEERS)

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- Diploma/Degree in Civil Engineering.
- Computer Literate.
- Certificate in HIRA (Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment) would be advantageous.
- Minimum five (5) years' experience in Site Management.
- Minimum of two (2) years' experience for Young Engineers

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES AND COMPETENCIES

- CCS Literate.
- Dedicated results-oriented and client focused individual with extensive knowledge in all aspects of Site Management.
- Excellent leadership and Management skills.
- Effective verbal and listening skills and very strong decision making skills.
- Must be fluent in English.
- Honest, trustworthy, respectful and flexible.
- Project and employee management skills are essential.
- Able to deal with clients in a positive, courteous and respectful manner.
- Able to work as a team member/team environment.

3. FOREMAN (BOTH BUILDING & CONCRETE)

QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

- Diploma/Degree in Civil Engineering.
- Demonstrate experience in an Engineering role in a highly pressurised environment requiring tact, judgment and discretion in handling a construction project.
- Computer literate.
- Valid Driver's licence

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES AND COMPETENCIES

- Dedicated results-oriented and client focused individual with extensive knowledge in all aspects of Civil Engineering.
- Effective verbal and listening skills and very strong decision making skills.
- Must be fluent in English.
- Honest, trustworthy, respectful and flexible.
- Able to deal with clients in a positive, courteous and respectful manner.
- Project and employee management skills are essential.
- Able to work as a team member/team environment.

4. SAFETY OFFICERS

- Degree in Occupational Health and Safety and/or equivalent
- In-depth knowledge of Stefanutti Stocks SHEQ System
- Knowledge of ISO standards (9001, 14001, OHSAS 18001)

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES & COMPETENCIES

- Excellent communication skills

- Trustworthy
- Ensure compliance with all safety requirements
- Supervisory skills

5. MOBILE AND TOWER CRANE OPERATORS

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- JC Certificate (O'level would be an advantage).
- Mobile or Tower Crane Operator.
- Valid Competency Certificate.
- Heavy Equipment Operators Certificate.
- Minimum six (6) years of experience as Mobile and/or Tower Crane Operator.

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES AND COMPETENCIES

- Dedicated results-oriented and client focused individual with extensive knowledge operating heavy equipment in a safe and effective manner to minimize the risk of injury, property damage and/or loss.
- Perform routine checks on equipment prior to use.
- Effective verbal and listening skills and very strong decision making skills.
- Must be fluent in English.
- Honest, trustworthy, respectful and flexible.

Applications

Written applications should together with a Comprehensive Curriculum Vitae, proof of academic qualifications and relevant recent references should be hand-delivered or addressed to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
Stefanutti Stocks Swaziland (Pty) Ltd
P.O. Box 1181
Mbabane.

Stefanutti Stocks Construction Swaziland (Pty) Ltd offers highly competitive packages. First preference will be given to Swazi Citizens.

Deadline for submission of applications, 19 May 2017.
If you have not received any feedback within two (2) weeks of closing, please consider your application unsuccessful.



E4 BILLION THEMBA DAM READY TO BE CONSTRUCTED

Stories by Mbono Mdluli
Lobamba

THE dam to be earmarked for Nkwene in the Shiselweni region is finally ready to be constructed.

This was said by Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy Principal Secretary (PS) Winnie

Stewart in front of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) on Wednesday.

The dam will cost the taxpayer about E4 billion to be constructed. The dam, which is currently known as Themba Dam, was still under a feasibility study, which is said to have taken nine years to be complete.

However, a resettlement process might soon take place to remove people who have con-

structed their homes where the dam is supposed to be constructed. The ministry is supposed to engage with other ministries to see how this process can be implemented.

Nkwene MP Sikhumbuzo Dlamini wanted to know when the construction of the dam would begin. He said he was worried by reports that were doing rounds when His Majesty King Mswati III was in India. Dlamini said he was informed that the Indians would help Swaziland construct a dam at Mpakeni, under Hosea constituency.

"The voters at Nkwene are now asking me to shed some light on the issue because they are now wor-

ried that the dam might not be constructed at Nkwene," MP Sikhumbuzo said.

PS Stewart responded by saying the feasibility study had been concluded. It was now up to the government to fund the project, if funds are available.

MP Sikhumbuzo urged the ministry to speed up the process of securing funds for the project to be implemented.

He said if government delayed doing so, the project would no longer cost E4 billion, but it would end up costing about E9 to E10 billion.

PAC Chairperson Thuli Dladla expressed her disappointment in the fact that it took almost a decade to



SHEDDING SOME LIGHT:
Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy Principal Secretary Winnie Stewart.

complete a feasibility study on the dam.

She was of the view that the dam would not cost government E4 billion to construct if the feasibility study was efficiently conducted.



MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF MANZINI

CLARIFICATION ON INACCURATE ARTICLE PUBLISHED BY THE OBSERVER ON SATURDAY

The Municipal Council of Manzini would like to give clarity in relation to an article published by the Observer on Saturday on the 6th May 2017 under the heading "Manzini Municipal Council pays consultant in offshore account".

• BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In an endeavour to improve its competitiveness and sustainability in the delivery of high quality municipal services as well as empower its employees, Council has embarked on an organisational transformation process. The exercise forms part of the current 5-Year Strategic Plan which, amongst others, seeks to ensure that Manzini ratepayers get value for the funds that they pay in rates and that everybody else who either lives, visit or carry out business in the City of Manzini does so in the most conducive environment. The change process is informed by a knowledge-based strategy, Turn-Around Strategy and a clearly defined roadmap. The Turn-Around Strategy speaks to a number of pertinent issues; including departmentalization, functions, business processes & procedures in relation to the delivery of services, minimum service standards, change management & training as well as human capital development. This being an exercise that requires specialised skill, Council took a decision to engage a professional consultant to carry it out and, subsequent to the organisation's procurement processes, Uriel Consulting was identified as the most befitting service provider for the job. Suffices to mention that the Turnaround Strategy and implementation roadmap were shared with the relevant stakeholders, including employees.

- From the outset, we wish to allay fears that may have arisen as a result of an insinuation by the article to the effect that there is something untoward with regard to payments made to the consultant. The payment method formed part of a legitimate contract which itself was signed after extensive consultations with relevant stakeholders; the purpose being to ensure that it was clear of any possible illegality. Council would further like to assure her stakeholders that all taxes due to the National Government were deducted before the release of payments so as to minimise exposure to the risk of tax invasion. Had the reporter who wrote the article contacted Council for a comment before publishing the article, he would have gathered these facts. Council further wishes to assure stakeholders that, notwithstanding the currency used, all payments made to the consultant have been within the agreed amounts as stated in the contract.
- Council notes with utter disappointment the journalistic quality of the article in question; in particular the fact that it lacks balance in the sense that it carries no comment from the organisation on the said allegations. Furthermore, it is worth-mentioning that Council management has been fully involved in the entire process hence it is unimaginable that they would attempt to sabotage it by feeding the media with non-factual information. As a result thereof, Council doubts that the reporter got the information from "management sources" as purported by the article.
- We wish to emphasise that the Municipal Council of Manzini is a professional organisation which cares for its employees. There is, therefore, no way that the organisation would engage in this exercise in bad faith.
- Council has no doubt that stakeholders do desire to experience a new Municipal Council of Manzini; one that delivers the highest quality of municipal service through a dedicated and professional workforce. The Turnaround Strategy is aimed at achieving that end product. Council makes an undertaking that she will update stakeholders about progress relating to implementation of the Turnaround Strategy as and when necessary.

ACTING TOWN CLERK
M. D. DLAMINI

website: www.mzcitycouncil.sz



manzini news

'Dead' ex-employee resurfaces on Facebook

THE ministry of natural resources and energy amused PAC when they related that their former employee resurfaced on Facebook, after he was believed to have died.

This also transpired yesterday when the ministry of natural resources and energy appeared before the PAC. Mduduzi Zulu is currently on interpol's wanted list for money he is said to be owing government. PS Winnie Stewart

said Zulu owed E4 000 which was undeservedly paid to him. This happened in 2008.

He acquired the debt while he was working on probation at the ministry of natural resources and energy. Zulu, who is said to be plying his trade as a consultant in Pretoria, South Africa, was undeservedly paid while he was still on probation at the ministry.

Zulu is said to have developed a habit of frequently

absconding from work because he had fallen in an intimate relationship with liquor.

Sometimes he would report to work under a questionable state of sobriety. He would also spend a huge number of days away from work and only resurface on the days leading to pay day. He then vanished and it was believed he had died, only to be seen updating his Facebook statuses last year.

'Bomagawulane' welcome formation of union

By Samukelisiwe Ginindza
Mbabane

SUGARCANE employees have welcomed the introduction of unions with the hope of improving working conditions for their industry as well as ensuring that their voices are heard.

This follows a report conducted by the International Trade Union Congress (ITUC) last year, where such workers were found to be working under extreme harsh conditions.

Swaziland Agricultural and Plantations Workers Union (SAPAWU) is said to have made a positive impact to the workers, in a farm with 70 employees, 50 have been signed as members.

This number was confirmed by SAPAWU Secretary General Mancoba Dlamini, who added that they were looking to sign in more members.

"Workers have realised how much they benefit from join-



BOMAGAWULANE: Sugarcane cutters working hard.

ing unions as their voices are heard, they can either work in the sugar fields or offices, as they are affected in the same way," Dlamini said.

He added that most of the workers were adamant about joining unions especially because their managers threatened and victimised them.

"We are organising a countrywide programme, where we will be going around the sugarcane growers, recruiting more members and listening to their concerns, even if the managers are not of the idea of unions, which we are used to, we will

make sure that these workers' voices are heard," he said.

He mentioned however that another setback for the union was the fact that some of the workers were employed on contracts and their jobs were seasonal, some never returned after they were sent home.

"We will be ensuring that safety and payment is up to standard within these farms and by safety I mean the proper clothing and up to date conditions of employment, since some work without contracts, we are all about workers welfare," he added.

MKHULU (73) BURNS TO DEATH IN HIS HOUSE

By Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane

A 73-year-old man burnt to death after the house he was sleeping in mysteriously caught fire at Mashobeni, area in Gege.

His neighbours discovered that the old man had burnt beyond recognition in the morning. It is believed the house was gutted down by a mysterious fire at night while he was asleep.

According to sources, the 73-year-old man lived all by himself at his home. "We suspect he forgot to put out a candle before going to bed," said a source.

Even though he was an old man, he played a pivotal role in advising other men in the community. The burnt body and remains of his belongings were found by firefighters at about 8:30pm on Wednesday.

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

Mamba said they had not yet established the cause of the fire as police were still conducting their investigations.

However, Mamba said a distress call was received at around 7:42pm and police from Hlatikhulu were dispatched to the location of incident.

"The house was already razed to the ground. Our men had to put out the fire before searching for the old man," he said, adding that fire services personnel from Gege also assisted in putting out the blaze.

On the other hand, Police reported that along MR 9 Sidvokodvo/Nhlambeni public road a Nissan X-trail driven by a 31-year-old man of Nkonyeni Golf estate, veered off the road and knocked down two pedestrians both aged 21.

Men of Nhlambeni was certified dead on arrival at RFM Hospital, while the other pedestrian of KaShali was admitted at RFM Hospital for serious injuries."

The driver of the X-trail was not injured but the car was extensively damaged on the front. Meanwhile, an 84-year-old man of Bethany reported that his white Toyota Corolla valued at E26 000 was stolen by an unknown person while at Bethany area.

"Anyone with information that can lead to the recovery of the motor vehicle can contact Matsapha Police at 2518 7111 or police emergency line 999," said Mamba.



CONFIRMED: Chief Police Information and Communication Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba

TUCOSWA WON'T INTERFERE IN ATUSWA, SMAWU WRANGLE

By Lungelo Nkambule
Mbabane

TRADE Union Congress of Swaziland (TUCOSWA) is content with the stand taken by Amalgamated Trade Union of Swaziland (ATUSWA) in their ongoing wrangle with Swaziland Manufacturing and Allied Workers Union (SMAWU).

The two unions are at loggerheads over a letter written by one Zweli Sihlongonyane who used to be SMAWU secretary. Sihlongonyane allegedly wrote a letter in his capacity as secretary informing members the union had amalgamated with ATUSWA something that SMAWU executive dispute.

TUCOSWA as the mother body have stated that they support ATUSWA and are satisfied with the way they are handling the situation. TUCOSWA President Quinton Dlamini said they would not be involving themselves in the battle between the two entities as they felt ATUSWA had rightly addressed it.

"We are content with the man-

ner in which ATUSWA has handled this matter all along, we support their stance," Dlamini said. Dlamini said they would not be getting involved as they felt it was properly handled.

ATUSWA stance in the matter is that any party to the amalgamation that was aggrieved should seek redress in court.

"If there is any party that is aggrieved by the Amalgamation of unions to form ATUSWA, that party must approach the Court for relief," ATUSWA Secretary General Wander Mkhonza said when interviewed by this publication.

He said as a union they have always said this in previous communications and think that it is important that they say it again. Mkhonza said they have always maintained that ATUSWA would communicate decisions regarding the defunct trade unions once consolidation has been completed and have kept their promise through a letter that was sent and received by the commissioner's office.



Media slated for being used by aspiring MPs

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlanguano

THE media has come under fire for being used by individuals campaigning for political positions in particular Parliament.

It's been alleged that aspiring members of Parliament have a tendency of marketing themselves through the media where some call certain reporters to promote their political ambitions especially when distributing things such as loaves of bread and cabbages.

Residents of Zombodze Emuva recommended to the Elections and Boundaries Commission that it should do something about those campaigning using the media. One of the speakers submitted that at times those wanting publicity would bring along with them reporters to cover the distributions to the residents as a way of drawing attention to their 'generosity' which however gives away that it is a campaign strategy.

EBC team was at Zombodze Emuva last Saturday to conduct the voter education ahead of next year's national elections. Residents revealed that media people were sometimes used as some people come with them with the aim of providing coverage.

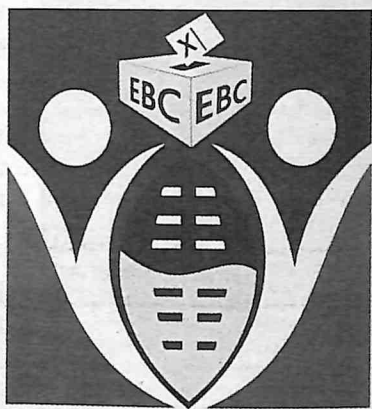
"You find that a certain individual comes with a reporter

all the way from Mbabane to cover the distribution of loaves and bread. This is not good and I appeal to the EBC to find a way of controlling the media or draw a line on what should be covered and what should not in relation to those that campaign using the media.

Opportunists, some who are known to us are fond of the media especially when it is towards this period of elections," said one of the residents.

The residents said EBC should sit down with the media and give advice on the role it has to play and not allow it to be used by individuals keen on becoming politicians.

"It happens and we feel it's something which the EBC should look into. They (media) need to be taught on what should be given coverage and not market people campaigning by distributing bread. We have been



ELECTIONS AND BOUNDARIES COMMISSION

noticing this happening and it's time EBC stopped it," said another resident.

Ncumbi Maziya said as much as the EBC was aware of the role played by the media; they were frowning at any-

thing suspect of 'assisting' someone on his or her agenda.

"Without media, we are all aware how impossible it can be to know what is happening around us. The media is an important tool of passing information and other messages the world should know. However, it is not professionalism to be used by someone to achieve something.

It's a point taken that the speaker has raised and as EBC we are going to look into the matter and suggest to media personnel how best they can give coverage fairly without allowing certain individuals to use such channels for campaigning," said Maziya.



Swaziland Dairy Board

DAIRY CATTLE FARMING COURSE

Dairy Cattle owners, keepers and aspiring individuals are kindly invited to attend a dairy farming training course to be held at the Board's Conference Room at Enguleni House, Manzini. The course will commence on the 16 May 2017 and run for eight (8) weeks. Selected days for training are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays of each week starting at 5:30pm till 7:00pm.

The training is set out to cover the following topics:

Module	
1	Introduction by Dairy Cattle Farmer
2	Introduction to dairy processing
3	Requirements and Preparations for Starting a Dairy Project
4	Fodder Production
5	Dairy Cattle Feeding
6	Dairy Cattle Breeding
7	Calf Rearing
8	Clean Milk Production
9	Legal Issues
10	Disease Prevention and Control
11	Business Plan Preparation and Business Management
12	Educational Tour

E500 PER PERSON FOR THE WHOLE SESSION.
PLEASE REGISTER AND PAY AT THE DAIRY BOARD OFFICE

FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT THE FOLLOWING BOARD'S OFFICER:

Mr. Bandile Mdluli (Course Coordinator) 7662.4422

OR CALL THE OFFICE @ 25058262/3
ARRANGED BY MANAGMENT



Your hostess, Senior Communications and International Relations Officer, Lindokuhle Sithole

UMNTSHOLI NEWS

Umntsholi News is an information sharing platform where the Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) shares information with its stakeholders to pierce the veil of 'secrecy'. Umntsholi WeMaswati, as CBS is affectionately known, refers to an inner secret storage. This name resonates well with the Bank's responsibility of storing the nation's wealth. This best explains the closed book syndrome, as naturally, human beings tend to protect their hard earned wealth from any potential harm. Umntsholi News is published once a month for you to understand the operations of the Central Bank. Let us know what you think by giving us feedback on this article. Email feedback to: info@centralbank.org.sz

WELCOME TO UMNTSHOLI NEWS

HOW MUCH IS YOUR TORN NOTE WORTH?

DO not throw away torn, defaced or soiled money, it could be worth something!

So you have torn, soiled, stained or even defaced notes stashed away somewhere because you do not know what to do with them? Take them to any commercial bank or the Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS). Do not discard them before you can check their actual worth.

As per Section 26 of the Central Bank Order, 1974 the CBS is responsible for redeeming mutilated notes. This function

stems from it being the institution mandated to be sole issuer of the Emlangeni currency. Redemption of mutilated notes means exchange of torn, defaced, soiled or burnt notes for clean, quality notes.

The Central Bank therefore, has an arrangement with banks to exchange unfit notes, provided their serial number is visible and intact. All banks are expected to extend the facility of exchanging unfit notes even to non-customers.

Banks are authorised to accept soiled notes for their full value or half value according to the required quality standards discussed below.

What is the compensation criteria for mutilated notes?

A mutilated banknote may be replaced with good quality currency or equivalent value at commercial banks provided that, in each case, the notes presented for compensation meet the required criteria. Remember that compensation is guided by rules set as per government gazette. The degree of mutilation determines the value that can be paid.

1. For full value notes

You will be compensated with a full value of your mutilated note if two thirds or more of the original note is presented.

2. Half value notes

You will be compensated with half the value of your mutilated note if half or more but less than two thirds of the original note remaining is presented.

3. No value notes

You will NOT be compensated for a note if less than half of the original note remaining is presented.

While this may be so, take note that fake notes, would lead to a major loss as you will NOT be compensated. If you come across a fake note, rush to the nearest police station to report.

What will the bank expect me to do in order to get compensation for my mutilated note?

The procedure should not be difficult at all.

The following steps should be followed:

- Obtain forms from your nearest commercial bank or the Central Bank.
- Fill in the information required.
- Take the mutilated note and form to any Commissioner of Oaths to swear for proof of ownership and the truthfulness of the information you provided.
- Present the form and money to the bank, for payment/redemption.

So, the next time you think about putting away your torn or defaced money, find out the real value of your notes and head to the bank.

For any further information on this topic, call the Central Bank of Swaziland, Strategy and Communication office at 2408 2160 or email us info@centralbank.org.sz.



Payment criteria for mutilated Banknotes

Full Value



A mutilated banknote with two thirds or more of the original note remaining may be paid at full value.



According to Section 26 of the Central Bank Order, 1974 the Bank is responsible for setting and maintaining quality standards of banknotes and coins that are fit for circulation.

Any banknotes and coins not meeting the required quality standards should be exchanged for value in good quality currency at the nearest commercial bank branch. Unfit banknotes and coins are those that are mutilated, torn, defaced, stained, soiled, dirty or defective in some material way.

A mutilated banknote has various degrees of tear, staples and staple holes, tapes and tape marks, tiny perforations, fire damage and incomplete pieces; or has been eaten by ants, rodents or has similar damage.

A mutilated banknote may be replaced with good quality currency of equivalent value at commercial banks provided that, in each case, the banknote presented for replacement meets the criteria outlined here.

A banknote that does not meet the criteria outlined here or where the commercial bank is in doubt, shall be presented by the claimant at the Central Bank of Swaziland Banking Hall located at the 1st Floor of Umntsholi Building.

A claim form obtainable from banks and the Central Bank of Swaziland must be completed and submitted to the bank teller with the mutilated currency.

Central Bank of Swaziland
Mankochile Street,
Mbabane, Swaziland
Tel: +268 2408 20000
Fax: +268 2408 00062
Email: info@centralbank.org.sz

Half Value



A mutilated banknote with half or more but less than two thirds of the original note remaining may be paid at half value.



No Value



A mutilated banknote with less than half of the original note remaining has no value.



LOCAL GOVT ELECTIONS REGISTRATION:

Residents complain of too many particulars needed

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

AS the voter registrations for local government elections continue, residents of Siteki have raised concern that they are required to provide too many documents to prove their validity to take part in the process.

Apparently, residents who are eligible to vote or contest in the upcoming elections are only those who have proof of having been dwellers in the urban area for a period not less than six months.

People who own properties or operating business within the boundaries of the town are also eligible to take part in the process.

This was also explained by Town Clerk Sithembile Simelane during a recent interview.

Despite the process having been reported to be running smoothly, some residents have reported their frustrations, saying that they are being required to produce 'unreasonable' documents.

Some fruits and vegetable vendors who conduct their business in the town centre, in particular, have stated that the guiding regulations

require them to produce documents which they actually do not have.

According to the main guidelines, these are eligible voters.

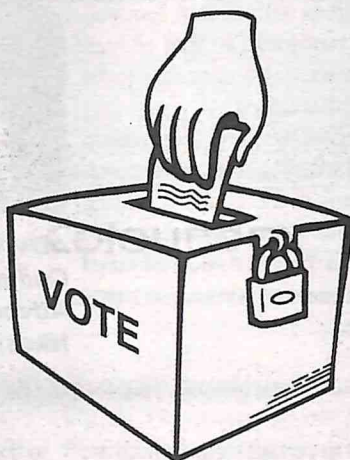
The vendors stated that when they went to register for the elections, they were advised to produce trading licences or permits which have their names on them. These are permits which are normally issued to the vendors by the town council when allocating them stalls.

It has transpired that however, many of the current vendors are using permits which have other people's names, most of them having relocated to other places away from the town.

The council had previously explained that when such situations prevail, the vendor must have in his or her possession an affidavit signed by the actual holder of the permit.

The vendors therefore allege that they are not able to acquire such documents as they could not locate the actual holders of their permits.

"We have been working in the main market for years but we are not able to register to partake in the elections just because the ministry governing them demands documents which we do not have," said one Nombuso Maziya.

SWAZILAND
Beverages

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IDEAL PROFILE

Education : Engineering degree or Equivalent

Experience : 5+ years experience in Manufacturing Excellence or Department Management

KEY ACCOUNTABLES

- Ensure compliance with Safety standards and guidelines and drive a safety culture to ensure safety in the work environment.
- Use effective Loss and Waste analysis to identify gaps in the Plant Management system vs VPO.
- Drive actions to close the gaps.
- Monthly review of VPO gap closure and score managed. Quarterly review of VPO managed.
- Monthly and quarterly updates sent to the Zone.
- Co-ordinate VPO for the Plant working with other Pillar owners to ensure an integrated VPO implementation and improvement process.
- Interface with Zone VPO team with regards to monthly and quarterly reporting for VPO for the Plant (across all Pillars).
- Identify and develop VA initiatives for future VA commitments and drive and monitor current year committed VA initiatives.
- Ensure Plant's routine meetings (MCRS and TOR's.) are documented and standardized.
- Interface with Zone VPO management Pillar and regional VPO team members to ensure Plant implementation and improvement plans meet expectations.
- Ensure and assure suitable training capability exists (material and facilitators) suitable to cover Management Pillar training needs.
- Co-ordinate, track and monitor GOPs compliance across Plant. Submit monthly compliance scores to Zone.
- Lead, coach and train team members.
- Ensure continuous improvement in engagement of people in the Plant.
- Own, guide and standardize 5S implementation across the Plant Departments.
- Co-ordinate and assure Tracking and Monitoring Management Pillars and Plant VPO information for the Plant and to the Zone is correct and timeously submitted.

Interested persons should submit their applications and CV's before the close of business on the 18th May 2017 by email: human.resources@sz.sabmiller.com or deliver to the HR Office. Please note that only shortlisted Candidates will be contacted

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14 NATIONAL NEWS

DELAY OF RAPE CASES CAUSES DOUBLE TRAUMA FOR SURVIVORS- SWAGAA

Stories by Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

THE continued delay of rape cases in the Magistrate's Courts is said to be causing survivors a double trauma as they keep being reminded of incidents which took place some years ago.

This was said by the Swaziland Action Group Against Abuse (SWAGAA) when reacting to reports of cases of sexual harassment taking too long to be concluded.

This follows an article carried by this publication yesterday which reported of a case involving 21-year-old man who was arrested early last year after he was accused of sexually abusing his biological great-grandmother.

The case has not seen trial as yet.

...This follows an article carried by this publication yesterday which reported of a case involving 21-year-old man who was arrested early last year after he was accused of sexually abusing his biological great-grandmother. The case has not seen trial as yet.

In this particular matter, the crown stated before court that there were currently too many rape cases awaiting trial, hence some would be postponed to much later dates.

Process

When reacting to the story, SWAGAA Communications and Advocacy Officer Slindelo Nkosi stated that the endless delays of rape cases produced doubt, anxiety, impatience, disappointment and even desire among some people to take the law into their own hands, something which may consequently create an endless war

in society.

Nkosi was of the view that the long wait and postponement cannot be justified.

She said the society needs to look at the reasons behind having cases of gender-based violence postponed for such a long period.

She noted that the slow pace of the judicial process is a reality that citizens have long since grown accustomed to.

She highlighted that the system is riddled with delays and there is always a lengthy backlog of cases on both

the Magistrate and High Court roll, resulting to double trauma to survivors of rape.

The organisation further alleged that women's lives still remain less valued when compared to that of men as women and girls continue to be affected and attacked.

Nkosi was of the view that women remain, in many senses, as second-class citizens in the country, adding that it was this failure to value women equally with men that allowed jailed David Simelane to commit so many femicides.



ADVICE: SWAGAA
Communications and
Advocacy Officer Slindelo
Nkosi.

Sexual offences Bill to eliminate gender inequality

SWAGAA is certain that endorsing the sexual offences and domestic violence Bill of 2015 will protect all citizens of the country and eliminate gender inequality.

The organisation's communications and advocacy officer, Slindelo Nkosi stated that the Bill would eliminate

gender inequalities in relation to power and decision making and provide protection to women and children, who are the most vulnerable group in society which has resulted in a high incidence of their discrimination and abuse.

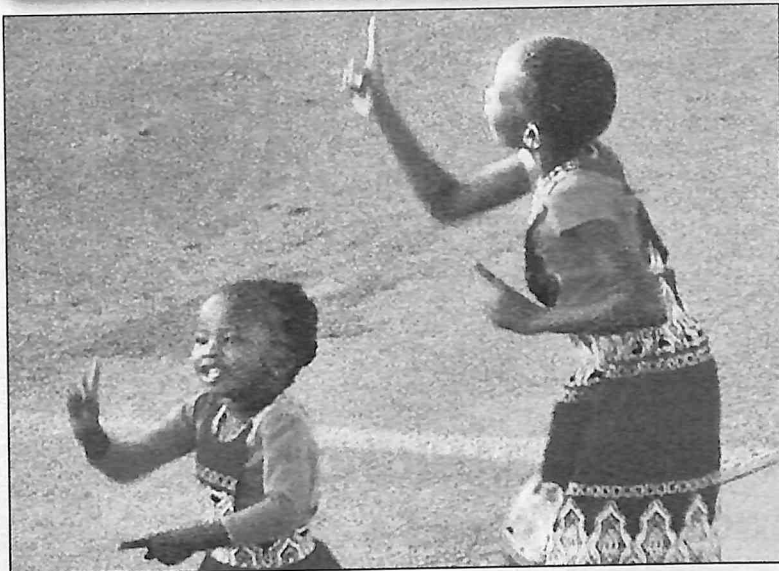
Nkosi said the Bill will also strengthen

and consolidate certain common law and statutory provisions so as to adequately provide for the successful dealing, in a non-discriminatory manner, with sexual offences and domestic violence and to provide adequate protection to complainants. Moreover, Nkosi said the Bill will

give effect to certain rights which are enshrined in the Constitution of Swaziland of 2005, including the right to equal protection by the law, the right to privacy and the right to protection from inhumane and degrading treatment.

It is said that the Bill also respond

to the outcry in the escalation of sexual offences and domestic violence against women and children including infants, which has accelerated the HIV/AIDS pandemic, by imposing high terms of imprisonment on convicted persons.



HAVING A BALL: Akahle and Okuhle entertaining the Pigg's Peak crowd.



FREE SHOW: Residents of Pigg's Peak enjoying the performance.

Gospel artists Nonhle, Zaga excite Pigg's Peak residents

By Sizwe Dlamini
Pigg's Peaks

GOSPEL artists Nonhle Mtsetfwa and Zaga Dlamini treated Pigg's Peak residents to an exciting free live gospel performance yesterday in the town centre.

The show which was to promote the two artists' albums started at midday and went on until late afternoon at the open space opposite U-Save Shoprite. According to one of the organisers, the public response to the live impromptu show was much better than first anticipated. "We must say the small town of Pigg's Peak has surprised us, the number of people who came to support us and watch the show was quite impressive.

We have learnt from previous experiences that we must first allow the public to sample the music we have for them, which was the main purpose of the show.

We are trying to show them that we have come up with an interesting product for them, which they should support by buying," said the organiser.

He said they were also selling copies of CDs as well as DVDs of the two gospel artists. "We also have games for members of the public where they can win some cash prizes. We are very happy with Pigg's Peak and the support we have seen," he added.

Members of the public when interviewed said that they were happy to be entertained by the duo gospel stars as this was not common in Pigg's Peak.



MIC CHECK: Gospel artist Nonhle Mtsetfwa entertaining residents of Pigg's Peak yesterday afternoon. (Pics: Sizwe Dlamini)



GAME TIME: Gospel artist Zaga Dlamini playing a game with the crowd

"We, in Pigg's Peak, do not have many gospel shows let alone a public one like this one but today we were able to see something new. This is very refreshing because not all of us go to

attend such shows especially in the country's main cities. We hope that from now on more gospel acts will come to our town," said one of those interviewed.

VOTER REGISTRATION FRAUD REARS UGLY HEAD AT MALANDA

By Sizwe Dlamini
Malanda

ALLEGATIONS of voter registration fraud cases have reared their ugly head at Malanda as sources claim that a local businessman has been accused of trying to steal voters.

The incident happened at the voter registration hall at Malanda on Tuesday afternoon.

Sources claim that some voters were turned away from the voter registration exercise after they were allegedly ordered to register to vote under Ward One by a businessman whose name is known but is deliberately withheld for now. Two sources who on condition of anonymity said they were turned away from the voter registration hall after a cunning voter official noticed that the individuals did not live in the area and were not eligible to vote in the area.

"I was simply walking by when I saw the businessman who gave



REFUTES: Pigg's Peak Town Clerk Mzwandile Ndzinisa has no knowledge of the registration fraud.

me an affidavit and told me to go to the voter registration exercise at Malanda Hall.

I went there without full knowledge of the assignment and to my shock, I was informed by a voter registration officer that I could be arrested for voter fraud and this scared me as I had no idea what I

was doing was wrong.

"I then went to the businessman and told him that I could face prosecution for my actions and he just laughed it off," said the source.

Another source also came forward with the same story and said she was told by the same businessman to go to the voter regis-

tration exercise and use the paper that she had been given to register to vote. However, when she got to the hall a voter official also told her to leave and register under her real ward as she did not live in the area. "An officer asked me the plot number of the businessman's residence and I did not know. I was then told to leave or else I would get arrested.

I later informed the businessman and he said the voter officer was mad to ask me such questions," said the source. When contacted for comment the businessman dismissed the allegations as false. "What happened was that the voter registration officers told us that we had to fill up forms that they did not make available to us. I am still waiting for the forms," said the businessman. Meanwhile, Pigg's Peak Town Clerk Mzwandile Ndzinisa said the alleged incident had not yet reached his office and to his knowledge the voter registration process was progressing smoothly.

Lobamba Youth seeks help for gogo (76)

By Samukelisiwe Ginindza
Mbabane

MNCEDISI Dlamini, better known as Billa, has not only been a resident of Lobamba but a helpful one as well.

Apart from spotting the needy in the area, he went all out to ensure that the public gets to know and gives a helping hand towards bettering their lives.

Dlamini is again appealing to the public to assist a 76-year-old gogo from Lobamba, who has been sleeping in the open ever since her house collapsed, about five months ago.

"We are actually appealing for any kind of assistance, be it building materials or funds towards building Gogo Lushaba at least a one room house," he said.

Dlamini has all along been helping Gogo Lushaba with groceries and also tried to generate more money by organising a charity car wash in the area. "We've been helping her with some food materials for some time but now I see the need for a house and unfortunately I cannot do it alone, hence I am appealing to the public to help us, help Gogo Lushaba," he added.

Gogo Lushaba is said to be still living in the partially collapsed house together with her sole surviving daughter and her grandchildren.

They are also said to often live on handouts from people. Anyone willing to assist the family can contact Mncedisi on 7637 5190.

Mkhulu (70) appeals for help

By Nozipho Sibiya
Khuphuka

A 70-year-old man of Khuphuka, near Mliba, is asking for help as he is currently living in an old and dilapidated house.

The sickly old man, Mankazane Masimula says his proper house in 2009. He says since he was burnt to the ground still fit in 2009, he was able to build a stick and mud house. "However, one fateful night during Cyclone Dineo the structure was blown away by the severe storm and wind. I lost almost everything," he narrated. He said he did not get to save much since most of his belongings were blown away. "This was in March," the 70-year-old said. "Thereafter, a neighbour allowed me to stay with

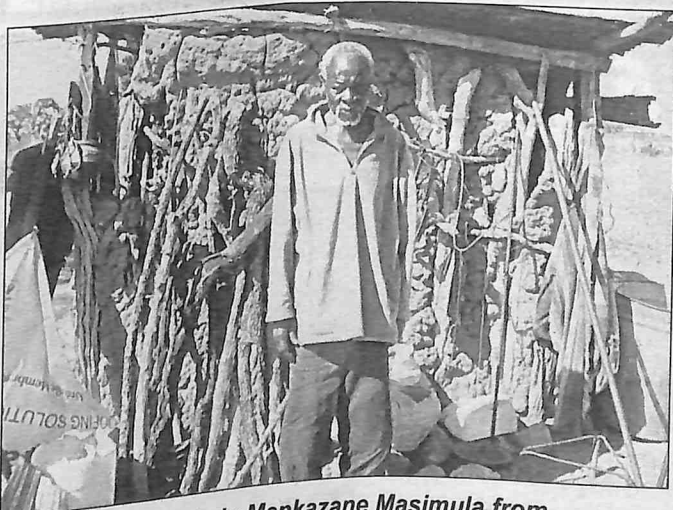
them for about two weeks, and then I came back," he says, pointing to the falling house.

He sleeps on top of cardboards which he calls his bed and cooks outside.

He says the land on which the structure stands was given to him by the Khuphuka Royal Kraal years ago. He says his children passed away.

According to Masimula, at times people, including relatives, give him food and clothes. However, he tries to make a living from farming. "Any help I can get, I would be happy and grateful," he says.

Anyone wishing to assist Masimula can contact one of his relatives Sebenzile Mngometulu at 7629 3547, Mashele Mantimakhulu 7642 28104 or Swazi Observer Reporter Nozipho Sibiya at 7621 6372/2404 9600.



PLEASE HELP: Mkhulu Mankazane Masimula from Khuphuka area in Mliba infront of his dilapidated house. The old man is appealing for assistance. (Pics: Nozipho Sibiya)

30 kombi drivers storm Nhlango Police Station

By Ntokozo Vilane
Nhlango

ABOUT 30 kombi drivers stormed the Nhlango Police Station seeking advice on where to park their vehicles when waiting for their loading turns.

The incident happened on Wednesday at around 11:30hrs. The drivers were those that rank at the old bus rank which is inside the town centre.

Information gathered by this publication was that initially the drivers used to park at Nhlango Spar parking lot, which is now reserved for customers.

The supermarket officials had been lenient with them over the years as their customers were parking at the back of the town in a space which was convenient for customers in terms of accessing the shop.

Following developments that are ongoing in Nhlango town (that of tarring the road) the space the customers used to park in is no longer accessible. This means the kombi drivers have to vacate the space that was officially prepared for the customers.

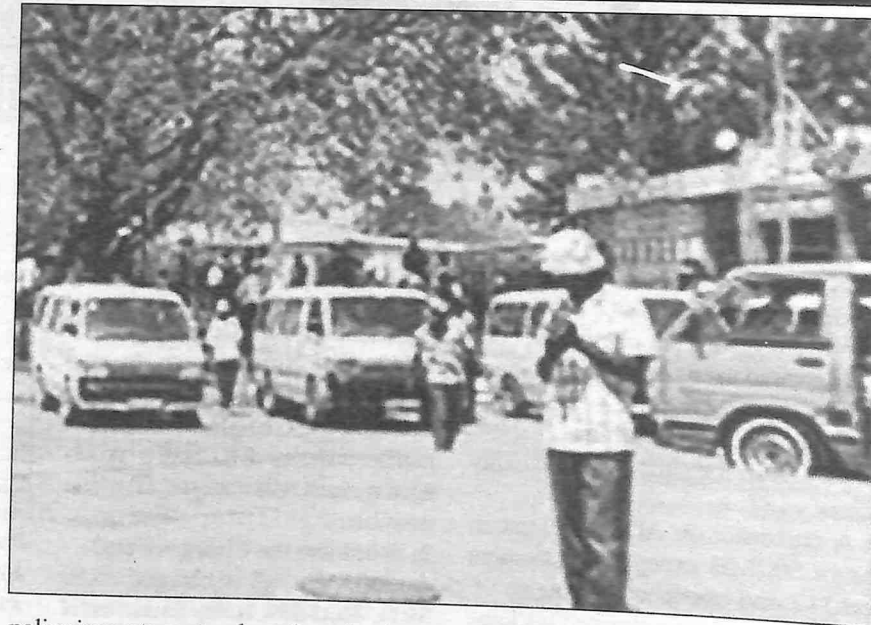
They were told to go and park at the new bus rank which is about 300 metres from their loading zone.

Their concern is who will look after their kombis as they are supposed to monitor their loading schedule.

They also feel the kombis will be vulnerable to thievery as they have only one marshal.

It has been revealed to this publication that three kombi drivers were nabbed by traffic police officers parking in an illegal space and were taken to court for a hearing.

This led the drivers to engage in a march to seek advice from the traffic



police inspector as to where they should park. It has been revealed that the three drivers were given a warning and told never to park in the illegal space. The hearing was on closed doors.

Interviewed by this publication, one of the drivers said they understood that they were using a space that belonged to the shop but it is not their duty as drivers to look for parking spaces for themselves. "We were supposed to be alerted in time other than being threatened with the arrests. Someone has to give us direction, not the police because they know nothing about the parking space," added Xaba.

When asked who should give them the direction, Xaba said it was the Nhlango Local Kombi Association (NLKA).

Whether it's town council or whosoever responsible should sort this out because it is frustrating us," said Xaba. Xaba added that had it not been for Traffic Senior Inspector, whom he iden-

tified as Mavimbela, chaos would have occurred. He said Mavimbela advised them to use the space they are currently occupying while the issue is still being discussed by the concerned parties. He said police officers were not there to arrest them but to make sure that there was peace.

When sought for comment, NLKA Vice Chairperson Thabani Nhleko said no one told them formally that they had to vacate the said parking area.

He said they were just called to a meeting where Nhlango Spar had already filed an application with the police to remove the kombis at the parking area.

He admitted that the space belongs to Nhlango Spar.

Following that the Spar customers have nowhere to park due to the ongoing road developments, he said Spar should also bear in mind that the kombis that are not needed in that parking space play a vital role in transporting its customers to town.



Postal & Telecoms On Observer

With: Nqobile Magagula
SPTC Corporate Communications Manager

Tel: 24052298
Email: nqobilem@sptc.co.sz



IT'S SIMPLE...SWITCH TO DEBIT ORDER

SPTC Debit Orders

This is a payment option where a customer agrees that SPTC through any bank takes money from his/her account for payment of the following services:

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- ADSL Broadband
- Unlimited Voice Package

SwaziPost services:

- SwaziPost Insurance Family Support Benefit
- Mailbox rental

Why Debit Order Payments?

In order to pay, our customers have to wait for monthly bills which they receive through the post office and this might come at a time when the customer has used his/her income. For pre-paid customers, the customer has to travel to a telecentre to recharge in order to have service. This process takes time hence debit order payment brings simplicity and convenience to the lives of our customers.

Benefits to the customer

Apart from the simplicity and expediency:

- A customer on ADSL will get an extra 500MB except for customers on 512 and uncapped packages.
- A customer on unlimited package will pay only E55 not E100. They can make calls any day and any time.

How to Sign-up for the Debit Order

Payment Option

- The Customer can visit the nearest Telecentre or Post Office or download an application form and sign-up for a direct debit payment option.
- Customers on pre-paid can include all their monthly service costs for the debit order payment
- Customers on post-paid can ONLY include fixed monthly charges; e.g. a customer on ADSL HOME BASIC can only include E310 for ADSL and E25 for line rental. Any remaining (voice calls and data calls) rates are to be paid through the other payment methods.

- Customers can choose three payment dates (21st, 26th, and 1st) for paying their debit orders.

- Customers with successful debit order payments will have their accounts credited and they shall get service.

- Unsuccessful debit order customers will not have their accounts credited

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is required from the customer to sign-up?

Customer must provide his/her account number and copy of ID. Staff is encouraged to assist print customer ID where possible.

2. What are the Charges/Fees?

A customer shall be charged E5.50 for the direct debit facility. Unsuccessful debit orders shall however attract the standard unsuccessful debit order charges.

3. How to terminate?



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A customer can terminate the debit order payment option by visiting any Telecentre or Post Office and apply for termination. All termination shall only be possible if application for termination is done at least five days before agreed stop order date. e.g. If a customer has signed for

their debit order payment to be effected on 26th; the customer can only terminate on or before the 21st of the month.

4. What happens if the customers line/service is faulty and the debit order payment has been effected? The Corporations existing reversal

procedures shall be used/applied. 5. What if I finish my package before month end? A customer who finishes his/her package before month end can still use pre-paid vouchers to top up, where out of bundle consumption rates shall apply.

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FEATURES & OPINION

REFRESH WHAT YOU THINK...

info@observer.org.sz



**COME
TO
THINK
OF IT**

Ackel Zwane

NUMEROUS recommendations by election observer groupings in the past should have, for the Elections and Boundaries Commission, charted a work ethic that will steer this group of five eminent persons safe from the turbulences of disenfranchisement of some of the people of Swaziland.

But because they are already behind the prescriptions of the national constitution on elections, they are most likely steering the ship towards turbulences and already the local government elections in disarray, we are beginning to suspect, and with certainty, that the Commission might not have its house in order to host the 2018 parliamentary elections.

Recent developments before the Public Accounts Committee speak volumes on ill preparedness and incapacity of the EBC to hold as less daunting an election as a local government election, how much more when it comes to providing the leadership and oversight in conducting the national election.

If by this time the EBC is still dealing with who or what constitutes PAC

Standing Committee members, then the seas ahead are rough and turbulent.

Now there was this Mfanimpela Phungwayo who only claimed knowledge of one member in the person and flesh of Zwakele Dlamini and not another in the flesh and person of Phesheya Dlamini, their legal eagle.

Surprisingly the legal eagle was seated on the second row from where Phungwayo and his undoubtedly bosom associate, Zwakele but he could not see him, at least this is the bile he spewed on PAC Chairperson Thuli Dladla who herself could not stomach the contents. But at the helm of all this we are

EBC FUELING A SENSE OF DISENFRANCHISEMENT



EBC Chairman Chief Gija flanked by Head of Secretariat Richard Phungwayo and Commissioner Ncumbi Maziya during one of the voter education sessions.

told there sits a team of high integrity gurus.

In terms of Section 90 of the Constitution the King, on the advice of the Judicial Service Commission, appoints a five member commission

(a chairperson, deputy chairperson and three other members). The appointed persons are individuals who possess the qualifications of a Judge of the superior courts or persons of

high moral character, proven integrity, relevant experience and demonstrable competence in the conduct of public affairs.

Now if the team which these appointed persons supervise cannot be the same one that went to fight over candy

before the PAC this week.

But again this returns us back to what the nation expects from the EBC. Straying an inch from the Constitution that establishes them will definitely result in disenfranchisement of some sort. Already cracks have begun showing with the disaster that is the local government election.

As we speak there is the Local Government Act of Mbabane which is different from the Local Government Act of Mankayane, otherwise the dissolution of town councils would not have resulted in the election and subsequent inauguration of an interim council by a disbanded one in Mbabane and still holding office.

Had we a credible EBC we would not have failed civic and voter education for the local government election that are already a sham in that they will disenfranchise a section of the people that were not given equal opportunities for both civic and voter education.

Around Manzini and Matsapha people said they were not aware even

that the voter registration for local government election had started, what with unmanned voter registration station, zero mass programmes or billboards advertising the same?

In the past the EBC has let such mistakes happen and the local government elections produced property-less charlatans rising to the position of mayors and finding themselves having to load it upon property owners and rates and rent payers all because of a poorly prepared local government election.

Resulted

This has resulted in town councils that will stop at nothing to please chief executives whom they are supposed to provide oversight all because they simply want nothing but to be selected for the foreign trips, travelling allowances and endless workshops and residential conferences in five star hotels, in exchange for relaxed oversight much to the detriment of the taxpayer and the legitimate purpose of a vote.

The Commonwealth, for one, recommended that government should

work towards conducting a demarcation of boundaries at the earliest convenient opportunity, this has not been done.

On the election timetable its drafting and approval should occur long ahead of time to enhance adequate planning and implementation, this has not been taken on board; that an activity timeline be incorporated into the EBC budget to minimise financial constraints that may affect proper implementation of its activities – again this has been found wanting hence the messing up of the local government election by the ministry of housing and urban development; that the EBC enacts regulations to clarify the provision on voting age; that a clear timetable for the exhibition and inquiry of the voter register be drawn up, in line with the Elections Act (2013), as a major activity of the EBC; that a National Commission on Civic Education be constituted, to sensitise citizens on national programmes and complement the work of the EBC in that regard.

Training and Capacity Building: that training packages for election officials and security personnel be catered for by the EBC, to allow adequate training to be conducted in every election year.

Now if you may ask, these recommendations were not even worth the ink they were printed with, otherwise they would be fully implemented even ahead of the local government election.

This puts paid to the suspicion that the EBC, in essence, goes into hibernation for the duration of the four years while its members continue to draw salaries for doing nothing before working up on the eve of an election to remove the web from the eyes and start preparing for a national election. If this is not true what have they been doing since 2013?



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ON THIS DAY

...May 12

1588 - King Henry III fled Paris after Henry of Guise triumphantly entered the city.

1780 - Charleston, South Carolina fell to British forces.

1847 - William Clayton invented the odometer.

1870 - Manitoba entered the Confederation as a Canadian province.

1881 - Tunisia, in North Africa became a French protectorate.

1885 - In the Battle of Batoche, French Canadians rebelled against the Canadian government.

1888 - Charles Sherrill of the Yale track team became the first runner to use the crouching start for a fast break in a foot race.

1926 - The airship Norge became the first vessel to fly over the North Pole.

1926 - In Britain, a general strike by trade unions ended. The strike began on May 3, 1926.

1937 - Britain's King George VI was crowned at Westminster Abbey.

1940 - The Nazi conquest of France began with the German army crossing the Moselle River.

1942 - The Soviet Army launched its first major offensive of World War II and took Kharkov in the eastern Ukraine from the German army.

1943 - The Axis forces in North Africa surrendered during World War II.

1949 - The Soviet Union announced an end to the Berlin Blockade.

1950 - The American Bowling Congress abolished its white males-only membership restriction after 34 years.

1957 - A.J. Foyt won his first auto racing victory in Kansas City, MO.

1965 - West Germany and Israel exchanged letters establishing diplomatic relations.

1970 - Ernie Banks, of the Chicago Cubs, hit his 500th home run.

1975 - US merchant ship Mayaguez was seized by Cambodian forces in international waters.

1978 - The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced that they would no longer exclusively name hurricanes after women.

1982 - South Africa unveiled a plan that would give voting rights to citizens of Asian and mixed-race descent, but not to blacks.

1984 - South African prisoner Nelson Mandela saw his wife for the first time in 22 years.

1999 - Russian President Boris Yeltsin dismissed Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov and named Interior Minister Sergei Stepashin as his successor.

2002 - Former US President Carter arrived in Cuba for a visit with Fidel Castro. It was the first time a US head of state, in or out of office, had gone to the island since Castro's 1959 revolution.

2003 - In Texas, fifty-nine Democratic lawmakers went into hiding over a dispute with Republican's over a congressional redistricting plan.

2008 - In the US, the price for a one-ounce First-Class stamp increased from 41 to 42 cents.

2015 - It was announced that Verizon would be acquiring AOL.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Marcelo Vieira (soccer player) - May 12, 1988 - 28 years old



Mark Foster (SWIMMER) - May 12, 1970 - 46 years old

your HEAL+H section

COMMON HARD-TO-TREAT BRAIN DISEASE STARTS IN THE GUT

GUT bacteria could be the cause of a crippling hard-to-treat brain disease, a new study suggests.

Cerebral cavernous malformations (CCMs) are clusters of dilated, thin-walled blood vessels in the brain that can cause stroke and seizures.

According to new research published today, bacteria in the gut microbiome drive the formation of these clusters.

Currently there is not drug available to treat CCM. The only treatment option is surgical removal.

The study by researchers from the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania is part of a growing swell of research showing links between the gut and the brain.

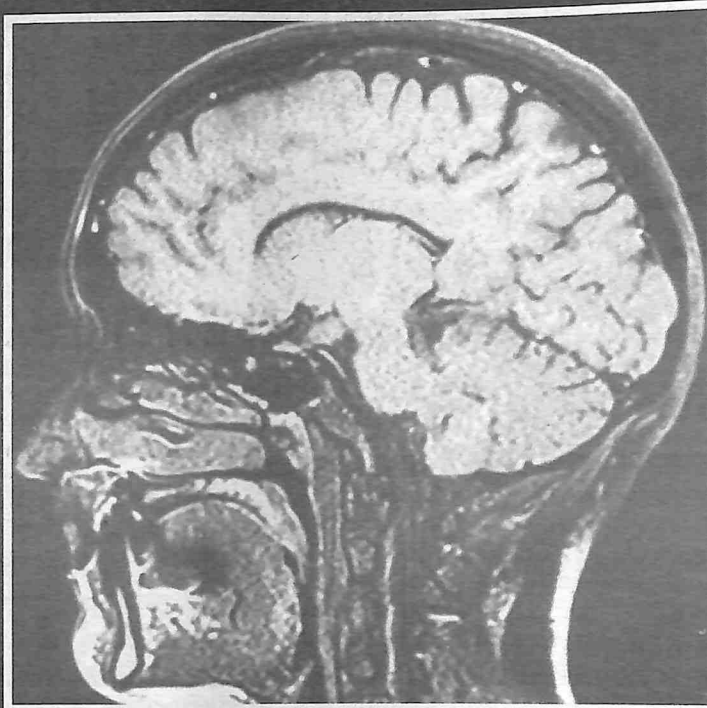
Occurs

CCM disease, which occurs in about one in 100 to 200 people, can present in two forms.

One is sporadic, accounting for 80 per cent of cases, and is most frequent in older individuals. The remaining 20 per cent are familial, inherited cases.

In 2016, Dr Mark Kahn, a professor of Cardiovascular Medicine, discovered the molecular mechanism in cells that underlies CCM formation. In the current study on mice, the team discovered that this molecular pathway is activated by TLR4, a receptor for certain bacteria. Activation of this receptor vastly accelerated CCM formation, they found.

- CCM disease, which occurs in one in 100 people, causes stroke and seizures
- Tests on mice showed certain gut bacteria triggered the formation of clusters that cause these seizures
- Looking at human models it seems the same is true for people



AWARENESS: The study on cerebral cavernous malformations by researchers at the University of Pennsylvania is part of a growing swell of research showing links between the gut and the brain

Conversely, if the scientists blocked this receptor using drugs, they prevented CCMs from forming.

Crucially, TLR4 primarily responds

to bacteria in the gut.

Dr Alan Tang, a student in the Kahn lab, proposed that bacteria from the animal's gut microbiome

may drive CCM formation.

To test this theory, he examined CCM formation in mice that were housed under germ-free conditions or treated with antibiotics to reduce the number of bacteria living in the gut.

In both cases, CCM formation was dramatically reduced, demonstrating a key role for bacteria in the pathology of CCM disease.

They then looked at data on human CCM patients.

"Some of these patients experience severe stroke by the age of two and others have no symptoms over their lifetime," Kahn said. "What makes the disease outcome so variable?"

Discovered

They discovered that people with more TLR4 receptors tended to have a higher number of CCM lesions, suggesting that the issue identified in mice is also present in humans.

These studies identify an unexpected, direct link between the microbiome and a common cerebrovascular disease.

"This suggests that treatments designed to block TLR4 signaling or alter the microbiome may be used to treat this disease," Dr Kahn said.

Daily Mail



INDIAN SPICE IMPROVES BONE DENSITY BY UP TO 7 PER CENT

TURMERIC helps to build and repair bone mass in the elderly, a new study reveals.

Taking a supplement of the popular Indian spice improves bone density by up to seven per cent over six months, researchers found.

A compound in turmeric, known as curcumin, is thought to balance out cells that remove ageing parts

of bone before it is replaced, according to previous findings.

Almost three quarters of elderly people suffer declining bone density, which can cause osteoporosis and is responsible for around 65 000 potentially fatal fractures each year in the UK.

Bones in their heels, jaws and fingers were measured at the start

of the study using ultrasound scanning. After six months, those taking a daily supplement of turmeric and soy lecithin boosted their bone density by seven per cent.

Combining turmeric with soy lecithin is thought to prevent it from being destroyed by the stomach, so it reaches the small intestine where it is absorbed.

Bone mineral density is maintained through an appropriate balance of bone-building cells, known as osteoclasts, which 'mop up' ageing cells that need replacing.

In older people, osteoclast activity may outweigh the rate of bone replacement.

Previous studies have identified curcumin has bone-building properties in animal models.

Stefano Togni, scientific spokesman for Indena, which researches plant-based treatments, said, "our [previous] work suggests curcumin dampens down the rate of bone resorption."

Although the most recent study's results are promising, experts warn the effect will unlikely occur if you eat turmeric in its powder form, as this is less easily absorbed.

The findings may come as good news for those advised to take bisphosphonate drugs, which maintain bone density by reducing the rate of cell breakdown, the researchers said. Recent research has suggested that using these drugs long term may cause bone 'microcracks'.

Daily Mail

Employment equity: Time to swap the carrot with the stick

THE latest report from the Commission for Employment Equity, released on Tuesday, shows marginal progress and paints a bleak picture of the progress of transformation in the workplace.

"Black people, women and persons with disabilities, who were disadvantaged by the previous dispensation, remain disadvantaged, 22 years into democracy and 18 years after the enactment of the Employment Equity Act," chairperson Tabeka Kabinde said in the report.

"The report again demonstrates a very slow pace of transformation in South African workplaces. Black people, women and persons with disabilities remain under-represented at top and senior management levels. It is not an exaggeration to say that not much has changed."

According to Statistics SA's 2016 third quarter figures, whites account for 9.5 per cent of the economically active population (EAP) and black Africans 78 per cent. The commission's 2016-17 report says whites fill 68.5 per cent of top management jobs, six times their EAP. Africans account for 14.4 per cent. Males fill 78 per cent of top management jobs. Whites account for 58.1 per cent of senior managers compared to 22.1 per cent of Africans. At the lower levels, Africans fare better, but still don't match their EAP figures, accounting for 60.2 per cent of skilled technical workers and 76.1 per cent of semi-skilled workers.

"The continued high rate at which the white group appears to be afforded preferential treatment for recruitment, promotion and training opportunities at [top management] level is of concern. This trend renders it highly unlikely to achieve equitable representation at this level in the near future," concluded the report. The situation is similar at senior management level.

The report listed a number of challenges. Some employers resist employment equity policies and don't see transformation as an imperative or incorporate it into business plans. They lack prescribed equity targets and there is inadequate monitoring



MARGINAL: The latest report from the Commission for Employment Equity shows marginal progress and paints a bleak picture of the progress of transformation in the workplace.

from employees and trade unions.

The slow pace of transformation has led to renewed calls for increased punitive action. In 2014, the Employment Equity Act was amended so companies failing to prepare or implement equity plans can be fined up to R2.7 million or 10 per cent of turnover for the worst repeat offenders.

During 2016-17, 192 companies were referred for prosecution. Of those, 19 have paid R18.5 million and 79 are not opposing the fines and will have to pay R118.5 million. The rest of the transgressors are opposing their cases, involving fines of R135 million. More punitive action might be needed, said the commission.

Labour Minister Mildred Oliphant on Tuesday defended employment equity and affirmative action policies. "It is the only show in town, ladies and gentlemen, and for that reason we have no choice but to make it work." Government must "up the ante", she said, noting that 50 per cent of companies fined for non-compliance are listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange. She called for "stick" measures after "carrot" incentives have failed. The commission said it's urgent that the minister should promulgate Section 53 of the Act. That would mean non-compliant employers are barred from doing business with the state. In a state-

ment, ANC spokesperson Zizi Kodwa on Tuesday condemned companies resisting transformation and said, "we must also consider greater consequence management beyond fining for non-compliance to include judicial action for behaviour which is contrary to the spirit of the Constitution which has as one of its fundamental values the achievement of equality."

COSATU spokesperson Sizwe Pamla supported the banning of non-compliant companies from working with government and also called for further legal penalties. "Government itself has continued to do business with the very same companies, giving them no reason to comply. This lack of political will and decisive leadership has not just comforted the employers but emboldened them to start pushing back."

In a statement, the Black Management Forum (BMF), said, "there are a number of gate-keepers within corporate South Africa that are not aligned to the project of a non-racial, non-sexist democratic country. They don't understand the rationale and the bigger picture of what needs to be done to achieve the much needed socio-economic transformation for a more progressive South Africa."

"It is clear that self-regulation by companies has been a failure and the proposed punitive measure is a step in the right direction. Our call for the employment equity tribunal still stands

because until there are consequences for lack of compliance, transformation will remain an illusion," added BMF president Mncane Mthunzi.

Business Unity South Africa (BUSA) CEO Tanya Cohen said "very different" measures are needed to implement transformation goals. She suggested that voluntary compliance is preferable, but the proposed increased punitive measures could help.

DA shadow labour minister Ian Ollis, however, blamed the employment equity challenge on a failure to develop skills. "Clearly, the slow pace of change is due to the ANC's blind obsession with top-down quotas and neglect of real skills development," he said. "If skills development had been prioritised as it should have been, we would be seeing far more diversity in the top tiers of professions." In the past, the SA Chamber of Commerce and Industry has taken a similar position on the need for more skilled workers who can drive transformation.

The Commission for Employment Equity works extensively to educate and assist employers to meet equity requirements and in the past has been reluctant to emphasise punitive measures. It seems likely, however, that non-compliant businesses will soon be barred from doing business with the state. The introduction of further punishments could follow. *Daily Maverick*

How South Africa's violent notion of masculinity harms us all

A glance at the court roll for Wednesday 10 May 2017 reveals – for the thousandth time – that something is very, very wrong in South Africa.

Across the country, across race, age, and class groups, an epidemic of male-perpetrated violence is taking place daily. Its victims include women and children, but they are predominantly other men.

Wednesday was an average day in South Africa. On that day, a 22-year-old man made his first appearance in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court. Until recently, he was an assistant boarding master at Parktown

Boys High School, and also a water polo coach. He is described as a former "star water polo player" at the school, and a "popular staff member". After surveillance footage emerged of the man allegedly fondling the genitals of a Grade 10 pupil, other pupils have come forward with damning accusations against him. He now faces charges of having sexually assaulted at least 20 male pupils and raped one.

Just down the road on the same day, in the Johannesburg High Court, the murder trial of George Barkhuizen was set to begin. In June 2015, Barkhuizen's wife Odette

was killed after being shot twice outside her office, in the head and chest. The crime was initially considered to be a hijacking, but suspicion subsequently fell on Barkhuizen after it emerged that he had allegedly taken out life insurance on his wife worth R7.5-million a few weeks prior to the attack, together with allegedly emailing the insurer to confirm that they would pay out in the event of her death during a hijacking. One of Barkhuizen's sons told journalists that his mother had suffered lengthy abuse at the hands of his father. "He has thrown screwdrivers at her, and hit her on

the head while she was pregnant and even while he was driving," he was quoted as saying. "My mom said she was scared to leave him because she was afraid he would kill someone or her."

In Cape Town, another murder trial was continuing on the same day. In the dock was 22-year-old Henri van Breda, accused of having slain with an axe his parents and brother, and seriously injuring his sister, in January 2015. Police have no other suspects, and there was no sign of forced intrusion to the family home, though Van Breda's defence team has thus far sought to suggest that an external invasion was possible.

At the Mitchell's Plain Magistrate's Court that same Wednesday, the bail application of 31-year-old Randy Tango was set to resume. *Daily Maverick*

Wit & Wisdom

● "A person's a person, no matter how small."
— Dr. Seuss, *Horton Hears a Who!*

● "Do you remember me telling you we are practicing non-verbal spells, Potter?"
"Yes," said Harry stiffly.
"Yes, sir."

"There's no need to call me 'sir' Professor." The words had escaped him before he knew what he was saying."
— J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*

● "Books are a uniquely portable magic."
— Stephen King, *On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft*

● "When adults say, 'teenagers think they are invincible' with that sly, stupid smile on their faces, they don't know how right they are. We need never be hopeless, because we can never be irreparably broken. We think that we are invincible because we are. We cannot be born, and we cannot die. Like all energy, we can only change shapes and sizes and manifestations. They forget that when they get old. They get scared of losing and failing. But that part of us greater than the sum of our parts cannot begin and cannot end, and so it cannot fail."
— John Green, *Looking for Alaska*

● "I finally understood what true love meant...love meant that you care for another person's happiness more than your own, no matter how painful the choices you face might be."
— Nicholas Sparks, *Dear John*

● "Memories warm you up from the inside. But they also tear you apart."
— Haruki Murakami, *Kafka on the Shore*

"Knowing yourself is the beginning of all wisdom."
— Aristotle

● "Oh, I wouldn't mind, Hazel Grace. It would be a privilege to have my heart broken by you."
— John Green, *The Fault in Our Stars*

● "I love you as certain dark things are to be loved, in secret, between the shadow and the soul."
— Pablo Neruda, *100 Love Sonnets*

● "Thomas Edison's last words were 'It's very beautiful over there'. I don't know where there is, but I believe it's somewhere, and I hope it's beautiful."
— John Green, *Looking for Alaska*

● "He's not perfect. You aren't either, and the two of you will never be perfect. But if he can make you laugh at least once, causes you to think twice, and if he admits to being human and making mistakes, hold onto him and give him the most you can. He isn't going to quote poetry, he's not thinking about you every moment, but he will give you a part of him that he knows you could break. Don't hurt him, don't change him, and don't expect for more than he can give. Don't analyze. Smile when he makes you happy, yell when he makes you mad, and miss him when he's not there. Love hard when there is love to be had. Because perfect guys don't exist, but there's always one guy that is perfect for you."
— Bob Marley

BUSINESS UPDATE

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VITALS

Prime Rate	10.75%
First National Bank	
Inflation Rate	6%
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 RATES

Correct as at 11 MAY 2017

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	13.4438	13.4938
British Pound/SZL	17.3962	17.4609
Japanese Yen/SZL	8.4565	8.4872
Swiss France/SZL	13.3344	13.3800
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.2798	1.2873
Australian Dollar/SZL	9.8865	9.9260
Canadian Dollar/SZL	9.7901	9.8236
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	5.5211	5.5942
Euro/SZL	14.6208	14.6751
Gold	1,222.2600	
Oil	47.3000	

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Standard Bank

SD's INFLATION DROPS TO 3rd HIGHEST IN SACU

By Manqoba Makhubu

THE country's headline inflation rate has further dropped to third highest compared to other Southern African Customs Union (SACU) member states.

In February, the country recorded the second highest inflation rate after leading the pack for about six months.

According to data recently released by SACU, Namibia recorded the highest change in consumer prices in March at 7.0 per cent, followed by South Africa at 6.1 per cent and then Swaziland with 6.0 per cent. Lesotho and Botswana recorded

the least change in consumer prices; Lesotho recorded 4.4 per cent while Botswana recorded 3.5 per cent.

"All member states continued to record a single digit annual inflation rate during the month of March 2017," said the report.

By end of March, monetary policy stance in member states remained generally accommodative with the repo rate or bank rate ranging between 5.5 per cent and 7.25 per cent.

"Monetary stance was unaltered between March 2017 and February 2017 in all member states. During the month of March 2017, the highest prime lending rate was observed in Lesotho at 11.69 per cent, followed by Namibia at 10.75 per cent,

Swaziland (10.75 per cent), South Africa (10.50 per cent), and Botswana (7.0 per cent)," reads the report in part.

The country's annual inflation rate eased to 6.0 per cent in March from 6.8 per cent in the preceding month.

Deceleration

The report said the main contributor to the deceleration in prices between March 2017 and March 2016 was mainly the cost of food and non-alcoholic beverages and transport which accounts for 29.2 per cent and 10.5 per cent of the overall inflation basket.

"The other main category in the basket based on the weight, the housing and utilities category reflect-

ed an increase of 3.7 per cent in March 2017 compared to 5.0 per cent in March 2016. On average, prices increased by 0.1 per cent between March 2017 and February 2017," said the report.

This suggests that the situation has normalised following the drought that affected the country.

In an early interview, University of Swaziland (UNISWA) economist Lecturer Sanele Sibiya said the past high inflation rate was mainly exacerbated by the El Nino induced drought coupled with the volatility of the lilangeni against the greenback.

This consequently affected the country's trade balance.



HAPPY PEOPLE: Micro-Finance Unit Programme Facilitator James Manyatsi with Mhlophe Mhlanga and Sonia Paiva.



WELL DONE: Sonia Paiva handing over a certificate to Nomphumelelo Dlamini.



REPRESENTING: Carlos Paiva with some of the winners at the certificate presentation. (Pics: Majaha Nkonyane)

WWF introduces Youth Farmer of the Year competition

By Majaha Nkonyane

THE older generation of Woman Farmer of the Year Competition (WOFACO) will soon be handing over the baton with young people in a new farming competition to be entitled 'Youth Farmer of the Year Competition.'

The idea was introduced by Woman Farmer Foundation founder Sonia Paiva yesterday.

"As Woman Farmer we see the need to rope in the youth so to ensure that the farming industry continues to leave on, we understand that the youth is profit oriented and that is why we need to be innovative when dealing with the young person," she said.

She said the programme would focus more on agriculture business



NEW IDEA: Woman Farmer Foundation founder Sonia Paiva speaking during the certification ceremony.

and the different aspects of income generating strategies for the youth. "We are engaging on a youth mentorship programme that will focus

on poverty alleviation and grooming the girl child into farming," she said.

Paiva said the programme will be coordinated by another person who is a dairy science graduate.

Co-ordinate

"In order to win the hearts of young people will be working with another young person who will co-ordinate this programme and help other young people see the need of getting into the farming business," she said.

"We are now looking at a bigger picture where we will be focusing on expanding into bigger markets where we explore all the sections of farming from tractor hire, harrowing, and marketing," she further stated.

The Woman Farmer Foundation is also celebrating its tenth year

anniversary which according to Paiva will incorporate the top ten.

"We want to check how beneficiaries of the programme have been doing in their different businesses. We also want to see if our winners have stayed in farming and how this has helped them. We are also checking the challenges they have had over the years in the industry," she said.

The Youth Farmer of the Year competition programme will be working with young people between the ages of 18 and 35.

"The programme will not only focus on farming as we are open to other forms of businesses that will benefit young people. We are yet to release more information on this project in the next coming months and young people should be on the lookout," she said.

Wednesday T-Bills auction rakes in E140 million

By Manqoba Makhubu

GOVERNMENT raked in E140 million during Wednesday's Treasury Bills auction.

The auction was for three government short debt instruments; 91 days, 182 days and 364 days T-Bills.

According to the Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) auction results, the total amount on offer for the 91 days T-Bill was E60 million, E40 million for the 182 days and E40 million for the 364 days T-Bill.

The CBS reported that both the 91 days E60 million and 182 days E40 million T-Bills were fully allotted. For the 364 days T-Bill, only E23.13 million was allotted from the possible E40 mil-

lion.

The data shows that competitive bids received for the 91 days E60 million paper stood at E80 million and E53.26 million was allotted, competitive received for the 182 days E40 million stood at E40 million and E35.89 million was allotted. For the 364 days E40 million T-Bill, the competitive bids received were worth E30 million and E20 million was allotted.

Total non-competitive bids for the 91 days paper edged at E6.74 million, E4.11 million for the 182 days T-Bill and E2.13 million for the 364 days T-Bill and they were all fully allotted.

The average discount rate at last successful auction was 8.162 per cent for the 91 days paper, 8.336 per cent for the 182 days paper and 8.446 per cent

for the 364 days commercial paper.

The average competitive yield was 8.332 per cent for the 91 days paper, 8.697 per cent for the 182 days and 9.225 per cent for the 364 days T-Bill.

The CBS seeks to raise E180 million in next week's auction.

As at the end of March, domestic debt stood at E5.85 billion as at end of March 2017, equivalent of 10.7 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP).

This shows that domestic debt levels have remained unchanged in the period under review," reported the CBS.

The CBS said while commercial banks continued to dominate participation in government securities on the shorter end of the yield curve, non-bank financial institutions dominate on the longer term securities.

Mobile companies still discussing network infrastructure sharing

By Manqoba Makhubu

SWAZI Mobile has not yet closed the deal for network infrastructure sharing with Swazi MTN.

Responding to a question asked by this reporter during a tour of the new mobile company's switching area by Minister of Information, Communications and Technology Dumisani Ndlangamandla on Wednesday, Swazi Mobile Chief Marketing Officer Khulile Dlamini said there were still ongoing discussions with regards to the network infrastructure sharing.

He also explained that the purpose of the test call to be made by the company next week was meant to test their installed equipment.

Amid the ongoing network infrastructure sharing discussions, Dlamini said they would also be installing base towers around the country.

"We have made a commitment that come July, we will be going

live and we have to keep that commitment," he said.

Section 24 (2) (g) of the Electronic Communications Facilities Sharing Regulations 2016 provides for the promotion of fair competition through equal access being granted to the installations and facilities of operators in mutually agreed terms, it also provides for the mandatory sharing of essential facilities.

In an early response to a questionnaire sent by this publication, Swaziland Communications Commission General Manager Lindiwe Dlamini explained that Section 14 (3) (g) of the regulation also makes provision for guidance and encourages operators to pursue a cost-oriented policy with the added effect of a reduction in the tariffs chargeable to consumers.

Adding, Dlamini said the request for infrastructure sharing has to be made in writing via the commission and the specifications are clearly provided for.

ADRA EMPOWERS SMALL HOLDER FARMERS

By Majaha Nkonyane

THE Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) has joined hands with small holder farmers in the Lubombo and Shiselweni regions.

The programme is meant to alleviate poverty and strengthen resilience of poor smallholder farmers and people living with HIV/AIDS through increased agriculture production.

Minister of Agriculture Moses Vilakati expressed his excitement towards the programme during its launch held at Mpolonjeni in Siteki on Wednesday.

"Programmes like these are very close to my heart, especially when they are well targeted such as this one which is targeted to the most vulnerable regions of our country," he said.

The minister thanked the EU for sponsoring the programme.

"I wish to thank ADRA-UK for co-financing this livelihood initiative and sponsoring," he said.

Drastic

Vilakati said climate change has caused drastic food insecurity among rural communities and has had negative consequences in agricultural production.

"Therefore, there is a need to build resilience into our agricultural systems," he said.

Adding, Vilakati said the programme would target drought tolerant crops suitable for this agro ecological zone.

These crops include sweet potatoes and sorghum.

The minister said he was convinced that sorghum would be suitable for the area.

The programme will encompass crop diversification and it will use the establishment of food and nutrition gardens.



GRATEFUL: Minister of Agriculture Moses Vilakati speaking at Mpolonjeni.

"Crop diversification is one rational and cost effective method of increased agricultural crop production, it has been proven that crop diversification can improve resilience by buffering crop production from the effects of greater climate variability and extreme events," said Vilakati.

Meanwhile, Vilakati said the ministry draws most of its strength from a number of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and they have had a meaningful contribution towards the development of the sector.

"They have helped in the development of our agriculture performance through the contributions that they make to the food basket of the country," he said.

Vilakati further urged ADRA to add more constituencies to the ones targeted by the project. "Our agriculture has been recognised as the sector that has to provide answers to the variety of situations brought about by stressors impacting negatively on agricultural production which further reduces the availability of food," he said.



BIG WINNERS: Woman Farmer Foundation top 10 posing for a picture after they were awarded with certificates.

WOFACO top 10 receive international training

By Majaha Nkonyane

THE Woman Farmer Foundation (WFF) has exposed 10 of the large scale category competitors in the Woman Farmer of the Year Competition (WOFACO) to a farming training.

The training was held in Delmas, South Africa and was facilitated by Hygro College at Qutom Farm.

Speaking during the certification of the WOFACO 2016/17 top 10, the title holder of the competition Mhlophe Mhlanga said they were very grateful for the exposure opportunity. "We had a great experience in our trip which was mostly about learning, we were taught a number of things which will benefit us a lot as farmers," she said.

The training according to Mhlanga covered fertilising soil, attending to basic plant nutrition, planting crops under supervision, recognising pests, diseases, and weeds on crops and harvesting agricultural crops.

"We are grateful for this chance and I have already done soil conditioning. The exposure I got has helped me gain necessary skills on chemical use, harvesting and marketing. This has also been an opportunity for us as



BIG WINNER: Women Farmer of the year winner 2015/16 Mhlophe Mhlanga posing with her reading material she got from New York. This was at Riders Ranch yesterday. (Pics: Majaha Nkonyane).

woman to work on creating a savings scheme," she said.

The top 10 women during their Delmas trip were also able to create a saving scheme from money which was given to them for personal use.

"We were all given E1 500 which was money for personal use, but we decided to create a savings scheme with the women which would benefit us as farmers. We collected E10 500 which is money that we will use to open an account at Nedbank to assist each other with savings," she said.

WFF's Carlos Paiva said the empowered women would now become ambassadors and teachers to other farmers in their different communities.

"I would encourage you to go train other women in your areas what you have been taught. We have to share knowledge on a number of things that will benefit other aspiring farmers. We also need to support each other as farmers because farming is another route in entrepreneurship which helps us fight poverty," he said.

22 BUSINESS

JOHANNESBURG - In the wake of the recent downgrades of the country's credit rating, investors should not fall into the trap of panic selling and should distinguish between the economy and the market, because not all listed entities are susceptible to the factors affecting the local economy, Graham Tucker, the Manager of the Old Mutual Balanced Fund, said on Wednesday.

Standard & Poor's Global Ratings last month cut South Africa's foreign currency debt to sub-investment grade, while Fitch Ratings cut the country's foreign currency and local currency ratings to sub-investment grade.

Tucker said panic selling was one of the risks of the downgrades. He said the South African equity market has held up well despite the downgrades.

"Many of the big listed companies have a large global footprint, which means their performance is more affected by the rand and what's going on globally, as opposed to what's happening on a local level," he said.

He said in the past 10 years there had been a shift in the composi-

'INVESTORS MUST AVOID PANIC SELLING'

tion of the South African equity market, and an increasing number of shares have global exposure. He said some of the major companies have extensive investments outside South Africa.

He cited multinational internet and media group Naspers as an example. "A big driver of what happens at Naspers is what happens in China and (its affiliate), Tencent.

Assuming

The same can be said for Richemont and Anheuser-Busch InBev. There is an assumption that, if an economy goes in a particular direction, the market will do the same.

That is not often the case. But there are stocks such as Imperial and Foschini which will respond to factors in the local economy. These factors must be looked at

on a stock-by-stock basis," he said.

He said recently there have been higher flows into the South African bond market as investors shifted their focus towards emerging-market funds and bond funds. He said that, with a yield of between 8.5 and 9 per cent, the South African bond market was relatively attractive in global terms.

"That has contributed to the inflows," he said.

Tucker said South Africa remained reasonably safe within global bond benchmarks, which were constructed on the basis of the credit quality of the local component of the debt issued.

"However, if both Moody's and S&P's also downgrade the local-currency rating to sub-investment grade, as Fitch has already done, South Africa would be excluded

from the largest global bond index, the Citigroup World Bond Index, which would likely result in a significant outflow of foreign investor money," he said.

Rating

He said a downgrade in the rand rating by the two agencies could result in an outflow of money, mainly from passive funds.

"To put this into context, the proportion of the local bond market that is owned by foreigners is roughly 31 per cent. In the event of South Africa being excluded from this global bond index, these foreign investors could be forced to sell, which would have a material impact on the rand and the country's ability to issue credit at a reasonable price in future," he said.

Business Report Online

Zambia to conclude a deal with the IMF

NAIROBI - Zambia will conclude a deal with the International Monetary Fund for as much as \$1.6 billion by the end of June, Finance Minister Felix Mutati said.

"We will conclude by the end of the second quarter," Mutati said in an interview Wednesday in Nairobi, the Kenyan capital. "There is no question on whether the deal comes through or not. The deal is coming through." The country has been talking about getting IMF aid since 2014 but an agreement has been delayed by two presidential elections, which made the required reforms politically unattractive. A team from the Washington-based lender visited Zambia last month and will return at the end of May to continue the discussions, according to Alfredo Baldini, the fund's representative in the country.

The southern African nation, the continent's second-biggest copper producer, has struggled with ballooning budget deficits in recent years as metal prices fell and government spending increased.

The IMF is evaluating Zambia's loan application and the nation can secure \$1.3 billion to \$1.6 billion, Mutati said. "You submit and have a conversation," he said. "They have internal evaluation; they come back and ask questions. It's a typical process that happens to all countries without exception."

The IMF loan would be a "growth enabler" and help the government to broaden its sources of external credit, Mutati said. Zambia's external debt has increased to \$6.9 billion while the total debt stock stands at about \$10 billion, according to the government. It has sold \$3 billion in Eurobonds, the most recent sale being \$1.25 billion in 2015. *Bloomberg*



DStv Zimbabwe payments tightened further

JOHANNESBURG - Banks in Zimbabwe have further tightened the screws on payments for MultiChoice's platform, DStv, halting internet and point-of-sale payments as the cash squeeze in the country worsens.

Meanwhile, the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe has said it would not introduce \$10 (R135), \$20 and \$50 bond notes. Zimbabwe has about \$140million (R1.8 billion) in bonds in circulation, but these had not curbed a shortage of bank notes. According to government officials, these bond notes were equal in value to the US dollar.

"The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe wished to advise of the false state-

ments being circulated on social media regarding the introduction of \$10, \$20 and \$50 bond notes, the prohibition of use of MasterCard, Visa card and Maestro outside the country," John Mangudya, the Governor of the central bank, said. Most banks have, however, advised depositors that they had to make special arrangements to use their debit cards outside the country. But debit cards such as Visa and MasterCard did not pay for DStv subscriptions for non-account holders with Zimbabwean banks. However, some banks such as the Post Office Savings Bank have been accepting US dollar payments for non-account holders. CABS, a bank owned by

Old Mutual in Zimbabwe, has written to depositors, saying that "DStv payments will only be available to Platinum and Gold class customers", while internet payments were also "unavailable". Zimbabwe is battling acute foreign currency shortages, and government officials have slammed spending on non-essential services such as DStv. In line with this, banks have been tightening payment options and now allow only one payment per account through local transfer, mobile banking and cash, which is in short supply. Banks are blaming the shifts in payment platforms for the pay television service on foreign currency shortages in Zimbabwe. *Bloomberg*

Shareholding in Spur rises to 7.48%

DURBAN - JSE listed company Grand Parade Investments, through its subsidiary Grand Food Investments 3 Proprietary Limited, has acquired a 7.48 per cent beneficial interest in Spur Corporation's securities.

As a result of the transaction, Grand Parade has increased its

shareholding in Spur to 17.48 per cent of the total issued share capital of Spur. Grand Parade Investments, which is based in the Western Cape, is a black-owned and controlled company with investments and operations in the gaming and leisure industries.

Business Report Online



KPMG purchases a foothold in fintech

CAPE TOWN - KPMG, the multinational professional services firm, said on Wednesday it has acquired Matchi, a financial technology (fintech) company, for an undisclosed amount as KPMG seeks a foothold in the increasingly lucrative fintech sector.

The Johannesburg and Hong Kong based Matchi said it has worked with more than 100 leading banks and insurance companies around the world. The company provides a searchable portal of fintech solutions and provides bespoke solutions. It operates in Africa, Japan, Canada, Mauritius and India. Pierre Fourie, a Financial Services Director at KPMG South Africa, said the acquisition of Matchi would strengthen the company's fintech market proposition.

"The Matchi platform offers a curated approach that is much more rigorous than fintech databases that merely provide lists. Its design makes it easy to identify, match and enable collaboration with the most innovative fintechs and global solutions to address the most pressing needs of clients," he said. *Business Report Online*

Zim brewer, Delta Corp's income down on tough economy

HARARE - Zimbabwean soft drink and alcoholic beverage consumers manufacturers have become choosy as they seek value propositions to survive the country's current economic difficulties but this has impacted on brewer, Delta Corporation, whose revenues for the year to March have declined 10 per cent to \$483 million.

Earnings per share in the company declined 12 per cent to 5.70 cents, the company said Wednesday. As a result of this, there will be no major capital intensive projects for this year, with the company electing instead to spend little on replacements.

Controlled

In the past year, Delta Corporation - which is now controlled by AB InBev after it merged with SABMiller invested about \$40 million in capital expenditure to build two breweries. Profit for the year amounted to \$69.8 million with dividend for the period set at 5.45 cents per share.

"The economic volatility in the country resulted in a very challenging operating environment. There have been difficulties in transacting for the public and this has made purchasing for our products difficult for consumers," Mathlogonolo Valela, executive director for finance said.

Delta Corp's lager beer consumption volumes for the period declined two 1.2 million hectolitres. Castle Lite volumes have however jumped by more than 100 per cent while Chibuku is showing some resilience.

The company has now lost about 800 000 hectolitres in lager beer since 2013 but expects fundamentals to now start improving owing to resilience in the value brands and the premium segment.

Business Report Online



Sasol concerned over clean fuel specs

JOHANNESBURG - The government should immediately resolve the uncertainty around the introduction of clean fuel specifications in order to ensure the sustainability of an industry that is a significant contributor to job creation and economic growth, according to a senior Sasol executive.

Five years ago, the government announced plans to introduce the new fuel specifications, which will require local petroleum companies to spend billions of rands in refurbishments in order to comply.

But fuel producers have complained about the high costs of operating the refineries. A report on the economic impact of the industry, - released in September last year, - said that without the same economies of scale, operating costs of refineries in South Africa were approximately 100 per cent more than those of competitors in South East Asia.

Sasol Executive Vice President of Energy Business, Maurice Radebe, said the industry contributed 8.5 per cent of South Africa's gross domestic product, with approximately R330 billion of annual turnover and an income tax of R4 billion. "If you have an industry that is strategic, it is important for the government to ensure that it is sustainable," he said.

He said the petroleum and liquid fuels industry should not suffer the same fate as the steel industry, which has been struggling due to the effects of a global overcapacity. "Let us do our best to protect (the petroleum and liquid fuels) industry for the sake of the economy," said Radebe. The fact that there had been no new developments on the fund-



CONCERNED: Sasol Executive Vice President of Energy Business Maurice Radebe says government should consider the implications of the delay in implementing clean fuel regulations.

ing mechanism for the refinery refurbishments caused "a great deal of uncertainty. We must make that decision quickly."

According to the South African Petroleum Industry Association (SAPIA), the body that represents the main petroleum and liquefied petroleum gas companies in South Africa, the local industry sells approximately 27 billion litres of petroleum a year.

Recent SAPIA figures showed that South Africa had the second largest refining capacity in Africa after Egypt, with a total refining capacity of 703 000 barrels a day.

He said some of the black economic empowerment (BEE) deals sealed in the industry had since been paid up. These included the deal between Sasol Oil and its BEE partner, Tshwarisano. "[Tshwarisano is] getting dividends," he said.

However, Radebe said the industry needed to improve the appointment of women to senior positions and the participation of previously disadvantaged South Africans in crude procurement.

The other elements of the charter were enterprise development, skills development and employment equity.

Business Report Online

Gupta's Tegeta settles Eskom penalty for R2 billion

JOHANNESBURG - Tegeta Exploration & Resources, a company part-owned by South Africa's Gupta family, reached an arbitrated settlement over a fine levied on its Optimum coal mine by power utility Eskom Holdings.

The R2 billion penalty was originally issued to the mine's previous owner, Glencore, which put Optimum into bankruptcy protection in August 2015 after Eskom refused to amend an unprofitable coal-supply contract and fined the producer because the fuel didn't meet specifications. Tegeta, a company in which both South African President Jacob Zuma's son, Duduzane,



and members of the Gupta family, who are friends with the president, have indirect interests, completed the purchase of the mine last year.

"We are not at liberty to disclose the contents of the agreement but at least we can say that the matter is now resolved,"

Khulu Phasiwe, a spokesman for the utility, said by phone. "Details cannot be divulged but the arbitrator has made an award."

Glencore spokesman Charles Watenphul declined to comment. Representatives of Gupta-controlled Oakbay

Investments, which owns a stake in Tegeta, didn't immediately reply to an email seeking comment.

Fine

"At the time of this transaction, it was an insane coal price contract with an insanely large fine," Peter Major, Director and Head of Mining at Cadiz Corporate Solutions, said of the Optimum sale. It's unlikely Tegeta would have bought the asset without expecting that the issues would be resolved, he said.

Peter Grauer, the chairman of Bloomberg LP, is a senior independent non-executive director at Glencore.

Bloomberg

PriceWaterhouseCoopers to review Eskom, Tegeta contracts

JOHANNESBURG - PriceWaterhouseCoopers has called for the review of the contracts Eskom entered into with Tegeta worth billions of rand,

This is one of the recommendations of the PwC report tabled in Parliament on Wednesday after the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer presented the long-

awaited report. In the report PwC said Eskom flouted supply chain management procedures and its own SCM policies in the contract. He said there were many viola-

tions in the contracts ranging from the quality of coal, the price of coal and the adjudication process.

Business Report Online



Rand reverses two days of losses

JOHANNESBURG - The rand snapped two days of losses on Wednesday as emerging markets broadly benefited from a retreating dollar after US President Donald Trump abruptly fired the FBI director.

The rand traded at R13.4446 to the dollar at 5pm, up 1.36 per cent on its overnight close of R13.63 in New York.

Treasury One currency trader, Andre Botha, said the rand was "enjoying the fruits of a risk posi-

tive scenario".

The rand hit a session-high of R13.43 to the dollar as demand for emerging assets returned to global markets after the sacking of FBI Chief James Comey raised questions about whether this latest crisis could compromise the implementation of the government's economic agenda.

In fixed income, government bonds also firmed. The yield for the benchmark instrument due in 2026 declined.

Reuters

Wage strike at CRG affects mine operation

JOHANNESBURG - Central Rand Gold (CRG) is being run with skeleton staff at its operation as the company grapples with a wage strike, it said on Wednesday.

The troubled JSE-listed gold and exploration company said it had lost five days of production due to the strike following a deadlock in wage talks.

CRG said it was talking with union officials at the Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA) to resolve issues.

"To date, May 10, the company has lost five days' production, as a direct result of the strike," the company said.

"On May 9 the picketing rules were signed at the CCMA, thus allowing non-striking workers to return to work. The operation will be run with skeleton staff in the interim."

CRG shares remained flat to close at 9 cents a share on the JSE yesterday. It announced that its shareholder Jia Bang Wang had made a fur-

ther cash injection as part of a loan for the installation of a concentrate circuit. Wang, its 9.48 per cent shareholder, provided the company with \$250 000 (R3.4 million) as part of a loan agreement to the tune of \$1m.

"The company is currently working with Wang to assist with the release of the balance of the loan monies," the company said. "The

board of directors are mindful of the company's cash position, which has been improved by the delivery of this tranche of the loan, and will continue to exercise prudence in its expenditure," it said.

It said it expected to update the market on progress of the shipping, instalment and commissioning of the concentrator circuit and would provide a further operational update in the coming days. The loan agreement with Wang last year would be provided in two tranches. It announced in January

it had received the first tranche of \$500 000. CRG expected the loan to provide the company with sufficient working capital for the immediate future and for the procurement, shipping, installation and commissioning of a concentrator circuit.

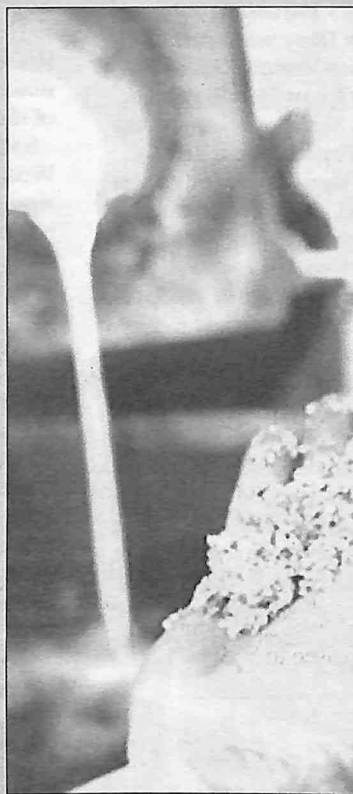
CRG, which has dropped 88 per cent in the year to date, announced its plan to purchase the concentrate circuit in an effort to upgrade its gold grade of the mine waste dumps materi-

als.

It previously said it expected the shipment and installation in the second quarter of 2017.

Last October CRG said it had executed an agreement to acquire mine waste dumps that contain 2.3 million tons of gold-bearing materials, with an average in-situ grade of 0.7 grams a ton.

Business Report Online



Focus on SA scene

PARLY SHOULD DEAL WITH ZUMA'S CABINET RESHUFFLE, NOT COURTS – MKHIZE

JOHANNESBURG - The ANC top-six member says the legislature, and not the judiciary, should have held the president accountable for the reshuffle.

ANC Treasurer-General Zweli Mkhize says President Jacob Zuma's reasons for reshuffling his Cabinet should have been questioned in Parliament and not in the courts. In an interview with News24 on Wednesday, Mkhize said he agreed with the ruling party's stance that the decision by Judge Bashier Vally, ordering Zuma to provide the DA with records and reasons for reshuffling his Cabinet on March 30, amounted to "judicial overreach".

In providing his reasons for the landmark ruling on Tuesday, Vally said rule 53 of the uniform rules of the court could also be applied to legal chal-

lenges to review and set aside an executive order or decision made by the president. Mkhize had a different view, telling the news website political appointees such as Cabinet ministers were not governed by the Public Service or Labour Act like other civil servants.

"We find this one to be quite uncomfortable because it strays into an area where it's more political decision making by the executive as opposed to what could have been ... administrative, so the question of judicial overreach arises in that kind of context," he said.

The ANC treasurer-general said MPs should have used the national legislature to hold the president accountable for reshuffling his executive team.

"If people were asking him in Parliament, I think that would have been appropriate. If people asked him why

did you appoint this person and not this person and raising it in Parliament, it would have been fair and that is the platform where he is supposed to account as the president appointed by that particular Parliament," Mkhize said.

The ANC had urged Zuma to appeal the judgement handed by Judge Vally last week Thursday.

The party believes that the decision could create a precedent for other future decisions taken by the president based on his constitutional prerogative to fire and appoint ministers to serve in government. In a twist to the ongoing story, on Wednesday, Zuma's lawyers requested the DA to hand over the so-called intelligence report he allegedly used to fire Pravin Gordhan and Mcebisi Jonas from the finance ministry.

Citizen

South African man faces R300k fine for climbing Everest

JOHANNESBURG - Former Scottburgh resident Ryan Sean Davy was fined R300 000 for trying to climb Mount Everest without a permit, South Coast Herald reports.

Davy, 42, told the Mail it was his greatest dream - now dashed by red tape.

He was ordered off the mountain and had his passport confiscated. Davy had obtained a trekker's information management system card on March 19 from the Nepalese Tourism Board, but not a climbing permit, which he needed in order to attempt summiting Everest legally. According to the Director-General of the country's department of tourism, Dinesh Bhattarai, Davy managed to head for Everest without being granted a climbing permit from the DoT.

Speaking to his followers on his Facebook page, Davy said, "I am going to be honest in saying that, when I arrived at Base Camp, it became evident that I didn't have nearly enough money for a solo permit because of hidden costs and, even if I did, they would have declined it because I had no previous mountaineering experience on record. *eNCA*



GUILTY: Former Scottburgh resident Ryan Sean Davy.

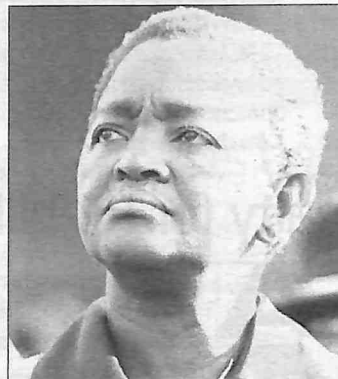
SASSA needs R6-billion, Dlamini tells Parliament

CAPE TOWN - Social Development Minister Bathabile Dlamini has urged South Africans to accept the R6-billion she says is needed to make sure Sassa takes full control of the grants payment system.

Speaking before Parliament on Wednesday, she told MPs it's going to take five years to set up a one-stop payment shop.

It's the first time Sassa CEO Thokozani Magwaza and Dlamini have been seen side by side in Parliament, amid reports they have a frosty relationship following the SASSA grants debacle that played out earlier this year. The Constitutional Court has given SASSA another 10 months to use the company Cash Paymaster Systems to deliver social grants, as SASSA was created primarily to pay out grants and so should not be paying an external company to do its job.

But the minister says it is going to take another five years before Sassa



NEED FUNDS: Social Development Minister Bathabile Dlamini.

can do it alone. "We have agreed that it's not going to take 12 months to bring the whole programme to its totality," she said. "Yes, the company paying has to go, we agree, but this is going to be a five-year process and the estimation we have is plus minus R6-billion. *eNCA*

DA to counter Zuma appeal

JOHANNESBURG - The DA says it will vigorously resist President Jacob Zuma's latest legal move, calling it a fruitless delay tactic on the part of the president.

Zuma has asked the DA to provide his legal team with the so-called intelligence report linked to Pravin Gordhan and Mcebisi Jonas's axing but Chairperson of the DA Federal Council James Selfe says the party will refer

Zuma's legal team back to their client, the president himself.

Selfe says the DA will in its response also refer to the ANC NWC statement issued after the Cabinet reshuffle, as well as media reports about the so-called intelligence report.

Zuma is appealing a court ruling that ordered him to fully explain his decision to fire former finance minister Gordhan and his deputy. *eNCA*

Ex-ANCYL regional leader sentenced to 20 years for murdering girlfriend

JOHANNESBURG - Convicted killer and former African National Congress Youth League regional leader Patrick Wisani was yesterday sentenced to an effective 20 years in prison for the murder of his girlfriend.

Judge Ismail Mohamed gave Wisani 20 years for murder, one year for assault and one year for intimidation.

The assault and intimidation counts would run concurrently with the murder sentence. Wisani appeared in the High Court in Johannesburg yesterday before a packed public gallery.

The court gallery was packed to capacity with members of People opposing Women Abuse (POWA) and Sonke Gender Justice.

"The accused's actions were careless. The accused showed no remorse," Mohamed said.

"I agree this was not a premeditated murder but rather that you acted in rage and anger."

Mohamed said the 31-year-old was a first offender and he was also educated.

On November 21, 2016, the court

found him guilty of killing Nosipho Mandleleni in their Yeoville home in 2015. Judge Mohamed had previously said Wisani had beaten Mandleleni like a slave master would beat his slaves. "This was not two people arguing and someone punched with a fist." Wisani's lawyer, Come Kriel, agreed that it was a vicious attack, but without the intention to commit murder. He asked for a minimum sentence of 15 years, part of which should be suspended.

"He should not be thrown away as worthless and not be given any hope.

He is still young and can be rehabilitated," Kriel said at the time.

Prosecutor Faghere Mohamed argued for a minimum sentence of life imprisonment.

"The pictures of the deceased before the court show the brutality of this act. The deceased must have endured excruciating pain."

Wisani was heartless for allowing her to bleed to death;

he was arrogant and had intimidated witnesses," he said. *News24*



CONVICTED KILLER: Former African National Congress Youth League regional leader Patrick Wisani.

Women have always been ready to lead – Molewa

JOHANNESBURG - It would be a mistake for two women to be pitted against each other in the ANC's succession, said ANC International Relations sub-committee Chairperson and ANC Women's League National Executive committee member Edna Molewa.

Although the ANC's nomination process for presidential nominations is yet to officially start, the names of three women Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, Baleka Mbete and Lindiwe Sisulu - have been bandied about along with Cyril Ramaphosa as possible candidates to replace Jacob Zuma when he steps down as ANC President in December.

Molewa, in a wide ranging interview with News24 on the party's international policies and the succession debate, said women in the ANC needed to be careful not to be seen as though they were competing against one another and thus dividing votes among themselves.

"It would be a big mistake for two women to be put together, against two men or even one man," she said.

If it's two women who emerge as two women [in the race], only then will there be nothing wrong, Molewa said.

Split

But she said it would also not be "nice" if women had to split their preferences because women were competing against one another.

"As women, we are still fighting our own struggles of arriving at full liberation and therefore it is necessary that in whatever we do, we get extremely careful about not exposing ourselves," said Molewa.

The ANC Women's League has endorsed Dlamini-Zuma as their presidential candidate for the December elective conference. It will be the first time that a woman is a candidate in the party's presidential race.

News24



1. SCARY: Hamar women of the Lower Omo Valley, southern Ethiopia willingly submit themselves to be whipped during the ceremony of Ukuli Bula. **2. DEMONSTRATION:** The ceremony is believed to be a demonstration of the women's capacity for love, and in later life - perhaps when they've become widowed - they will look to the boys who whipped them years before to request help. **3. BOYS:** To reach manhood, Hamar boys must undergo two rituals: circumcision and a leap over bulls. This determines whether the young Hamar male is ready to make the social jump from youth to adulthood. (AP)

WOMEN WHO BEG TO BE WHIPPED...

A tribal ceremony during which young women are whipped in order to show the sacrifices they make for men is revealed in a series of photographs.

Members of the Hamar tribe in Ethiopia believe the elaborate scars demonstrate a woman's capacity for love, and if they fall on hard times later in life it allows them to call on those who whipped them for help.

Women are whipped as part of a rite of passage ceremony for boys, when female family members declare their love for the young man at the heart of the celebration.

After the ceremony the boy becomes a man, and is allowed to marry.

The brutal tradition is known as Ukuli Bula, and was captured by photographer Jeremy Hunter. Instead of fleeing, women beg men to whip them again during the ceremony, held in the Omo River Valley.

To reach manhood, Hamar boys must undergo two rituals, circumcision and a leap over bulls. This determines whether the young Hamar male is ready to make the social jump from youth to adulthood.

Transition

Men can make the transition to manhood if they can successfully complete a bull jump, carried out why naked. They are required to walk over 15 cattle in the ceremony, after which they are allowed to marry.

Hamar women are some of the most elaborately dressed of the region - with goatskin skirts decorated with glass beads, whilst their hair is covered with a mixture of grease and red ochre. Elaborate scarification of the body is also the custom of the Hamar at least two children have been born. Under Hamar rules, a man need not explain why he's delivering a beating. It is his prerogative to mete out as he sees fit.

The majority of the 20 000 strong Hamar people live in the Omo River Valley, a fertile part of the vast Southern Nations, Nationalities, and Peoples' Region of south-west Ethiopia, which is bordered by Kenya and South Sudan. Most

still live in traditional villages, although growing numbers are migrating to the region's cities and towns as well as the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa.

No screaming is permitted by the men wielding the canes but the women don't care. Instead of fleeing, they beg the men to do it again and again until blood flows, dripping into the gritty red dust of the Omo River Valley.

A woman's body carries the injuries

from the whipping, carried out by a Maza from the tribe, and the scars are said to demonstrate her capacity for love. The brutal tradition happens at rite of passage ceremonies for tribal men.

The women trumpet and sing, extolling the virtues of the young man at the heart of the ceremony, declaring their love for him and for their desire to be marked by the whip.

A Hamar woman shows off her

carefully braided hair and treasure trove of bright beads, shells and metal bangles.

Most still live in traditional villages, although growing numbers are migrating to the region's cities and towns as well as the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa.

For men, male decoration is sim-

pler with the exception of their facial painting which denote status and progression up the social ladder.

A key element of the ceremony is the whipping of young women who are family members or relatives of the boy undertaking the Rite-of-Passage.

Daily Mail

Death Notice
NICHOLAS THULASIZWE GUMEDE
APRIL 24, 1963 - MAY 06, 2017

The Gumede and Dlamini Families would like to sadly announce the Sudden passing on of **Dr Nicholas T. Gumede** to be with the Lord on the morning of the 6th May 2017.

Memorial Services:
Friday 12 May 2017 at 12:00pm at St. Michael's Chapel, Manzini
Short prayer service at 7pm, **Gumede residence at Lusushwana, Matsapha (opposite Matsapha Inn)**

Requiem Mass:
Saturday 13 May 2017 at 5:00am at St. George's & St. James Church, Manzini
Proceeding to Golf Course Cemetery Manzini.
Rest in peace Mnguni Phisa Majoye KaNdawndwe!

Happy Mother's Day
To all beautiful Mothers who gave us life and love. Wishing you a life full of prosperity

Dine with us for our
Mother's Day Lunch or Dinner
@ E250.00 per person

SUNDAY 14 MAY 2017

BOOK NOW!!!
Tel: +268 2416 1670 / 2416 2873
Fax: +268 2416 1491
Email: reservations@sibanehotel.co.sz
www.sibanehotel.co.sz

TGH
The George Hotel
The best place to stay in Swaziland

Mothers Day Buffet Lunch

Treat her to a beautiful afternoon & a delectable meal this Mothers Day.

E195/person
Sunday
14 May 2017
12 to 4pm

Room & Spa: \$2000
E220
Fairy God Mother Spa: \$2000
E270

To make a booking, call (+268) 2505-2260 or email reservations@tgh.co.sz

BRIEFS

Burial chamber dating 3 700 years found

CAIRO - Egypt's ministry of antiquities says a burial chamber dating back about 3 700 years has been found, attached to a recently discovered pyramid belonging to the 13th Dynasty. The ministry says the discovery was made at an archaeological site in the area of Dahshour, on the outskirts of Giza. The ministry says the chamber was likely that of the daughter of 13th Dynasty King Emmikamaw, whose pyramid is located about 600m away. Wednesday's statement says the chamber contains four canopic jars and a plate with hieroglyphic writings meant to protect the body. *AP*

Libyan coastguard turns back migrants

TRIPOLI - Libya's coastguard said it had intercepted nearly 500 migrants packed onto a wooden boat and returned them to Tripoli on Wednesday after warning off a ship that was preparing to pick them up for passage to Europe. Footage filmed by Sea-Watch, a non-governmental organisation, showed a Libyan coastguard vessel coming within metres of its own ship as it sped to stop the migrants. Tripoli coastguard spokesman Ayoub Qassem said the incident occurred about 19 miles (30 km) north of Libya's coast. *Reuters*

Man jailed for anti-police T-shirt

TUNIS - A Tunisian court has sentenced a man to two months in prison for wearing a T-shirt deemed insulting to police, a judicial official said on Wednesday. She said it had handed the same sentence to the printer of the T-shirt, which according to local media read "If a woman is corrupted, she becomes a whore, and if a man is corrupted, he becomes a policeman." Police in the eastern city of Sousse last Friday stopped a young man in a cafe and later detained the owner of the print shop, local media reported. Assistant prosecutor Zahia Sayadi said the man who wore the T-shirt was charged with publicly insulting an official and the printer with participating in the insult. *AFP*

Islamic extremists kill 10 Sinai tribesmen

EL-AEISH - Islamic extremists in Egypt's restive northern part of the Sinai Peninsula ambushed local tribesmen who were securing an area in the region on Wednesday, killing 10, security officials said. The men were from the Tarabin tribe and were manning a checkpoint near a militant-stronghold south of the border town of Rafah when the militants approached them in a vehicle and opened fire, said the officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorised to talk to reporters. *AP*

UN peacekeepers killed in CAR

NEW YORK - A Christian rebel group in the Central African Republic ambushed a UN convoy sparking a firefight and kidnappings that left four peacekeepers dead, eight injured and one missing, the United Nations. The UN spokesperson Stephane Dujarric said eight fighters from the anti-Balaka rebel group were also killed in the firefight on Monday night. The UN peacekeeping mission said the remaining armed perpetrators fled into the bush. The UN mission sent a helicopter and additional troops to secure the site near Bangassou, about 474km east of the capital, Bangui, and were continuing to search for the missing peacekeeper, Dujarric said. *AP*



'TRUMP TO FUND MUGABE'

HARARE - The United States has announced plans to increase its funding levels to Zimbabwe, particularly in the health sector - despite a diplomatic tiff between Washington and Harare.

This was revealed by the US ambassador to Zimbabwe Harry Thomas Jr at the close of the just ended Harare International Festival of the Arts (HIFA).

The Donald Trump administration was maintaining sanctions on Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe and his wife Grace, accusing the nonage-

narian of rights violations and electoral fraud in previous polls.

However, Mugabe's government argued that the West was targeting it for embarking on land reforms which resulted in the displacement of thousands of white commercial farmers and their employees in 2000.

Thomas said that Washington would maintain, and even increase, HIV funding levels in Zimbabwe, despite a change in administration.

"We are very heartened that our Congress just passed the budget within the last few days

and our President's Emergency Plan for Aids Relief (PEPFAR) funding is remaining constant. In fact it will likely grow to almost \$150m next year," said Thomas.

Trump took over from Barack Obama following elections in 2016. "This means we are able to continue saving lives through PEPFAR as well as feed about 2.4 million people a day in Zimbabwe through other assistance programmes," said Thomas.

Since 2006, PEPFAR has provided nearly \$800m to Zimbabwe for HIV interventions. *News24*



SUPPORT: US President Donald Trump.

I'M VERY LOYAL TO MUGABE, I'VE NO HIDDEN AGENDA TO TOPPLE HIM - AIDE

HARARE - Zimbabwe's embattled local government Minister Saviour Kasukuwere, who is also the ruling Zanu-PF party's political commissar, has denied allegations that he is plotting to topple President Robert Mugabe, 93.

Speaking during an interview with News24, Kasukuwere, charged that those pushing for his expulsion from Zanu-PF were the ones pushing for the nonagenarian's ouster.

Most of Zanu-PF's provincial structures recently petitioned Mugabe, calling for Kasukuwere's ouster. They accused him of setting up parallel structures within the party, with a view to ascend to the presidency of the party and the country.

Zanu-PF was divided into two

distinct factions that sought to outwit each other in the battle to succeed the veteran leader. Mugabe has failed to groom a successor in his 37 years in power in the southern African country.

One of the camps calling itself "Team Lacoste" was linked to Vice President Emmerson Mnangagwa, while another faction made up of Young Turks trading by the name Generation 40 was reportedly linked to First Lady Grace Mugabe. G40 was said to be seeking to torpedo Mnangagwa's presidential ambitions. However, both Mnangagwa and the First Lady have publicly denied harbouring presidential ambitions.

Kasukuwere told News24 that he was a Mugabe loyalist adding that it was "madness" for anyone to think that he was push-

ing for an extra-ordinary congress before next year's presidential polls in order for him to take over from the nonagenarian.

Endorsed

"That is madness, we have already endorsed President Mugabe as our presidential candidate for 2018 and I am 100 per cent behind his candidature," said Kasukuwere.

"Our party is guided by rules and principles and one cannot just wake up and be president of the party."

Some Zanu-PF supporters held demonstrations across the country in recent weeks calling on Mugabe to wield the axe on Kasukuwere.

They also called on the president to relieve him of his ministerial duties.

Reuters

Lesotho ready for June elections - Ramaphosa

JOHANNESBURG - Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa, speaking in his role as Southern African Development Community (SADC) facilitator, says Lesotho is ready to hold a snap election next month.

King Letsie the Third dissolved Parliament in March after Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili lost a no-confidence vote.

His support base was weakened by a string of defections from his coalition government.

The election, scheduled for 3 June, is the second snap poll in three years.

The previous one was held in 2015, following a coup attempt in 2014.

"My discussions with a number of stakeholders told me that indeed they are ready and prepared to roll-out the democratic process and go to elections once again. I also had extensive discussions with all role players about the decisions of the SADC troika, which decided that there should be a multiparty, multi stakeholder dialogue. Ideally before the elections," said Ramaphosa.

"As things have turned it seems impossible to hold it before the elections, because the elections are within three weeks' time." *eNCA*



READY: SA Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa.

Zambia president steps into row with mining company

LUSAKA - Zambia's President Edgar Lungu has called for an out of court settlement with First Quantum Minerals, which is being sued for \$1.4 billion by a state-owned firm, the presidency said yesterday.

First Quantum asked a Zambian court in February to dismiss the suit from Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines Investment Holdings (ZCCM-IH), which is 77 per cent state-owned and holds minority stakes in most of the country's copper mines.

"The president decided that the finance minister leads a government team to engage First Quantum for a speedy and amicable conclusion of this



CALLS: Zambia's President Edgar Lungu.

matter," presidential spokesman Amos Chanda said.

"The government team includes the minister of mines and should start work by next week so that we can quickly have an amicable settlement as directed by the president," he said.

Zambia is Africa's second-

largest copper producer and differences with mining companies over taxes, electricity prices, environmental concerns and labour matters often arise.

The \$1.4 billion claim by ZCCM-IH includes \$228-million in interest on \$2.3-billion of loans that it said First Quantum wrongly borrowed from the Kansanshi Copper Mine, as well as 20 per cent of the principal amount, or \$570-million.

ZCCM-IH said in papers filed in the Lusaka High Court on October 28, 2016 that First Quantum used the money as cheap financing for its other operations. First Quantum says the loans were at a fair market rate. *Reuters*

World News



BRIEFS

Russia asked to rein in Syria's Assad, Iran

WASHINGTON - US President Donald Trump on Wednesday called on Russia to rein in Syrian President Bashar al-Assad and his key ally Iran, as Washington and Moscow sought to boost their fragile ties with high-profile White House talks. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, the highest-ranking Russian official to visit Washington since Trump came to power in January, earned a rare invitation to the Oval Office for a head-to-head with the Republican president. Before visiting the White House, Lavrov huddled with US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson to discuss the crises in Syria and Ukraine - talks qualified by the veteran Russian diplomat as "constructive".

AFP

PM threatens poll protesters with war

PHNOM PENH - Cambodia's strongman premier Hun Sen warned that he would not hesitate to quash protests with military might if they turn violent, raising tensions as the country braces for elections. Hun Sen is preparing for local polls in June and a 2018 national election after clamping down on opposition figures trying to break his 32-year grip on power. The warning was a reference to opposition protests that broke out during the last election in 2013, when a crowd destroyed at least two police cars over allegations of voter fraud. AFP

Finance minister under fire

PRAGUE - The Czech Republic's finance minister came under heavy fire in Parliament Wednesday over his business dealings and leaked conversations that led the prime minister to try to sack him last week. Andrej Babis, the second wealthiest Czech, leads the centrist ANO (Yes) movement which opinion polls show headed for victory in legislative elections later this year. But he is at the centre of a week-long political crisis sparked by doubts over his business dealings, which the tycoon insists are all legal. AFP



Dozens hurt in violent day of protests

CARACAS - Dozens of people were injured and a 27-year-old man was killed on Wednesday during another day of violent clashes in Venezuela's capital during demonstrations demanding elections. National guardsmen launched tear gas and a group of armed pro-government militiamen harassed protesters as they tried to march to the Supreme Court. One masked militia member fired several shots into the air. The militia later dispersed after officers intervened. At least 84 people were injured in Caracas and demonstrator Miguel Castillo died. Castillo had studied communications at Santa Maria University. AP

Energy regulator to investigate ESKOM

CAPE TOWN - South Africa's energy regulator has agreed to investigate power utility Eskom's refusal to sign power purchase agreements with independent power producers, the South African Wind Energy Association (SAWEA) said yesterday. SAWEA last October asked energy regulator NERSA to investigate Eskom's unwillingness to finalise agreements which it said had delayed 2 942 megawatts in new solar and wind projects. "We have had confirmation from NERSA that an expedited investigation into whether Eskom is in contravention of its licence, has now commenced," said Brenda Martin CEO of SAWEA.

AP

UK PM PROMISES INCREASE IN DEFENCE BUDGET

LONDON - British Prime Minister Theresa May promised to increase the country's defence budget by at least 0.5 per cent in real terms every year until 2023 if she wins a June 8 election, adding an extra two years to her party's existing spending pledge.

May, whose Conservative Party is expected to win the election next month, said the promise was about keeping the country safe

and fulfilling Britain's "obligations to the world".

"If elected on June 8 I will ensure that the UK continues to spend at least two per cent of GDP on defence and that the budget rises every year," May said in a statement. Alongside the United States, Britain is one of only five countries in the NATO military alliance which meet an obligation to spend two percent of economic output on defence -- something May

has used to curry favour with US President Donald Trump.

Both Trump and May have repeatedly called on NATO allies to meet the spending target.

In July 2015, then-finance minister George Osborne first announced that Britain would increase defence spending at an above-inflation rate every year until 2021. May's commitment now runs until 2023.

Reuters

Vermont legislature approves marijuana legalisation Bill

BOSTON - Vermont lawmakers approved a measure to legalise recreational use of marijuana, which if not vetoed by the governor would make the state the ninth to legalise the drug and the first to do so by legislation rather than a ballot initiative.

The US state's House of Representatives voted 79-66 for the measure, which was attached to a bill increasing penalties for the possession and sale of the opioid drug fentanyl.

The measure, which would take effect in July 2018 and allow adults 21 and over to buy and use the drug, was passed by the state Senate last week by a 20-9 vote.

A spokeswoman for Governor Phil Scott, a Republican, said he would need to consider the details of the legislation before deciding whether to sign, veto or let it pass into law without his signature.

"On the issue of legalising marijuana, the governor has said he is not philosophically opposed, but we must ensure certain pub-



lic safety and health questions are answered," Scott spokeswoman Rebecca Kelley said in an e-mail.

The Marijuana Policy Project, a pro-legalisation group that had backed the measure for multiple years, applauded the vote.

"Vermont lawmakers made history today," said Matt Simon, the group's New England political director. "It's time for Vermont to move forward with a more sensible marijuana policy."

Opponents blasted passage of the measure and urged Scott to veto it.

"This is about opening the doors to a new addictive industry being funded by Big Tobacco that will

install retail pot shops in Vermont neighbourhoods," said Kevin Sabel, President of an anti-pot group Smart Approaches to Marijuana.

"We will continue to give a voice to parents, and public health and safety experts to encourage Governor Scott to choose people over profit and veto this harmful legislation."

Neighbouring Massachusetts and nearby Maine have also legalised the drug, doing so after statewide ballot initiatives showed that a majority of voters approved the idea. That was not an option in Vermont, where state law does not allow for ballot measures of that kind. Reuters

8 die, 20 injured after quake

BEIJING - A moderate earthquake that struck close to the earth's surface killed eight people and injured more than 20 others in far western China yesterday, the region's earthquake administration said.

The morning quake struck in Taxkorgan county, a remote mountainous area that borders Tajikistan, Afghanistan and Pakistan in China's Xinjiang region.

The Xinjiang Earthquake Administration said 23 people had been injured, including one seriously, and more than 180 houses had collapsed in the lightly populated area. Most houses in the area were made of wood and mudbricks or rock, it said. Search and rescue

work was under way, it added.

The US Geological Survey said the 5.4-magnitude quake struck at a depth of 10km at 05:58 yesterday. Shallow quakes cause greater shaking at the surface, which can cause more damage.

The county has a population of around 33 000, and is notable for being a stop on the Karakoram Highway, built along the ancient Silk Road connecting China's far western city of Kashgar to the Pakistani capital of Islamabad.

The official Xinhua News Agency said there had been frequent aftershocks. Earthquakes are common in China's west, although the low population density there often means casualties are low. AP

'We won't dwell on sacking, will 'be fine'

WASHINGTON - Former FBI director James Comey says in a farewell letter to colleagues that he will "be fine," and won't dwell on how he was fired by President Donald Trump, CNN reported on Wednesday.

Comey was abruptly dismissed Tuesday by the Republican president, who said the issue was Comey's inability to lead. But Trump floored many since it was Comey himself leading the investigation of Trump's campaign and Russia.

"I have long believed that a president can fire an FBI director for any reason, or for no reason at all. I'm not going to spend time on the decision or the way it was executed. I hope you won't either. It is done, and I will be fine, although I will miss you and the mission deeply," Comey said in a letter to agents and colleagues.

AP



FINE: Former FBI director James Comey.

London conference aims for stable Somalia under new leader

LONDON - International leaders are gathering in London yesterday to thrash out agreements with Somalia aimed at stabilising the country under its new political leadership.

The one-day conference is looking to strike a new compact that will accelerate progress on security, development and the troubled east African country's economy by 2020.

Britain's Foreign Office said it was aiming for "a new partnership for Somalia".

The meeting is being co-chaired by Somalia's new President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres

and British Prime Minister Theresa May.

EU Foreign Affairs Chief Federica Mogherini is also attending, along with US Defence Secretary James Mattis and Under Secretary of State Thomas Shannon.

Somalia is under a new president, prime minister and Parliament this year and the conference is focused on underpinning stability in this electoral cycle.

Around 40 delegations from countries and international institutions such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the League of Arab States are set to participate.

AFP



YET ANOTHER WEEKEND OF 'FUN'

Nothando Hlophe at Giami Psalmits launch.

● Giami Psalmists and Déjà vu launches

By Nomfundo Sifundza

FUN is the order of life.

There is something for everyone this weekend; the Castle Lite Unlocks parties are on, South African group Giami Psalmists is already in the country ready to deliver a great show tomorrow featuring the ever so beautiful and gifted Nothando Hlophe.

You do not want to miss out on having the best time of your life.

Here's a bit of the fun you can spoil yourself with this weekend;

TONIGHT

CASTLE LITE UNLOCKS PARTY

Where: Marios Pub n Grill

Time: 7pm

Stand a chance to win a live concert experience with Travis Scott and Bryson Tiller in June at one of these parties.

Tonight it is going down; hosted by the amazing Mandisa Mamba and resident DJs MBO and Master P.

Dress extra cold in blue and white.

DÉJÀ VU COCKTAIL LOUNGE RE-LAUNCH

Where: Esibayeni Lodge (Déjà vu Cocktail Lounge)

Time: 6pm

The less said the better. Do yourself a favour and go see for yourself how great the new place will be. E50 gets you in.

FRIDAY HANGOUT

Where: Solani's Shisanyama

Time: 4pm

It is that time of the month. The best you can do is refresh your mind and Solani's Shisanyama knows best how to get you into a relaxed mood.

Entrance is free and good music will be served just about right by DJs Dope Deep, Bloss, Ayacity, LFA, Katz, Culolam, Meugie and Rhythmicsoul.

TOMORROW

GIAMI PSALMISTS CD LAUNCH

Where: International Terbanacle Church (Manzini)

Time: 6pm

This one is not to be missed. The South African group will be launching their second album in the country, featuring SAs Papa Ndu, Putuma Tiso, Ayo Solanke and the country's very own Nothando Hlophe. Entrance is E150. And you also get a free CD.

TGH KARAOKE NIGHT

Where: The George Hotel

Time: 5pm

Are you tired of singing in the shower? Tired of convincing your friends that you are actually talented? Do you believe you were destined for greatness? If you answered yes to any of those questions, The George Hotel Manzini has you covered.

Make your way to Karaoke night at the hotel. The mic, stage, and the crowd all made accessible to you, all you have to do is be there. We have a wide selection to choose from, Tupac-Dear mama could be the song that could help you claim your prize. E50 gets you in.

OPEN REHEARSAL

Where: Serendipity (John Phillip School of music)

Time: 2pm

John Phillip School of Music with the support of Rondavel Records are starting a new initiative called the

HOST: Mandisa will be hosting the Castle Lite parties.

'Open Rehearsal'. The initiative comes from the need for rehearsal spaces for bands to work on their music and perfect their craft without the constraint of time and fund limitations. Entrance is E15 and will feature the new sensational band Black Rhino & the Rangers (Sakhile Gumbi and band) and Lost in Translation (Ralph Smit and MweKissiyake)

SAVE THE DATE EXCLUSIVE WINTER PARTY

Where: Dwaleni Farm Lodge

Time: 6pm

When: May 27

We all have started feeling the cold winter breeze in the morning. Don't you want to party as you welcome this season. Do save the date May 27, at Dwaleni Farm Lodge with a wide selection of music genres. Hip hop, RnB, afro soul deep and commercial house. The VIP costs E500 limited to 500 people only whilst the general section is readily available at E150.

Until next week, enjoy your weekend good people.

HYENA MCC 2ND DAY JOL

Where: Esibayeni Lodge

Time: 12 noon

When: May 27

This one is for those who love bikes and those who need to experience riding a bike.

The great part is the Hyena Day Jol; something for the whole family as there will be children's games and also musical entertainment by the country's golden boy Sands, Mozaik, Karly B, DJ MBO and many more.

Entry fee is E150 and all proceeds will go to charity.

Déjà vu Cocktail Lounge re-launch tonight

By Ayanda Dlamini

ESIBAYENI Lodge will come to life tonight as SwaziBoy Entertainment will be officially re-launching the new Déjà vu Cocktail Lounge.

According to SwaziBoy Entertainment's Mthunzi 'Shadow' Zwane, the new lounge is an up market urban club that caters for the working class and business people.

"I can confidently say it's one of the

best clubs you can find in Swaziland," Zwane boasted.

Zwane clearly stated that they wanted to cater for more patrons in the VIP section as the old space was very limiting.

"This new set up has a bigger balcony and dance floor. The old DeJavu will be used as a conference room," Zwane said.

The launch will be graced by resident DJs who will be rendering old school music from kwaito to RnB and hip hop.

The spinners include DJ Crooks, Wicked, Papz, Mbo and DJ Fantasy. The show will start at 6pm till late. Entry fee is E50.

Theme

Zwane urged fun lovers to stick to the theme, casual wear.

"Strictly no caps, shorts vests and sandals allowed," Zwane said.

Fun lovers will stand a chance to win Bushfire tickets, T-shirts, lanyards and caps when they buy a bottle of Bacardi or Bombay Gin.



INSIDE: The new Déjà vu Cocktail Lounge.

JOYOUS CELEBRATION IN THE COUNTRY JULY 8

By Ayanda Dlamini

GOSPEL music lovers can save the date now as SAs Joyous Celebration will be in the country on July 8.

Destiny Music's Tom Lin concurred with the group's social media page where the schedule was posted.

This year would be the fifth time for Lin's company to host the giant SA ensemble.

For the past two decades, Joyous Celebration has been at the forefront of the South African gospel music scene, generating an almost unparalleled support base.

Along the way they have received numerous awards, performed at venues across the world and inspired millions of people through their music.

The ensemble makes a stop in the country annually drawing large crowds everywhere they go.

For the newly released 21st instalment of their live CD and DVD recording series, Joyous Celebration went to the Potter's House Church in Dallas, Texas,



where famous clergyman Bishop TD Jakes hosted the recording.

Joyous Celebration is an inspirational music extravaganza, which comprises of loving interpretations of existing spirituals, traditional hymns and original compositions, all produced by the magical combination of its founders.

The performances boast a sterling cast of fresh, raw talent from all around the country who are identified and hand-picked from nail-biting competitive auditions amongst others.

From the Swaziland front Nomzamo 'Zamo' Dlamini stands tall as the country's representative in this world respected ensemble.

In the newly released Joyous 21st Dlamini leads a song titled 'Ngena Nawe.'

The songstress emphasises where she comes from in all the songs she leads as she dons dresses made of different Swazi material 'emahiya.'

Miss SD ready to step down

By Ayanda Dlamini

MISS Swaziland, Linda Hutchinson is ready to take a bow as she believes she has made an impact on the youth that she has met during her reign.

"I'm grateful to everyone who has supported me in this journey till thus far and that includes the sponsors, committee, the public, SNYC (Swaziland National Youth Council) and of course the Swaziland National Council of Arts and Culture (SNCAC)," she said.

The beauty queen stated clearly that she has done a lot for the youth in her term even though her work

has not been seen much by

the public.

"I believe I have made an impact on people's lives. So many things I would have not experienced but it has been an interesting journey to be Miss Swaziland," the beauty queen stated.

Despite some members of the public crying out that they hardly spotted her in entertainment shows, Hutchinson said, "I always avail myself for any events relating to arts, youth and culture. What happens is, I get invites from organisers and my director always approves them."

"Time management is the key. I plan ahead and schedule in such a way that everything I plan does not clash with my school work," Hutchinson added.

Hutchinson was crowned Miss Swaziland last year alongside with her princesses Baby Mthimkhulu and Zethu Manana.

She was also appointed by Lubombo Regional Administrator Sylvia Mthethwa to be an ambassador for the L'mankelenkele Lubombo Summer Festival (LLSF).

Soul Brothers fan on mourning Masondo's death

By Simon Shabangu

THE death of Soul Brothers lead vocalist and co-founder, David Masondo, devastated many of his fans, but for local businessman Peter Rouse of Mzimpofo, the Mbacanga legend's death left him sick for a week.

He said when he got the news of Masondo's demise he fell ill, "I did not eat or talk for a full week" he says.

He says Masondo was like a father figure to him as he grew up with his support in many ways.

He said Masondo paid his school fees, bought him uniform and even gave him pocket money while he was at school. "He literally treated me like his own son after discovering that my father had passed on and he was my idol when growing up," he said. The 'Ogandaganda' co-founder died in 2015 after a short illness.

This he revealed during an interview at Boma in Timbali Lodge at Ezulwini where the group was performing this past Sunday. Rouse was



one of the many matured crowd which gathered to watch the multi award winning ensemble perform during their fourth show after the demise of Masondo who was the face of the group. The show which was regarded as the best show ever after Masondo was well attended and lasted for over three hours as the group proved beyond a doubt that they were now back on track.

Rouse said he was happy that the group was back on track after the long-

serving founding member Black Moses regrouped and ensured that Masondo's legacy lived on.

"I am excited that the group is back in action and looking stronger than ever. I am a long-time fan of the group and it makes me proud to see them doing what they did then. I started watching the group at a tender age in 1974. We never missed their shows in Swaziland with my father. This continued even after my father passed on as my mother took me to the shows



Mzimpofo businessman Peter Rouse with Thokozani Hadebe who is now Soul Brothers vocal leader and Siboniso Nxumalo who is also a big fan of the group. (Above) Black Moses at his usual best on the keyboard during the group's show recently. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

and the bond grew even stronger. I was a break dancer at the time and I used to mimic David Masondo as I used to collaborate his dance moves in my break dance routines and he loved me for that," he recalled.

He says from that moment Masondo took care of him in many ways stating that he would visit their home when in Swaziland and even spent nights there.

"I grew up and started businesses and the bond goes even stronger. Masondo had a room in my house which he treated like his own so much that at some point he would ask to cook for himself when he was in a good mood. He and the group would spend time with us and when they came for shows or just to visit.

He was basically enjoying the fruits of his caring," he said.

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International
Celebrity News

Kate Moss 'films George Michael's documentary'

LONDON - George Michael's fans could be given a glimpse inside his home thanks to Kate Moss. The model is reportedly taking the cameras into the late singer's home to film an exclusive documentary.

Kate has been spotted at George's Highgate property, working on a documentary entitled Freedom, according to The Sun.

It would be the first time a film crew was granted access into George's North London home. The newspaper reports that the documentary was conceived before the star's tragic death on Christmas Day, but is now being re-shot to



MEMORIES: Kate Moss and George.

reflect his passing.
Mirror

Nicki Minaj dating Nas

LOS ANGELES - Months ago, shortly after Nicki Minaj broke things off with Meek Mill - MediaTakeOut.com reported that Nicki Minaj had begun dating rapper Nas. Remember, he's the one that shut down Remy Ma's 'shether' diss track.

Well last night the two officially confirmed their relationship.

A source close to Nicki confirmed that: Nicki has been through two very high-profile relationships which ended badly, so she tried to keep the relationship [with Nas] quiet. They've been dating now for about three months and Nicki is in love. I think Nas is too.

We're told that the couple has been making music together also.



DATING: Nicki Minaj and Nas.

Expect a new collab to drop any day now.
MTO

Kate Hudson locks lips with new musician beau

LOS ANGELES - They've been rumored to be dating since photos surfaced of them running errands together in LA in March. And on Wednesday evening, Kate Hudson confirmed she has a new man in her life as she locked lips with musician beau Danny Fujikawa on the red carpet at the premiere of her mom Goldie Hawn's new movie 'Snatched.'

The loved up couple couldn't stop smiling as they moved in close for a smooch as cameras clicked. Kate, 38, looked glamorous as ever in a monochrome ensemble of black long-sleeved top with



LOVE LIVES HERE: Kate Hudson and Danny.

plunging neckline and herringbone flared slacks.
MailOnline

Eva Longoria talks marriage and pregnancy

LOS ANGELES - Eva Longoria and José Bastón's one-year wedding anniversary is just around the corner on May 21.

"We can't believe it," Longoria told me while promoting her new indie drama Lowriders before adding with a laugh, "You know some days it feels like 40 years, and some days it feels like we met yesterday." And sometimes they have to deal with pregnancy rumors. The most recent being last month when paparazzi snapped pics of Longoria in a bikini while they were on vacation.

She usually ignores the gossip,



OPENS UP: Eva Longoria.

"but this time my mom called me because I actually really did look pregnant," Longoria said. "So I was like, 'Oh yeah, I could see why you were questioning that.'"

MailOnline

SA Celebrity News

Jessica Nkosi & Warren Masemola share a steamy kiss

JOHANNESBURG - The highly-anticipated music video for AKA's hit track Caiphus Song made its debut on Trace on Wednesday morning. Shortly after the video aired on the local music channel, Twitter was set abuzz with comments about it. Judging by the comments on social media it is safe to say fans loved it. From Jessica Nkosi's smoking-hot looks to the chemistry between her and Warren Masemola - the video is lit. Do not not forget the steamy kiss between the two actors which also had everyone talking.

CityPress



STEAMY: Jessica Nkosi and Warren Masemola.

Ayanda Ncwane getting her own TV show

JOHANNESBURG - The widow of late gospel star Sifiso Ncwane will be motivating and inspiring women on a new talk show coming soon. Ayanda Ncwane will host a talk show called Tea, Talk and Tissues with 'Ayanda Ncwane' on internet TV channel RitaVac TV. The show will see Ayanda sit down with ordinary women to discuss the challenges and triumphs of being a woman. Speaking to TshisaLIVE, Ayanda confirmed that she will be hosting the show and said that she was excited for fans to see her on screen.

"I can't talk much about it yet but I am excited at the opportunity," she said. The channel's founder and



MOTIVATOR: Ayanda Ncwane.

Director Themba Ndala added that Ayanda had already started filming ahead of the show's debut in the next few weeks. *Timeslive*

Zola 7 tells off radio DJ

JOHANNESBURG - When a TruFM radio presenter called veteran kwaito musician Zola for a scheduled interview, she definitely wasn't expecting what followed. The kwaito star interrupted the presenter's introduction and said that he wanted to speak to the listeners directly. Zola then started telling people that it was important to call on God during good and bad times. "God is like an insurance company, you cannot call him when you crash your bumper and your tyres. You need to enlist with him first, people must not call God when they



STRAIGHT TALK: Zola 7

are in trouble. People must call God when they are ok so that God will get back to them when they are in trouble," he said. *SundayWorld*

Patrick Phungwayo surrenders to the law

JOHANNESBURG - After seven days on the run, Orlando Pirates player Patrick Phungwayo turned himself in to the police to face charges of attempted murder and pointing a firearm at a man in Spruitview. Phungwayo, 29, handed himself over at the Katlehong police station on Monday morning after being sought by the police for an incident that happened at the beginning of the month.

He and his brother Phelani allegedly assaulted the man before pulling out a gun and shooting him on his ring finger. Police spokesman Captain



SURRENDERS: Patrick Phungwayo.

Mega Ndobe told Sowetan that the Orlando Pirates player arrived with his lawyer. *Sowetan*

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA

TODAY

When Qondi starts doubting her own choices, she gets encouragement from her loved ones. Ntandane receives an unexpected and delightful present from the Zungus and the UTA.



DOUBTING: Qondi.

ISIDINGO

TODAY

Barker braces himself for a lawsuit by the Moloi Land Committee. Nina makes her presence felt at SG. Hendrik and Matlala bump heads over discipline on the mine.



MRS SERIOUS: Nina.

Muvhango

TODAY

KK uses Matshidiso as his weapon against Rashaka. Mulalo and Teboho receive good news. James and Nthabeleng kiss and make up.



GOOD NEWS: Teboho.

RHYTHM CITY

TODAY

Lerato says a bittersweet goodbye to Sizwe. Themba realises that Niki has been using him all this time and he's determined to tell Puleng the truth - but Niki is ready to do anything to stop that from happening.



BEING USED: Themba.

Driver be like:
"one more, masihlalisane"



TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn

December 22 – January 19

You may need to confront a financial situation head-on. Someone close may want to spend more than you feel you can afford. A marketing exercise may be needed - with you choosing the words for an advert. A so-called 'expert's' evaluation might cause you to wonder if they really know as much as they infer.



Aquarius

January 20 – February 18

Stress and strains in all relationships could be exposed. You might prefer to immerse yourself in a hobby that allows you to use your imagination. At home, worry about a bill could cause you to confront someone who may appear cavalier in their attitude. You might also wonder if information is being deliberately withheld.



Pisces

February 19 – March 20

It may be necessary to come clean about an alliance - and acknowledge the tension in another relationship. When you're accused of having 'changed', you might need to agree. Changing your local environment - even getting rid of rubbish - could be one of the ways in which you show that you're moving on: clearing the decks for assignments that promise greater fulfilment.



Aries

March 21 – April 19

Think of the day as a jigsaw puzzle - on every level: from deciding which styles and fabrics 'work' to which partnerships you want to seal. You may need to confront an awkward situation. A lie could be exposed. You might also question an advertising campaign - and show that you're no sucker. The difference between words and actions could strike you many times over.



Taurus

April 20 – May 20

It might seem as though others are deliberately trying to thwart you. A working partnership could come under strain. It may be necessary to debate a point forcefully - though you might prefer to show the other person how to use charm to get your own way. A letter or email could raise your blood pressure: you might need a Libra friend to talk you 'off the ceiling'.



Gemini

May 21 – June 21

There's danger of getting really wound up when your ideas are challenged. The stubborn part of you could surface too. Relations with a boss or teacher could sour - at least until the point where you feel that your concerns have been heard. A friend born under Libra or Aquarius might understand exactly where you're coming from. A more emotional reaction (from a Pisces



or Cancer) could leave you exasperated and wondering if they want to move forward at all.

Cancer

June 22 – July 22

Picking up where you left off a short time ago could seem simple at first. It might not take long for you to sense undercurrents though. You might have to remind yourself that an Aquarius friend enjoys letting off steam and might not be quite as wound up as they appear. That said, spending time with them and listening to how they're building new working relationships could be interesting.



Leo

July 23 – August 22

Arriving at a 'deal' is likely to take effort. Bargaining could go on for most of the day. Your hackles could rise when you realise you're going back over old ground. The Fire in you could get most impatient. Your love life could experience a roller-coaster wave too. Someone could attach more meaning to something you said than you'd considered.



Virgo

August 23 – September 22

It might bother you that you haven't been present during certain conversations. All you really need is to understand where each person was coming from. This probably means going back over old ground. To others it might seem that you're being a stickler for rules. In fact, part of today's challenge could be to show that that's not the case - but that you're checking everyone knows the consequences of a decision.



Libra

September 23 – October 23

Disharmony can cause you dis-ease. So you could find today's tensions leave you feeling unwell. At the other extreme, you could go into overdrive trying to resolve a situation and effect a partnership. An idea you've been incubating for years may have reached a financial cross-roads: now others want to get on this bandwagon.



Scorpio

October 24 – November 21

Emotional tensions could arise. Space you consider to be 'yours' could feel invaded. You may need to challenge someone (an Aquarius?) who seems disrespectful of your feelings. They might enjoy the ensuing debate. They might not even realise that they've cut you to the quick.



Sagittarius

November 22 – December 21

You probably know instinctively what someone wants (which works well if you're a musician), yet you could be exasperated by the way they ask for what they want. Language difficulties of all kinds could surface. You might eventually feel the need to ask someone to stop talking. Financial tensions at home might require quick action too.



BABY BLUES



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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



A WORK OF ART HOME WORDSEARCH PUZZLE CHOICE

Can you find the hidden words? They may be horizontal, vertical, diagonal, forwards or backwards.



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ONLY THE FINGER IS HURT

A brunette goes to the doctor, and says to him "Doctor I'm hurting all over my body."

"That's odd," replied the doctor "Show me what you mean"

So the girl takes her finger and pokes her elbow, and screams in pain. She



touches her knee and cries in agony and so on.

The doctor says to her "You're not a natural brunette are you?"

"No, I'm a blonde," she replies.

"I thought so.... your finger is broken," replies the doctor.

USELESS FACTS

1. There are over 640 muscles in your body.
2. Muscle is about three times more efficient at burning calories than fat, even when at rest.
3. You should always breathe correctly when exercising. It is said that underwater swimming is the only time you should hold your breath during physical activity.
4. Since your brain is distracted by what you are hearing when you listen to music, you don't concentrate on what you are lifting. This causes you to lift more weight.
5. Exercise is more effective at increasing your energy levels than caffeine.

BRAINTEASERS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

YESTERDAY'S BRAIN-TEASERS

1. What can you never eat for breakfast?

Answer: Dinner

2. Name the most recent year in which New Year's came before Christmas.

Answer: This year. New

Year's always comes before Christmas of the same year.

TODAY'S BRAINTEASERS

1. What has a head and a tail but no body?

2. If there are 12 fish and half of them drown, how many are there?



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NEWS



HIGHLIGHTS



A HAUNTED HOUSE

Tonight 21:35 | Studio Universal (112)

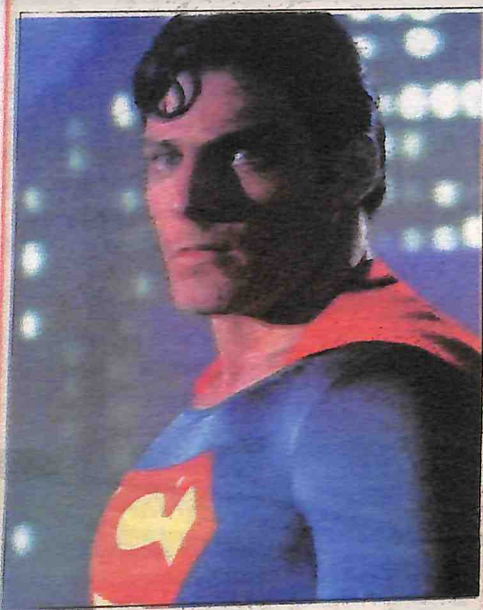
Marlon Wayans takes the supernatural to a whole new level in an enjoyable horror comedy spoof of Paranormal Activity. The haunted house will never be the same again.



SOFIA THE FIRST

Tomorrow 11:50 | Disney Junior (309)

"S3/E80 - Cauldronation Day". Sofia must stop Lucinda's good and evil friends from ruining her special witch ceremony.



SUPERMAN 11

Sunday 20:00 | TCM (137)

A nuclear explosion frees three superhuman villains who were originally imprisoned by Superman's Kryptonian father. Based on DC Comics characters.



MOTHER'S DAY MOVIE MADNESS

Moms come in all shapes and sizes to worry about you and love you unconditionally. There's one thing for sure, your mom is the greatest and most magical of all.

This Mother's Day, let her relax while you do the cooking. There are tons of awesome movies for her to enjoy on DStv Catch Up. So whether

she's on the DStv Now app on her smart device or checking out Catch Up from her DStv Explora, you know she'll be kept entertained!

Here are movies she could watch;

All Roads Lead to Rome
Leading Lady

Words and Pictures
Happiness is a Four-Letter Word

Serendipity

Joy

Beaches

Marie Curie

Cake

Me Before You

The Disappearance of Eleanor

Rigby: Them



KINGS V SHARKS

Tomorrow 17:05 | SuperSport 1 (201)

Vodacom Super Rugby 2017.
Round 12 - Southern Kings v

Cell C Sharks from Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium - Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

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catch the action via live video streaming on supersport.com, on DStv Now (for Android and iOS) and on the SuperSport App.

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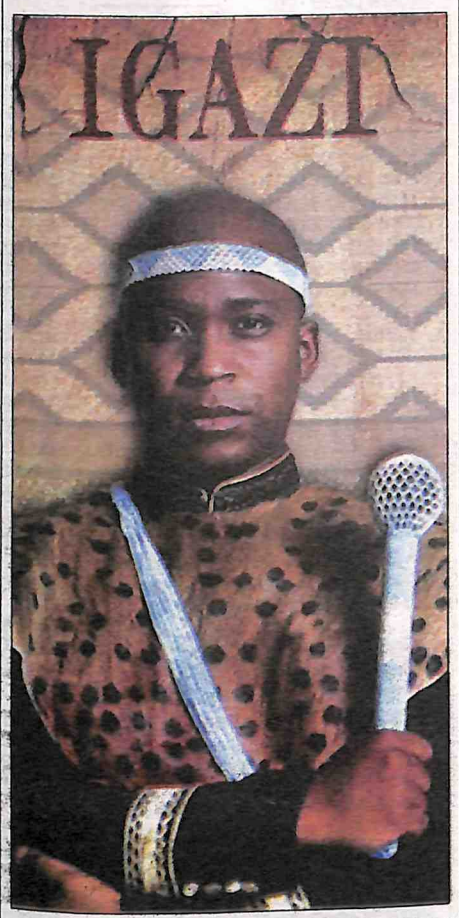
They check every item on their wish list so that they can declare at the end of it that they had their perfect wedding.

Watch couples attempt to tick off every item on their wish list and hopefully have their perfect wedding. Tune in to also see your bubbly host, Nomsa Buthelezi and as she says 'be Nomsa-fied.'



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Nomarussia learns Jonga is no longer her perfect son while the community learn of the animal terrorising their livestock.



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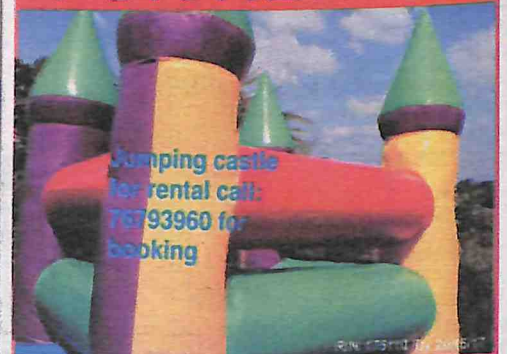
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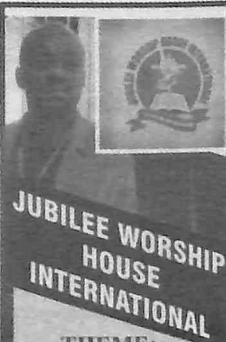


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Fridays
Youth 6.00pm-7.30pm
Saturday
Women 2.00pm-3.30pm
Sundays
English Service 8.30am - 10.30 am
Siswati Service 11.00am
1.00pm
Children's Ministry 8.30am
10.30am, 11.00am, 1.00pm
Men-Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of
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Contacts 2404 0979

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Services

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08:00 - 09:30 - English Service
09:30 - 10:30 - Jewish Fellowship
10:30 - 11:45 - NIV Service (Youth)
11:45 - 12:00 - Siswati Service
MID-WEEK
MORNING PRAYER
05:45 - 06:00 (MONDAY - FRIDAY)
EVERY WEDNESDAY
13:00 - 14:00 (Service)
18:45 - 19:00 (Bible Study/Prayer)
FORTNIGHTLY THURSDAYS
18:45 - 19:30 - Men's Ministry Service



CONTACT
76180775



SUNDAY
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@11:00am - 1:00pm

Venue:
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street, Manzini

BY: Rev Msibi
Contacts:
2505 6419 /
7650 3140



GROWING FAITH
Ministries International

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Prayer &
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8pm

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6-8pm

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10am - 1pm

(Lobamba, Esitjeni on
you way to Mlilwane)

DIVINE
Healing Ministries International

Manzini Branch:
Wednesdays- Prayer
6:00-7:30pm

Thursdays- Mid-week
Service 6:30-8:00pm

Sundays- Teachings
9:30-10:30am

Main Service
10:30am - 1pm

Mbabane Branch:
Tuesdays - Prayer
6:00pm - 8:00pm

Sundays- Service
10am - 1pm

DIVINE
Healing
Ministries



Pastor C.S. Shumalo
Free Siteki

Mondays Prayer
6.00pm-7.30pm

Wednesdays
6.00pm-7.30pm

Saturdays Youth
3.00pm

Sundays Women
9.00am - 10.30am

Sunday School
9.30am - 10.30am

Main Service
10.30am - 1.00pm

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It Again with
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deliverance happens
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CONTACTS
7671 0029/7631 4007.
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11 DEATHS

Maganyaza Elliot Shongwe



Vigil: Saturday
13/05/2017
Funeral: Sunday
14/05/2017
Place: ka Nkojwa

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba **Maganyaza Elliot Shongwe** lobekatiwa ngekutsi ngu "Mnyelete" kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Simemetelo sikhokhwa ngu dzadzewabo Tondzekile egameni lemndeneni. Contacts - 76217868 / 7688 3634

Getrude Jele



Vigil: Friday
12/05/2017
Funeral: Saturday
13/05/2017
Place: eMoyeni

Kwatiswa tihlobo ta **Getrude Jele** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa tihlobo tasekhakhakhe nabobonkhe labamatiko. Siteshi kuse Mkhuzweni. Simemetelo sikhishwa nguMadodeni Jele. Kwatiswa nebelibandla lakhe Ekukhanyeni eScelwini phansikwababe Bishop Madonsela.

Eunice Masesi Mhlanga



Vigil: Saturday
13/05/2017
Funeral: Sunday
14/05/2017
Place: eMagubheleni

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani ba **Eunice Masesi Mhlanga** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Lobekanesifiso sekumpheketela kwekuhamba kukhona. Kusukwa Kakhoza esiteshini nga 7pm 13-05-2017. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumndeneni wakhe.

Sicabangani Eldah Gamedze uLaVilakati



Vigil: Friday
12/05/2017
Funeral: Saturday
13/05/2017
Place: eGudvini

Kwatiswa bonkhe bakaGamedze, baka Vilakati nebekhabonina kaNgwenya kutsi **Sicabangani Eldah Gamedze uLaVilakati** akasekho emhlabeni. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumndeneni.

Joyce Margaret Ellison



Requiem Mass:
Saturday
13/05/2017
Place: Siteki
Time: 10:30 am

The Ellison family announces with great sadness the demise of **Mrs Joyce Margaret Ellison (nee DuPont)**. She will be dearly missed, may her soul Rest in Peace. Announcement made by Family.

Mfombo Sundvutwako Dlamini



Vigil: Saturday
13/05/2017
Funeral: Sunday
14/05/2017
Place: eMafutseni

Kwatiswa bantfwabenkhosi bakaDlovunga, baseHerefords, baseMseni kababe Ngungunyane, bakaMalindza, nebakubo, kutsi **Mfombo Sundvutwako Dlamini (laLukhele)** sosishiye emhlabeni. Ufihlwa ekhaya lakhe eMafutseni eLundzindzoneni (ngase Moyeni esikolweni). Simemetelo sikhishwa nguThathokwakhe Dlamini umntfwanakhe egameni lebantfwabenkhosi. Lalangekuthula Dlamini wekunene.

Velaphi Albert Shongwe



Vigil: Saturday
13/05/2017
Funeral: Sunday
14/05/2017
Place: ka Zombodze

Relatives and friends of **Velaphi Albert Shongwe** are notified of his demise. Memorial service will be held at the Wesleyan Church at Zombodze on Saturday 13/05/2017 at 14.00hrs. Announcement is made by Bhokindlela Shongwe on behalf of the family.

Ndumiso Ntokozo Mkhalihi



Vigil: Saturday
13/05/2017
Funeral: Sunday
14/05/2017
Place: Ngcoseni

Relatives and friends of **Ndumiso Ntokozo Mkhalihi** are notified of his demise. Memorial service scheduled for St. Pauls Methodist Church on 12/05/2017 starting at 12.30 noon. Announcement is made by the family.

Lwandle Dylan Mthethwa



Vigil: Saturday
13/05/2017
Funeral: Sunday
14/05/2017
Place: eLuyengo

Relatives and friends of **Lwandle Dylan Mthethwa** are notified of his sudden death. Announcement made by his grandfather Sabelo Mthethwa on behalf of the family.

Martha Lozizwe Nkambule

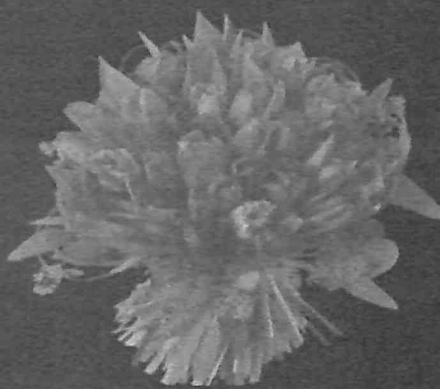


Vigil: Saturday
13/05/2017
Funeral: Sunday
14/05/2017
Place: Mdumezulu

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani bagogo **Martha Lozizwe Nkambule** kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa bakaNkambule ekhakhakhe nebakaMabuza bakubo eSouth Africa, nelibandla lakhe litochuba inkonzo. Inkonzo yasekuseni icala nga 6am. Mdumezulu (eThulwane)

Our Deepest Condolences

Death is only a bridge towards eternal life with God. Certainly Heaven is rejoicing for another soul has finally reached his true home.



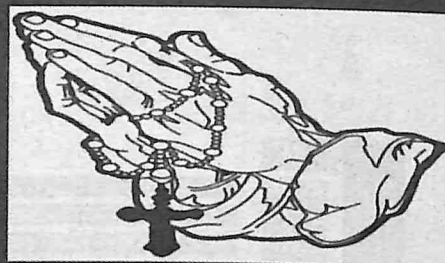
GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN



MAY YOUR SOULS REST IN PEACE
REST IN PEACE

JOB 13:15

Though He slay me,
yet will I hope in him:
I will surely
defend my ways to
his face.



WISHING YOU PEACE
TO BRING COMFORT,
COURAGE TO FACE THE
DAYS AHEAD AND LOVING
MEMORIES TO FOREVER
HOLD IN YOUR HEART



MAY YOUR SOULS
REST IN PEACE



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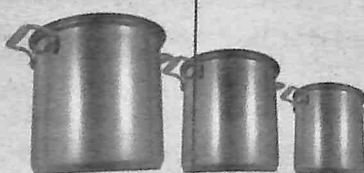
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MTN BUSHFIRE

**FRIDAY
26 MAY**

DOORS OPEN: 6PM- 3AM

TIME	PERFORMING ACTS
19:00	SWAZI REGGAE LEGENDS (SWZ)
20:10	MATTHEW MOLE (RSA)
21:30	SIYINGABA FT. THE EXCHANGE (SWZ,USA)
22:50	PETITE NOIR (DRC,RSA)
00:10	JAH PRAYZAH (ZIM)
01:30	HWESTA (RSA)
02:20	DJ CHYNAMAN (RSA)

**SATURDAY
27 MAY**

DOORS OPEN: 10AM- 4AM

TIME	PERFORMING ACTS
12:15	LODANDA (SWZ)
13:30	MSAHI (RSA)
14:50	CHICO ANTONIO (MOZ)
16:10	SANDS (SWZ)
17:30	FEMI NOYA (NIG)
18:50	JEREMY LOOPS (RSA)
20:10	ZAHARA (RSA)
21:30	FAADA FREDDY (SEN,FRA)
22:50	TKZEE (RSA)
00:10	THE JÄGERMEISTER BRASS CARTEL FT. REASON (RSA)
01:30	GOODLUCK (RSA)
02:30	DIOXCLUSIV (RSA)

**SUNDAY
28 MAY**

DOORS OPEN: 10AM- 10PM

TIME	PERFORMING ACTS
11:00	LEE THOMSON QUINTET (RSA)
12:20	SEBA HAAPSTAD (RSA,DEU,SWZ)
13:40	BOMBINO (NER)
15:00	HUGH MASEHELA (RSA)
16:40	BALOJI (DRC)
18:00	BHOLOJA (SWZ)
19:15	BUSHFIRE AFTER PARTY BACARDI HOUSE ON FIRE STAGE

DOORS OPEN: 6PM- 3AM

TIME	PERFORMING ACTS
20:00	DJ BOB (RSA)
21:00	FLAMEBOY UNIVERSE (SWZ)
22:20	BEN DEY & THE CONCRETE (RSA)
23:40	LIONS (GHA)
01:00	JOJO ABOT (RSA,MOZ,UGA)
02:00	SHEPARD BROTHERS (SWZ)

DOORS OPEN: 10AM- 4AM

TIME	PERFORMING ACTS
11:00	HWAMANZI (THEATRE FOR AFRICA) (RSA)
14:30	VUKAZITHATHE (RSA)
15:40	ITALLO (SWZ)
16:50	GRÈN SÈMÉ (REU)
18:00	TRENTON & FREE RADICAL (RSA)
19:10	HIDS N HATS (AUT)
20:20	THE EXCHANGE (USA)
21:30	EASY FREAK (RSA)
22:50	ROOTWORDS (CHE)
00:10	THE HIFFNESS (RSA)
01:30	SO SCRIPT (SWZ)
02:30	THE MUTE BAND (MOZ)

DOORS OPEN: 10AM- 10PM

TIME	PERFORMING ACTS
12:30	MTN BUSHFIRE JAM SESSIONS THROUGHOUT THE DAY
19:15	BUSHFIRE AFTER PARTY BACARDI HOUSE ON FIRE STAGE

DOORS OPEN: 6PM- 1AM

TIME	PERFORMING ACTS
19:30	SHORT FILM SCREENING
21:30	HANWAH (GBR)
22:45	DUSTY & STONES (SWZ)

DOORS OPEN: 10AM- 1AM

TIME	PERFORMING ACTS
11:00	NATE & TRUMPET (SWZ)
12:00	SHORT FILM SCREENING
14:00	OPEN MIC
15:00	MICHAEL CANFIELD (USA)
16:00	BLACH RHINO (SWZ)
17:00	SHORT FILM SCREENING
18:00	FA CUP
21:00	VUKAZITHATHE (RSA,MOZ)
22:45	SUTHERLAND (RSA)

DOORS OPEN: 10AM- 5PM

TIME	PERFORMING ACTS
10:45	SHORT FILM SCREENING
12:00	OPEN MIC
13:30	ROOT AFRIKA (SWZ)
15:00	FLOEWE (SWZ)

DOORS OPEN: 6PM- 2.30AM

TIME	PERFORMING ACTS
19:00	DJ MKAY (SWZ)
20:00	MANDISA (FIREFLY WINNER) (SWZ)
20:15	LINDZ (FIREFLY WINNER) (SWZ)
20:30	SYMPHONY (FIREFLY WINNER) (SWZ)
20:45	OLA-BUSARI (SWZ,RSA)
21:00	SPEECH UMLANGENI (SWZ)
22:00	DJ LADY CREAM (SWZ)
23:00	DJ MASTER P (SWZ)
00:00	DJ PH (RSA)
01:00	DJ DEAL DEAL (SWZ)

DOORS OPEN: 11AM- 3:30AM

TIME	PERFORMING ACTS
13:30	DJ BOB (RSA)
14:30	DJ FRED SPIDER (SWZ)
15:30	HALF N HALF (FRA)
16:30	DJ BANQUES (RSA)
17:30	RAS BUSTA (MOZ)
18:30	DJ TIEZA (RSA)
19:30	MANDISA (FIREFLY WINNER) (SWZ)
19:40	LINDZ (FIREFLY WINNER) (SWZ)
19:50	SYMPHONY (FIREFLY WINNER) (SWZ)
20:00	SANDS (SPECIAL APPEARANCE) (SWZ)
20:05	JEWS FOR TECHNO (RSA)
21:05	THEMBA LUNACY (RSA)
23:05	DJ CHYNAMAN (RSA)
00:05	DJ WICKED (SWZ)
01:05	TOUCH OF SOUL (SWZ)
02:05	DJ MKAY (SWZ)

DOORS OPEN: 11AM- 5:30PM

TIME	PERFORMING ACTS
12:00	PACHANGA (SWZ)
13:00	SPEECH UMLANGENI (SWZ)
14:00	DJ LEEU (RSA)
15:00	DJ TIEZA (SWZ)
16:00	HARLA KENYA (SWZ, DEU, RSA)

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VACANCY: CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

An opportunity has arisen for a suitably qualified and experienced individual to join our client, the Swaziland Nazarene Health Institutions (SNHI), as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO). SNHI comprises the Raleigh Fitkin Memorial Hospital and the nineteen Community Clinics. The organization receives government subventions.

JOB PURPOSE

This position provides leadership and coordination of the financial function including business planning, accounting, finance and budgeting aspects as well as provide critical financial insight and strategic support to the Chief Executive Officer and Board of Directors for the growth and sustainability of the institution.

KEY PERFORMANCE AREAS

- Financial and Procurement Management • Corporate Strategy • Administration and Management
- Performance Management • Stakeholder Relationship Management • Staff Management

TECHNICAL AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- B.Com in Accounting or equivalent plus professional qualification/CA • Membership with a recognised professional body

EXPERIENCE AND PROGRESSION REQUIRED

- Ability to manage a wide spectrum of skilled personnel and consultants • 7 years of experience in senior management accounting • 3 years minimum experience in financial management in a healthcare environment will be an added advantage

KEY BEHAVIOURAL COMPETENCIES

- Professional leadership • Customer Centric • High Work Standards • Team oriented • Result focused
- Integrity • Attention to details • Confidentiality • Compassion • Respect

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- To the Recruitment Consultant, KQ Consulting (Pty) Ltd • By post to P.O. Box 710 Manzini • By hand to Kobla Quashie and Associates, Mallya House, Lot 137 Esser Street, Manzini • By e-mail to recruitment@kq.co.sz • Closing Date: Tuesday 16th May 2017 • Late applications will not be considered • Selection will be subject to competency assessments, verifications and reference checks
- Correspondence will be limited to short-listed applicants only.

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DOC:13546

JOB OPPORTUNITY SUB-EDITOR

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced local candidates for the above position at our offices based in Mbabane.

JOB PURPOSE:

To ensure good layout, catchy headlines, captions, presentation of the paper, elimination of mistakes and ensure deadlines are met on daily basis.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE AMONGST OTHERS:

- To peruse the dummy, i.e. basic design of the newspaper to determine the space available for pictures and stories;
- To read and understand the story in the computer in order to create the final impression or outlook of the newspaper page;
- Create, i.e. make or coin the headline that will capture the reader's attention;
- To search for appropriate pictures and supporting features in the computer archives and select layout the appropriate picture or material;
- To clean the selected pictures ensuring that they comply with appropriate quality control and size before layouting;
- To size the picture, balancing it with the text and columns ensuring pagination, i.e. within the story;

REQUIREMENTS:

- A Diploma in journalism and mass communication.
- A Diploma/Certificate in Graphic Design will be an added advantage
- At least two years experience as a Reporter

COMPETENCIES: (Qualities required to effectively handle this post)

- Computer literacy
- Expertise in Photo Shop, QuarkXPress and Corel Draw
- Creativity
- Proficiency in English
- Accuracy and Attention to detail
- Good communication skills

APPLICATIONS:

Letters of application, including certified copies of academic qualifications, detailed Curriculum Vitae, recent traceable references and a contact number should be hand delivered or addressed to:

The Human Resources Officer
The Swazi Observer (Pty) Ltd
Betfusile Street
P.O. Box A385
Swazi Plaza
Mbabane
E-mail: hrofficer@observer.org.sz

Closing Date for applications 31st May 2017

**Swazi
OBSERVER**

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ON SATURDAY**

**SUNDAY
Observer**

AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

Does the idea of doing something that really makes a difference in people's lives while being well-compensated intrigue you? Are you looking to work for an organization that encourages growth and success from each and every one of its employees? If so, AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) is the place for you. AHF is a Global organization that was founded in 1987 and is the largest specialized provider of HIV/AIDS medical care in the nation. Our mission is to provide cutting edge medicine and advocacy, regardless of ability to pay. Through our healthcare centers, pharmacies, health plan, research and other activities, AHF provides access to the latest HIV treatments for all who need them.

AHF Swaziland is currently seeking to fill the following positions:

Medical Officer

Responsibilities

The duties of the Medical Officer shall include but not limited to:

- Provide clinical care and monitoring to patients
- Order, interpret and evaluate diagnostic tests to identify and assess patient's clinical problems and health care needs
- Review charts and perform peer reviews;
- Ability to lead QI projects and mentor nurses and paramedics
- Demonstrate flexibility and willingness to provide coverage at other AHF sites upon request;

Qualifications and Experience

- MB., ChB or MD degree plus
- Minimum three to four years clinical experience, at least two of which are in HIV/TB care and treatment.
- Experience with Quality Improvement processes and mentoring is an added advantage
- Diploma in HIV Management or Advanced IMAI is a requirement
- Current registration with Swaziland Medical and Dental council

To apply for this position, email medicalofficerahf@gmail.com

Staff Nurse (2)

Responsibilities

The duties of the Staff Nurse shall include but not limited to:

- Maintain clinical competency, as demonstrated in providing and directing patient care.
- Assist and communicate with medical staff concerning patient care issues.
- Assess and Triage patients.
- Participate in the case management of individual patients to ensure the continuity of care.
- Comply with safety and infection control standards.

Qualifications and Experience

- Graduate from an accredited Registered nursing program
- NARTIS certification or equivalent a must.
- Current registration with Swaziland Nursing Council.
- Knowledge of HIV/AIDS and related medical and patient care issues and concerns in diverse populations.

To apply for this position, email staffnurseahf@gmail.com

Pharmacy Assistant

Responsibilities

The duties of the Pharmacy Assistant shall include but not limited to:

- Process medication orders or prescriptions; mix pharmaceutical preparations, fill bottles with prescribed tablets and caplets, and type labels for bottles; assist Pharmacy Technician in preparing and dispensing medication.
- Operate and use appropriate techniques within systems for storage, preparation and dispensing of medicinal agents and follow the healthcare centre's policies regarding medication preparation and labelling, controlled substances reconciliation and purchasing of pharmaceuticals and supplies.
- Provide instruction and information regarding correct use of drugs supplied.
- Receive and store incoming supplies; count stock and maintain inventory records.

Qualifications and Experience

- IGCSE Form 5/ O' level certificate or Grade 12 (Matric)
- Pharmacy Assistant Certificate is an added advantage.
- Previous experience in a Pharmacy environment is highly desirable.

To apply for this position, email pharmassistantahf@gmail.com

Laboratory Technologist/Technician

The duties of the Laboratory Technician shall include but not limited to:

- Participate in planning and overseeing activities for the laboratory function.
- Provide basic laboratory services for CD4 tests and other tests as required.
- Oversee laboratory services provision and ensure standard and current practice are in place for maintaining high quality laboratory services and maximizing the use of all resources.
- Coordinate with all laboratory vendors (outside contractors) and the sites to ensure that the process of handling patient samples and delivery

JOB VACANCIES

- of results is efficient and effective.
- Conduct quality control checks and maintenance for the PARTEC CD4 machine in lab and other laboratory tests performed within the labs.

Qualifications and Experience

- Diploma or Degree in Medical Laboratory Science or Technology
- A minimum of three years of experience in a similar position.

To apply for this position, email labtechahf@gmail.com

Driver

Responsibilities

The duties of the Driver shall include but not limited to:

- Ensures timeous transportation of Laboratory specimens from the AHF clinics to the main laboratory in Mbabane Government Hospital.
- Responsible for collecting mail and parcels from relevant agencies and transporting it back when the need arises.
- Maintain vehicles in good mechanical order and completes and submit weekly log sheets to support this.
- Reports repairs and arranges any replacements immediately with the Operations Manager.

Qualifications and Experience

- Matric or O'Level certificate
- Three years' experience working as a driver with a clean driver's licence
- License to drive public transport
- Training and experience in HIV testing and counselling is an added advantage

To apply for this position, email driverahf@gmail.com

HIV Counsellor (2)

Responsibilities

The duties of the HIV Counsellor shall include but not limited to:

- Provide HTC services
- Collaborate with other health care professionals (doctor, nurse, social worker, community health care worker, home-based caregiver, psychologist.) in maintaining treatment protocols.
- Provide direct and comprehensive primary, preventive and therapeutic care to patients. Refers to support groups and these are recorded in support group register also encourages patients to have a supporter on treatment initiation.
- Assist patients with adherence counselling and document the session in counselling form.
- Assist with the reading and interpretation of the CD4 count results to clients.
- Enter client visit details into the psychosocial register and the Patient Management database.
- Provide weekly psychosocial relevant PPR report to the data capturer.
- Provide training to patients ready for ARV treatment and provide them with the clinical and laboratory goals of ARV's.

Qualifications and Experience

- Recognised HTC counselling certificate
- Certificate in psycho-social support or counselling or social work or Basic Nursing is an added advantage
- At least one year relevant experience

To apply for this position, email hivcounselorahf@gmail.com

Pharmacy Technician

Responsibilities

The duties of the Pharmacy Technician shall include but not limited to:

- Develop and implement policies and procedures relating to pharmacy operations and professional practice standards.
- Prepare reports by collecting and summarizing information.
- Maintain records by recording and filing clinicians' orders and prescriptions.
- Inventory management of all stock, including stock supplied to clinics supported by AHF.
- Retrieving requested medicines and drugs from the warehouse and the storeroom in their correct batches and quantities.

Qualifications and Experience

- Pharmacy Technician's Diploma certificate from an accredited institution
- Registered or registrable with the Medical Council of Swaziland as a pharmacy technician
- At least 3 years' experience
- IGCSE Certificate of Education.

To apply for this position, email pharmtechahf@gmail.com

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

Applicants **MUST** submit covering letter and Curriculum Vitae **ONLY** to the relevant email address below each position.

Applications should be addressed to:

**Recruitment
AIDS Healthcare Foundation
P. O. Box 7352
Manzini**

Further correspondence will be limited to shortlisted candidates.

CLOSING DATE 19 MAY 2017

38 WORLD SPORT

FIFA to rule on Israel settlement clubs by October

MANAMA - FIFA will rule on the issue of Israeli clubs playing in the West Bank by October, president Gianni Infantino said yesterday, once again delaying a decision on the contentious issue.

FIFA's annual Congress voted to back by a majority of 73 to 27 per cent - a proposal that pushed football's governing body to report by March 2018, but Infantino said feedback would come before then.

"We will take responsibility and we will take a decision on this matter," he said, adding FIFA would rule in October.

The Palestine Football Association (PFA) argues that the presence of six Israeli clubs on its territory is in breach of FIFA statutes, which forbids another member association playing on another territory without permission. Israel argues that FIFA rules are unenforceable

as there is no permanent border.

The Congress heard from both the Palestinian and Israeli federations before taking the vote.

Palestinian football chief Jibril Rajoub told delegates his association wanted the same rights as others. "We are not looking for suspension or expulsion but the full recognition of our right that no Israeli clubs play in our territory," he said.

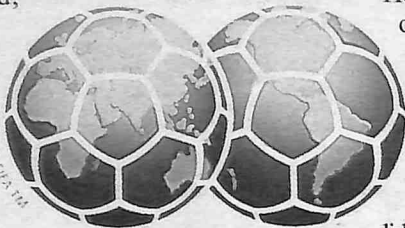
"None of you will accept that any clubs play in your territory."

However, Ofer Eini of the Israeli association, said the PFA was looking for a political solution.

"The sole purpose is to establish the political boundaries," he told the Congress.

"This is outside the authority of FIFA to establish

borders. "Why are you trying to stop five or six teams of children from playing football? Will that resolve the Palestinian problem?" AFP



FIFA

FA chief defends Pogba deal but calls for transfer debate

LONDON - English football's top administrator has defended the world record transfer of Paul Pogba to Manchester United that is now the subject of an investigation by FIFA, the global game's governing body.

The France midfielder's £89.3m from Italian club Juventus to the English giants in August 2016 has come under particular scrutiny amid reports the player's agent will earn 41 million from the deal.

There has long been concern about how football agents, rather than just being paid by their client as is standard practice in other industries, can also earn money from clubs when conducting transfer deals amid suggestions that this can lead to a conflict of interest. But Greg Clarke, the chairman of England's Football Association, warned against "demonising" the Pogba deal and said the worldwide game needed to do more than have a "knee-jerk reaction" if the rules governing transfers were to be reformed.

"If that's what they (Manchester United) are going

to pay, that's what they're going to pay," Clarke told the BBC yesterday. "They are accountable to their owners; they're accountable to their fans."

"How much should we pay for players? How much should go to agents as a commercial transaction?"

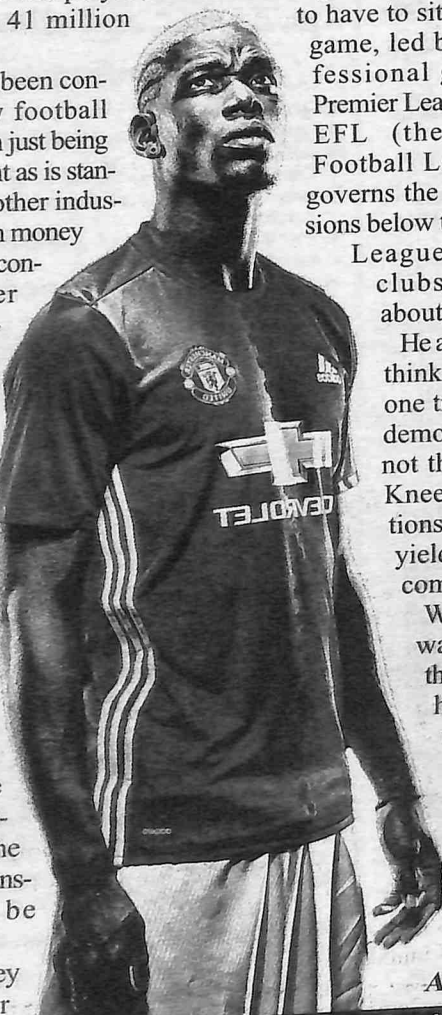
"If football wants to change that and limit the amount of money that agents get we're going to have to sit down as a game, led by the professional game, the Premier League and the EFL (the English Football League that governs the three divisions below the Premier League) and the clubs and talk about that."

He added: "I just think picking on one transfer and demonising it is not that helpful. Knee-jerk reactions don't often yield good outcomes."

What we want is some thought about how much money stays in the game so it can be invested in long-term productive things."

AFP

DEFENDED: Paul Pogba.



CHELSEA HAIL "THE CONFATHER"

LONDON - How quickly affections can switch in soccer. Where once they would serenade coach Jose Mourinho at Stamford Bridge with an operatic flourish, now Chelsea fans have fallen headlong for another man driving them inexorably to the Premier League title.

To the Bridge faithful, Mourinho's "not special any more" now he's pitched up at Manchester United but their embrace for coach Antonio Conte will be suffocating if he guides the Blues to a title-clinching victory at West Bromwich Albion today.

As the arty canvas held by his daughter at Monday's home victory over Middlesbrough put it, the Italian is now already enshrined as "The Confather" to a happy family of ruthless operators in blue.

No wonder. Albeit a quietly charming, thoughtful figure away from the pitch, on the touchline Conte comes across as a manic, hyperactive figure



CONFATHER: Antonio Conte.

making demands of his players that they dare not refuse. Win this game or else, his eyes scream.

So don't expect him to stop now. Conte has spent his time since the 3-

0 drubbing of Middlesbrough trotting out his familiarly cautious mantra about hard work, fight and commitment still being needed to finish their efficient job. Reuters

ATLETICO COMEBACK FALLS SHORT AS REAL REACH FINAL

MADRID - Real Madrid inflicted a fourth Champions League elimination on Atletico Madrid in as many years on Wednesday, losing their semi-final second leg 2-1 but progressing to the final 4-2 on aggregate.

Atletico had threatened an incredible comeback, Saul Niguez's powerful header and Antoine Griezmann's penalty inside 16 minutes cutting Real's aggregate lead to a solitary goal.

The hosts fed off a ferocious atmosphere for their final Champions League match at the Vicente Calderon before moving to the Wanda Metropolitano next season.

However, Isco's away goal just before half-time settled Real's nerves and left Atletico with too much to do to progress.

Cristiano Ronaldo's first leg hat-trick ultimately proved decisive and Real



WELL DONE: Real Madrid players celebrating qualifying for the final after the UEFA Champions League semifinal second leg match between Atletico Madrid and Real Madrid at the Vicente Calderon Stadium, in Madrid, Spain, Wednesday.

will seek to become the first side to defend the trophy in the Champions League era when they face Juventus in

the final in Cardiff on May 3.

"I am delighted to reach the final," AFP



Leicester - RIYAD MAHREZ is set to spark a desperate scrap for his services by leaving Leicester this summer.

Mahrez wants out of the club.

Starsport understands he's off - and a host of other top Foxes stars could follow. Paris St-Germain are expected to launch a £35m bid for the Algerian

star. PSG failed to get him last summer after he snubbed them in favour of a new £100 000-a-week deal at the King Power. But it'll be all change this summer. PSG's interest could provoke a desperate struggle for Mahrez's services. Barcelona could also be raided by top flight rivals Arsenal, Manchester

City, Tottenham and Liverpool.

Mahrez's form has tailed off this season after a stunning 2015-16 campaign. The 26-year-old won the PFA Player of the Year prize after leading Leicester to the title. He stuck around for their first-ever Champions League campaign this term but is now set to cut his ties with the club. Daily Star

Weekend Sports Fixtures

COMPILED BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

CAF CONFEDERATIONS CUP

CS Slaven	vs	Mbabane Swallows	8pm
MTN National First Division			
Tomorrow at the Prince of Wales Ground			
Mbabane Citizens	vs	Hub Sundowns	3pm
Tomorrow at Mavuso Sports Centre			
Ludzeludze Brothers	vs	Amalanda	3pm
Tomorrow at Manzini Club			
Sikhalo se-Africa	vs	Hlathikhulu Tycoons	3pm
Tomorrow at Tabankhulu Stadium			
Madlenya	vs	Bad Boys	3pm
Sunday at the Somhlolo National Stadium			
City Warriors	vs	Vovovo	1pm
Malsapha United	vs	Malanti Chiefs	3pm

Mandla Mahewu Mbabane Juniors League

Tomorrow at Dumping Site Sports Ground - U15

Wizards	vs	Swallows	8am
Classic	vs	Imbumbi	9am
M. Fighters	vs	Thembelihle	10am
Superstars	vs	PMT	11am
Umbelbele	vs	Hurricanes	12pm

Mbabane East Juniors League

Tomorrow at Police Sports Ground - U20

Hurricane	vs	Classic	8am (U17)
Checkers	vs	Supersport	9am (U17)
Mangwaneni	vs	Supersport	10am
All Stars	vs	Amawele	11am

Tomorrow at Msunduzi Sports Ground

Junior Stars	vs	Flying Stars	8am (U17)
Mphalali	vs	Hurricane	9am (U20)
Interstars	vs	Sivutsa	10am (U20)
Umbelbele	vs	M. Fighters	11am (U20)

Miky Max Mbabane Juniors League - U13

Tomorrow at Dumping Site Sports Ground

Mphalali	vs	Supersport	8am
Mpolonjeni	vs	Amawele	9am
Swallows	vs	Hurricane	10am
Superstars	vs	Mangwaneni	11am
Supersport	vs	Mphalali	12pm

All Out Africa Lobamba Juniors League

Tomorrow at Lobamba Sports Ground - U13

Guns	vs	Sunrise	9am
Vicious Lion	vs	L. Cosmos	9:50am
Fast Reaction	vs	M. Invaders	10:30am
L. Dynamos	vs	Tinyosi	11:25am
Junior Stars	vs	Fast Reaction	12:10am
R. Masters	vs	M. Invaders	12:55pm
Emajukujuku	vs	Tinyosi	2pm

Tomorrow at Lobamba Sports Ground - U15

Ground A			
Vicious Lion	vs	Power Stars	9am
Fast Reaction	vs	M. Invaders	10am
Y. Bombers	vs	Junior Stars	11am
Tomorrow at Lobamba Sports Ground - U15			
Ground B			
Ebuka Stars	vs	L. Dynamos	9am
Guns	vs	Umlilo	10am
Vicious Lions	vs	Ebuka Stars	11am
Sunrise	vs	Real Masters	12pm

Swazi Trac Hhohho League

Mini Play-offs - 2nd Leg

19 Celtics	vs	Tinyosi	2pm
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Mandla Mahewu Mbabane League

Promotion

Sunday at Msunduzi Sports Ground			
Mbabane Celtics	vs	Double Action	11am
Corporation	vs	Thembelihle	3pm

Sunday at Sidwashini Sports Ground			
Flying Stars	vs	Veni Cosmos	3pm

Sunday at Veni Sports Ground			
White City	vs	Mbabane Arsenal	3:30pm

B. Division

Sunday at Msunduzi Sports Ground

Mpolonjeni	vs	Mphalali	9am
National Rangers	vs	Mantsholo	11am
D. Darkies	vs	Movers	1pm
Sunday at Msunduzi Sports Ground			
Junior Aces	vs	Supersport	1pm
Sunday at Police Sports Ground			
Freestyle	vs	Mangwaneni	9am
Mbabane United	vs	Walters	11am
Junction	vs	Interstars	1pm
Royal Dynamos	vs	Lusoli	3pm

PMT Mbabane KO

Tomorrow at Msunduzi Sports Ground

Semi - Finals

FC Vaal	vs	Pinevalley	1:15pm
Amawele	vs	Sandla	3:15pm

Pots Construction Sigangeni League

Tomorrow at Sigangeni Sports Ground

Kangaroo	vs	U. Eagles	1pm
Maz. Celtics	vs	Real Touch	3pm

Tomorrow at Mhlambanyatsi Sports Ground

Community	vs	Young Heroes	3pm
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Tomorrow at Ntsetse Sports Ground

Sigangeni	vs	Express	1pm
Total XI	vs	Ntsetse Flyers	3pm

Tomorrow at Ntsetse Sports Ground

Total XI	vs	Young Heroes	9:00am
Men Unlimited	vs	Tiki Taka	10:00am
Burning Spear	vs	Ntsetse flyers	11:00am

Tomorrow at Kupheleni Sports Ground

Young Fighters	vs	L. Nationals	1pm
Mighty Chiefs	vs	Villa Sport	3pm

Sunday at Sigangeni Sports Ground

Real United	vs	Cannibals	10am
Real Touch	vs	U. Eagles	12pm
Kupheleni	vs	SD Civils Men	2pm

Ematombeni Mdzimba League

Tomorrow at Hhukwini Sports Ground

Hhukwini social	vs	Nsukumbili Social	11am
Barcelona	vs	Amacabane	1pm
Arsenal	vs	Rhumba Stars	3pm

Shark Mhlangatane League

Sunday at Machibini Sports Ground

Machibini Rovers	vs	Chelsea	2pm
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Maphalaleni Juniors League

Today at Maphalaleni Sports Ground

Thuluzobona	vs	Khulugwane	11am
Killers	vs	Barcelona	1pm
Professional	vs	Holspurs	3pm

Tee and Jay LRFL Promotion

Tomorrow at Embo

Fast Reaction	vs	Vutha	2pm
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Tomorrow at Lobamba

L. Sunrise	vs	Emaselesele	2pm
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Tomorrow at Enkalakatha

City Stars	vs	L. Dynamos	1pm
Ezulwini Aces	vs	Emajukujuku	3pm

Sunday at Enkalakatha

Real Masters	vs	L. Wanderers	3pm
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Sunday at Embo

L. Dynamos	vs	Emajukujuku (replay)	2pm
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Tee and Jay LRFL First Division

Tomorrow at Embo

Silomo	vs	Ezulwini FC	12 noon
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Tomorrow at Lobamba

Liwakawaka	vs	Power Stars	12 noon
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Tomorrow at Enkalakatha

Malagwane	vs	X - Eleven	9am
S. Classic	vs	Masters United	11am

Sunday at Elangeni

Lusito Lions	vs	Scorpion	11am
Luvuvu Killers	vs	Servest	1pm
E. Vultures	vs	Zabeni All Stars	3pm

Sunday at Enkalakatha

S. Classic	vs	Malagwane (replay)	1pm
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FA Rainbow Stationary Manzini Super League

Tomorrow at Nkhundleni Sports Ground			
Luvu Cosmos	vs	Milling Hotspurs	3:15pm

Riverview Manzini Promotion League

Tomorrow at Zakhele 1 Sports Ground			
New Generations	vs	Combine Stars	1:30pm
Fairview Chiefs	vs	SibonisoSelwadle	3:15pm

Tomorrow at Zakhele 2 Sports Ground

Nkonkwanecallies	vs	Young Tigers	1:30pm
Mhlaleni United	vs	Home Sparrows	3:1 pm

Sunday at Zakhele 1 Sports Ground

Superstars	vs	Wise Kids	11am
Lwandle Classic	vs	Two Sticks Comrades	1pm
Fairview Chiefs	vs	Young Tigers	3pm

Sunday at Zakhele 2 Sports Ground

FC North	vs	Villa Stars	11pm
Kholwane Flying Birds	vs	African Chiefs	1pm
Home Sparrows	vs	Combine Stars	3pm

Riverview Manzini First Division League

Tomorrow at Salesian Sports Ground			
Ngwane Park	vs	Hot Beans	1:30 pm
Skom Boys	vs	LwandleYoung Tigers	3:15 pm

Sunday at Zakhele 1 Sports Ground

Villa Sport	vs	Ngculwini All Stars	9am
Bremer United	vs	The Bones	11am

Sunday at Zakhele 2 Sports Ground

Chaos LTD	vs	Nhlambeni United	9am
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Sunday at Salesian Sports Ground

God's Property	vs	Manzini Bullets	9am
Wonderful Touch	vs	Parachute	11am
Manzini United	vs	Green Way	1pm

Save Mor Kwaluseni Promotion League

Tomorrow at Zombodze Sports Ground

Nsenga Comrades	vs	Kudzeni United	1:30pm
Ntunja Arsenal	vs	Mhlane United	3:15pm

Tomorrow at TB Centre 1 Sports Ground

Dark City	vs	Nhlambeni Real Heroes	1:30pm
Swazi Wire	vs	SihohlwaniAmajita	3:15pm

Tomorrow at Ludzeludze Sports Ground

Zama United	vs	Malsapha Auto Zone	1:30pm
Zombodze United	vs	FC Malsapha	3:15pm

Sunday at Ludzeludze Sports Ground

Lozitha Spurs	vs	Royal Swallows	1pm
Nsenga Comrades	vs	Mhlane United	3pm

Save Mor Kwaluseni First Division League

Tomorrow at TB Centre 2 Sports Ground			
Mahashulane	vs	Kwaluseni United	1:30pm

Sunday at Zombodze Sports Ground

BafanaBafana	vs	Nkamazi AK47	9am
NsengaShagani	vs	Umfuntuli	11am
Ludzeludze Celtics	vs	Shali United	1pm
Sihohlwani	vs	SigombeniJuventus	3pm

Sunday at Ludzeludze Sports Ground

Ludzeludze Kicks	vs	Fashion International	9am
Supersport	vs	Ludzidzi	11am

Sunday at TB Centre 2 Sports Ground

Mahashulane	vs	NkamaziAK47	2pm
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S & S Malkems Promotion League

Tomorrow at Ka-Ndinda Sports Ground			
Home Talent	vs	IyashisaBhe	1:30pm
NdindaVolcanoe	vs	Vickery Nomads	3:15pm

Tomorrow at Golden Sports Ground

Izinyokanyoka	vs	Power Sparks	2pm
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Tomorrow at Dwaleni Sports Ground

Gebeni	vs	Makhungutsha	2 pm
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Tomorrow at Mahlanya Sports Ground

Mahlanya United	vs	Phondo	2pm
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Tomorrow at Khalang'ile Sports Ground

Trouble makers	vs	Swazi Can United	2pm
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Sunday at Luyengo Sports Ground

Cutter Cosmos	vs	Ngodini	2pm
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Sunday at Khalang'ile Sports Ground

Current Toasters	vs	Don Don	2pm
Phondo	vs	Swazi Can United	2pm

Mkhweni Promotion League

Tomorrow at Nkhundleni Sports Ground			
Luvu Stars	vs	Sangcofo	11:30am
Thuluzobona	vs	Step Ahead	1:30pm

Tomorrow at Mliba Sports Ground

Liverpool	vs	Mantshonga	1:30pm
Toronto	vs	Colani United	3:15pm

Tomorrow at Mcozini Sports Ground

Zama United	vs	Manchester United	1:30pm
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Sunday at Mcozini Sports Ground

All Stars	vs	Mbasher Brothers	2pm
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Sunday at Nkhundleni Sports Ground

Ngonini Young Aces	vs	All Nations	11am
Luvu Classic	vs	White Killers	1 pm
LuvuSuncity	vs	Liverpool	3pm

Usuthu Promotion League

Sunday atBhunya Sports Ground			
Luhleko Revengers	vs	Black Aces	12pm
Africa 2010	vs	Zamalek	2pm

Sunday at Lamgabhi Sports Ground

Buffaloes	vs	Superstars	10am
Internationals	vs	Black Rhinos	12pm
Othandweni Swallows	vs	Youngstars	2pm

Nsingweni Promotion League

Tomorrow at Mphalane Sports Ground

Black Aces	vs	Young Madrid	12pm
All Stars	vs	Highland Blues	2pm

Corban Mafutseni Promotion League

Tomorrow at Nkongasports Ground

Madubula Rovers	vs	SicameloSa-Chief	1:30 pm
Logoba Young Killers	vs	Young Camibals	3:15 pm



MBABANE HIGHLANDERS

Supporters' Corner

1848



WE ARE ONE OF THE OLDEST, BIGGEST

By Maxwell Mfanfikile Masuku
(National Supporters Committee Secretary)

IN every corner in the country, every street you pass and all over social media the news is Mbabane Highlanders.

Stand tall and walk with your chest out *bomagebhula* this proves we not just an ordinary team but one with rich history.

When a mighty empire is crumbling, shock waves are sent all over and it becomes a concern for everyone. Even in our darkest moment fear still engulfs the newbie's and wannabies, who still wish and dream to be like us.

We not basking on borrowed glory but our hard work qualify us to be one among the few not just oldest but biggest teams in the land. It's an undisputable fact that Mbabane Highlanders, Mbabane Swallows and Manzini Wanderers are the biggest teams in the land. Underline biggest, yes the others are also big but these three are the biggest. These teams generate the most revenue in local football. Having said that, I am in no ways saying they should be treated special.

For the record, Mbabane



GWAZA NKUNZI: Mbabane Highlanders fans celebrating during one of their games.

Highlanders are not yet relegated. Our fate is still in our hands. We have to play our last game against Mbabane Swallows. It is still in our hands, we win that one, we are home and dry. It might look like mission impossible but our boys are ready for it. It's a derby with a lot at stake. United we can make it and shall die with our boots on.

It might look dark on our side such that people are already ruling us out but that should

not make us despair. Let us support our boys until the end and the dark cloud hovering over our heads should not divert our focus. Dark as things are, surely morning shall come. The sun shall rise. Great is the struggle between light and darkness, yet know in a time, far in the future, light shall be all and darkness shall fall. Weeping may lodge for the night, but shouts of joy will come in the morning.

Worldwide football is evolving, change is inevitable.

Its either you change to survive or be blown away. The so-called 'peoples team' and big teams in the world are struggling because of failing to adapt to change. Moroka Swallows are a good example, almost dead and buried. Orlando Pirates are struggling to cope and many others.

This should serve as a lesson to us as supporters. In as much as change is inevitable, we should have direction and focus.

We can't all be in the driver's seat at once but should let people with understanding on issues of corporate governance in football guide us. In modern football time for us as supporters to call shots and use violence for what we want is out.

Let us by no means use violence to be heard, let us respect and use available structures to accommodate change and move forward. It was so disheartening to note that the MTN grand closing games had to be postponed with the main reason for that being security reasons.

Let us outgrow the bad habit of fighting, it taint our good image.

There is a lot good about us as Mbabane high-

landers' supporters. Hooliganism has no place in modern football. We are at a stage where we should not dare fight or incite violence in any way, we stand to be banned.

Let us not let our lovely and great team die in our hands, let us all stand up and say no to violence. We are struggling financially and otherwise because most of the revenue generated is used to pay for fines and no sound sponsor can be associated with hooligans. I know we can do it again, I say no to violence.

CONDOLENCES

Last week Saturday the barren of the soil opened up at Lomahasha to swallow one of our loyal servants in Sikelela Kunene. A very loyal and dedicated supporter, who served the team as a marshal for a period of 20 years.

We sent our sincere condolences to his family and friends. May his soul rest in peace. I would also like to pass a vote of thanks to all the supporters, who braved the cold and went down all the way to Lomahasha to support the Kunene family.

On another note, it is still unbelievable one of the best PROs in the country is no more. He has done a lot to promote and market the game. Sibusiso Manana was not just an asset to Mbabane Swallows but the country at large. We send our deepest condolences to his family, friends, Mbabane Swallows and the football fraternity at large.

As Mbabane Swallows are on a mission to conquer Africa, may I on behalf of Mbabane Highlanders supporters wish them all the best in Tunisia. Go there and do it not just for the country but for Manana. A win will be the best send off you can accord to him. All the best *Mkhonto Ka-Shaka*.

NOTICE

Mbabane Highlanders supporters are cordially invited into an urgent extra ordinary meeting on Sunday at La Casserole Restaurant in Mbabane. The meeting will start at 10 am.

Please *bomagebhula* let us all make sure we attend this meeting at all costs where a number of issues will be deliberated. This is our platform to voice out our concerns instead of venting out our anger on the field of play, let's come together and build our own. *Till next week Gwaza Nkuzi*.



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

INVITATION TO TENDER FOR PRINTING, PACKAGING AND DELIVERY OF PUPILS' EXERCISE BOOKS AND STATIONERY PACKS FOR ALL PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE 8 SUB-REGIONS, IN JANUARY 2018.

Tender Ref. No.23 of 2017/2018

The Ministry of Education and Training invites sealed Tenders from locally registered companies for the provision of 257 409 Exercise Books and Stationery Packs for All public primary schools in eight (8) sub-regions namely; Pigg's Peak, Mbabane, Manzini, Mankayane, Siteki, Siphofaneni, Nhlanguano and Hluthi in January 2018.

Key requirements:

The documents specified in "Instructions to Tenderers", including certified current copies of Original General Receipt, relevant Trading Licence, SRA Company Tax Clearance Certificate (for Government tender), VAT Registration Certificate, Form J and Form C, Labour Compliance Certificate, relevant SNPP certificate, Declaration of Eligibility, Manufacturer's Authorization, Tender Form, Price Schedule, certificate of Incorporation, and a Tender Security of E15 000.00 or bank guaranteed cheque or insurance bond (not letter) must be included in the Tender. NB The required documents must be submitted in the order stated in the Tender Data Sheet.

The Tender document can be obtained at the Ministry of Education and Training, office No.211 for the price of E300.00 [Three hundred Emalangeni] which should be payable at Mbabane Revenue Offices, vote number; 301-2001-21132. Tenders must be enclosed in a sealed envelope, which must be marked as follows:

"The Secretary to Swaziland Government Tender Board"
Treasury Building,
Mhlambanyatsi Road,
MBABANE

Further the envelope must be clearly marked with the following information: Ministry of Education and Training Tender Reference No. 23 of 2017/2018 "Printing, Packaging and Delivery of Pupils Exercise Books and Stationery Packs for All Public Primary Schools". "Do not open before 9:00am, 23 June 2017."

Tenders must be delivered to the offices of the Swaziland Government Tender Board, Treasury Building, Mhlambanyatsi Road, Mbabane, Swaziland by 9:00 am (clock at the Treasury entrance) and deposited in the Treasury Tender Box.

There shall be a Pre-bid meeting on the 1st June 2017, 9:00 am in the Ministry of Education and Training Conference room 6th Floor.

Tenders received in time by the latest date and time for submission will be opened at the Treasury Building, Room 109, Mhlambanyatsi Road, Mbabane on the 23rd June 2017 at 9:00 am. Tenders not deposited in the Treasury Tender Box, as well as late, telegraphic, electronic and faxed tenders will not be considered. Tenderers may attend the opening procedure. Tenderers must have the same company name on all documents written in full.

N.B Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

Failure to follow the specification to dot shall result in the rejection of the tender.

For further information contact the office of the Chief Inspector Primary, Ministry of Education and Training, P.O. Box 39, Mbabane Swaziland. Email Address: diaminicons@gov.sz or ctnkambule09@gmail.com

DOC: 13649

Tel: 2505 6683

Cell: 7632 9881

Email: exclusivefurniture@swazi.net

EXCLUSIVE FURNITURE

Hyatt Centre - Shop #1
Mapheka Str. - Manzini,
Opp G.M Motors

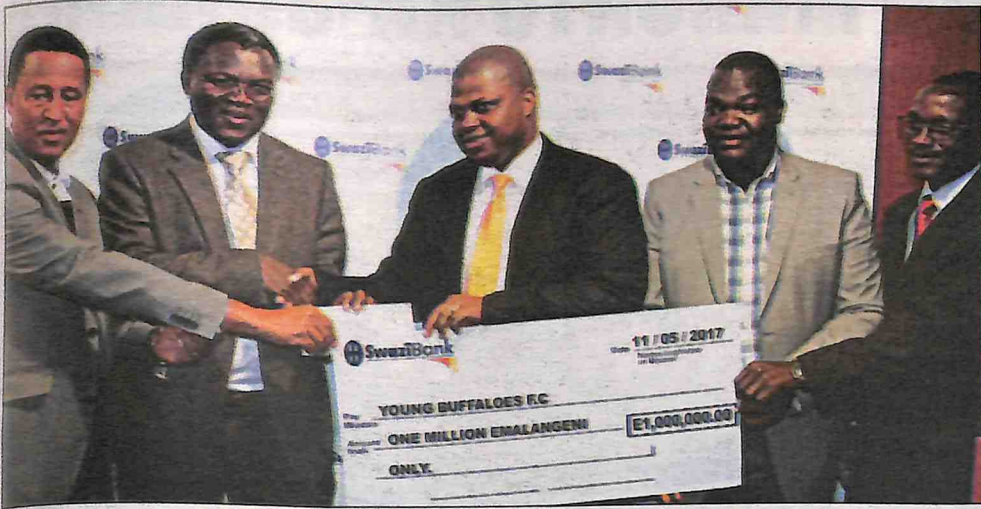
6 seater Lounge suit-
E23 900 Now E18 999

Hard chest of drawers-
Was E3999 Now E2999

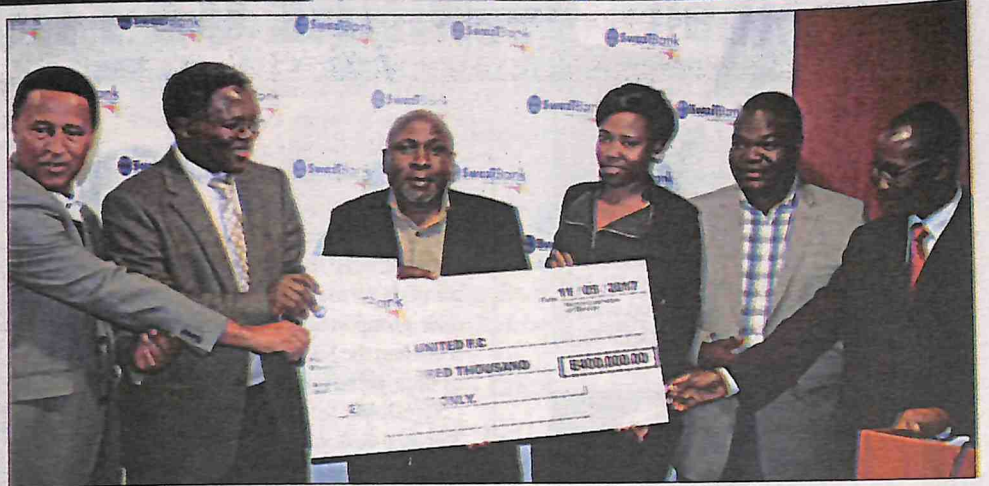
Brown 3 seater Recliner
E12 999 Now E9 999

#YELELE | SWAZIBANK CUP 2017

PICTURES



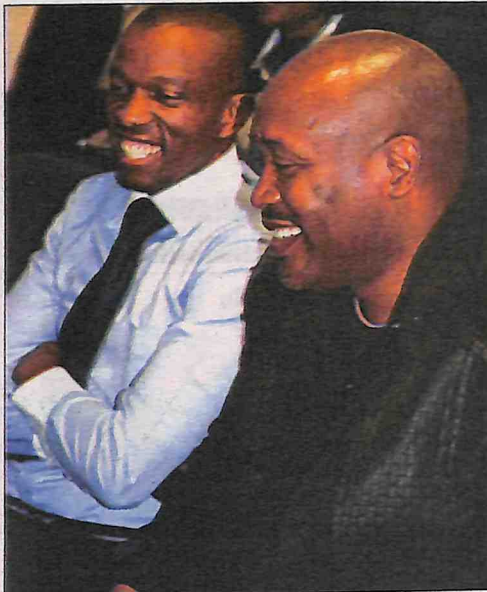
CHAMPIONS: SwaziBank Managing Director Zakhele Lukhele, Ministry of Sports Under Secretary Henry Zeeman, PLS Executive member Sicelo Mkhonta and FA President representative Elphas Ngcamphalala presenting a One Million Emalangeneni cheque to Young Buffaloes PRO Sandile Gwebu. This was during the SwaziBank Cup 2017 prize presentation at Swazi Bank Auditorium yesterday. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



PROUD MOMENT: SwaziBank Cup runners up Matsapha United acting CEO Victor 'Mavikane' Dlamini and assistant Secretary Philile Shongwe receiving a E400 000 cheque from SwaziBank MD Zakhele Lukhele, Henry Zeeman, PLS Executive member Sicelo Mkhonta and Elphas Ngcamphalala.



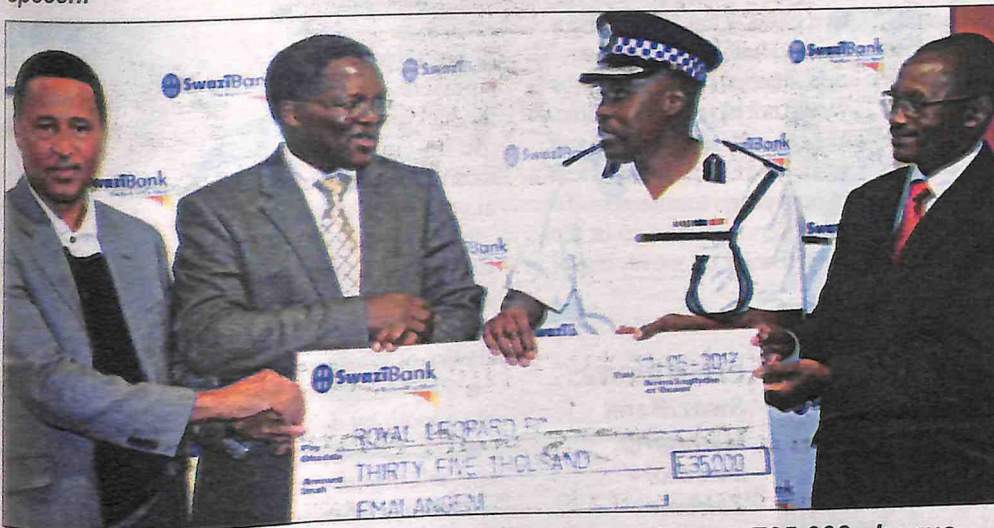
THE BANK WITH A HEART: SwaziBank Managing Director Zakhele Lukhele delivering his speech.



ON A LIGHTER NOTE: SwaziBank Legal Advisor Sifiso Mdluli with PLS Chairman Victor Gamedze.



PRINT MEDIA CHAMPIONS: PLS Executive member Sicelo Mkhonta presenting a trophy and E10 000 to Swazi Observer sports reporter Sibusiso Dlamini.



CHAMPS: Royal Leopard PRO Frank Hurube receiving a E35 000 cheque from SwaziBank MD Zakhele Lukhele, Ministry of Sports Under Secretary Henry Zeeman and FA President representative Elphas Ngcamphalala. Leopard won the SwaziBank Cup Under-20 tournament.

ALL SMILES: Manzini Sundowns Under-20 coach Penuel Malinga accepting the team's prize from Dlamini.



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

INVITATION TO TENDER FOR SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF PUPILS' STATIONERY SETS FOR ALL PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE 8 SUB-REGIONS, IN DECEMBER 2017.

Tender Ref. No.33 of 2017/2018

The Ministry of Education and Training invites sealed Tenders from locally registered companies for the provision of 257 409 Stationery Sets for All public primary schools in eight (8) sub-regions namely: Pigg's Peak, Mbabane, Manzini, Mankayane, Siteki, Siphofaneni, Nhlengano and Hluthi in December 2017.

Key requirements:

The documents specified in "Instructions to Tenderers", including certified current copies of Original General Receipt, relevant Trading Licence, SRA Company Tax Clearance Certificate (for Government tender), VAT Registration Certificate, Form J and Form C, Labour Compliance Certificate, relevant SNPF certificate, Declaration of Eligibility, Manufacturer's Authorization, Tender Form, Price Schedule, certificate of Incorporation, and a Tender Security of E15 000.00 or bank guaranteed cheque or insurance bond (not letter) must be included in the Tender. NB The required documents must be submitted in the order stated in the Tender Data Sheet.

The Tender document can be obtained at the Ministry of Education and Training, office No.211 for the price of E300.00 [Three hundred Emalangeneni] which should be payable at Mbabane Revenue Offices, vote number: 301-2001-21132. Tenders must be enclosed in a sealed envelope, which must be marked as follows:

"The Secretary to Swaziland Government Tender Board"
Treasury Building,
Mhlambanyatsi Road,
MBABANE

Further the envelope must be clearly marked with the following information: Ministry of Education and Training Tender Reference No. 33 of 2017/2018 "Supply and Delivery of Stationery Sets for All Public Primary Schools". "Do not open before 9:00am, 30th June 2017.

Tenders must be delivered to the offices of the Swaziland Government Tender Board, Treasury Building, Mhlambanyatsi Road, Mbabane, Swaziland by 9.00 am (clock at the Treasury entrance) and deposited in the Treasury Tender Box.

There shall be a Pre-bid meeting on the 1st June 2017, 9.00am in the Ministry of Education and Training Conference room 6th Floor.

Tenders received in time by the latest date and time for submission will be opened at the Treasury Building, Room 109, Mhlambanyatsi Road, Mbabane on the 30th June 2017 at 9:00 am. Tenders not deposited in the Treasury Tender Box, as well as late, telegraphic, electronic and faxed tenders will not be considered. Tenderers may attend the opening procedure. Tenderers must have the same company name on all documents written in full.

N.B Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

Failure to follow the specification to dot shall result in the rejection of the tender.

For further information contact the office of the Chief Inspector Primary, Ministry of Education and Training, P.O. Box 339, Mbabane Swaziland. Email Address: dlamini@gov.sz or ctnkambule09@gmail.com

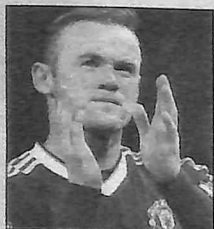


football talk

all your latest world football news

Winger Riyad Mahrez will be the first of several senior Leicester players to be sold this summer - with Paris St-Germain willing to pay £35m for the 26-year-old. *(Daily Star)*

Manchester United forward and captain Wayne Rooney, 31, has given the clearest indication yet that his 13-year stay at the club will end this summer. *(Guardian)*



Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger wants to sign Monaco's 21-year-old France midfielder Thomas Lemar this summer. *(Daily Mirror)*

Manchester City boss Pep Guardiola is keen to sign Middlesbrough goalkeeper Victor Valdes, 35, who played under him at Barcelona. *(ESPN)*



West Ham have offered defender Pablo Zabaleta, 32, a two-year deal worth £100 000 a week to join them when his Manchester City contract expires this summer. *(Sport360 via Sun)*

The Hammers will have to sign striker Michy Batshuayi outright rather than on loan if they want to sign the 23-year-old from Chelsea this summer. *(Daily Mirror)*

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp has said the club will not sell attacking midfielder Philippe Coutinho to Barcelona and joked about a £400m release fee in the 24-year-old's contract. *(Daily Telegraph)*

Tottenham Hotspur are determined not to sell 23-year-old midfielder Eric Dier, but Manchester United are ready to pay up to £40m to sign him. *(Daily Mail)*



Watford striker Troy Deeney, 28, is considering a summer move away from the club, with West Brom weighing up making a bid. *(London Evening Standard)*

The Hornets want to sign former Arsenal defender Thomas Vermaelen. The 31-year-old is currently on loan at Roma from Barcelona. *(Daily Mirror)*



Relegated Middlesbrough have offered a trial to 19-year-old Luxembourg defender Enes Mahmutovic. *(Evening Gazette)*

Shanghai SIPG attacking midfielder Oscar, 25, will receive a Premier League winners' medal if his former club Chelsea claim the title. *(Sun)*



DU'S CORNER

'THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT'

WITH
DUMSANE SIBANDZE
PLS Youth Development
Communications Manager



MAKE US PROUD MKHONTO KA-SHAKA!

...let us all pray for Mbabane Swallows as they fly out to Tunisia

MBABANE Swallows carry the country's hopes as they fly out to Tunisia for the group stages of the CAF Confederation Cup. The red and white giants have already carved a good name for themselves in the African region after defying all odds to reach the tough-as-a-teak group stages of this tournament and the Swazi nation is proud of their achievement thus far.

Swallows left the country for Tunisia yesterday beaming with confidence after their good run of form in this competition. We can only say make us proud Swallows because you did it before and we believe nothing can stop you even this time around.

We trust you and we are confident that you will not only make history for yourselves but the country as a whole. Bring it home and make our King a very happy man. After all, you eliminated clubs from Botswana, Tanzania and Congo hence we have no doubt at all that nothing can stop you now. With so

much quality and experienced players in the Swallows' arsenal, the team from Tunisia has reason to be worried ahead of this game.

The impressive coaching expertise of Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati is just

the cherry on top for Swallows and we say good luck *Ncolebovu Kamasizila*. We will be with you in prayer until you return home victorious because we believe you are going to Tunisia for victory and

nothing else. To Tony Tsabedze and the rest of the Swallows players, we can only ask you to do what you do best in the field of play and hoist the country's flag high. *Gwaza Mkhonto ka-Shaka!*

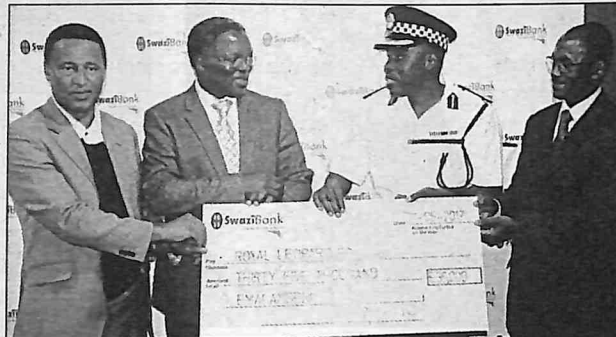


REPRESENT US WELL: Mbabane Swallows players pose for a group picture. (Pics: Sibusiso Dlamini)

Glamorous #Yelele SwaziBank Cup prize presentation

THE prize presentation of the SwaziBank Cup proved to be a well-organised event where good performances were rewarded handsomely.

We congratulate all individual winners, who went home richer after their sterling displays throughout the tournament. We cannot forget the champions of this tournament in Young Buffaloes along with the winners of the Under-20s tournament Royal Leopard for being a cut above the rest. It takes a whole lot of effort to win this tournament and it's their moment to enjoy. On the same vein, let me congratulate my long-time friend Sandile Gwebu for being the best PRO and I can assure you the rest of your colleagues like Frank

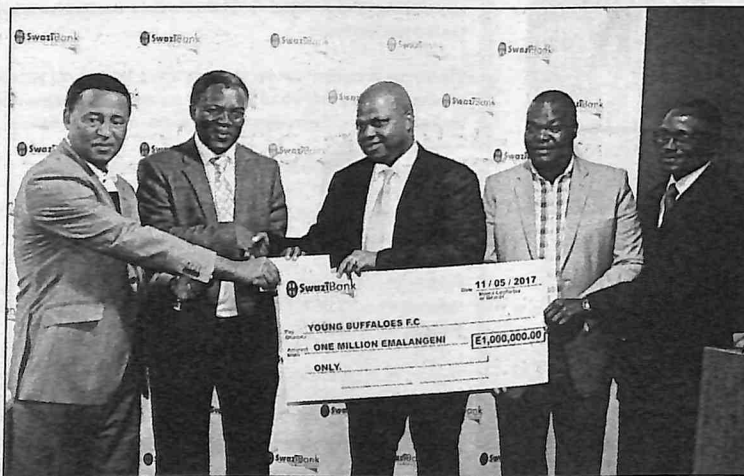


CHAMPS: Royal Leopard PRO Frank Hurube receiving a E35 000 cheque from SwaziBank MD Zakhele Lukhele while the others look on.

Hurube are saying the same.

I am also sure that the late Sibusiso Manana (may his soul rest in eternal peace) would be very happy and say "well done sbali". Congratulations are also in order for both presidents of Leopard and Buffaloes for leading from the front in their respec-

tive clubs. I am sure without their valuable input the success attained by the two clubs would not have been possible. We can only say keep it up and work hard to repeat such a feat in next year's tournament. To all deserving winners in the SwaziBank Cup, we say bravo!



CHAMPIONS: SwaziBank Managing Director Zakhele Lukhele at Swazi Bank Auditorium yesterday. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)

FROM THE PLS COO

PAT Vilakati wishes Mbabane Swallows the best of luck in their CAF Confederation Cup match

in Tunisia this weekend.

He further confirmed that MTN National First Division league final games will con-

tinue this weekend and requested teams to consult with the PLS office for fixtures or refer to the media.

REST IN PEACE SIBUSISO MANANA

THE sad news about the sudden death of Mbabane Swallows' colourful CEO Sibusiso Manana has been a bitter pill to swallow. Football has lost a football person through and through in Manana and it is still hard to come to terms with the fact that he is no longer with us.

It still feels like a weird dream. You have played your part 'Mabura' and will forever be in our minds and hearts. We will always remember you for the many jokes you shared with us because you were a teacher, councillor, motivator to many.

I am so happy you were one of the luckiest people on earth to receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour in your final moments.

Swallows, *Incolebovu Kamasizila Umkhonto ka-Shaka* will always remember you for some of your famous quotes like;

*Moses sakha buhlungu lamvakvakho ePrince of Wales sakhele bonkhe lesidallanabo

● Playing against Swallows is like removing a tooth by a dentist without injection.

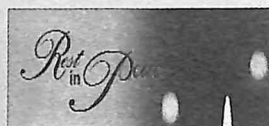
● Sicela usivulele ngesihle umawala sisebentisa iminimum force but if uchubekawala sisebentisa imaximum force singenenesivalo.

● Uphi Shongwe neKhuphuka atositset-sisa?

● On Earth ngenyanya three wetinfo sathane, a team in South Africa and one in Swaziland.

● Where is Mr Ma-protest? Meaning Dumsani Sibandze.

Manana was just a lively character and able to choose his words so well. He has touched many souls and we pray the Almighty God comfort Swallows, his family and friends during this sad period. We pray that Swallows are able to conquer in Tunisia this weekend as a way of honouring the legacy he has left behind. Rest in peace Manana!



SWAZIBANK MD HINTS ON RENEWING SPONSORSHIP

Stories by Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCER – SWAZIBANK Managing Director Zakhele Lukhele yesterday hinted the bank may renew their sponsorship of the popular knock-out competition.

The MD stated this during the prize presentation held at SwaziBank auditorium yesterday.

He said the bank remained committed to contributing towards the development of football in the country as this was one way of ploughing back to the community it operates in.

“As you all know the three-year SwaziBank Cup sponsorship agreement has elapsed. This agreement saw the bank sponsoring the tournament to a tune of E2.2million in 2015, E2.3 million in 2016 and E2.4 million in 2017.

“The bank together with the National Football Association of Swaziland (NFAS) and the Premier League of Swaziland will make a decision on the



GOOD NEWS: SwaziBank Managing Director Zakhele Lukhele.

way forward,” he said.

He extended gratitude to His Majesty for the unwavering support he has shown the bank and the tournament.

The MD congratulated Young Buffaloes and Matsapha United for their perfor-

mance in the finals of the tournament played at the Somhlolo National Stadium two weeks ago.

“The teams played very well during the tournament. I must say that Matsapha United left us feeling dizzy throughout the tournament with their sterling performances. I would also like to congratulate the Under-20 finalists Manzini Sundowns and Royal Leopard for another entertaining match witnessed on the day.

“These young people are definitely talented and have made us really proud as a bank to have supported football at grassroots level” he said.

Lukhele further applauded the management committee for managing the tournament professionally and peacefully until the end.

He then passed condolences to the football fraternity, Mbabane Swallows and the Manana family on the passing away of Swallows CEO Sibusiso Manana.

“The Swallows CEO has been part of the game for a long time and may



YOU DESERVE IT: Best PRO of the tournament Sandile Gwebu of Young Buffaloes receiving his award from SwaziBank MD Zakhele Lukhele. (Pics; Lucky Simelane)

Gwebu praises Hurube, Sibandze and the late Sibusiso Manana

Stories by Qondile Shongwe

SOCCER - YOUNG Buffaloes PRO Sandile Gwebu was nothing but full of praises for his counterparts Frank Hurube, Dumsani Sibane and deceased Mbabane Swallows CEO Sibusiso Manana after snatching the SwaziBank Best PRO award.

Gwebu, who walked away with the E6 000 award, thanked the three officials for grooming him in his

role of being the team's mouthpiece. “I have worked well with all the PROs but special mention goes to these three guys. I would not be where I am today if it weren't for them. They have really contributed a lot and I am very grateful,” he said. He then urged the team to remain humble in order to achieve more great things in future.

“We need to keep our heads low and avoid being big headed. Getting here is easy but it is difficult to maintain, so we need to be focused,” he said.

...Highlanders bag yet another E10 000 in promotion

SOCCER - MBABANE Highlanders have claimed the last E10 000 in the Insika Prime and Siphephelo Accounts promotion.

The SwaziBank Cup semi-finalists were presented their prize by the bank's

Managing Director (MD) Zakhele Lukhele yesterday.

Deposits

Highlanders have scooped the last three of the four incentives with the first one being won by Mbabane

Swallows.

The MD thanked the teams and the public for their support during the promotion in which the bank managed to mobilise deposits valued at around E2 million.

Kola dedicates award to teammates

By Sibusiso Dlamini

SOCCER - HARDWORKING Manzini Wanderers forward, Kola Aladeon, has dedicated his man of the match award to his teammates.

The Nigeria-born star was a pleased man after receiving his award during the SwaziBank Cup presentation yesterday. He said unity within the team was finally yielded the desired results.

“I dedicate this award to my teammates. Without them, I wouldn't have been able to perform well inside the field of play. The unity and dedication

is finally paying off. As players, we are trying our best to perform to the best of our abilities so that the team claims its respectable position as one of the successful teams in the country. This was a team effort from everyone in the team. This trophy here does not mean individual performance but the equal commitment from the guys as well. Let me not forget the sponsor – SwaziBank for availing the platform for us soccer players to showcase our talent.”



TEAMWORK: Manzini Wanderers forward Kola Aladeon.

SOCCER - VERSATILE Matsapha United player Sabelo ‘Sawa’ Gamedze says Matsapha United are aiming for a top four finish and a trophy in their maiden season in the elite league.

The diminutive player was making his remarks during the SwaziBank Cup presentation held at the company's auditorium yesterday.

“We will be playing in the elite league next season and we know what is expected of us as players. We have to prove we are not a fluke but the real deal. There's no better way to do this than a top four finish and at least a trophy next season. That's our target as players and we will be all out to achieve that. We can't afford less.”

‘Sawa’ then congratulated his younger brother at Young Buffaloes, Sandile Gamedze, for winning the



AMBITIOUS: Matsapha United player Sabelo ‘Sawa’ Gamedze.

player of the series award.

“I'm very happy for my younger brother. It's a pleasure to see him flourish this way and it shows he has matured immensely. Congratulations to him and I urge him to continue with sterling performances even next season,” he said.



THE BEST: Manzini Sundowns centre back Mkhuleko Magugula receiving his prize from PLS executive member Sicelo Mkhonta.

‘Downs Mkhuleko scoops Under-20 player of the series

By Sibusiso Dlamini

SOCCER – IN what can be described as somewhat unfamiliar in individual soccer awards, the SwaziBank Cup Under-20 player of the series was awarded to Manzini Sundowns centre back Mkhuleko Magugula.

The pint-sized player was the rock of Penuel Malinga-led side's defence throughout the tournament.

He was the final man in the watertight Sundowns backline.

Interviewed during the SwaziBank

Cup prize presentation held at the bank's auditorium, the soft spoken youngster said he was humbled by the recognition and thanked his teammates and coach for the support.

“I am humbled by the award as I was not expecting it. It means a lot to me because it shows recognition of my hard work throughout the tournament.” The youngster dedicated the award to the entire team.

“I dedicate this to my coach Penuel Malinga and my teammates. This was a team effort.”

Magugula said he would continue working hard.

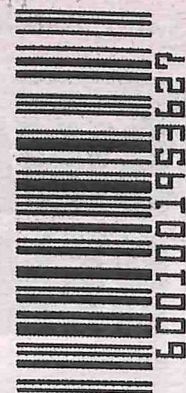
“Although we did not win the trophy this year, I am sure we will do better next year and lift it. This will mean working hard as a team.”

Meanwhile, the top goal scorer award in the Under-20 tournament was awarded to Sibonelo Simelane. Making his remarks after receiving the award, the burly forward, who smashed 4 goals in the tournament, said he was super delighted with the award. “I am very happy to win this award. It is unfortunate we missed the title but this shows we were not just adding numbers in the tournament,” he said.

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE		
Man United	1-1	Celta de Vigo (2-1 on aggregate)
Lyon	3-1	Ajax (5-4 on aggregate)
FIXTURES		
Absa Premiership 20:00 Highlands Park	v	Chippa United
Premier League 20:45 Everton	v	Watford
21:00 West Bromwich	v	Chelsea
2017 CAF Confed Cup 19:00 Supersport United	v	Horoya

SWAZI OBSERVER Sport

IF SPORTS IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE'RE YOUR CHURCH



Friday May 12, 2017

MAN U SQUEAK THROUGH TO EUROPA FINAL

MANCHESTER - The gamble paid off. Just. Manchester United are where Jose Mourinho thought they would be: one game from the Champions League and a second trophy this season.

But what a scare they got. An 85th goal minute goal from Facundo Roncaglia set up a finish full of tension, on the pitch as well as of it. In a melee the minute after Celta Vigo's equaliser, goalscorer Roncaglia and Manchester United defender Eric Bailly were sent off. Bailly, it

seemed, the victim of some play-acting by John Guidetti. He will miss the final, although that is not the blow it would have been, United's defensive crisis now passed. Yet it was tight. Dreadfully, unexpectedly tight. Celta were so much better than last week and had enough chances to win. When the fourth official signalled six minutes of injury time there was genuine trepidation. It is done now, though. *Daily mail*



AJAX HOLD OFF LYON TO BOOK UTD FINAL

LYON - Ten-man Ajax survived a spirited fightback from Lyon yesterday night to qualify for the Europa League final 5-4 on aggregate.

Already 4-1 up from the first leg, Ajax took a commanding 5-1 lead when Kasper Dolberg showed great compo-

sure to dink the ball home over Lyon goalkeeper on 27 minutes.

However Alexander Lacazette then scored a 90-second brace just before half time to put Lyon 2-1 up on the night. And Rachid Ghezzal then netted again to put Lyon within one goal of sending the match to extra time as the French side piled the pressure on.

Daily mail

E8 000 or 3 years imprisonment for 'Sthawula'

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi

SOCCKER - MBABANE Swallows fan Linda 'Sthawula' Tsela has been sentenced to three years imprisonment with a fine option of E8 000 fine for allegedly stabbing another soccer fan at Mbikwakhe area during a drinking spree.

Tsela first made his court appearance before Magistrate Mthokozisi Dlamini early in March after he was arrested and charged with assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

According to the court record, it is alleged that the 'Birds' soccer fan assaulted one Mandla Shongwe by stabbing him once in the back and arm with a knife, with intent to cause him grievous bodily harm. During his first appearance in court, Tsela was informed that the complainant was still in a critical condition at the RFM Hospital.

He was then remanded back into police custody pending recovery of the complainant. Tsela had to spend a few weeks in police custody as his bail was opposed after prosecutor Fakazi Mngomezulu stated that information gathered was that the victim was still in hospital. After the complainant recovered the accused was finally granted bail fixed at E3 000. Allegations are that the accused ended up stabbing the Manzini Wanderers fan after a heated argument they had pertaining football.

However, once he was released on bail Tsela failed to adhere to one of his bail conditions which was to avail himself to court whenever he was ordered to do so. This resulted in prosecutor Mngomezulu applying that a warrant of arrest be issued against the accused person. Yesterday Tsela appeared before Magistrate Dlamini at the Matsapha Circuit court where he was found guilty as charged for the offence of stabbing Shongwe. In passing sentence, the magistrate sentenced Tsela to three years imprisonment with a fine option of E8 000 fine. Worth

noting is that such comes at a time when the Mbabane Swallows family has been dealt a major blow following the death

of their Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Sibusiso Manana.

SENTENCED:
Linda 'Sthawula'
Tsela.

SANDILE IS SWAZIBANK CUP'S BEST

...as army side sweep the boards in the #Yelele prize presentation held at the bank's auditorium yesterday.

Stories by Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCKER - YOUNG Buffaloes midfielder Sandile Gamedze is the Swazi Bank Cup #Yelele player of the series.

The Buffaloes playmaker was named during a prize presentation held at the SwaziBank auditorium yesterday.

For his sterling performance, which contributed to the army outfit being crowned the champions of the E2.4 million sponsored tournament, Gamedze walked away with E13 000.

Lifted

Buffaloes lifted their first SwaziBank Cup trophy after beating National First Division outfit Matsapha United during the finals played at the Somhlolo National Stadium two weeks ago.

Also winning big was the team's coach Dominic Kunene, who received the E8 500 worth best coach award while PRO Sandile Gwebu walked away with E7 000.

The top goal scorer award was shared by Young Buffaloes striker Phiwa Dlamini and Mbabane Swallows' Sabelo Sikhali Ndzinisa.



ASAKHULILE AMATHOLE: Young Buffaloes officials and players displaying the trophies they won. Sandile Gwebu was awarded for being best PRO, Sifiso Mazibuko (man of the match in semi-finals against Mbabane Highlanders), Sandile Gamedze (player of the series) and best coach Dominic Kunene.

The players received E5 000 each after netting six goals apiece during the tournament.

Seasoned referee Simanga Nhleko also had a reason to smile after being named the referee of the tournament.

shared

He shared the E7 500 prize with assistant referees Sifiso Khumalo, Zamani Simelane and Mbongiseni Shongwe.

The prize breakdown

1st Position	Young Buffaloes	E1million
2nd position	Matsapha United	E400 000
Semi-finalist	Mbabane Highlanders	E100 000
	Manzini Wanderers	E100 000
Quarter-finalist		E20 000
Best Finisher (First Division)	Matsapha United	E10 000
Best Finisher (Super League)	Sisonkhe FC	E10 000
Player of the Series	Sandile Gamedze	E13 000
Coach of the Tournament	Dominic Kunene	E8 500
Best PRO	Sandile Gwebu	E7 000
Best Print Media	Swazi Observer	E10 000
Top Goal scorer	Phiwa Dlamini	E5 000
	Sabelo Ndzinisa	E5 000
Referees of the Tournament	Simanga Nhleko	E1 875
	Sifiso Khumalo	E1 875
	Zamani Simelane	E1 875
	Mbongeni Shongwe	E1 875

..DEDICATES AWARD TO HIS MOTHER

SOCCKER - SWAZIBANK Cup player of the series Sandile Gamedze dedicated the award to his mother.

Interviewed after receiving the award, the midfielder said this was the perfect Mother's Day gift for his mother. "I dedicate this award to my mom. I will, however, not forget my dad and the two man of

the match awards are his. This is just of show how much I am grateful for their support in my career," he said. Gamedze, who is also the younger brother to Matsapha United assistant captain Sabelo Sawa Gamedze, said the E13 000 worth award would motivate him to work even harder in the next season. "I wasn't expecting the award but it

has motivated me to work extra hard so I can achieve more great things in my football career," he said.

He then thanked the Young Buffaloes family whom he said played a huge role in the team's success. "Credit goes to my teammates because I couldn't have done it without them. We worked as a unit and it worked for us. I would also like to thank

the technical team for believing in us," he added. Meanwhile, the team's coach Dominic Kunene, who received the best coach award, said he was very happy with his achievement.

The soft spoken mentor also thanked the players and the technical staff for their contribution. He then congratulated his players, who also received prizes one the day.

"I am very proud of my players. This is a great reward to the team seeing that we did well this season."