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The Right Sunday



MARCH 19, 2017

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SADC Chairman His Majesty King Mswati III sharing a light moment with South African President Jacob Zuma who is also Deputy Chairman of SADC during a family photo shoot after the Extra-ordinary Summit. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)

STORIES ON PAGES 2,3

# KING DELIVERS ON SADC AGENDA



Political solution for Lesotho

Action plan endorsed

SADC University coming

SADC impressed with leadership

Inside  
Sunday Observer  
Scene



EVOLUTION OF MOTION PICTURES

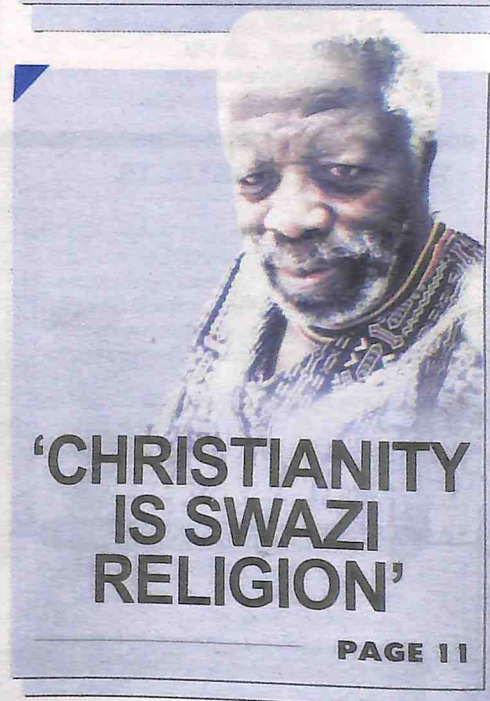
**MALAGWANE ACCIDENT:**

## 'POLICE WERE NOT LOOTING'

PAGE 8

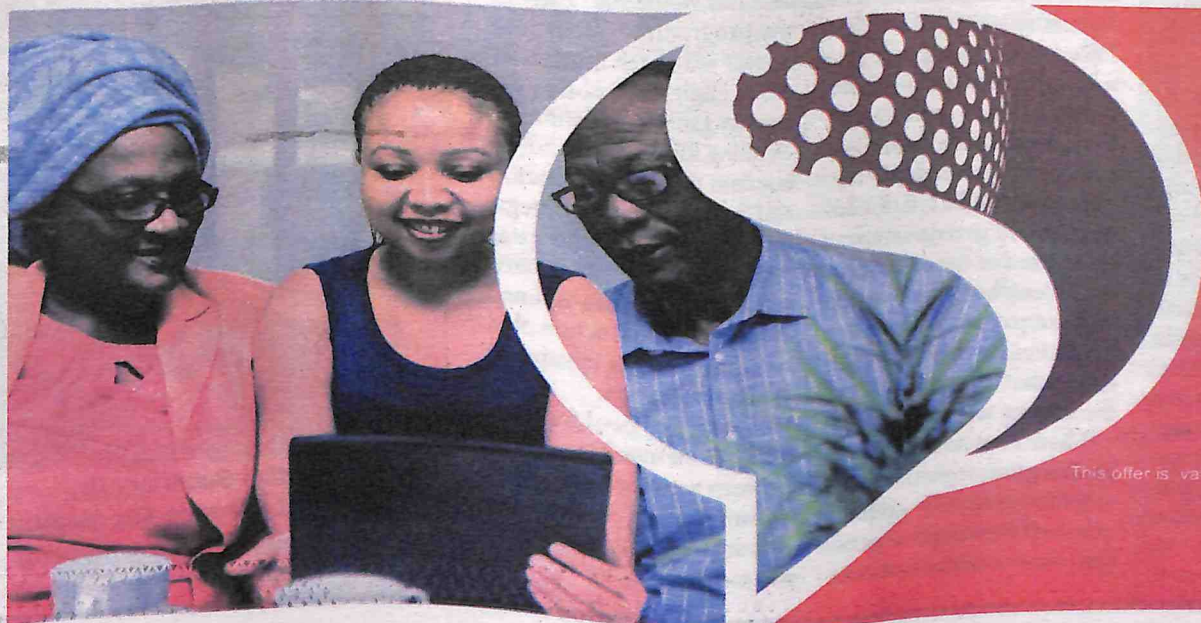
## 'BURNING HUBBY'S CAR WAS ONLY SOLUTION'

PAGE 6



## 'CHRISTIANITY IS SWAZI RELIGION'

PAGE 11



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## CLARIFICATION

# SADC REITERATES HIS MAJESTY THE KING'S STANCE ON LESOTHO

STORIES BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

**H**is Majesty's call for Basotho to decide on how to regain their political stability has been reiterated by the Southern African Development Community during the Extra-Ordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government held at Mandvulo Grandhall at Lozitha yesterday.

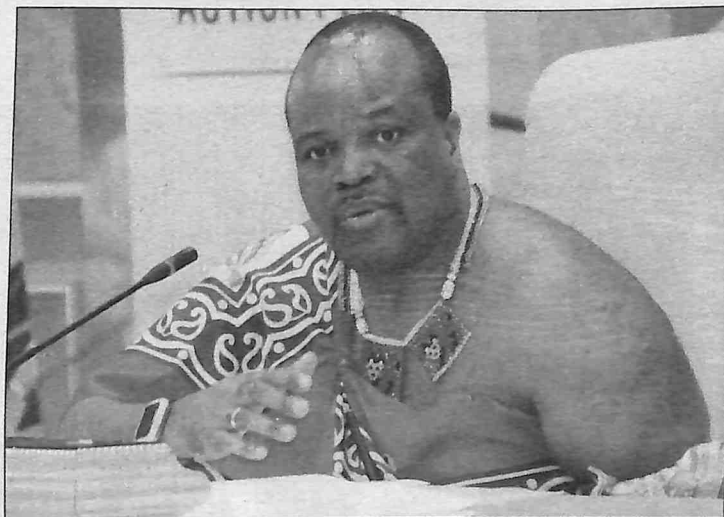
While at the Kingdom of Lesotho's 50th Independence Celebrations held at the Setsoto Stadium in Maseru last year, His Majesty said a lasting solution to address the political differences in Lesotho is one that has to come from the people.

## Exclusive

During the event, His Majesty was speaking on behalf of invited heads of state and government, and he reportedly urged Basothos to find an exclusive place that could bring all stakeholders together to seek common ground on the existing impasse. At that time, the SADC Troika, which is an organ for defence and security in the region, was tasked with bringing about a lasting solution to the power struggles among this country's politicians.

The King, speaking to multitudes during the event, said the country needs to find home grown solutions to address all outstanding issues that may hinder the positive development and progress of the country, for the benefit of all Basotho.

Yesterday, SADC, through a com-



His Majesty briefing the media about the resolutions taken by the heads of state.

muniqué which was delivered by the Executive Secretary Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, said the Summit received and considered reports of the facilitator, who is Republic of South Africa Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa and the Chairperson of the Oversight Committee, retired Justice Frederick Mwita Werema to the Kingdom of Lesotho.

## Necessitated

"While noting with concern the changed political dynamics that have necessitated the holding of snap elections, Summit urged the Kingdom of Lesotho to address the fundamental challenges and bring about political stability," Tax stated from the communiqué.

Summit mandated the facilitator and the oversight committee to

closely monitor the political and security situation in the Kingdom of Lesotho during the election period.

## Consensus

She revealed that the Summit mandated Ramaphosa, supported by the Oversight Committee, to conduct a multi-stakeholder national dialogue before the elections set for June 3, with the aim of building consensus and trust among all stakeholders and charting the way forward for the implementation SADC decisions.

"Summit endorsed the convening of a Double Troika Summit soon after the new government is formed after the elections on June 3 to engage the new Government of Lesotho on the need to implement the SADC

decisions and the recommendations of the SADC Commission of Inquiry through a roadmap with clear timelines," said Tax, further adding that the engagement should emphasise the need to address the fundamental challenges, commitment to implement SADC decisions and the consequences of not implementing the decisions and observing timelines. The Summit further commended Ramaphosa for his continued support in assisting the Kingdom of Lesotho to achieve a lasting peace and political stability and the oversight committee for its diligence and professionalism.

## Confidence

Lesotho's troubles reportedly surfaced again on March 1, when Parliament gave Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili a vote of no confidence, which was not the first one.

Mosisili replaced Thomas Thabane in 2015 who also got a vote of no confidence. During that debacle, according to news24, Thabane reportedly refused to step down in favour of Monyane Moleleki, a nominee preferred by his Alliance of Democrats party and the latest iteration of Lesotho's shifting coalition alliances that includes its members.

When King Letsie III was notified of the vote of no confidence, Parliament was dissolved on March 7.

As stated during the summit yesterday, new elections are planned for June 3, which will be the third ones in five years.

## Implementation of industrialisation should take centre stage - King

**S**outh African Development Community (SADC) Chairperson, His Majesty King Mswati III, has called for all countries to create the environment necessary for enhanced economic growth in the region.

This he said was because all citizens looked up to their leaders to do that in order for there to be wealth creation, employment opportunities and an improvement in the general standard of living. The King was speaking during the opening of the Extra-Ordinary Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government held at Mandvulo Grandhall at Lozitha yesterday. In attendance were heads of state, ministers, SADC Secretariat as well as members of the media.

His Majesty said the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063's action plan was critical in bringing to reality the desire to realise expectation of all citizens of member states. Recalling the way forward which was given to

● This he said was because all citizens looked up to their leaders to do that in order for there to be wealth creation, employment opportunities and an improvement in the general standard of living

ministers during the SADC 36th Ordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government in August, he said the task force was mandated to finalise the work on industrialisation action plan, "We are pleased to note that ministers have worked diligently and have come up with the work contained in the document before us today."

He stated that the task of heads of state and government was to ensure that the action plan would lead the region along the laid-out path. Calling for fast execution, he called for all to ensure that implementation of the strategy took centre stage.

"I have been advised that in finalising this programme, consideration has been given to ensuring there is proper sequencing of activities lined up for the

short, medium term and long term," His Majesty stated, further asserting that the approach recognised that there were activities that would start early in the programme but whose impact will be felt much later as the implementation of the strategy gains momentum.

Calling for private sector to buy into the implementation and financing of the strategy, the chairperson said there was joint effort and synergies required between the activities outlined in the strategy and action plan as well as activities in support of trade facilitation.

"There is also need for us to recognise the interdependence between activities that drive industrialisation, competitiveness and regional integration pillars of strategy."

## Marginalised people to participate in industrial development

**T**he call for women, the youth and people with disabilities to be included in developmental initiatives has grown louder.

Mapping out the way the industrialisation strategy should go, SADC Chairperson His Majesty King Mswati said it was critical for them not to be left out as they were part of the three pillars of the SADC strategy and roadmap.



SADC Executive Secretary Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax reading the communiqué after the meeting for heads of state.

## HOW TO FIND US:



#Swaziobserver



Swaziobserver

## MANAGING EDITOR:

Mbongeni Mbingo

e-mail: mbingo@observer.org.sz

Cell: 7602 9564

P.O. Box A385, Swazi Plaza,  
Mbabane, Betsfule Street  
Tel: 2404 4437, 2404 4436, 2404 9600,  
2404 9797, 2404 0706

Email: info@observer.org.sz

Website: www.observer.org.sz

## EDITORIAL CONTACTS

SUNDAY EDITOR: Mbongeni Mbingo - 7602 9564

(mbingo@observer.org.sz)

NEWS REPORTERS: Thembeke Dlamini, Mlondi

Mpanza, Noxolo Nkabinde

(sunday@observer.org.sz)

SCENE EDITOR: (scene@observer.org.sz)

ACT.SPORTS EDITOR: Qondile Ntiwane - 7607 6305

(sports@observer.org.sz)

ASSISTANT SENIOR SUB EDITOR: Futhi Dlamini

(7615 8517)

## MARKETING MANAGER

Siphehile Mkhonta (7605 2296)

2404 8671/ 2404 8699

smm@observer.org.sz

## Acting Circulation Officer

Khumbulani Gwebu (7637 2206)

circulation@observer.org.sz

## MANZINI OFFICE

Makhaya Convenient Centre, No.25

Sifiso Nhlabatsi Cell: 7674 6378

Tel: 2505 2320, Fax: 2505 7220

## SITEKI OFFICE

Siteki market offices, Office No:15

Wonderboy Dlamini 2343 5779

Cell: 7643 6549

## PIGG'S PEAK OFFICE

Kai Kai Building opposite Shoprite,

Office No. 3, Tel: 2437 1083

Sizwe Dlamini Cell: 7670 0678

Email: observersipiki@realnet.co.sz

## NHLANGANO OFFICE

Tobacco Company Complex,

Cnr King George,

Masengule Streets

Opposite SEDCO Premises,

Tel: 2207 5159

Starsky Mkhonta

Cell: 7621 5081

(starsky@realnet.co.sz)



## SADC University on course

**H**is Majesty King Mswati III has assured that the implementation of the SADC University of Transformation he announced during the SADC 36th Ordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government in August is on course.

Showing that the plan to establish the university was well thought out and would be implemented for long term benefits to the whole region, the SADC chairperson stated the concept note stipulating the governance, legal requirements and programmes would be submitted to the 37th Ordinary Summit of Heads of State in August.

Over the years, women and youth have lagged behind due to the traditional setup of most Southern African countries and with this in mind, His Majesty revealed the university will give hope to the community by strengthening the skills base while empowering the previously marginalised section of the population.

He said the university would also serve as a forum where regional youth would come together and improve each other through the sharing of ideas for the betterment of their countries.

"As SADC, we work together but there is lack of other forums in which regional youth can come together to get to know each other. When you work together, it then becomes easy to work together," he said. At the end of the summit, while delivering a summation of the deliberations which took place during the summit, Executive Secretary Stergomena Lawrence Tax said the heads of state and

...to be a forum where minds meet to strengthen skills base in the region

governments noted the progress made on the preparations for the establishment of the university. She said the summit had directed the relevant structures to finalise its implementation and report back in August.

After the initial revelation that there would be a SADC University of Transformation, His Majesty King Mswati III, during the post-summit briefing which took place last August, the King had revealed that government was not alone on the idea, but had partnered with experts in the area who would provide more details on admission and the nature of courses to be undertaken. This was after he revealed that the university would have links with Limkokwing University of Transformation (LUCT). He said the reasoning behind having the university in Swaziland was borne after noting how most SADC leaders stated they had pursued their education in Swaziland, while others sent their children to local schools. He said this was an indication that the standard of education in the country was good.

During the revelation of the university idea, His Majesty announced that the Swaziland government would sponsor 300 of the first students to be admitted into the institution and these students would be made up of 20 from each SADC member state.

## King impresses SADC

STORIES BY SIMON SHABANGU

**M**ember states of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) have expressed appreciation to His Majesty King Mswati III for the good leadership he has displayed since he assumed the Chairmanship of region.

The heads of state and governments passed their appreciation through the Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax who said the SADC collectively expressed their gratitude to His Majesty for steering the region diligently since assuming the position last year when he took over from the Republic of Botswana President Ian Khama.

Dr Tax said the country also displayed high standards of hospitality to the delegates and the leaders who

were in the country. "As a secretariat, we are grateful to you Your Majesty and the people of Swaziland for the warmth we have always received when we are in Swaziland. The high quality hospitality extended to us makes us feel at home so much that we feel like staying in the Kingdom. We indeed receive a royal experience each time we are here and for this we grateful your Majesty. These were the same sentiments shared by the SADC leaders who implored me to pass their appreciation" she said.

To this His Majesty said he was grateful to the SADC leaders for entrusting him and the country with this mammoth task of steering the region. He also thanked the people of Swaziland for always displaying high standards of hospitality to his guests.

...SADC extends excellencing officers' tenure

**T**he SADC Executive Secretary Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax and Deputy Executive Secretary for Regional Integration Dr Theminkosi Mhlongo have had their contracts extended for another four years.

This was revealed during the press conference following the Extra Ordinary Summit of Heads of State

and Government yesterday afternoon.

Tax, a Tanzanian national who was the sixth executive secretary of the organisation was the first woman to take the position.

On the other hand, Mhlongo is a civil servant who was seconded to the organisation from the ministry of economic planning.

## SADC countries need early warning systems

**H**is Majesty King Mswati III has noted that countries need early warning systems in order to mitigate the effects of climate change.

This he said during the question and answer session he had with members of the media yesterday afternoon.

The session came immediately after the delivery of the summation of the summit which was delivered by SADC Executive Secretary Stergomena Lawrence Tax in a form of a communique.

The SADC Chairperson said the extremities which came as a result of climate change were worry some as they caused extensive destruction in different parts of the region.

He said the impact of afflictions caused by flooding and drought could be minimised with proper planning and at the moment, countries without early warning systems relied on those which had them. He said research into pestilences was important as has been shown by the fall armyworm invasion which destroyed plant life which had just recovered after the crippling drought brought



Mozambican High Commissioner to Swaziland and Gordon Mbuli before the briefing.

on by the El Nino weather phenomenon which saw several countries have reduced rainfall. He sent condolences to countries which were adversely affected by weather extremities while the summit commended member states who supported countries that suffered from the effects of the El-Niño induced disaster and International Cooperating Partners and the Private Sector for the humanitarian assistance provided to

support the region.

On the outbreak of the Fall Armyworm in the SADC region, the heads of state and government agreed to improve coordination and collaboration efforts to promote a harmonised approach in the management of the pest and to mobilise resources to implement management and control strategies for plant and livestock pests including the tuta absoluta pest.

## DRC urged to resolve political unrest amicably

**T**he Democratic Republic of Congo has been urged to finalise specific arrangements for the implementation of the December, 31, 2016 Political Agreement, in particular, the nomination of the chairperson of the National Monitoring Committee and encouraged the opposition to expeditiously submit the nominees for the position of the prime minister.

### Processes

This call was made during the Extra-Ordinary Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government where the international community was called upon to support the DRC in the electoral processes that are expected to facilitate peaceful and successful elections.

The heads of state and governments urged all parties to the Disarmament, Demobilisation,

Repatriation Reintegration, and Resettlement (DDRRR) programme to re-initiate it urgently to address the needs of those in the refugee camps and the surrender of elements that are still in combat.

### Aligned

With the mandate of MONUSCO-FIB expiring at the end of the month, the summit urged for the renewal to be aligned with Chapter VII of the UN Charter on peace enforcement so as to enable MONUSCO-FIB to deliver effectively and to provide for the necessary means and capabilities to address the threat of negative forces and the asymmetrical warfare that has emerged.

Summit commended President Joseph Kabila, the Government of the DRC, CENCO, political parties and other stakeholders for the continued efforts in addressing the political and security challenges.

## SADC commends Angola's retiring president

**T**he contribution of the Republic of Angola President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos to the furtherance of SADC's mandate to his country has been commended.

Wishing him well on his retiring from the presidency, his contribution to the political and economic development of Angola was commended with the heads of state and governments wishing him the best in his future endeavours.

The best wishes were communicated by SADC Executive Secretary Stergomena Lawrence Tax during the summation of deliberations which took place during the extra ordinary summit held yesterday. It was highlighted that the ruling party nominated the country's Minister of Defence Honourable Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco presidential candidate for the August 2017 general elections. Summit commended his Honourable Excellency President Dos Santos for his contribution in furthering the SADC political and economic development of Angola and wished him well in his retirement.

Dos Santos, initially communicated his wish to retire last year March after nearly four decades of leading the country.

## Double Troika attracts scores of foreign media

**H**aving initially expected about 10 groups from the foreign media, Director of Media and Information Phesheya Dube said they were pleasantly surprised to have more than 50 who attended the summit from outside the country.

Noted was that there were different reporters covering broadcasting as well as newsprint from the different countries represented

"I think the draw card was the report that the situations in Lesotho and The Democratic Republic of Congo would be included in the agenda, hence the increased interest in the summit," he said adding how they initially expected minus six of the present heads of state and governments.

With the conference room where the opening of the extra ordinary summit was held filled to the brim, several photojournalists seemed frustrated that they were unable to take pictures of the heads of state as they were confined to one end of the room.



Minister Jabulile Mashwama with one of the delegates during the summit.

However, quick thinking by SADC Council of Ministers Chairperson Prince Hlangusemphi saved the day when he called for journalists to move about freely for three minutes after His Majesty King Mswati III completed his open-

ing remarks.

After the opening session, several radio journalists were noted reporting live during their news time slots while there was also a scramble to deliver videos and scripts timeously.





# 2017 EXTRA-ORDINARY SADC SUMMIT



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## THE EXTRA-ORDINARY SADC SUMMIT FOR HEADS OF



SADC Chairman, His Majesty King Mswati III with Heads of State and country representatives at the Extra-ordinary SADC Summit at Mandvulo Grand Hall at Lozitha Royal Palace yesterday.

### NOTICE



#### WATER SERVICE INTERRUPTION AT LUBULINI

SWSC customers and water consumers are notified of water supply interruption at Lubulini area due to a major pumping system failure. Affected areas include Lubulini police station and surrounding areas, Moyeni, Mabataneni and Victoria. The Corporation is working around the clock to restore water supply. Interruption is anticipated to last until Wednesday 22 March 2017.

We apologise for the inconvenience caused.

**Public Affairs Department**

Emfongeni Building, Corner MR 103  
and Cultural Village Drive, Ezulwini  
Tel: 2416 9000, Fax: 2416 3616  
Web: www.swsc.co.sz

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### NOTICE



#### WATER SERVICE INTERRUPTION IN SITEKI

SWSC Customers and water consumers are notified of water supply interruption in Siteki town and surrounding areas due to a major network failure on the Lonhlupheko – Likhula pumping main.

Affected areas include Siteki town, Two-Sticks, Malayinini, Moyeni, Lugongolweni, Mzilikazi, Likhula, Mpolonjeni and surrounding areas.

The interruption anticipated to last until this afternoon, Sunday 19 March 2017.

We apologise for the inconvenience caused.

**Public Affairs Department**

Emfongeni Building, Corner MR 103  
and Cultural Village Drive, Ezulwini  
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Web: www.swsc.co.sz

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# 2017 EXTRA-ORDINARY SADC SUMMIT

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A vision in progress

## STATE, GOVERNMENT AT MANDVULO GRAND HALL



SADC Chairman, His Majesty King Mswati III addressing members of the media after the Extra-ordinary SADC Summit for heads of state and government at Mandvulo Grand Hall at Lozitha Palace yesterday.

(Pics: Simon Shabangu)



Seychelles Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Barry Faure in a conversation with his country's consular to Swaziland Nasser Mansoor.



This picture shows the sitting arrangement inside the Mandvulo Grand Hall.



Ministers Mduduzi 'Small Joe' Dlamini, Lindiwe Dlamini and Dr Phineas Magagula also attended the Summit.



ICT Communications officers, Lungile Nkwanyana, Nomalungelo Simelane and Senani Khumalo were also in attendance at the media briefing.



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Dlanubuka Building,  
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Fax: (+268) 2404 8527  
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### CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY COUNCIL (CIC) REGISTRATION AND CERTIFICATE RENEWALS FOR 2017/18

#### Pursuant to Section 27(1), (10) of the Construction Industry Council Act No. 14 of 2013

Notice is hereby given that the Construction Industry Council (CIC) shall be receiving applications for registration and renewal of CIC certificates for 2017/2018 financial year from Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2017. Deadline for registration and renewal of certificates is Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

Application forms are available at the CIC Office RHUS Office Park, Karl Grant Street Mbabane (Former MTN Office Park) and can also be downloaded on the CIC website at [www.cic.co.sz](http://www.cic.co.sz)

Kindly note that in terms of Section 27 (1) of the Act "A contractor shall not carry on business in the construction industry in Swaziland unless the contractor is registered under this act".

Stakeholders are further informed of Section 38(1) of the Act which states that "A contractor shall not undertake, carry out or complete any construction works or portion of such works for either a public or a private sector contract, awarded in terms of a competitive tender or quotation, unless the contractor is registered with the Council and holds a valid certificate issued by the Council according to categorization of contractors.

Further note that all CIC registration certificates expire on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017, contractors are therefore urged to register before or on the set deadline as it is an offence to undertake, carry out or complete any construction works without a valid CIC certificate.

Failure to renew on the above mentioned date will result in payment of a penalty amounting to 20% of the registration fee.

NHLANHLA S. DLAMINI  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DOC:13036



# SHAREMAX INVESTORS STILL IN THE DARK

STORIES BY BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

Ten out of the 150 investors who contributed over E27 million towards property shares in a South African scheme died bitter and broken by the prospect of having lost their life's savings.

"We don't know when people will get their money as we have not had clear responses from the Nova Property Group which took over Sharemax operations," the Chairperson of the investors, Benjamin Nsibandze said this past week.

"Three years after our last meeting with shareholders of several properties in South Africa, I cannot tell you as to when we will get our money," he said.

Recalling how the money was 'lost' to Swazis, Nsibandze recalled how Isambulo Investments, an insurance broker which was run by a recently deceased member of the King's advisory body Ligoqo, approached most employees of companies which were in the process of retrenching or closing.

## Packages

There were some individuals who were convinced by others who saw the benefits that came with investing money as initially, investors got their returns within a month of their buying shares into different buildings that were overseen by Sharemax.

However, within months of their buying shares, their hopes of getting rich were quashed when the South Africa Reserve Bank halted Sharemax operations pending investigation into irregularities in their operations. Since 2010, people who invested their retirement and severance packages have been waiting to hear as to what happened to their money, to no avail.

"It is unfortunate that several people have died, I can recall about 10 of them. These people died paupers whereas their investments lie in South Africa without them knowing when returns on investments will be had," Nsibandze said.

He said it was unfortunate that when they bought the shares, there was no provision for nomination of next of



kin or listing them as beneficiaries in the event of death.

"The last time we heard from Nova Property Group was in 2015," Nsibandze said.

NPG, according to Moneyweb, was a rescue vehicle set up after the collapse of Sharemax to try to save the R5 billion for about 33 000 investors, of which about 150 were Swazis, ploughed into the scheme.

Nsibandze alleged they had a meeting with the directors of the company which now owns the properties they bought into years ago.

## Savings

"In the meeting, we could not get clarity on when we would get our money with the interest promised and what incensed us is that there were times the directors would converse with each other in Afrikaans, a language we do not understand," he said.

According to Nsibandze, what irked them about the use of the language was that they had been previously made to sign contracts drafted in the language which they blame on their current predicament.

"When I questioned them about the real purpose of the meeting as our mandate was to get clarification on when

we would get our money, the situation got tense and we were kicked out of the meeting," Nsibandze alleged.

He further alleged that while other members of the delegation, which included three soldiers who were members of Hlalawati Savings and Co-Operative Society which invested over E4 million of members' contributions as well as other pensioners, left the boardroom, he stayed behind to stand his ground and was sprayed with a substance in his eyes which allegedly rendered him blind.

Efforts to get collaborative information from NPG directors proved futile as when Corrie van Rooyen referred all questions to Chief Executive Officer Dominuque Haese.

Haese is a former secretary at Sharemax who now owns a large amount of shares at NPG.

According to some of the local investors who availed their investment portfolios, Haese was the secretary who signed their share certificates.

Calls to Nova Property Group during the course of the week revealed Haese was out of the country and an email was sent which was however not responded to by the end of the day.

## Meeting pending-FSRA&NOVA

There is a meeting scheduled where Swazis will get responses on their nagging worries concerning their money which 'disappeared' when Sharemax crashed.

Financial Services Regulatory Authority Chief Executive Officer Sandile Dlamini said, "There is a pending meeting with the curator company that took over Sharemax." He said there were people who they sent to get familiar with the state of the investments made by Swazis.

When asked about the maturity of their investments, he stated that according to his knowledge, they had not as yet elapsed so as to warrant the panic by some of them.

"How many years were the investments for?" he asked and when he was told that some stated that they invested for 10 years, he said the time had not yet lapsed. He however stated that he did not know the number of years the investments were for and referred further questions to the committee.

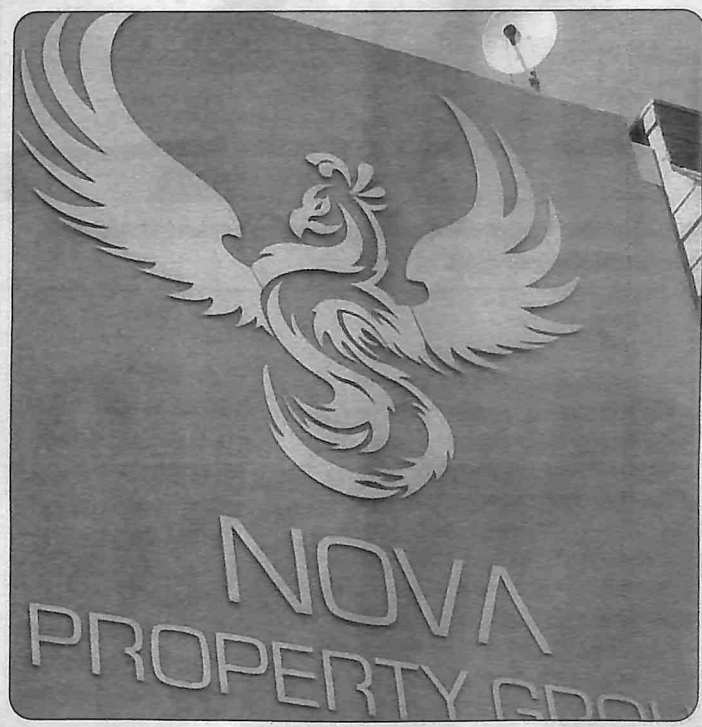
Confirming knowledge of pending meetings between Swaziland and Nova Property Group, the Chairman, Corrie van Rooyen, said they had not been ignoring the local



**Financial Services Regulatory Authority Chief Executive Officer Sandile Dlamini.**

investors. Called in Friday to ascertain the status of the money which was transferred into South African accounts by local investors, van Rooyen stated that they were in touch with the local bank.

However, after stating this, he stated that he was not mandated to respond to media responses and availed Chief Executive Officer Dominique Haese' email where an emailed questionnaire was sent on Friday evening.



## Investors still not willing to tell their stories

The disappointment of having invested millions into a scheme that later turned doubtful has hundreds of Swazis unwilling to have their personal stories linked to it.

The list of investors has several prominent Swazis who invested amounts ranging from E100 000 all the way to E1 502 000.

Of the 15 called, none of them wanted to have their names linked to the Sharemax scandal.

"What hurts is that when the scheme fell through, we were told we had been part of a pyramid scheme whereas we did due diligence and really took our time to look at Isambulo Investment which we were told was

legitimately registered. Do you know what having my name publicly linked with a pyramid scheme will do to my businesses as well as how people will view me?" a high ranking traditional leader said.

## Investments

A businessperson of European descent said deciding to invest in the scheme was after exhaustive investigations. "Sharemax was 10 years old at the time of my paying my investment," she said. She stated that she further inquired from the Registrar of Insurance and Retirement Funds (RIRF) (now Financial Services Regulatory Authority) and was assured that Isambulo Investment was prop-

erly registered.

"I was disappointed when I was told the country could not intervene in this seeing as I invested hundreds of thousands into Sharemax," she said.

An investor who put his E1 502 000 into the scheme said he had used his savings from different businesses. When called on Thursday, he said he was driving a truck and unwilling to delve into the issue.

"Please call the committee members, they are mandated to talk," he said.

"Please leave me out of this. I am still trying to recover from the mess I found myself in after the collapse of Sharemax and my wife has not yet

forgiven me for 'squandering' all my retirement money in that thing," another Swazi who took his E1.5 million retirement package and invested it.

"Please talk to Kleinsmith," yet another responded. Despite having also invested E1.5 million into Sharemax, the middle aged Swazi from a prominent family said he was not willing to state anything about his circumstances.

When told that Cornelius Kleinsmith's number was not available on the MTN network, he said it was available on the Sharemax website which however stated it was under construction.

When Nova Property Group was

called aas Kleinsmith had requested, the responder to the call said, "There is no one here by that name."

While irritated by the call, the investor said he was saddened that he heard there were some people who got regular calls from Kleinsmith, "Some say they have been paid their monies and this is disturbing to me because I don't know how to get about getting mine."

Despite several rumours stating that some people have been paid, none of the 15 investors called randomly could identify those who were said to have been repaid their monies.



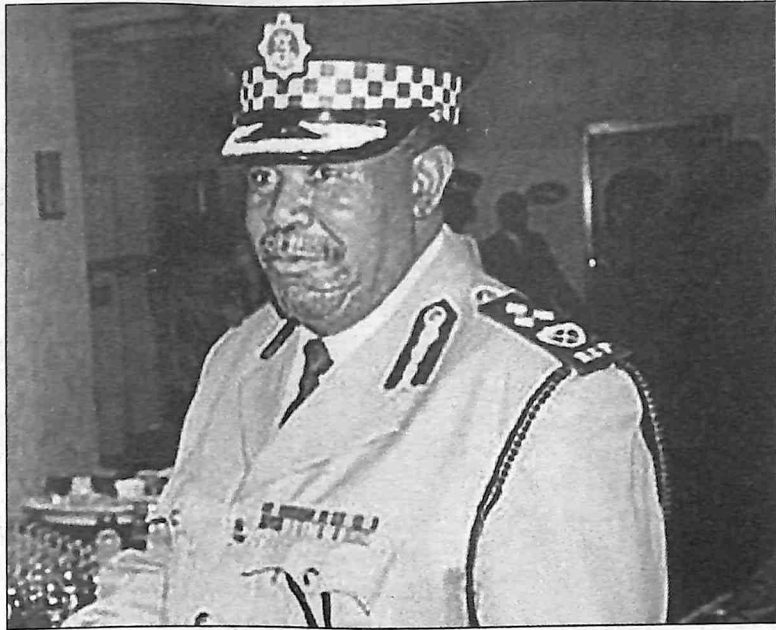
# NATCOM DEFIES COURT ORDER

... "The decision of the National Commissioner of Police to interdict the Applicant (Sihlongonyane) from duty on half pay is hereby reviewed and set aside. The Applicant's interdict stands."

BY MLONDI MPANZA

Whilst the National Commissioner of Police, Isaac Magagula would be expected to lead by example as a law enforcer, he seems to be doing otherwise.

He has defied an order of the court that ruled that police officer, Phindile Sibuko Sihlongonyane, be reinstated with full pay despite her still going through a court case after she was arrested for stealing dagga weighing 10.5kg at the Mbabane Police Station.



National Commissioner of Police, Isaac Magagula.

But, none of such has happened and she has not been paid any cent this month.

## Arrest

This is despite civil servants, including police officers, having received their salaries this past week, but she was not paid, not even the half pay she had been previously been put on by the national commissioner.

Sihlongonyane was arrested together

with her fellow colleague in Alice Matsebula on November 28, 2016 after they were found to have stolen the dagga that had been kept as an exhibit under the watch of then Acting Station Commander, Amos Dlamini.

The duo was later granted E15 000 bail each by the High Court and after that, Magagula wrote a letter to both accused on February 9, 2017 where he informed them they had been inter-

dicted from duty on half pay with immediate effect pending finalisation of the case.

However, the NatCom's decision was on February 28, 2017 reviewed and set aside by Judge Cyril Maphanga who ordered that Sihlongonyane's full salary be reinstated immediately, something which has not happened up to date.

## Penalties

"The decision of the national commissioner of police to interdict the Applicant (Sihlongonyane) from duty on half pay is hereby reviewed and set aside. The Applicant's interdict stands. Applicant is interdicted from duty on full pay. The Applicant's salary be and is hereby reinstated forthwith," reads the order in possession of this newspaper.

Further, in the same letter, the national commissioner informed Sihlongonyane that the powers, privileges and benefits she is entitled to as a member of the police service shall be in abeyance during the suspension but she shall continue to be subject to the same responsibilities, discipline and penalties as if she had not been suspended.

He also stated that the decision to suspend her came after she had been

taken through a disciplinary process within the police service where her legal representative made submissions on her behalf which were considered when the board made the recommendation to the police chief whip.

The duo is charged with theft, contravening the Pharmacy Act in that they dealt with dagga by way of sale or a similar transaction without a permit.

On the other hand, Matsebula further faces an extra charge of being found in possession of the dagga while driving an Audi A4 motor vehicle registered OSD 328 BH.

Following their denial for release on bail by the Mbabane Magistrate Sifiso Vilakati, they made an urgent application at the High Court. In their affidavits, Sihlongonyane claimed she was sickly and suffered from asthma, sinus and anaemia. She claimed to be a breadwinner with her child, sister and sickly mother depending on her, amongst the reasons why she wanted bail.

Matsebula, on the other hand, submitted that 14 people were dependant on her and therefore she had to return to work so she could fend for them. Indeed, former Principal Judge Stanley Maphalala, granted them bail.

## My wife denied me conjugal rights for 3 years

STORIES BY MLONDI MPANZA

"She has been denying me conjugal rights for the past three years."

This is an allegation that has been made by Lenard Nxumalo whose vehicle was burnt to ashes by his wife who alleges he was cheating on her.

He was responding to an article published by our sister publication, the Swazi Observer daily, that was to the effect that his car had been set ablaze by Ncamsile Dlodlu with the assistance of her brother and son on Saturday evening.

During an interview on Thursday at the Sunday offices, Nxumalo explained that the bone of contention was their relationship having gone sour to the extent that his wife denied him conjugal rights as means of 'fixing' him.

This is further alleged to have seen the couple's children turning against Nxumalo after their mother told them he was cheating on her.

Nxumalo, who had just been released from hospital a day earlier, expressed

**..Responds Lenard Nxumalo whose E76 000 Ford Fiesta was burnt by wife of over two decades over allegations of cheating on her.**

his frustration at the act of burning his recently acquired vehicle which he said he was failing to come to terms with. At the peak of his dispute with Dlodlu, he said he told his children of the troubles they were going through with their mother but they heard none of such.

"She told our children that I had become abusive towards her and as a result, they started having an attitude towards me and never appreciated or were not excited when I brought my vehicle at home after buying it with the assistance of my employer in December," he said.

In fact, his family members thought the car had been bought for him by a lover and was never welcomed by any of the family members since he bought it.

Further defending his stance, Nxumalo said things got to a point where he

decided to have a lover, something which was no secret in the family as he introduced her to his wife and children in light of their dispute.

His wife allegedly doused her husband's car with petrol and set it ablaze at their home around Madlangemphisi. On this day he had brought his last born, born out of their relationship with the lover, to his mother in a different compound although in the same area.

He said it was later in the evening around 8pm when all hell broke loose and Dlodlu allegedly called her brother who will not be named for ethical reasons and they assaulted him and burnt his vehicle as he lay helplessly on the ground.

He alleges it was his son who doused the car with petrol, his wife set it alight and when he tried to stop them, his brother-in-law assaulted him and he was helpless. Members of the Royal Swaziland Police (RSP) were then called by the community and they took the alleged offenders for questioning where-in they face a charge of malicious injury to property.

In the meantime, Nxumalo said he had not decided whether or not to lay charges against the trio.

Nxumalo further revealed that he did not know what to tell his employer concerning the vehicle they had just bought him.

He told this newspaper that the car was bought in December after an offer by his employer wherein an agreement was reached that this bonus be used to deposit it with the balance being settled in instalments.

## 'I was sick when that happened'

The wife to Nxumalo, Ncamsile Dlodlu, has disputed that she ever deprived her husband of conjugal rights, except when she was sickly for at least six months.

She said she suffered from heavy bleeding and when she sought for her husband's assistance in terms of finding a way to help

her, he allegedly told her, she was suffering from such because she had slept with other men.

## Reasons

"I have never denied him such rights, not unless he is referring to the period when I was sickly for six months and could not do so for obvious reasons," she explained.

## Burning the car was only solution – disgruntled wife

Although she regrets her move, Ncamsile Dlodlu is adamant that burning the car seemed like the only solution to their marital problems with her husband.

Dlodlu said she believed all that was happening between her husband and herself was because of the car and getting rid of it was the only way she would have her husband back.

"I came to this conclusion after I had taken time to think about everything we were going through. It is then that I concluded that I needed to get rid of that car least I lose my husband," said Dlodlu.

She explained that she came to this conclusion whilst on a bus headed for her marital home around Madlangemphisi after her husband had allegedly told her to wait for him and his lover at the Mbabane Bus Rank where they would pick her up at 9pm for a lift home, an offer she declined. She also said it was the things that had been said to her that made her take this decision.

Dlodlu alleges the lover once asked her husband with her present if there was need to pay someone who had a lot of children and

if having grey hair automatically qualified people for the elderly grants, both statements indirectly targeted at her.

On another note, the wife revealed that her husband once asked her to share his bed with the lover in his one roomed flat at Msunduzi. This was after the woman had come for a sleepover only to find that he was with his lover. Conjugal rights should not be used as a way of putting a point across – Women and Law

On another note, Women and Law's Colani Hlatshwayo has condemned the use of conjugal rights by married women to put a point across.

In a relationship, no one should be forced into making a decision and there should be mutual agreements with whatever decisions that needs to be taken.

She said married couples should find a way of dealing with such as problems don't mean the end of such union and, "we also encourage open communication amongst couples and in the event that is impossible they must involve a third party to help resolve the dispute," she said.







# POLICE WERE NOT LOOTING - KHULANI

BY MLONDI MPANZA

Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Khulani Mamba, has come to the defence of officers who were pictured with alcohol on Friday during the truck accident that happened at Malagwane along the MR3 highway.

Contrary to numerous claims by members of the public that the officers were helping themselves to the destroyed alcohol carried by the truck, he has pointed

ed out that they were not looting, instead they collected the alcohol to be kept as evidence and be given back to the truck company.

He said this yesterday in a telephonic conversation where he emphasised that the police had in no way looted the 'free booze,' instead they were only doing their job as law enforcers.

"Having collected the alcohol, it was then taken to the Mbabane Police Station where it is currently being kept as evidence," he explained.

Having said that, he then invited



The alcohol that was collected by the police from looters on Friday and currently kept as exhibits at the Mbabane Police Station. (Pic: Mloni Mpanza)

our news crew to see for them-

selves the alcohol where it is being kept as means of substantiating his assertion that the alcohol had not been looted by the police officers.

Indeed, the invitation was welcomed as this reporter paid the police station a visit where he was taken to the exhibits room where the alcohol was being kept. It is, however, worth noting that the quantity of the alcohol was disappointing as it did not reflect the expected collected quantity considering the load of the truck, which was sizeable.

After the truck accident, along the notorious Malagwane hill on Friday, members of the public circulated pictures of it on social media platforms such as Facebook and WhatsApp, amongst which was one of a female officer captured carrying two carry packs of Castle Lite.

## Accident

The police officers were also at the accident scene standing on guard next to a sizeable quantity of the alcohol which was said to have been collected from the looters, although some still made away with huge quantities in the presence of the police.

Although not to imply that they were also involved in the looting, but a certain group of paramedics was seen bungling some into an ambulance, that is, carry packs of Castle Lite, but it was not established whether they surrendered these to the police or had kept them.

Further, Mamba condemned the members of the public who looted during the accident as he said such was a bad habit that needed to be addressed.

He reminded looters that engaging in such remained an illegal activity and all those who engaged in it could be arrested for such.

Once more, during the accident, police were seen detaining a group of looters who had collected huge quantities of alcohol from the scene. They were detained for a short period in a police van before they were subsequently released and warned against looting.

Police efforts to stop more looters were also in vain as some alighted from cars and public transport vehicles to help themselves on the free alcohol.

As means of carrying the alcohol, they used the very same covers found on the truck, as well as crates, whilst some came with buckets and cooler boxers.

As per reports, the truck driver lost control of the huge vehicle as he was descending the hill towards the Manzini direction and it hit the concrete barriers and a Mercedes Benz before it overturned.

The overturned truck closed both lanes going out of the capital and this led to an at-least six-hour long traffic jam, which saw motorists opting for the Gobholo-Buka route or driving via Mhlambanyatsi.



KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND

## Start ARVs now





# MISS TOURISM, SWAWOLI HOLD HANDS IN GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

STORIES BY AYANDA DLAMINI

**M**iss Tourism Nadia Nascimento has embarked on motivating and inspiring the less fortunate, visiting the Siteki School for Deaf alongside film producer Bongi 'B-Kay' Shiba on Wednesday.

This initiative was through the Swazi Way Of Life (SWAWOLI), a local documentary film production house. The tour was supported by Cliff Daniels from United Hands of Hope based in South Africa, and motivational speaker Inalda Jorge.

According to SWAWOLI's Shiba, the organisation produces local documentary films and then tours around the country showing the films whilst also delivering motivational speeches relevant to that specific audience.

"On Wednesday, we visited Siteki School For The Deaf to show the Film 'Umliba loya Embili' to motivate the children that they can be anything they want in life regardless of their disabilities".

Shiba further mentioned that the film is about acknowledging the creativity in children's indigenous games, such as 'intjuba', 'mkoko', 'gcum gca',



**The SWAWOLI team (L-R) Lwazi Gumbi, Lucky who provided the children with pop corn, Miss Tourism Nadia Nascimento, Siteki School For The Deaf Head Teacher Thobile, Inalda Jorge and Cliff Daniels at Siteki School For The Deaf on Wednesday. (Pics: Ayanda Dlamini)**

'incatfu', 'shumpu'.

"Those games empowered children about real life situations such as social development, communication whilst strengthening their tiny bodies.

## Objective

The objective is that the best things in life are free, even when you do not have expensive toys as a child, you can still have a really good time with your friends, just by playing with

stones and grass ropes," Shiba said.

The tour was about screening the film to less advantaged children. After the film screening, some of the children explained in sign language how much they enjoyed the film and that they knew some of the games the children in the film were playing.

"The children were very happy that we visited them. Even without words their facial expressions and sign lan-



**Miss Tourism serving the kids with pop corn before the screening.**

guage was incredible," Shiba said.

"They related with what they saw on the film and were very happy. We received a lot of loving hugs and requests to return with more local films. It was overwhelmingly joyous," she added. Shiba learnt so much about the young lads as she said deaf children were the most attentive, curious, grateful and respectful kids she had ever worked with. The children were served with popcorn during the screening and they were so happy.

Miss Tourism Nadia Nascimento said she was very pleased to see happy faces from the kids.

"The glow that these kids had in their eyes was priceless. They melted my heart, we showed a few films and they were inspired," Nascimento said. "You know what I learned in life

through my years growing up is that life is about doing what comes from the heart and makes you happy," the beauty queen added.

The beauty queen mentioned working with SWAWOLI was nothing but the best for her especially being involved in such an initiative.

"When B-Kay told me about it, I said yes this is what I was put here for! God has a ministry for each and every one of us and I'd like to think I fall under the ministerial of helping. The films we show are of knowledge and to help keep our traditions as Swazi people. Being part of the SWAWOLI team is incredible, I feel at home when we are all together working hand in hand to change someone's life," Nascimento concluded.



**Miss Tourism Nadia Nascimento appreciating the kids.**



**One of the children shed tears as SWAWOLI team member Inalda Jorge left the premises.**

## Illa Penboy to give back to the community

**H**ip hop artist Sifiso Ndlamandla, popularly known as Illa Pen Boy is giving back to the community as he pledged E1 000 to the less fortunate, to help with their studies.

This was during the Swazi Boy kasi tour yesterday. This is a tour organised by Swazi Boy to inspire up and coming artists, and to reach out to music fans outside of the Mbabane - Manzini corridor.

The artist said he felt like he also needed to play his part and give back to the community as they support him in his music.

"The people love Illa Penboy. I also grew around such social problems. I also can't solve them alone, but I can be the voice.

I can inspire more of my fans and other Swazis, by showing them that you don't need to make millions to make

a change. The best way to bring change is to get everyone involved effortlessly. I'm part of the few Swazis working hard to build the industry and for us to win, we need to make sure that all the kids behind us are listening and interested in what we are doing. If we help them solve basic problems such as school fees, food and shelter, Swaziland will be the best country, come 2022."



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## Public Service Pensions Fund

### TEMPORARY OFFICE CLOSURE

We wish to inform all our clients and the general public that all our offices shall close for business on the 24 March 2017 at 12h00. We shall resume for normal business on Monday 27 March 2017.

### KUVALWA KWEMAHHOVISI KWESIKHASHANA

Lihhovisi letemhlalaphansi latisa onkhe emalunga alo nesive kutsi onkhe emahhovisi atabe avalawe ngaLesihlanu mhlaka 24 Indlovulenkulu 2017. Emahhovisi atawuphindze avulwe ngeMsombuluko mhlaka 27 Indlovulenkulu 2017.



BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

# VELEZIZWENI UMPHAKATSI: WE WILL APPEAL

Despite being given a 30-day ultimatum to switch their allegiance or face the music, the Velezizweni Chieftdom still maintains that they were allocated part of Farm 482, therefore, their traditional boundary is marked by Umthunjwa River.

This chieftdom has been instructed to change their allegiance to the Macudvulwini Chieftdom by the traditional authorities. However, the acting chief of the area, Mduduzi Dlamini, insists that the previous chiefs of the area, from Prince Ndwandwe I to the late chief Ndwandwe II, were shown by the elders and forefathers the boundary to be the river not the perimeter of the farm.

He told this newspaper that it has never happened in the history of the country to have chieftdoms having a perimeter of a farm as a boundary rather a river, a mountain, rock or stream. He finds it worrying to learn that poles (*tikhonkwane*) marking the end of a farm have now turned out to be a boundary as stated by those in favour of the Macudvulwini Chieftdom.

He highlighted that this was not the only farm bought to give way to development projects or plantations as in other areas the same happened but that did not change the boundaries of the chieftdoms.

"We had always lived in peace, sharing the land with the other chieftdom until in 2002 when a Dlamini man from Macudvulwini decided to stand for elections in

*"We had always lived in peace, sharing the land with the other chieftdom until in 2002 when a Dlamini man from Macudvulwini decided to stand for elections in the following year. He wanted to increase his votes using the people from our chieftdom since they were sharing the land with his potential voters. However, that was not possible so he started this dispute,"*

the following year. He wanted to increase his votes using the people from our chieftdom since they were sharing the land with his potential voters. However, that was not possible so he started this dispute," Dlamini alleged.

## Boundary

Dlamini says the question being ignored by the other party is that of the original boundary before the purchase of the farm. He said while the matter was discussed at the Swazi National Court, the Macudvulwini people brought an old man who testified against them as he stated they were not aware of the original boundary (*umncele wemdzabu*).

Velezizweni Headman Obed Mabuza, whose homestead is also

located in the farm, says he is not threatened by the directive as he is aware no one owns the land except the King.

He says since he is a subject to the King, there is nothing to be worried about. According to Mabuza, King Sobhuza II sent a Hlophe head man who told them they were to share the farm with the Macudvulwini Chieftdom.

An elderly man (*umsunpe*) of Velezizweni says when the farm was bought by King Sobhuza II for the Macudvulwini people who were relocated to give way to the plantations in the 1940s, there were already people who occupied it. He also stated that these were farm dwellers who looked after sheep in the farm and belonged to the

Velezizweni Chieftdom where they paid allegiance so did their descendants.

Acting Ludzidzini Governor Timothy Velabo Mtetwa was at the Macudvulwini Chieftdom a fortnight ago to give the directive to the 38 families affected by this boundary dispute. However, it is believed that the meeting was attended by only 10 families.

## Chieftdom

The instruction was that these families, which are located on Farm 482, should switch allegiance from Velezizweni to Macudvulwini as he said the area they occupy belongs to Macudvulwini.

The alternative was that they should have vacated to a chieftdom of their choice within a month.

These residents are expected to pay allegiance to the Macudvulwini Umphakatsi and change their national documents to bear the Macudvulwini Chieftdom particulars.

This news came as a shock, despite that the matter has been discussed and arbitrated at different levels for almost 15 years as it started in 2002. At each forum, the adjudicators issued the same judgement that has always been appealed by the Velezizweni Chieftdom and the affected families.

The acting chief has promised that the Velezizweni Umphakatsi will support and do all it can to ensure the welfare of its subjects. He said they respect the authorities of the land and were not defying

BY MLONDI MPANZA

## Limkokwing student takes on CEO

A Limkokwing University of Creative Technology (LUCT) Public Relations student has taken exception to Gciniwe Fakudze's assertion that students who had engaged on class boycotts were ungrateful (to the government).

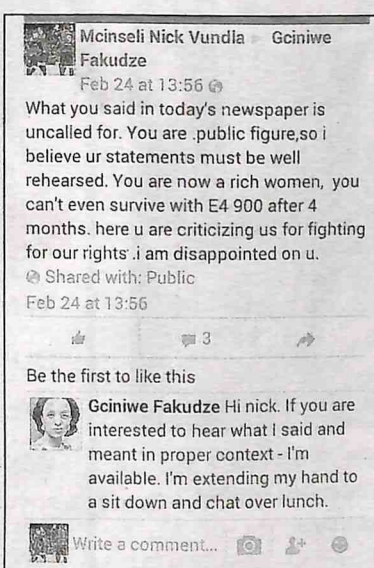
Mciniseli Kunene's response was to the Matsapha Town Board CEO's statement reported by the Times of Swaziland on February 24, 2017 to have been made at Nyakatfo High School during a Career Day.

Her assertion was to the effect that striking students were ungrateful and if she had a whip she would beat all the students and tell them to go back to class.

Kunene did not take this kindly, and took to Fakudze's Facebook page to air his views.

Kunene's post to the CEO, who is known to be popular amongst the youth, read, "What you said in the paper was uncalled for. You are a public figure so I believe your statements must be well rehearsed. You are a rich woman, you cannot survive with E4 900 after four months but here you are criticising us for fighting for our rights. I am disappointed in you."

Whilst many expected a heated debate between the two, the experienced CEO responded by inviting Kunene for lunch so she clarified to him what she meant when she made that statement.



**Limkokwing University of Creative Technology (LUCT) Public Relations Student Mciniseli Kunene has taken exception to Gciniwe Fakudze's assertion that students who had engaged on boycott of classes were ungrateful. A snapshot of Gciniwe and Mciniseli's conversation.**

When called for comment, Fakudze said she did not believe this warranted a story and could only clarify her statement with the student who had a problem with it.

"I believe the student is the right person to talk to if you need anything and not me," she added.

Further, in an interview with the Sunday Observer, Kunene revealed that a proposed follow-up meeting between the two had not yet taken place because he was not sure as to 'who should contact who,' but he said he had decided that he would

make the effort to contact the CEO so she gets to set the record straight regarding her statement.

Asked why he had elected to respond to such, Kunene said it was because although the statement had been directed to the University of Swaziland students but it touched on him as well because, "what touches UNISWA touches everyone."

He said Fakudze was confusing them for beggars, yet it was government's responsibility that they are provided with scholarships and that comes with the provision of stu-

dent allowances which are most of the time top of the list of student grievances.

"People should not make it as if the government is doing us a favour with scholarships," he added as he pointed out that students were the government's responsibility just like the elderly were in as far as the elderly grant is concerned more-so because the kingdom was a developing country where their parents were lowly paid and can barely afford their tertiary education hence government has to assist them.

Kunene stated that as students they were the future hence government should prioritise their education and do away with the mentality portrayed by the CEO.

He went on to state that Fakudze was a role model to the youth, himself included, and was aware of the fact that she became a CEO at a tender age hence they looked up to her. But he noted it was wrong of her to attack students in front of pupils who will soon be headed for the university and go through the same frustrations of boycotting classes.

Before he was enrolled at Limkokwing, he also had a problem with the unrelenting boycotts as he did not understand why they were happening until he was admitted and had to go for months without the allowances, let alone the non-conducive environment they were learning under.

"If you corner a black mamba, it will bite you," meaning as students they are compelled or cornered into boycotting classes by the conditions they are subjected to by the government and sometimes the institution's management.

On another note, Kunene said the CEO's statement simply means she supports police brutality against students.

He makes reference to the case of Ayanda Mkhabela, who was run over by a police casspir during a boycott of classes last year, as well as another incident where students from the



# CHRISTIANITY IS SWAZI RELIGION - MASITSELA

STORIES BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

For years, school going children have allegedly been indoctrinated in something called Swazi Traditional Religion which has, however, been disowned by traditionalists.

According to Prince Masitsela, a senior member of the royal family, the only religion that Swazis have practised since King Somhlolo has been Christianity.

He said he was not aware of what Swazi Traditional Religion could be as Swazis, by virtue of being Christians, recognised God as their creator and saviour. "Site inkholelo yetfu," he said.

According to history, King Somhlolo, who was also known as Sobhuza, I was king of Swaziland, from 1815 to 1836. He dreamt of the arrival of white skinned people with straight hair who he said bore two objects, a book (scroll) and money. He advised the nation to embrace the book as it came with life. This dream was later translated to mean the nation should embrace Christianity.

"Mvelinchanti is God," Prince Masitsela clarified, adding the use of the local word to identify God did not mean there was any other deity that the country recognised.

He clarified that *Mvelinchanti*, the one who was before everything else, is the supreme deity of the Swazi people whereas *Mlentengamunye*, who historically manifested himself to young children was in fact the Holy Spirit, which was identified in that form.

"King Somhlolo gave us a mandate, a roadmap on religion," he said, adding how the mandate was to choose God over the love of money. "Sadly, there are some people who now compromise the lives of others and move away from truthful undertakings all in the name of money. *Umntfu abone i-briefcase legcwele imali bese uyesuka eqinisweni.*"

He clarified that there was a difference between the love of money, which tends to corrupt, and making money in order to live.

"I am not saying people should shun money making initiatives. Instead, they should engage in honest business because after all, money ensures that a person has a way to live," he said, before reiterating that the history of the country was strongly embedded in the Christian faith.

On the other hand, the senior prince explained that ancestors (*emadloti*) were not worshipped.

"We remember them as family members who have died before us and we live with the hope that we will see them when they get resurrected at the coming of Jesus Christ our Saviour."

His views were supported by Acting Ludzidzini Indvuna Timothy Velabo (TV) Mtetwa.

"There is no Swazi Religion," Mtetwa emphasised.

He categorically explained that the festivals and ceremonies that the nation took part in were cultural, (with the exception of Incwala) and were the identity of the country.

He explained that Incwala was the nation thanking God of its first fruits and praying for good harvests.

When asked to clarify why the part of



The residents leaving the meeting at Velezizweni Umphakatsi yesterday.

ing their directive but request that their side be also heard and if possible be allowed to appeal.

He said the last time they were summoned to Ludzidzini they humbly informed the governor that they were not content with the verdict.

## Belonged

Dlamini said they then requested that they be given a copy of the letter confirming that the land belonged to the Macudvulwini people which was said to be from the then principal secretary in the ministry of agriculture, which up to today, they have not been shown.

The acting chief said they needed the letter as they would present it to the King in order to take the matter further, indicating that they plan to appeal

the decision to have them change their chiefdom. In Swazi Law and Custom, this is called *kwembula ingubo*.

He also stated that they were not contacted by the governor and his delegation when they called the residents to the meeting last week.

## Message

"We have not been consulted but only learned from the media that the governor was here. He should have addressed the Velezizweni Umphakatsi not the subjects.

It should have been the chiefdom that then related the message to the subjects," said the acting chief.

The acting chief says he will do everything in his powers to assist the affected families if they finally vacate the land they currently occupy.



William Pitcher Teacher's College were reportedly beaten to a pulp by the police. "That is just how we as students interpret her statement when she said if she had a whip she would beat us so we return to class and it is important to stress that I am not criticising him but the truth is; she

should have put her statement in a different manner to show it had been well thought," he said.

Kunene also said students were now falling prey to blessers and blesses who assisted them financially solely because of the struggles they go through as a result of the delayed allowances.



Prince Masitsela revealed that the only religion Swazis have practised since King Somhlolo has been Christianity.

## Swazi Traditional Religion as taught in the past

According to a Grade Three and Grade Five books that this publication was able to get, Swazi Traditional Religion speaks of one God, *Mvelinchanti* and his messenger, *Mlentengamunye*.

The books state that ancestors are not worshipped but are honoured with the belief they act as intermediaries between the living and God.

The books further stated that the religion practised locally was passed on through story telling and ceremonies that the nation attends.

Stating how the religion has pros and cons, the books delved into them. Some of the pros for Swazi Traditional Religion include that the beliefs help to unite people as they get to know what their role is in the community and where they belong.

Other advantages include indigenous knowledge as passed on during traditional ceremonies while traditional healers helped people deal with things and situations overwhelming them.

Over and above their helping abilities, traditional healers were said to be the bridge between mortals and the spirit world and they were hence traditional leaders of note.

## Secrecy

On the other hand, disadvantages of Swazi Traditional Religion were the fact that most rituals were shrouded in secrecy, which then gave birth to assumptions.

Over and above that, the fact that there was no documentation about how the said religion should be practised, had resulted in it dying with the old folk who practised it over the years.

Swazi Traditional Religion has been opted out of the new syllabus, Minister of Education and Training Dr Phineas Magagula said he did not like to delve into the matter as it then gets blown out of proportion by the media.

"We talked Religious Education from 2pm until 7pm the other day in Parliament and I would not like to talk about it today," he said on Thursday.

"*Asifuni kudvunga bantfwana ngetinkholelo letingasito tetfu* (we don't want to mislead children with religions which we don't subscribe to as a nation)," he said.

He called for parents to be proactive in teaching their children religion as there were different preferences on religious observance.

A parent, who was expressing relief for the new Christian only syllabus, said her son would come back confused.

"We are traditional at home and have never worshiped ancestors. So last year, my son would come back and ask me about some of the things he learnt and he was confused.

For the sake of having him pass the subject, I failed to dispute how the Baganu Festival was a form of worship as I have always known it to be a festival celebrating the fruit where dancing and merriment is the order of the day from the arena to the late night dancing with Their Majesties," she said, adding how she was shocked that traditional healers were perceived to be religious leaders in the books.





# 2017 EXTRA-ORDINARY SADC SUMMIT

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TEYO TAKA NGWANE  
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## THE HEADS OF STATE, GOVERNMENT



SADC Executive Secretary Dr Stergomena Tax making her remarks before introducing His Majesty the King at the opening of the Summit.



His Majesty King Mswati III accompanied by South African President Jacob Zuma and SADC Executive Secretary Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax upon arrival at Mandvulo Grand Hall during the official opening of the Extraordinary Summit of SADC Heads of State and Government yesterday.  
(Pics: Lucky Simelane)



Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe arrives at Mandvulo Grand Hall for the Summit.



Journalists from the SADC region covering the Summit.



President of Namibia Hage Geingob at the summit.



### Public Service Pensions Fund

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### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

#### THEMED ARTWORK CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TENDER NUMBER: H34/03/2017

The Public Service Pensions Fund (PSPF) hereby invites locally registered firms in the visual artwork sector to submit an expression of interest to be pre-qualified for selection to tender for the design and supply of artworks, framing and public spaces to the new iconic hotel currently under construction in Mbabane, Swaziland.

#### Required Information:

Interested suppliers who wish to be invited to tender should submit the following information:

1. Company profile with curriculum vitae of key personnel
2. Certified copy of Valid Trading Licence
3. Certified copy of Tax Compliance Certificate
4. Certified copy of Form "J" and Form "C"

#### Closing Date for Submissions:

The closing date for submissions is **NOT LATER** than Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017@ 2:00 pm, deposited in the tender box at PSPF Ingcamu Building, Ground Floor, Mhlambanyatsi Road, Mbabane, Swaziland. Submissions are to be enclosed in a sealed envelope and marked "PSPF THEMED ARTWORK EXPRESSION OF INTEREST". No late submission will be accepted. No facsimile, E-mail or other forms of submission will be accepted other than the prescribed.

#### Notes:

- The themes and techniques will be discussed with the selected firm working with the Interior Design Architect.
- The design for the interior is earth inspired artwork.
- Prospective firms are requested to submit their expression of interest outlining previous project undertaken and indicate how local artisans and artists can be engaged on the project.

For enquiries, please contact Jethro Ndlangamandla by e-mail only, E-mail: [jethro@pspf.co.sz](mailto:jethro@pspf.co.sz)

**Disclaimer:** PSPF's decision is final and it is not obliged to give reasons for its decision to shortlist.





# 2017 EXTRA-ORDINARY SADC SUMMIT

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A nation in progress

## SADC SUMMIT OPENING



Executive Secretary Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax taking instructions from SADC Chairman His Majesty King Mswati III.

Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini and South Africa President Jacob Zuma in deep thought.



SADC delegates following the proceedings.



Arrival of some heads of state at Mandvulo Grand Hall.



Prime Minister Dr Sibusiso Dlamini and South Africa President Jacob Zuma (r) with some of the local Cabinet ministers.



Participants listening to His Majesty's speech.



Tanzania Deputy President Samia Suluhu Hassan was also present.

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# DIGITAL MIGRATION FOR THIS YEAR'S CENSUS

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

**T**his year's census will be the first to employ computer based mobile equipment in the form of electronic tablets.

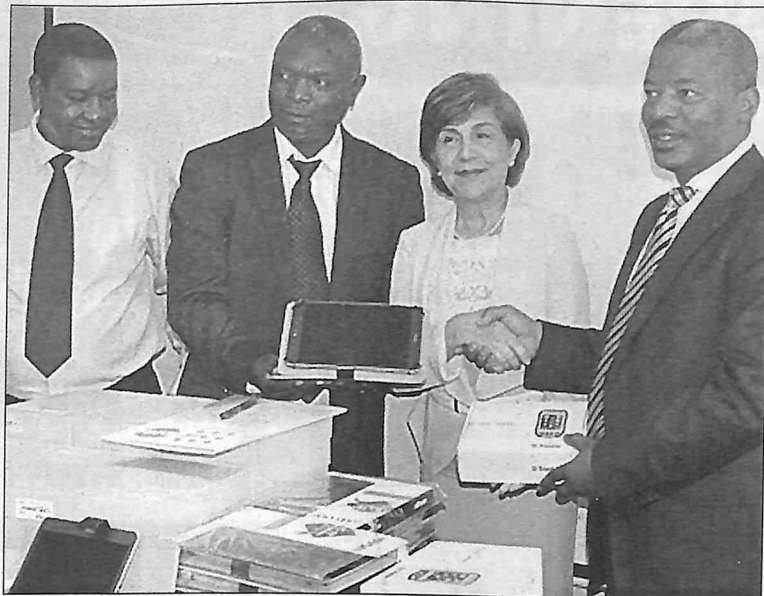
This is expected to improve efficiency and reduce human error.

The 2017 Population and Housing Census is unique because computer-based mobile equipment for data collection will be utilised, thereby developing national capacity for the collection and analysis of census data through the use of digital technologies.

About 3 000 electronic tablets have been loaned from the Department of Statistics in South Africa to facilitate this digital migration while UN agencies donated 35 tablets and GIS equipment and accessories worth E600 000 to the ministry of economic planning and development.

This was revealed by United Nations Population Fund Communications Officer Phumzile Dlamini, who further mentioned that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is being finalised with finer details on the conditions and terms of this arrangement.

She explained that the tablets and



**MEPD Under-Secretary Siboniso Masilela, Director Central Statistics Office Amos Zwane, UNFPA representative Sharareh Amirkhalili and Principal Secretary Bertram Stewart. (Pic: Zwelethu Dlamini)**

the rest of the digital equipment would be used for data collection, to improve the efficiency of the data collection process, as well as enable quicker transmission of field data to the Central Statistical Office for processing and analysis.

Dlamini added that more recently, apart from United Nations Population

Fund (UNFPA), other UN agencies have contributed towards supporting additional mobile equipment, technical assistance, and materials for census publicity and communication.

## Agencies

These agencies are United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Health Organisation (WHO), and World Food Programme (WFP).

When asked if there would be no challenges in using the gadgets caused by lack of knowledge on the part of the enumerators, Dlamini assured that there shall be training of both the supervisors and the enumerators.

"Training on the use of these tablets is an ongoing process. Since October 2016, the Central Statistical Office has trained over 100 staff, both permanent and temporary, which is currently using the gadgets to collect basic household information as part of preparatory works for the census. Training on the use of mobile technology for supervisors and about 2 400 enumerators will also be conducted in March through April 2017," she revealed.

## Census

She also highlighted that some officials were sent to Senegal where they were trained and had first hand experience of the digital census. Dlamini also stated that Swaziland was the second, after Lesotho, to migrate to a digital census, in the East and Southern Africa region, and the fifth in the African continent.

"In Senegal, for example, the digi-

tal migration greatly improved the release time of census results. As part of strengthening national capacity for undertaking digital-based censuses and survey, in April 2016, UNFPA supported a Swaziland team to travel to Senegal for an information and experience exchange," she said.

## Remarks

UNFPA Representative, Sharareh Amirkhalili, making her remarks during the handover of the 35 tablets, said UN agencies stand ready to provide the necessary technical support to ensure a successful population and housing census which left no one behind.

"UNFPA warmly welcomes this shift towards the use of computer equipment for data collection because this will improve efficiency in many fronts; firstly, this will minimise human error often encountered during data collection, secondly this will greatly reduce the waiting time before the release of preliminary findings and finally contribute to overall improved data quality," she said. Every 10 years, since 1966, the Government of Swaziland, conducts a Population and Housing Census, the largest national data undertaking which provides demographic and socio-economic data on every person who is resident in Swaziland at the time of the census. The last national Population and Housing Census was conducted in 2007, and the country is now in the preparatory phases for the 2017 census to be conducted between the months of April and May.

## Judge orders liquidation of Vikela Insurance Brokers

STORIES BY MLONDI MPANZA

**J**udge Nkululeko Hlophe has hit the last nail to Vikela Insurance Brokers' coffin following his judgment that the company be liquidated.

This has brought about the uncertainty on whether the at-least 1 100 members will get their monies back or not following the judgment issued on March 9.

The judgment comes two years after the Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA) ran to the High Court for an order to liquidate the insurance provider because they did not comply with the provisions of the FSRA Act of 2010.

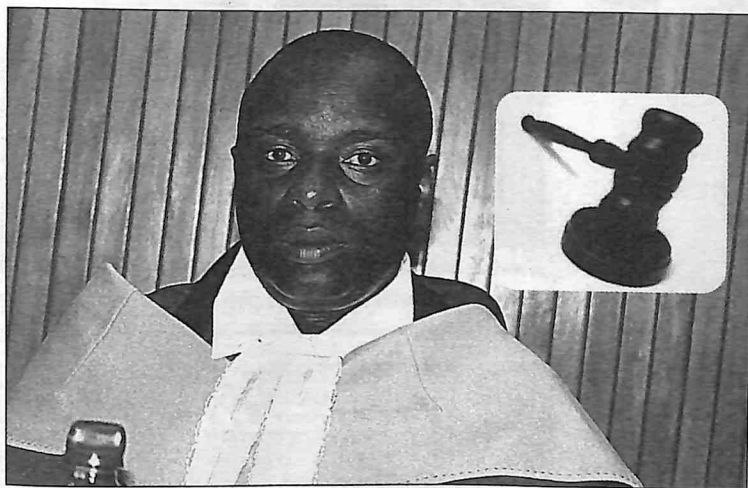
They also wanted the company's bank accounts to be frozen until the liquidation and both wishes by the regulatory body were duly granted by the judge.

"I hereby make the following order; placing Vikela Insurance Brokers under compulsory liquidation as envisaged by Sections 65 (i) (a) and 73 (2) (a) of the FSRA Act of 2010 as read with Section 287 (i) and 289 (i) (b) of the Companies Act of 2009 be and is hereby granted," ordered the judge.

Apart from these wishes being granted, the Respondent (Vikela) further has to foot the bill of the proceedings.

The application to liquidate the company by FSRA was after it was found to be illegally operating an insurance business when they did not have the licence to do so.

The illegality was based on both the Insurance Act of 2005 and Financial



**Judge Nkululeko Hlophe.**

Services Regulatory Act No.2 of 2010, which are the legislations that govern or regulate this kind of business operated by the Respondent and had to be complied with, therefore.

The Respondent was alleged to be operating illegally since 2010 after its Insurance Broker Licence was revoked by the applicant (FSRA) for failure to comply with the dictates of the Insurance Act notwithstanding their being peremptory.

## License

Briefly, the company operated an insurance business without a licence and without being properly registered.

Prior to that, the company had been issued with an Insurance Broker Licence on certain conditions and was valid for one year, but after this period elapsed, the respondent failed to meet them.

The conditions were to the effect that they would fill in and submit forms

ceding the Fidelity Guarantee to the registrar of the Applicant, submit audited financial statements within a certain period and lastly, that when the company indicated an intention to provide or market a different product, it was to provide a local underwriter for the said business, which it failed to do.

## Insurance

This resulted in the revoking of the licence and instead of closing down the business, Vikela continued to operate under the pretext they were now offering legal assistance only.

With regards to this, FSRA argued in court that it discovered in late 2014 that the Respondent had continued providing an insurance business, albeit illegally as it was neither registered nor licensed to carry out such.

Whilst on the other hand, Vikela claimed to have been conducting a Legal Consultancy business, but inves-

## Consumers have to be protected – 'Bhanyaza'

**T**he decision to liquidate Vikela Insurance Brokers has been welcomed by the Swaziland Consumer Association Chairman Bongani 'Bhanyaza' Mdluli.

He said he believed consumers had to be protected from such establishments and by means of the judgment it means courts were doing all they could to protect them.

"Even though I am still to read the whole judgment and see the reasons advanced by the judge, but from the face of it, we really welcome it as the Consumer Association," stated Mdluli.

He said this was more-so because there were lots of people who were taking policies with the hope of get-

ting profits without considering the validity of the particular establishment. The chairman further appreciated the pro-activeness by the FSRA to protect the consumers, which he encouraged to continue with its good work for the interest of consumers in the country.

## Policies

In addition, he advised members of the public who want to join policies to seek for advice from FSRA first. He said he believed the regulatory body had a department that sought to assist consumers and should make use of it to so that the public does not fall prey to fraudulent schemes.

tigations by FSRA proved the former was true.

In the latter business, it was claimed that members of the public paid certain amounts of money on a monthly basis for possible future legal services, staggered in such a way that a certain amount of cover would be available for a certain specified service.

However, on March 27 2014, acting on reports the FSRA, conducted an investigation to ascertain the kind of business ran by the Respondent and it was discovered that the Certificate of Incorporation stated the Respondent's name as, 'Vikela Insurance Brokers Proprietary Limited.'

The Memorandum of Association stated its main objectives as being, "to carry on business as insurance brokers and agents and underwriting

agents in all classes of insurance and as insurance advisers." Its trading name was, 'Vikela Legal Insurance.'

Further, the licence was for estate agents, business broker and employee agents and was valid until December, 31, 2014, whilst there were also membership cards which bore the words, 'Vikela Legal Insurance' on the front and 'Vikela Insurance Brokers' on the back.

There were as also a tariff of fees payable to the attorneys the Respondent would instruct in a particular matter as and when the need arose. These were either for civil or criminal matters and were referred to as, "cover."

In addition, there were membership forms which detailed the various products on offer and the payable, "premiums."



# ATUSWA, FASHION INTERNATIONAL IN A TUG OF WAR

STORIES BY MLONDI MPANZA

**T**he Amalgamated Trade Union of Swaziland (ATUSWA) and textile firm, Fashion International are embroiled in a battle over worker related issues.

The bone of contention is subscription fees, amongst the many issues, which the Matsapha based company allegedly does not want to solicit from its workers on behalf of the union as part of the agreement between the union and the workers that the latter will contribute monthly subscriptions to the former in return for representation with regards to industrial matters.

However, the company is disputing such allegations which they claim have come as a surprise to them considering the fact that there is a pending court case which emanates from the very same dispute.

Through their Productions Director, Vic Royce, the company asserted it was untrue that the company denied its employees the right to subscriptions.

They added that, "There is currently an application before court. Upon the courts direction, a verification exercise was conducted by CMAC, the employer noted that although employees overwhelmingly voted in favour of union participation, CMAC did not properly conduct the exercise by verifying the percentage of paid up members amongst employees."

This was also raised by the presiding Judge in open court with regards to the manner in which the ballot had been conducted, claimed Royce.

The assertion by the company was in response to a statement by ATUSWA where they made their frustration known regarding their stance with the company in light of the numerous efforts to engage the company on the matter proving futile.

In the statement, the union appeals to the buyers of the textile firm namely; Edcon, Traclo International and David Jones to remind their supplier of its obligation as per their code of conduct and that workers rights cannot be sacrificed for the purpose of maximising profits as workers are



also human beings after-all.

Through the Deputy Secretary General, Zweli Sihlongonyane, they also point out that their mandate remains to be representing the interest of their members and exchanging statements with the management is not part of that but have been pushed to the point where they have to raise their voices.

## Process

This is because they allege it has been seven months now since Fashion International refused to have a frank and honest interaction with them.

During this period, the company allegedly refused to accept stop order forms which have led in the union losing much needed revenue, although they pointed out that they have in the process gained significant support from the workers such that they now have close 1 700 verified members in a company that boats just above 1 800 workers.

If the company does that, the union committed that in the event less than half of their members do not submit back the stop order forms, they will then terminate their recognition even though they want full bargaining rights.

Giving a brief background on the matter, the union alleged that despite numerous efforts to meet with the management of the company, their wish was finally granted on September, 13, 2016 where the management was led by the managing director (MD).

In this meeting, the union submitted a list of 1 390 members and original stop order forms in favour of the union which the employer refused to take.

Instead, Fashion International allegedly insisted that the union conducts a verification exercise on the new members which was declined on the basis that the exercise would be unnecessary since the union was recognised by the company and that verification is normally done pre-recognition.

Therefore, it would not have been honest for the company to insist that the union engage in such an exercise which would have seemed like they were negotiating for recognition which was not the case.

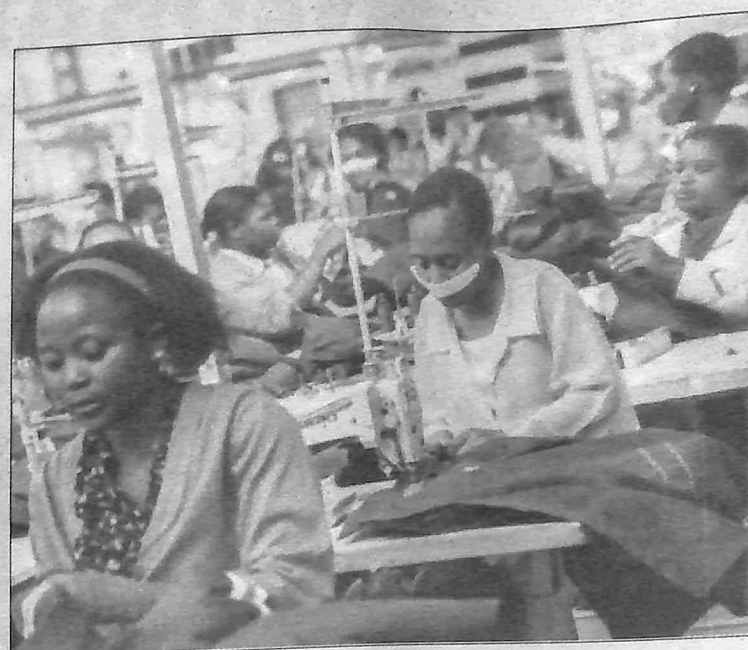
When this was communicated to the employer, the latter is alleged to have then changed tune and claimed that it would be unfair to verify their stop order forms when another union had also applied for recognition and further to that the employer stopped making deductions from previous members of the union.

Seeing that the two parties were not reaching a common ground, the union claims to have then instructed a deputy sheriff to serve the company with the forms for the purposes of making the deductions on November, 4, 2016, however the deputy sheriff was turned back because he had not brought an appointment letter.

## Refused

However, he subsequently returned four days later and this time around was refused entry and that was followed by the instruction of an attorney who made an application at the Industrial Court to compel the employer to receive the stop order forms.

During the court case, the two parties' legal representatives are alleged



Workers in a textile firm.

## ...DISPUTES FORCING WORKERS TO WORK WHEN SICK

**I**n the same response to the subscription allegations, Fashion International also made it a point that they clear the air with regards to allegations made by the union that workers were forced to come to work even when they were sick.

"These allegations are false. As indicated, employees are allowed time off to deal with illness but also any form of personal emergency, such as a child's sickness. All that is required is that the employee notify the employer either by sending a message through a relative or a fellow employee or by telephone that they are unable to come to work," explained Royce.

She added that, often however, employees would decide that rather than sending a message, they will personally attend at the workplace to inform the employer with their child before going to the medical

centre. This is however not a company requirement. In addition, the company also set the record straight that no employees were forced to work overtime and employees were obliged to work reasonable overtime in terms of their conditions of employment as it is the case in almost all the manufacturing industries.

## Overtime

Nonetheless, employees were requested on each occasion to work overtime and were allowed to decline. No employee has ever been disciplined for declining to work overtime. Also, Fashion International cleared the air regarding alleged unfair dismissals, for which they claimed to have a detailed disciplinary code and grievance in place which is applied by trained management supported by the company's Industrial Relations consultant.

to have applied for a consent order directing the Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration Commission Swaziland (CMAC) to conduct a secret ballot which worked towards the union's advantage but was still not respected by the company.

However, it is worth noting that all these allegations were disputed by the company which claimed that these came as a shock to them and were particularly disappointing not only because of the fact that they were patently false but because they came at a time when the union and the company were engaged in discus-

sions on negotiating the unions recognition.

The company further claimed that the allegations of racism were unfounded and no attempt was even made to substantiate them and they were clearly made, merely for effect.

They also pointed out that despite allowing the ballot to go unchallenged, they proposed that they enter into negotiations with the union on drafting a substantive recognition agreement and it is in light of these developments that the allegations made by the union come as a complete surprise to them.

## Girl raped by dad counselled

BY SUNDAY OBSERVER REPORTER

**T**he young woman who has alleged that her father raped her repeatedly from the age of 12 was this past week counselled through assistance from the Royal Swaziland Police Service.

Revealing this information, Zandile Magongo\* (not her real name) according to her step mother was taken for counselling seeing as she exhibited emotional turmoil.

## Matter

"She is still trying to deal with the matter being out in the open," her mother said.

On the other hand, Jeremiah

Magongo\*, the man who was accused by his daughter of raping her as form punishment was on Thursday questioned at the Mbabane Police Station and released conditionally.

## Release

According to well-placed sources, the man's release was pending further investigation by the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP).

"He was called by the police and he made his way to Mbabane where he stated his side of the story," a source

said.

When called for an explanation on what was happening with the case, Chief Police Information and Communication Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba confirmed that investigations were yet to be completed.

## Allegation

According to a source at the office of the DPP, they will further investigate the allegation with the intent of gathering collaborative information in order to have an arrest warrant.





STORIES BY MANQOBA MAKHUBU

# NEDBANK CHANGES TAGLINE TO 'WE SEE MONEY DIFFERENTLY'

Nedbank has changed its legendary 'Make Things Happen' tagline to 'We See Money Differently,' as the bank takes a bold step to reposition and contribute to strong economic growth.

The bank's brand repositioning launch was held on Friday at Sharma House in Ezulwini.

The launch was graced by Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini, Nedbank board of directors, executive staff members and clients.

Nedbank Managing Director Fikile Nkosi said the launch marked a beginning of a brand new era for the bank.

Explaining the essence behind the bank's brand repositioning, Nkosi said they understand that they have to continuously analyse the socio-economic landscape in which they operate in order to be responsive to the diverse needs of their stakeholders.

## Intricately

"We understand that the success of a business is intricately linked to the success of the communities it serves. Thus, our new brand promise and purpose seek to demonstrate our tangible investments in society that are deeply rooted in our desire to use our financial expertise to make a difference to people's lives," she said.

"We also understand that a successful brand positioning strategy, in today's complicated and rapid changing environment, will enable us to differentiate ourselves while staying true to our brand purpose," she further stated.

She said the brand repositioning seeks to marry the brand promise and the brand experience for the bank's clients and society.

Nkosi stressed that this goes beyond just the look and feel of the business, but forms the basis of how they do business, especially to continue partnering with their clients. The official launch was preceded



Nedbank Managing Director Fikile Nkosi and Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini.

by a number of build-up events including 'Money Talks' sessions, where the bank invited its clients to discuss money.

During the sessions, panellists took turns to share how money well managed could make a difference.

Nkosi said this was done to show that they are seriously committed to empowering communities.

## Mentored

In another session titled, 'See Money Differently,' the bank hosted over 100 pupils and young entrepreneurs from the Junior Achievement (JA) and ENACTUS who were coached by a professional and mentored by young entrepreneurs who are the bank's clients.

The MD said they realised that as they discuss the issue of money within society, it will not be enough for them to only engage their clients only, but saw it important to invite the next generation to start seeing

money differently.

"We are money experts who do good. Doing good in our society includes equipping the next generation to avoid the pitfalls we have faced and teaching them principles to help them manage money," she said.

## Involved

As a result, they had received positive feedback from both their clients and the youth involved during the two sessions.

"Nedbank is more than just a business. It is a fundamental and established part of a broader socio-economic environment. In everything we do, we consider not only what is best for our customers, our business and all our stakeholders, but also how we can contribute to the process of building a strong economy wherever we operate," she said.

Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini congratulated the bank for taking

the bold move to rebrand.

"This is very important as rebranding takes into consideration that you are an institution that cares for your customers. You are looking at your customers and saying what can attract them and of course you brand on those basis," he said.

He also appreciated the effort invested by the bank as it tried to find the right formula for the new branding process.

"What I also appreciate is the involvement of different layers of the business community to come up with the new brand," he said.

## Future

These included entrepreneurs and the youth under JA and ENACTUS, who are believed to be future entrepreneurs.

"Very few institutions have time to deal with customers that do not bring any sort of immediate profits into the institution, but they only concentrate on customers that are immediate profits spinners to their institutions," he said.

The minister said what the bank did was also in line with government's youth involvement policy and capacitating the youth to choose business.

"Money management is a very vital and pertinent sort of approach to a successful business that will be able not only to manage its finances, but also to manage its debt proportion and of course be able to service its debt," said Dlamini.

The launch was also characterised by performances, including songbird Velemseni Ndzimandze, poetess Black Note and Fire Dancers, who all get the audience eating from the palm of their hands.

## Don't be frightened by my budget- Finance minister

Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini had the audience in stitches as he displayed his funny character and advised the audience not to be frightened by his budget.

The minister was making his official remarks during the Nedbank's brand repositioning launch held on Friday at Sharma House in Ezulwini.

This was after two speakers, Swazi Observer Managing Editor Mbongeni Mbingo and Nedbank Managing Director Fikile Nkosi made reference to the budget as they addressed participants and the minister. Just before he finished his remarks, Dlamini paused and said, "To conclude, I will not delve into the issue of the budget, but please don't be frightened about my budget," he said, leaving the audience in sheer moment of laughter. He said the budget was very inclusive, "those who have looked at it closely can see that we have reduced our deficit and the call for our financial institutions to finance us will be much more at a lower tempo than the previous year."

## Financing

However, he still believed that financial institutions should play a major role in financing government's projects.

"Without government investing in the economy, there is no growth and there is no employment," he said.

He also highlighted that Nedbank has been a very active contributor into government's finances through participating in government papers.

"I wish to emphasise that in the process, the relationship between Nedbank and government has been very strong, which of course we appreciate as government," he said.

Meanwhile, the minister also pleaded with financial institutions operating in the country to belong to the country, not to see local savings as a vehicle for making profits for their holding companies.

"Savings should be seen as a vehicle for investment and growth in the country. Therefore, I am very much appreciative of the brand that Nedbank is launching which focuses on the use of money," he said.

Dlamini said this would enhance the bank's savings. Chief Finance Officer Phesheya Nkambule asked customers to make a wise choice and pick Nedbank as their most preferred bank always.

## Customers bank at their leisure through Nedbank App Suite

Alongside its repositioning launch, Nedbank shared its new mobile banking app with clients.

The Nedbank App Suite gives clients access to full-service banking at the comfort of their homes, offices or holiday destinations. A team was set up during the brand repositioning launch held on Friday to help customers download the App.

Nedbank Managing Director Fikile Nkosi said they introduced the App since they were cognisant of the fact that banking has to be made simpler and more convenient for clients.

"We are happy to be taking this step towards making banking simplified and more convenient for our clients," she said.

Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini congratulated the bank again for this timely development. "This is a very convenient sort of approach and of course a modern sort of approach of banking. It saves time and also gives an opportunity for customers to be able to transact with-

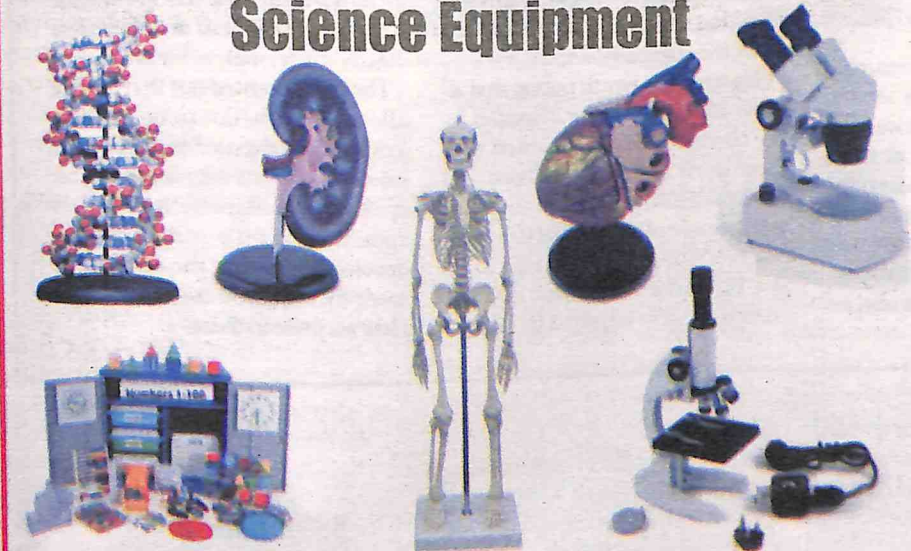


Some of the participants at the launch.

out the formal atmosphere of banking halls," he said. Nedbank Electronics Officer Jason Bennet said through the App, customers can view their balances, mini-statement, pay beneficiaries, both in local and international banks. They can also do inter-account transfers if they have more than one account and change their PIN if they think it was compromised, amongst other things. He said customers can download the App from play store, iStore and Blackberry store where

it appears as Nedbank App Suite (Africa). Once in the App, a user will be able to see his or her account balances and recent transactions, can view limits and pay beneficiaries added on their profile. They can also delete and add beneficiaries. He emphasised though that for customers to enjoy this service, they have to be on internet banking. The App can be supported by smart phones, including Blackberry and iPhones. It doesn't work on Nokia Lumia phones.

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# NEDBANK PRE-LAUNCH SESSIONS AT SHARMA HOUSE



Mbabane West Member of Parliament Johane Shongwe making a contribution. He was part of the 'Money Talks' session held by Nedbank at Sharma House in Ezulwini on Wednesday.



Nedbank Head of Strategy, Marketing and Corporate Affairs Lomkhosi Dlamini leading the Money Talks session panel which comprised of Galp franchise owner Busisiwe Ndlela, SMS General Suppliers Director Musa Sibandze as well as Tee&Jay Woodworks Managing Director Thembinkosi Mndzebele.



Blue Line Auto Consultancy Managing Director Muzi Dlamini gestures as he makes a point during the 'See Money Differently' session hosted by Nedbank on Thursday.



Imitsanyelo We Fashion Front models at the Corporate Place in Mbabane during the brand awareness campaign.



One of the pupils taking notes during the 'See Money Differently' session.



Nedbank Head of Strategy, Marketing and Corporate Affairs Lomkhosi Dlamini moderating the Money Talks session.



Nedbank Managing Director Fikile Nkosi engaging the youth during the 'See Money Differently' session.



A section of the students who came through for the Money Talks session listening to the presentations.



The models captured at The Gables Shopping Centre entrance.



Strengths Inc Professional Certified Coach Naomi Chitambira making a contribution during one of the sessions.



Another section of the youth who came through for the Thursday section following the deliberations.



# Focus on SA scene

## ZILLE SUGGESTS HER COMMENTS TAKEN OUT OF CONTEXT

**C**APE TOWN – Western Cape Premier Helen Zille, who's at the centre of controversy over a tweet claiming there were positives to colonialism, suggests her comments were taken out of context.

Zille will be the subject of an investigation by the Democratic Alliance (DA)'s Federal Legal Commission after she tweeted that the legacy of colonialism was not only negative.

During a discussion at the Knysna Literary Festival on Friday, the premier reiterated she was not defending colonialism but rather pointing out how Singapore has built a successful economy despite being affected by imperialism.

In a video taken by the Knysna-Plett Herald, Zille addressed the issue, saying she doesn't understand why people were angry.

"The independent Judiciary is an extraordinary bulwark against power abuse. The separation of powers, the very concept is colonial legacy. I didn't think that was controversial. An independent Judiciary took a thousand years to develop in the most advanced countries."

Zille also told the gathering she was hoping to ignite a debate on the matter not attract controversy.

"When I go abroad and see a whole



Premier of the Western Cape Helen Zille.

new world debate around these issues and see the entire literature out there, this entire literature on colonialism by different countries and what it meant and what the legacy was. I think can't we actually engage these discussions?"

Meanwhile, DA Federal Chairperson Athol Trollip on Friday was the latest to distance the party from comments made by former leader Helen Zille.

Trollip said public figures have to be aware of people's sensitivities.

"Remember that we are a very diverse society and we need to be

sensitive and mutually respectful towards each other. If you are a public representative, whatever you say or write down, you need to take responsibility for it."

He also warned of the dangers of 140-character tweets because there's not room for context.

"The tweets have caused a lot of offence [as] colonialism was a phenomenon in the world at a certain time and it came with a lot of prejudice, oppression and a lot of exploitation. It also left a bitter taste in many of people's mouths."

EWN

## Angry students disrupt Moseneke's convention

**J**OHANNESBURG – The opening sessions of the national education crisis forum had to be temporarily suspended yesterday morning after angry students disrupted the session by throwing chairs and water bottles at each other.

### Planned

The forum, which has been convened and planned over months under the leadership of former Deputy Justice of the Constitutional Court Dikgang Moseneke, is taking place over the week-end in Midrand, Johannesburg.

Other convenors include former Justice Yvonne Makgoro, Prof. Mary Metcalfe and Sello Hatang from the Nelson Mandela Foundation.

Close to 1 000 student leaders, university vice chancellors, parents and civil society organisations who have spent months in consultation in the various provinces over the crisis in higher education are also present.

The opening session got off to a rocky start as student delega-

tions arrived two hours late and refused to hear from Minister of Higher Education Blade Nzimande and shouted with every mention of his name.

The convention was first disrupted after students refused to let AfriForum speak first as per the prior agreement that all stu-

dent delegations will have a turn to talk in alphabetical order.

### Serious

Moseneke said in his opening address that they are serious about creating a safe space for dialogue, but this requires a certain level of discipline and preparedness to listen to others.

"True revolutionaries who want to change society... one of the gifts you pray for is the gift to listen to others and opinions that are different to your own. The better you listen, the better your ability to respond.

Listen to each other respectfully.

Here we would like to give everybody the opportunity to speak without being shouted down," he said.

News24

## EFF, ANC councillors clash in Ekurhuleni City Council

**J**OHANNESBURG – The EFF in Ekurhuleni claimed the ANC is following the example set in Parliament after ANC councillors clashed with the EFF councillors in the Ekurhuleni council chambers on Thursday.

"The ANC and its coalition partners in Ekurhuleni have displayed arrogance and copycat style from [the] ANC in National Assembly by using scare tactics to intimidate the opposition especially the EFF," the party said in a statement yesterday.

### Security

"[The ANC in Ekurhuleni] hired ANC youth league and branch members to dress in white shirts... to fill the galleries [and] pose as security." Violence broke out after a failed bid by the DA to remove mayor Mzwandile Masina.

In footage of the incident, ANC councillors push and pull EFF councillors dressed in red overalls. EFF

councillors are also seen emptying water bottles on ANC councillors.

EFF Ekurhuleni Chairperson Mampuru Mampuru told News24 that ANC approached the party's members after they started singing on the council floor.

"The Speaker was trying to push through a vote by [show of] hands, to keep the mayor in his position, without EFF and DA councillors voting," he said.

"It was then when the [ANC]

councillors charged at us." Mampuru claimed there were only councillors in the chambers at that time.

Ekurhuleni ANC spokesperson Thabang Mashiyane said the confrontation followed an EFF member disrupting the voting procedure. "Let us be quite clear that it [the confrontation] was not initiated by the ANC," Mashiyane said.

News24



## Mantashe adamant Lungisa should resign

**J**OHANNESBURG – Andile Lungisa's ambitions to lead the ANC in Nelson Mandela Bay could be dead in the water.

ANC Secretary-General Gwede Mantashe is sticking to his guns in the party's stand-off with the newly elected Nelson Mandela Bay chairperson.

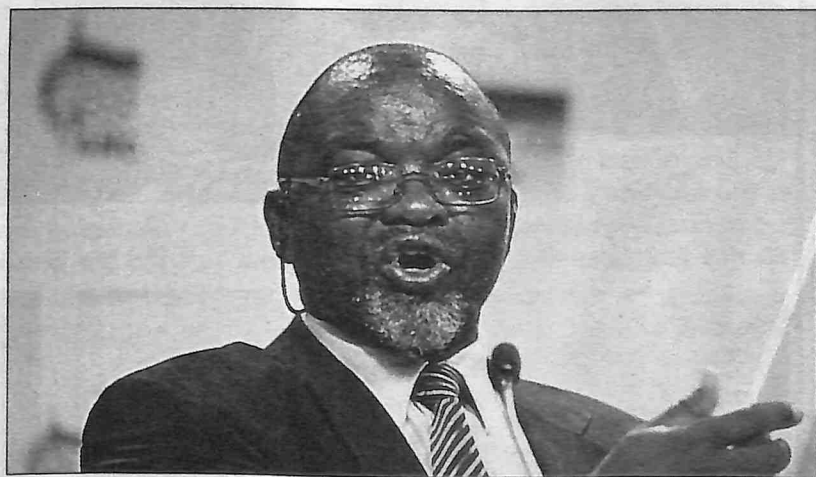
The party awaits Lungisa's response to its demand for him to step down.

Mantashe has warned that allowing him to stand for election to a structure lower than the ANC provincial executive committee (PEC) on which he serves would set a precedent that would deplete the party's leadership at various levels.

Mantashe said the ban on PEC members standing for election to lower structures is not spelt out explicitly in the ANC constitution.

"That constitutional provision talks of one way, it doesn't say you have a choice of resigning in the lower or higher," said Mantashe. "It says you will resign in the lower organs. That's what the constitution says."

"Then you go to the NEC [national executive committee]. We give it a meaning that says nobody in higher organs should be allowed to stand for election in lower organs and that interpretation



ANC Secretary-General Gwede Mantashe.

has been tested, it is now practice."

Mantashe said it was that interpretation that had previously scuppered NEC member Bheki Cele's ambitions to lead the Ethekwini region.

Lungisa's election violated the party's constitution and there was a very good reason why Lungisa couldn't be allowed to get away with it, he said.

"I'm the secretary-general of the ANC, there's a conference in December. I can read the balance of forces and see that I have no chance of being re-elected

general secretary of the ANC. I go stand in a provincial structure, I get elected to the PEC," Mantashe explained.

"By the time we arrive in that conference in December, there'll be nobody left in the NEC because people will preempt that situation, go to the provinces and disappear."

"An 86-member NEC will arrive in the December conference being a 40 member NEC. It can't be allowed, it just can't be allowed, it's bad practice."

eNCA





# SUNDAYOBSERVER AFRICA NEWS

The right place | The right Sunday

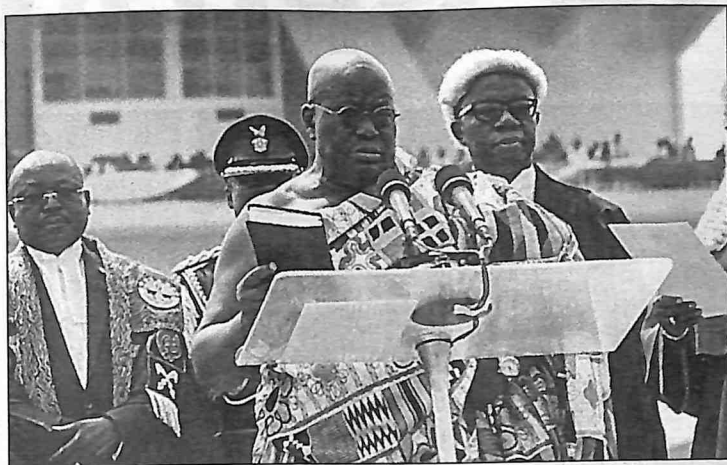
## GHANA PRESIDENT DEFENDS APPOINTMENT OF 110 MINISTERS

**A**CCRA - Ghanaian President Nana Akufo-Addo has defended his controversial decision to appoint a 110-minister government, calling it a "necessary investment" in the small west African country.

The new government nominated on Wednesday -- which includes dozens of lower-level and regional ministers -- is a record for Ghana and has sparked a storm of commentary on social media and radio talk shows.

"I'm aware that people are concerned about what they see as maybe the cost of this large government," Akufo-Addo admitted in an interview on national television on Friday.

"It is a necessary investment to make," Akufo-Addo, who was elected in December on a promise to fix a host



Ghanaian President Nana Akufo-Addo.

of economic problems and fight corruption, stressed that his ministers "are coming to work, it is not going to be a holiday".

And he insisted the cost would not be as high as people might think.

"The number, for instance, among the deputy ministers - 42 out of 50 are all parliamentarians and, in effect,

converting them from parliamentarians into ministers, the marginal cost of that transformation is minimal in terms of the public exchequer," he said.

The ministers were needed for the "rapid transformation of this country", Akufo-Addo said.

George Lawson, Deputy General Secretary of the opposition National Democratic Congress (NDC), told AFP that the increase in the number of ministers was "not proper" and charged that Akufo-Addo was giving out "jobs for the boys".

"It's a drain on the Ghanaian economy," he added.

Akufo-Addo came to power in January after beating the NDC's John Dramani Mahama in December's election.

AFP

### Man whose brother 'killed in Zim election violence' manhandled

**H**ARARE - If you want evidence that Zimbabweans are united in their hopes for change and justice, this is not where you're going to see it.

"Appalled", "This is what happened in my village" are some of the reactions to a video posted to Facebook by opposition MP Jessie Majome that shows the silencing in public this week of a man whose brother was killed by alleged ZANU-PF supporters in Zimbabwe's 2008 election violence.

The clip shows the man - named by Majome as Hilton Chironga - trying to speak during a public hearing of the National Peace and Reconciliation Commission Bill in the northern town of Bindura.

He is pulled by the belt and made to sit down "and thereby shut up and blocked from presenting his views," Majome wrote.

She said the group that turned on Chironga on Thursday were ruling party councillors led by the Bindura deputy mayor.

Chironga's brother (some reports say it was his father) Gibbs was a just-elected opposition councillor when he was killed in June 2008. Violence hit Zimbabwe's rural areas after President Robert Mugabe's loss in the first round of presidential elections in March of that year. Opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai pulled out of the second round of voting but was later brought into a power-sharing government.

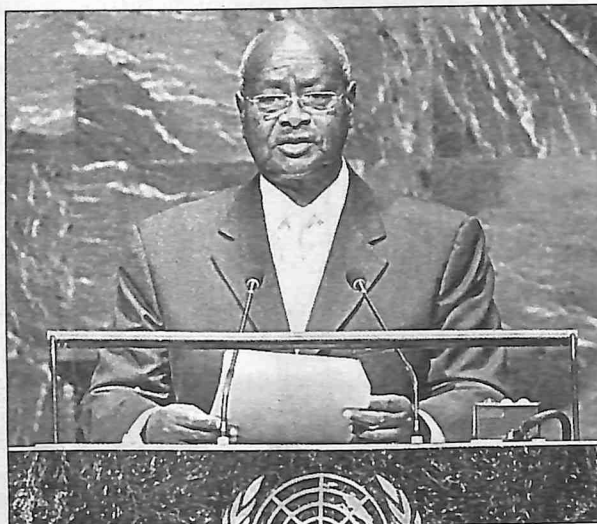
MP Majome, who has been travelling around Zimbabwe as part of a parliamentary team conducting public hearings on the Bill, said the manhandling of Chironga left her fighting tears and "almost unable to function as an MP."

News24

### Uganda's Museveni slams top cop assassination

**KAMPALA** - Uganda's second most prominent policeman was shot and killed in his car on Friday, along with two other officers as he left his home in Kampala, police said.

Assistant Inspector General of Police Andrew Kaweesi served as the force's spokesperson and was one of the country's most high-profile officers. "He was shot dead this morning as he was leaving his home coming to work," Inspector General Kale Kayihura told AFP. "Kaweesi had two police officers guarding him who were also killed. The motive is yet to be established," he added. Police killings are rare in Uganda, and the murder resembles the assassinations of an army officer in November last year and a senior public prosecutor in March 2015. A large crowd of local residents gathered at the scene where the officers' dead bodies were slumped



Yoweri Museveni, President of Uganda.

inside a black vehicle, blood pooling under shattered glass alongside the car. The bodies were later taken away. A local resident described seeing four men on two motorcycles attack the car the police officers were travelling in at around 06:30GMT as they left for work. "They shot very rapidly with guns that looked

like AK47s," said Mohammad, a motorcycle taxi driver who lives and works in the area.

"The motorbikes came from behind as the car was leaving Kaweesi's house. The car driver tried to increase speed but they drove past the car and shot into it," said the 30-year old who declined to give his surname. AFP

### Mauritanian Senate votes against own abolition

**NOUAKCHOTT** - Mauritania's Senate rejected a contentious constitutional amendment on its own abolition and the alteration of the country's flag to better represent those who battled for independence from France.

Thirty-three senators out of 56 voted against the amendment package, Senate President

Mohsen Ould El-hadji said.

The rejection by the Senate came after lawmakers in the lower house of the west African Islamic Republic passed the measure earlier this month.

But the amendment, which would see the Senate replaced by regional councils, must be passed by both lower and upper houses to become law.

The government has a major-

ity in both chambers.

"The amendment is therefore definitively defeated by the senators.

(It is up) to the president to decide whether to continue by way of a referendum," another option to get the measure passed, constitutional expert Vadhily Ould Rayess told AFP.

AFP

## BRIEFS

### Angola wants 10 years in prison for abortions

**LUANDA** - Angola's Parliament votes next week on a proposal to imprison for up to 10 years women who have abortions and people who perform them, angering the president's daughter and others in the former Portuguese colony. Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch were urging authorities to allow a protest yesterday in the capital, Luanda, calling on the country to decriminalise abortion, saying organisers have informed Governor Higinio Carneiro but received no reply.

AP

### Man found with human bones of dead albino

**LILONGWE** - Police in Malawi say investigations have revealed that human bones found with a man arrested in Lilongwe last week were those of a person with albinism, who died in Mchinji last year, a report says.

According to Malawi 24, police spokesperson Kaitano Lubirino said that preliminary findings indicated that the recovered bones were those of an albino person Spiriano Felix who was buried on April 20 last year, but his grave was tampered and exhumed by unknown criminals on May 6.

NEWS24

### Shooting in Libya's Tripoli during anti-militias demo

**TRIPOLI** - Gunmen opened fire in the Libyan capital on Friday as hundreds of people demonstrated against the presence of militias in Tripoli, where armed groups are key power brokers, witnesses said.

There were no immediate reports of casualties and the identities of the gunmen were not clear, but the shooting forced demonstrators off the streets.

AFP

### Zim 'bumper harvest': Minister credits land reforms

**HARARE** - Zimbabwean Agriculture Minister Joseph Made is confident the country will have a bumper harvest, amid revelations government has stopped the importation of grain.

Made predicts Zimbabwe will attain more than two million metric tons of grain, including small grains such as sorghum and millet.

"We predict that we will have food sustenance. The fact is that the crops as well as the quality of livestock pasture are looking good," said Made in an exclusive interview with News24.

News24

### South Sudan buys weapons during famine: UN report

**JUBA** - South Sudan's government is spending oil revenue on weapons as the country descends into a famine largely caused by President Salva Kiir's military campaign, a confidential UN report says.

The report obtained by AFP on Friday calls for an arms embargo on South Sudan -- a measure that has been backed by the United States but was rejected by the Security Council during a vote in December. AFP



## BRIEFS

## Canada apologises to men tortured in Syria

OTTAWA - Canada on Friday formally apologised to three Canadian men of Arab descent who said they had been tortured in Syria and blamed Canadian secret services for their ordeal.

The Liberal government also said it had agreed a cash settlement with Ahmad El Maati, Abdullah Almalki and Muayyed Nureddin, who had pressed their case for a decade.

Reuters

## Tensions show as Trump, Merkel meet for first time

WASHINGTON - Stark differences between President Donald Trump and German Chancellor Angela Merkel on everything from trade to immigration were in full view during an icy first meeting at the White House Friday.

In a frequently awkward joint press conference, Trump and Merkel showed little common ground as they addressed a host of thorny issues including NATO, defence spending and free trade deals.

AFP

## Rebels turn in first 140 weapons in peace deal

BOGOTA - Colombia's largest rebel group has handed over 140 weapons to United Nations observers as part of an historic peace agreement. Under the accord, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia agreed to turn over 30 per cent of its arsenal by March 1. But delays in setting up the 26 rural camps where nearly 7 000 rebels are now gathered meant not all the containers designed to hold the weapons were ready.

AP

## Denmark to extradite S Korea 'Rasputin' daughter

COPENHAGEN - Danish prosecutors said on Friday that they would extradite the daughter of Choi Soon-Sil, the woman at the centre of a corruption scandal that led to the impeachment of South Korea's president.

AFP

## Tillerson to face Chinese ire over blame for North Korea tensions

TOKYO - US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson arrived in China yesterday for what is likely to be a prickly visit, with Beijing angry at being told to rein in nuclear-armed North Korea and Washington repeatedly demanding it do more to control Pyongyang. China is also expected to voice its strong opposition to this month's deployment of a sophisticated US missile defense system in South Korea.

Tillerson issued the Trump administration's starkest warning yet to North Korea on Friday, saying that a military response would be "on the table" if Pyongyang took action to threaten South Korean and US forces. He was speaking in South Korea, the second leg of his first visit to Asia since taking office. AFP



## SUNDAYOBSERVER WORLD NEWS

The right place | The right Sunday

# TRUMP DEFIANT OVER WIRETAP ROW WITH BRITAIN

WASHINGTON - President Donald Trump defiantly refused to back down on Friday from his explosive claim that Barack Obama wiretapped his phones, and sidestepped any blame for the White House decision to highlight an unverified report that Britain helped carry out the alleged surveillance.

In brushing off the diplomatic row with perhaps America's closest ally, Trump also revived another: the Obama administration's monitoring of German Chancellor Angela Merkel's calls.

"At least we have something in common, perhaps," Trump quipped during a joint news conference with Merkel.

Merkel, who was making her first visit to the White House since Trump took office, looked surprised by the president's comment, which he



President Donald Trump defiantly refused to back down on Friday from his explosive claim that Barack Obama wiretapped his phones

appeared primed to deliver.

The Obama administration's spying infuriated Germany at the time and risked damaging the US relationship with one of its most important European partners.

Trump's unproven recent allega-

tions against his predecessor have left him increasingly isolated, with fellow Republican as well as Democratic lawmakers saying they've seen nothing from intelligence agencies to support his claim. But Trump, who rarely admits he's wrong, has

been unmoved, leaving his advisers in the untenable position of defending the president without any credible evidence.

On Thursday, spokesperson Sean Spicer turned to a Fox News analyst's contention that GCHQ, the British electronic intelligence agency, had helped Obama wiretap Trump. Fox News anchor Shepard Smith said on Friday that the network could not independently verify the reports from Andrew Napolitano, a former judge and commentator who has met with Trump.

The GCHQ vigorously denied the charges in a rare public statement, saying the report was "utterly ridiculous and should be ignored."

According to a Western diplomat, Britain's ambassador to Washington, Kim Darroch, had told the White House on Tuesday that Napolitano's assertions were not true. AP

## Have 5 kids not 3, Erdogan tells Turks in Europe

ANKARA - President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Friday urged Turks resident in Europe to have five children, telling the millions-strong diaspora they were the continent's "future" as a bitter dispute festered between Ankara and Brussels.

Turkey and Europe are locked in a diplomatic crisis after Germany and the Netherlands blocked Turkish ministers from campaigning for a "yes" vote in next month's referendum on expanding Erdogan's powers.

Erdogan has repeatedly accused EU states of behaving like Nazi Germany over what he sees as discrimination against Turks, in comments that have caused outrage across the continent.

"From here I say to my citizens, I say to my brothers and sisters in Europe... Educate your children at better schools, make sure your family lives in better



Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

areas, drives in the best cars and live in the best houses," said Erdogan. "Have five children, not three. You are Europe's future." "This is the best answer to the rudeness shown to you, the enmity, the wrongs," he said in a televised speech in Eskisehir, a city south of Istanbul.

Some 2.5 million Turkish citizens resident in Europe are eligible to vote in elections in their homeland. But millions more

people living in EU states have Turkish origins.

Erdogan, a father of four, has previously urged women in Turkey to have at least three children to help boost the population, in comments denounced by women's rights activists.

Last weekend, just days before the Dutch election, police in Rotterdam used horses and dogs to disperse pro-Erdogan protesters demonstrating against the ban on Turkish ministers.

Erdogan said there was no difference between the tactics used by the police "and the gladiators in ancient Rome".

Several days later, Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte saw off a challenge from Far-Right politician Geert Wilders at the ballot box, to the relief of other EU leaders.

But Erdogan said there was to be no reconciliation with The Hague. AFP

## 'Franco-British links will survive Brexit'

PARIS - Britain's Prince William pledged Friday that his country will retain close links with France despite Brexit, as he and his wife Kate began a two-day visit to Paris.

It is the prince's first official visit to the French capital since his mother Diana died there in a car crash in 1997.

William, who is second-in-line to the throne, and his wife are acting as goodwill ambassadors for Britain just as the country prepares to trigger the formal process of leaving the European Union.

At a reception for young French entrepreneurs to launch a celebration of Franco-British links called "Les Voisins" (Neighbours), the 34-year-old prince said the two countries had much in common.

"This partnership will continue despite Britain's recent decision to leave the European Union," William said.

"The depth and the breadth of our cooperation will not change."

The couple met French President Francois Hollande soon after arriving in the capital and yesterday they were due to meet victims of the November 2015 terror attack on the Bataclan concert hall in Paris.

The couple also attended a Six Nations rugby match between France and Wales at the Stade de France yesterday.

The trip comes as William faces criticism in the British media for missing a Commonwealth celebration to go skiing with friends.

AFP

## UN Haiti cholera fund still falls short despite British aid

WASHINGTON - A new appeal by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres for funding to help Haiti's cholera victims has fallen short, with only Britain responding to the call, UN officials said Friday.

With only two per cent of the needed \$400 million (R5

billion) raised, Guterres had written to all member-states last month to appeal for aid to Haiti, where more than 9 000 people died of cholera in a 2010 epidemic.

Pledging

Britain was the only country to come forward, pledging \$622 000.

That amount will be added to earlier contributions to the UN fund from South Korea, France, Liechtenstein, India and Chile -- totalling about \$2 million.

Canada and Japan have separately granted about \$7 million to help Haiti.

AFP



## THE RED PEN



Phila Dlamini Vilakati

## Diary of a strong teenage girl

Dear Diary...

I wonder if my life will ever get better than this.

Today I decided to walk five kilometres to church, and the rain decided to pour profusely. I got soaked—literally. It was like I was from getting baptised in the Nile River, yes, the same H2O that baby Moses floated down in the ancient days. I do not doubt God, so I trust everything is always according to his plan. The fact that I have never owned an umbrella and became drenched today was his plan.

Like it was his plan that my parents left when I was only seven. It was his plan to have them leave this shack for me, like it is his plan to have me sleep on an empty stomach today. Whatever the case I keep wondering if his plan for me is to ever get out of this mess. A mess I hardly comprehend. I don't understand why I deserve to be in this mess. Maybe his plan is to make me strong. The other kids at school who have both their parents seem weak. Perhaps it's the ham and cheese sandwiches they eat at break time when I drink water. Which reminds me; I need to get another one of these bottles from the trash bin. I hope I get a good Bulembu Mineral Water one. Those are my favourite. I often wonder if Naomi understands and appreciates the privilege of drinking in a Tupperware juice bottle.

My Sunday didn't go well at all, I had my last egg this morning. So apart from the baptism, I have nothing to eat for supper, hence I will do the usual: drink water. Compulsory fasting! I just remembered I had an English homework, but I have no candle so let me go ahead and do the stupid homework before sunset. Mrs. V always throws a tantrum if we don't do our homework, she doesn't even bother to actually find out more. I wonder if Naomi understands and appreciates that she can switch on the lights and do her homework at any time without having to worry about saving candles. Imagine my frustration during exam time.

I am so looking forward to the rice and beans they serve in the school kitchen tomorrow. On Tuesdays we usually have chicken.

Thank God for my dear friend Naomi who gives me her helping on top of mine. I am always sorted on week days where food is concerned. I wonder if Naomi appreciates the fact that she sometimes has fish, pork, mince, turkey and all.

I hope it doesn't rain tomorrow because I will have to take that long walk to see Aunt Rose at the market place. She isn't a very nice old woman but I absolutely appreciate her for taking in Mary, my younger sister. I am completely and utterly stressed each time I have to see her, but I need some cash. I need candles. I need toiletry.

The last time I was on my period Mrs. B. helped me out. She insisted I should let her know if I needed anything. I don't want to be a burden to her, she doesn't know my story anyway. I wonder if these teachers ever think if we are okay on a social basis, and most of all psychologically.

Nobody knows I tussled. I don't like to talk. Instead I write. I can say anything in my diary. Nobody knows why I skip school once a month. Nobody knows I am on treatment. Nobody knows exactly where I live and that I am actually my own mother.

Naomi has never realised that I was interested to come and visit. Nobody knows my parents when I was in Grade One. Nobody cares! Well, nobody cares! I am only in Form Two and will have to work hard to get out of this situation.

Dear diary, you know I try. I always write my dreams here. God knows, I deserve a brighter future, therefore I must work for it. That's what the principal said the other day during Assembly...

IF YOU ARE HARD ON YOURSELF, LIFE WILL BE EASY ON YOU. BUT IF YOU ARE EASY ON YOURSELF, LIFE WILL BE HARD ON YOU!

## Analysis &amp; opinion



BY MBONGENI MBONGO

## Is CABINET OVERWHELMED?



*I have wondered if our Cabinet is not distracted altogether, although if you ask me by what I would never tell you. Perhaps it is that they are tired. Perhaps they are running out of steam. Maybe, just maybe, they are lacking inspiration. It could be that towards the end of their terms, they are beginning to have other priorities, which are causing such a distraction.*

The question has to be asked if our Cabinet still has its eye on the big goal, let alone if they as individuals are the rightful people to deliver on the national vision of transforming this country to a first world status by 2022.

In order for this country to have a chance at achieving this ambitious target, or getting closer to it, we need ministers and politicians who appreciate that achieving that status depends heavily on what and how we do things now.

It is not what we do in the year 2022, as that can only mean the vision would have to be shifted to another year. This Cabinet was to help set the tone for achieving the target, and lay the background for the incoming Cabinet to usher us into an improved Swaziland by 2022.

But, with just over a year to the end of their term, one is getting a troubled sense that things are not progressing in the way we expect. In fact, I am beginning to get worried that Cabinet seems preoccupied with something else other than to deliver on their collective mandate, which is to ensure an efficient and vibrant government. I started having this sense that Cabinet is losing its focus when it failed to prioritise the State Funerals it had pronounced, for two former prime ministers of the crown. This shameful decision has not been explained, or justified by Cabinet—and probably because it never will be. The less said about Percy Simelane's attempt to defend this the better. In fact, I decided the day I read his comments in the paper that his responses did not warrant that we pay any attention to them.

Cabinet must have felt so embarrassed, I thought, they could not even conjure up a legitimate response. The government spokesperson, so often eloquent with his remarks, failed to spin this one. It left me dismayed.

Since then I have wondered if our Cabinet is not distracted altogether, although if you ask me by what I would never tell you. Perhaps it is that they are tired. Perhaps they are running out of steam. Maybe, just maybe, they are lacking inspiration. It could be that towards the end of their term, they are beginning to have other priorities, which are causing such a distraction.

My gut feel is that the Prime Minister needs to shoulder the blame for the inept performance that is coming from Cabinet, because so often he has been the one to lead from the front. So often, they look up to him. My sense, and I could be wrong, is that there is no one offering Cabinet a refreshing perspective to what they are doing now, hence it now seems as though everything is slacking.

Let me justify this position. Let us start with the issue of the travel documents, which, five months later, people are kept grounded because government does not have travel documents. Firstly, not only that we ran out of these, but that we were never told the truth. No one has ever bothered to inform the nation at the severity of this situation—so that people could plan too. Instead, the nation was told half-truths, and it led to so much frustration. Not only have other programmes been affected here; schools can't take trips; people are forced to cancel standing commitments and students studying outside of this country had to undergo this frustration at the South African High Commission, but there is no alternative, whatever that may be. The reality is that for five months, this government is without travel documents. This at the time people are travelling more and more is a major scandal. It is the kind of scandal for which people pay with their jobs. It is the kind of scandal for which heads roll. Nothing is rolling from Home Affairs, or at Hospital Hill. This past week, the minister informed Parliament that we have to wait till April before the travel documents arrive. I am not holding my breath. Last year when this madness started, we were told that passports would be available before Christmas; then it was just before New Year. Then they ran out of excuses and offered give monthly updates. Shameful.

I will not go into the argument of why in this day and age, when we are pursuing a first world status as a country, we still have to have a restrictive travel document. This government would never look that far. For now, I would only worry about how this came about, and what Cabinet did about it.

This travel documents shortage was a sign of the times. It was followed by the scandal of the State Funerals. Then it was the Christianity directive; Cabinet instructing all schools that it was changing the syllabus from Religious Education to Christianity. Just like that. Within a week or so of opening of schools. There was no suggestion that this was thought through, except that Cabinet had decided. There was no consideration of how this would be rolled out or in fact, the confusion that it would cause, if not an outright commotion. This change in the syllabus comes with a lot of things attached to it, such as readiness, preparedness and application. It also obviously comes with stationery, which needs to be considered before we dive into things headstrong.

But, Cabinet was not about to care. The decision was taken, and when the reality of what it meant to change the syllabus without the necessary dialogue, consultation and everyone's approval came, only then did they realise it would need to do more than force a change of syllabus.

The decision of course is not wrong. The change is accepted as sensible. But, the manner it is being effected is outrageously wrong. It is the kind of decision for which people pay with their jobs. It is the kind of decision for which heads roll. Except being made to attend the State Funerals Phineas Magagula is still the minister in charge of Education and Training.

As if this was not enough, Cabinet woke up to another great decision—the SiSwati language directive. This was announced by the Prime Minister, who said that children in primary

schools were to learn SiSwati. This is a good decision. But just as the Christianity directive, it came like a bolt of lightning and did not take anything else into consideration.

For me the signs that something is not going right is the issue of the E20m set aside in Martin Dlamini's budget for the Christianity syllabus. This is clearly an attempt to make up for the decision and the manner it is being imposed. It is in my books a bribe for a bad decision. It is an attempt to silence the public from criticising this decision.

More importantly, this E20m is to pay for the cost of changing this syllabus, especially in the manner that it is being shoved down the education system. It is to pay for the books and other educational materials that have to be replaced as a consequence. It is a damning indication that this decision was not thought through.

This is evidence that Cabinet is slacking so badly they are taking taxpayers' money to finance their bad decisions. This, with a year to go, is shocking. At this point, you expect that Cabinet would be fired up and improving service delivery. What we are getting out of them is not what we deserve, or what we need with the economy needing individuals who are focused on delivery.

The question therefore is what has happened? What is preoccupying them? Is this the end of the road for many of them in politics? Should the appointing authority bother with them? I have mentioned just a few incidents this past few months, and we have a year to go, what lies ahead is frightening if this is anything to go by.

The elections can't come soon enough.





# SWAZILAND HOSTS SADC ANNUAL QUALITY AWARDS

The Kingdom of Swaziland was honoured to host the SADC Annual Quality Awards held at the Royal Villas on Wednesday.

Whilst the Voice of Business and her members was also invited to witness this prestigious event that aimed at recognising and appreciating organisations and individuals who are contributing to quality advancement in all sectors of business, it is unfortunate that the invitation was received late and not enough members of the private sector could witness this event.

The concept of Quality Awards was born way back in the 1980s by the Deming Prize (the first of its kind) and the EFQM Excellence and Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Awards. After the success of the Deming Prize in Japan, many local, national and transnational quality awards have been established.

The SADC Annual Quality Awards forms the second level of recognition within the SADC Region for demonstration of quality improvement efforts. The first level is at member states level where all SADC member states are expected to implement the Awards. Historically Swaziland has not taken part, because we have no National Quality Awards. The Voice of Business was informed that the Ministry of Commerce Industry and Trade (MCT&I) together with other relevant stakeholders were putting in place logistics to ensure the inaugural Swaziland National Quality Awards later

on in the year.

Given the wide spectrum of industry, the awards are classified into various distinct categories aligned to specific operational standards. Some of the categories for which awards were conferred were the Quality Systems of the Year and the Product of the Year awards, aiming to recognise businesses that have product, quality systems, processes and procedures that are in line with local as well as international best practice. These businesses use quality principles as a tool for competitiveness for national and regional economic development. Zimbabwe was the overall winner, followed by Namibia as they took five of the seven awards. These winners are expected to be ambassadors for the awards both in their domestic economies and in the region. They have the duty to represent the SADC Annual Quality Awards and keep doing more to continue to stand as deserving winners.

But the main focus of today's edition, is that during the Dinner, it was noted that a number of African countries do not have comprehensive Quality Infrastructure Policies in place to ensure supply of safe and quality products in the market. The SME Sector, especially, faces formidable challenges at the technical and quality level, over and above dealing with other issues such as logistics, financial challenges and management issues.

Hence, in order to develop and produce products that are competitive and meet technical regulations in the regional and international markets, the industry needs services of accredited national/regional quality infrastructure institutions that can provide the required independent evidence of compliance to quality and technical requirements. The same quality infrastructure also needs to support the industry in developing these products. It is imperative to put in place measures and institutional mechanisms to ensure that all goods and services for domestic and international markets meet the required quality, environment, health and safety standards through appropriate production technologies and other value addition processes. This will significantly increase the producers, processors, traders and consumers' safety, health and welfare; thereby strongly contributing to government's sustainable development efforts to eradicate poverty through wealth creation and stimulate prosperity for all. This is in view of the fact that in the present age of globalisation, market access requires compliance to domestic and international requirements through the adoption of internationally recognised systems. This entails the development and promotion of internationally recognised infrastructure that is compliant to the production of competitive, safe, reliable and cost-effective goods and services.

This is a key prerequisite for enhancing the industry's competitiveness and export market share in tradable goods and services. There is, therefore, an urgent need to protect the rights of the consumers and establish a strong and effective regulatory mechanism using accredited laboratories, certification bodies and inspection agencies to control the use of sub-standard products and services in the market in terms of World Health Organisation (WTO), Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)/Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures. The changing face of international trade has led to the requirement by manufacturers and processors to have a harmonised, single, globally accepted technical standards and conformance tests. Poorly designed technical regulations and standards have been identified as a barrier to deeper trade and integration in Africa.

With the different Regional Economic Communities (SADC, COMESA), African countries face the challenge of variation in certification, testing, inspection practices, and standards used by different countries on the basis of the WTO obligation, and rights. The divergence of standards and technical regulations make trade between African countries difficult, contentious and expensive, hence low intra-African trade.

Therefore, an accessible and efficient Regional Quality Infrastructure Policy is needed to support and strengthen

businesses' ability to improve the quality of goods and services. In addition, a regional approach of harmonised Common Free Trade Area will increase competitiveness of goods and services, and promote sustainable development by enhancing innovation and transfer technology. This will enhance our businesses' capability to effectively engage in trade on the national, regional and international levels, and make a direct contribution to achieving economic growth. Moreover, enablers, such as institutional capacity building and cooperation, are central to achieving this continental objective. Having stated the purposes of the Quality Awards, the Voice of Business believes that through Swaziland's participation, our SME's, in particular, will get to stretch themselves to deliver goods and services that are of sustainable quality, enabling them to penetrate new markets and to withstand the fierce competition that exists around the globe. Swaziland has the potential of exporting more goods made in the country only if it would comply with internationally accepted quality standards. The Voice of Business looks forward to the Standards, Quality, Accreditation and Metrology (SQAM) institutions to raise more awareness to businesses in Swaziland about the importance of developing standards and adhering to such standards in order to increase the level of Swazi exports.

## Will women's rights ever be recognised?



BY Comfort Mabuza

March 8, saw the commemoration of the International Women's Day. As can be expected, Swaziland also participated by hosting this day at the International Trade Fair in Manzini.

We seem to be always excited by these International commemorations, even when there are pressing issues needing urgent attention locally. Passing the Sexual Offences Bill remains a dream yet we seem to be forever carried away with winds of such celebrations. Women in this country are not adequately represented in decision making positions, even though they are in majority. Take the teaching profession for an example, dominated by women, but when considering the number of head teachers, you will be disappointed that it is still male dominated.

Think also of the nursing profession which has been home for women for years, the few males that joined the profession were quickly elevated to managerial positions jumping the line. As for inheritance rights, the girl child continues to be left out while the boy child

remains the main beneficiary (*indlalifa*). While there are still debates regarding heir (*inkhosana*) who is always the male figure who remains a custodian not necessarily the one to inherit the family estate traditionally. Why do we continue this trend when we should be embracing equality which is affirmed by the Constitution which the supreme law of the land?

### GIRL CHILD FOREVER DISCRIMINATED

Those who have sired and mothered only baby girls are forever worried about inheritance issues, when family discussions are held. It is very rare to have girls benefit from family assets in inheritance rights, and this remains a big problem within the traditional set-up. We have read disturbing accounts regarding family wars where even uncles are dragged into such inheritance rifts to ensure that girls are never beneficiaries.

Just as if that is not enough, when a woman gets married one is exposed to ill-treatment where your in-laws will make it a point that you do not enjoy the benefits of your husband fully if he passes on.

We certainly need to balance up the scales and ensure that women are seen as full humans enjoying all the entitlements without discrimination and segregation.

The girl-child should be seen enjoying her rights of being human and no one should dictate terms and conditions around inheritance rights to her

seclusion.

We come from a terrible history where the girl-child has been sacrificed even in attaining education, just because the boys were always seen as better to continue the family name, whilst she on the other hand was born to leave her own family to go add numbers in her in-laws. We have destroyed such great potential just because of being so gender blind and use our biases to favour men.

### WOMEN IN POLIGAMOUS RELATIONS

Swazis respect their traditions and customs with fanfare and religiosity. One issue that has continued to be practised is polygamous relations. Traditionally in a polygamous marriage the senior wife remains the most important wife and the rest are basically seen as ordinary wives who should recognise her seniority status.

Depending on the status of a given clan, *Indlalifa* (the heir) comes from the senior wife.

There has been an argument regarding status of women who come from Royalty in some instances, where she is quickly elevated to seniority status because of her blue blood. Well we can go to town arguing about this arrangement, but the undeniable reality is that we are talking about human beings who should be treated equally by virtue of being human.

What remains even a great challenge within the Swazi traditional value system is the pivotal role played by pater-

nal aunts, who continue to wield so much power in their own families. Aunts always call shots on family decisions because their voice carries much weight (*livi labo lidvuna*).

There is need to educate ourselves about the status of women married in polygamous families, because there is some injustices when it comes to administration of the estates.

The family (*lusendo*) holds meetings after the husband is long gone and this tends to create more family rifts as some wives end up unjustly treated by some decisions taken regarding the distribution of the estate. Unfortunately very few men plan their lives accordingly. Women within a polygamous relationship do need to discuss such issues because once the husband is no more, inheritance rights of the wives and their children are violated with impunity.

### FAMILY ESTATES AND WOMEN

Depending on the type of marital status, family estates are handled by the Master of the High Court, who by law is responsible for distribution and administration of such estates. It has always puzzled me that families are often called to such meetings to confirm the status of women beneficiaries.

There seems to be always doubts about the status of women, who have to fight wars to get what rightfully belongs to them. There are moments when some children who were never known, who mushrooms after a thunderstorm claiming their in the estate of the late

Women who might have worked so

hard for the betterment of the estate are given a raw deal as they forego certain portion of the family assets to cater for these illegitimate children by the way.

While we do admit that such children have rights to needing protection but why should this be at the expense of the muscle and toils of the women? Imagine the poor women who might have worked so hard to improve the welfare of the family, ensuring that they build quite a reasonable estate, only to discover these hidden children who just appear from nowhere. It is always the family that fights for the recognition of such children. Perhaps it is high time that people write their will testament while still alive to ensure that such things are discussed way beforehand. We certainly have violated women rights during the distribution of estates and this is a great frustration.

### SINGLE WOMEN VIEWED NEGATIVELY

Whether by default or design, single women's rights continue to be violated with impunity by almost every institution.

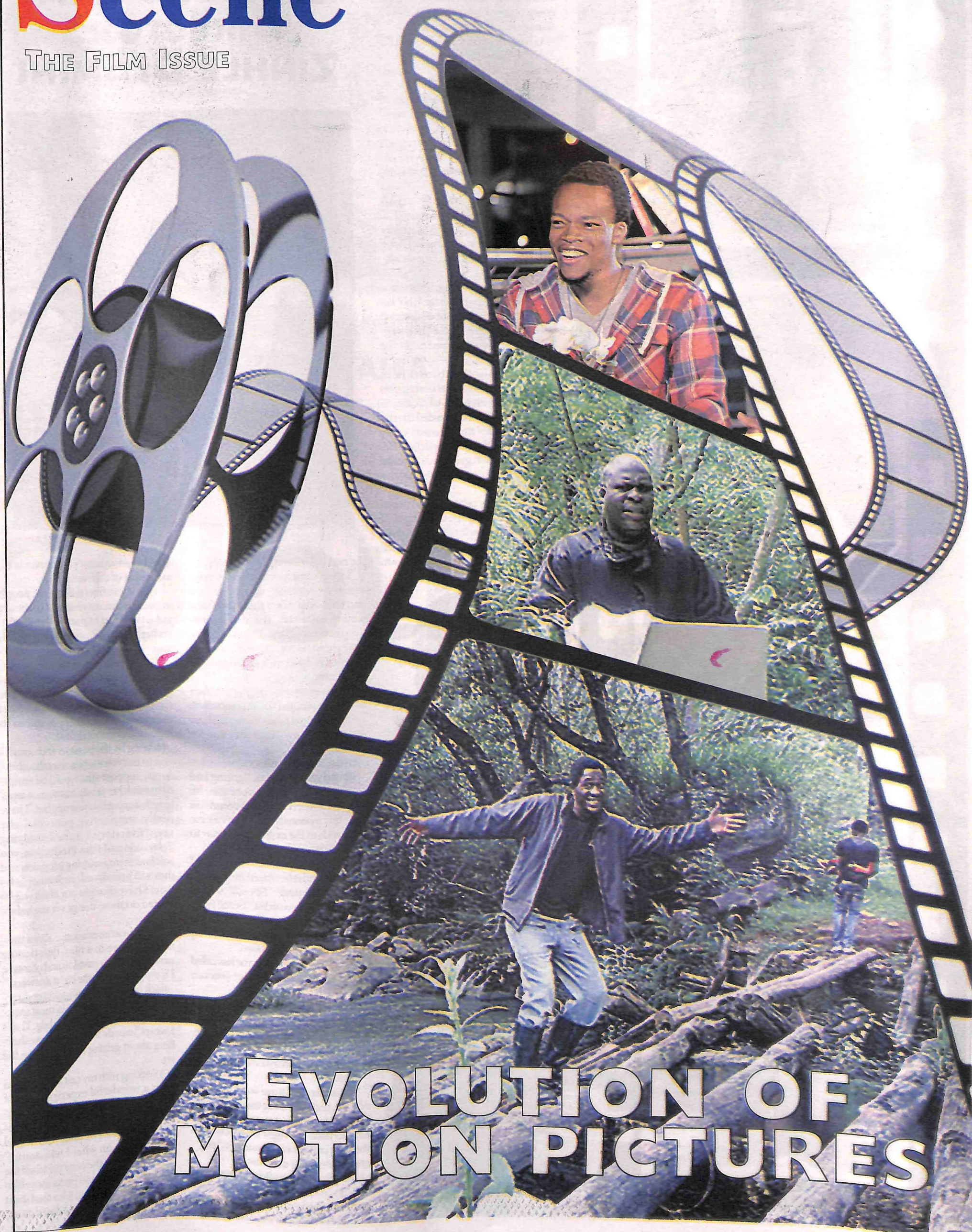
As for their assets, they have accumulated, there are always vultures including even their own families standing ready to pounce on them like hungry hyenas should death strike. Unless they protect themselves by writing a will testament, they are forever vulnerable.

Accessing land in Swazi nation land for instance, they still cannot acquire it easily unless there is a male figure in the background to seek permission on their behalf.



SundayObserver  
**Scene**

THE FILM ISSUE



EVOLUTION OF  
MOTION PICTURES





Since 2014, The Film Lab Initiative, a mentorship and skills transfer project, has trained well over 50 aspiring filmmakers with 15 of these going on to produce their own short films over a 10 week period.

As we arrive on the set of *Liphupho Lami* their first instalment of a trio of films, everyone is equally impressed to find a petit female director, Zinhle Dlamini, calling the shots on this 30 strong cast and crew. Under the mentorship of Samkeliso Nxumalo, the final year Limkokwing student has been working tirelessly through various technical elements in preparation for this day.

"I wanted the final product to remain true to the vision of the writer while at the same time cleverly weaving my own visualisation to create what I hope will become a masterpiece," she chuckles.

Originally from Fontotje, an obscure village in the rolling hills of the Hhohho region, this 25-year-old ambitious young woman says media has always been her first love and specifically the audio-visual arts.

"I always knew I was born to be in the arts industry. My father never grows tired of telling everyone who cares to listen how I always demanded that he 'puts me insider' the television every evening when the family watched TV. Apparently I'd even spice up my demand with a tantrum or two," recounts a bashful Zinhle.

This is clearly a path she is prepared to travel no matter the challenges. "I am not seeing myself sitting on a chair in the office all day long. I see myself owning a production company, I am

the next Tyler Perry," she giggles.

"I have learnt to work under pressure as we normally wake up at 4am and only sleep when that day's final scene is in the can. This can be anything between 12 and 18 hours a day. If we are on set for 12 hours, then we all get excited that we had a short day," says Zinhle.

"On set everyone has given it their best in preparation for this moment. Everything now rests on me, and my mentor, to get this right once and for all.

From the art director's vision, make-up and special effects, lighting and sound; everyone has done their bit and now everything depends on this moment," she sighs as she nods to the assistant director to call it.

"Roll camera!" "Rolling" responds the cinematographer. "Roll Sound" "Speed!" shouts the sound recordist. "Scene eight, take one. Nomzamo marking off a day in calendar...in three, two, one and action!!"

The assistant director has called it. The set is so quiet you can hear a pin drop.

The only action is now in front of the camera where the cast delivers a stellar performance, until "and Cut!!" shouts the frustrated assistant director.

"It was my first time working with a crowd, and such a big team, so it was a bit frustrating because you would have to issue the right instruction to the right crew or cast member," elaborates the young director.

*Liphupho Lami* couldn't have been difficult to relate to as it is a subject matter that goes to the heart of the

world of an artist, or any human being in pursuit of a dream.

"This short film reflects us, people in the arts industry, since it is about a girl who wants to pursue her dreams yet her family is unsupportive," Zinhle says.

"The common question from parents, and guardians, is where are you going to get a job? I hope *Liphupho Lami* will be an eye opener to most parents as this industry is still in its infancy," explains Zinhle.

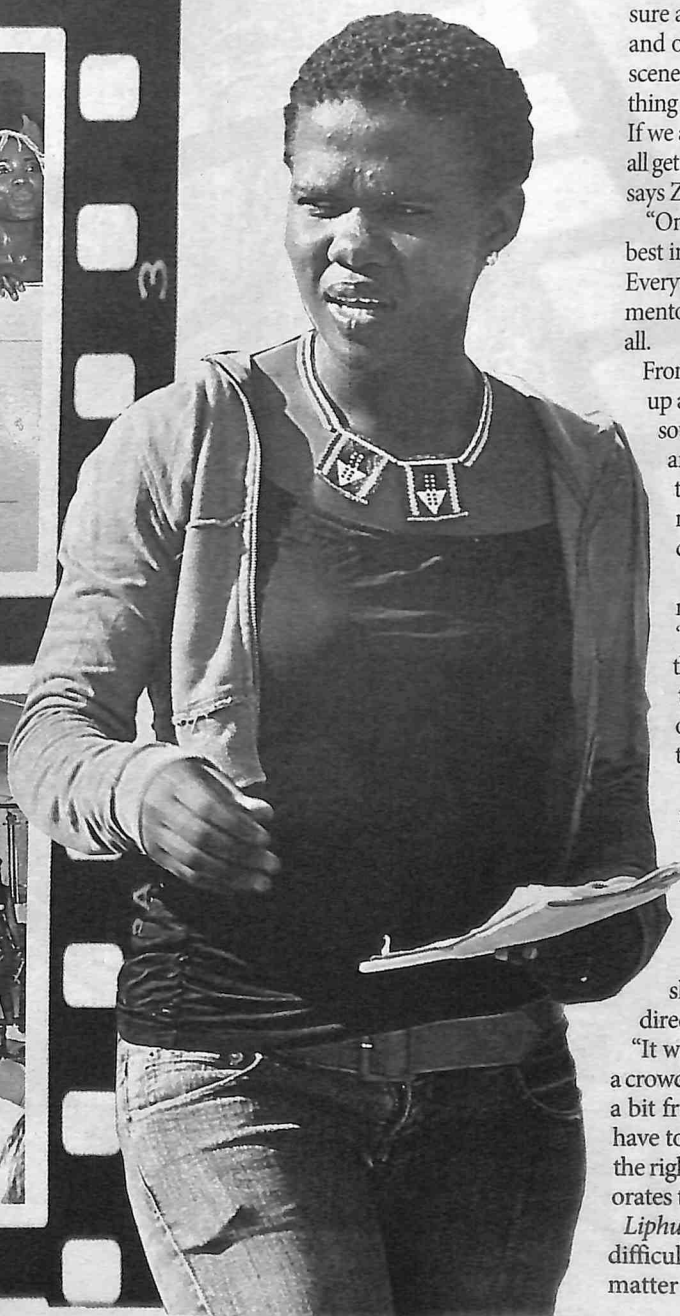
Judging by the passion and conviction in her voice when she talks about family support, one would be tempted to think her family has been at arms' length during this journey but "I have really supportive parents," she says. "Eversince I started studying Television and Film Production, you will find them watching television and they will proudly ask each other 'who would have thought our child will be able to do these things we see before us?"

They sometimes ask me about mistakes they see in a film, questioning what causes such mistakes and of course I have to provide the right answers."

Back on set, the crew assistant director just screamed the crews most anticipated phrase. "Scene in the bag. That's a wrap!" words that get all crew shuffling about getting ready to leave the set.

"Working with my cast and crew has been a wonderful experience as the film wouldn't have been a success without each and everyone's effort, especially my mentor director who helped me improve on what I was doing," Dlamini says as the crew turns off the lights, rolls cables and packs away film equipment in readiness for a final short meeting at the end of the day's shoot.

## LIPHUPHO LAMI DIRECTOR; ZINHLE DLAMINI







## TV AND FILM MASTER MIND; SAVIOR KAKAMA

His passion for design and presentation is evident in what he wears and his mannerism as every gesture seems calculated and in sync with his thoughts.

He dons a combination of colours that few men would dare to wear, let alone at the same time. But true to his words, the colourful nature of his attire is a true reflection of this bubbly personality. It seems Savior Kakama is bent on turning the seemingly mundane subject of art direction into a conversation worthy of a thesis.

"I am the sort of person who sees beauty in filth," he says.

Savior is quick to substantiate what seems to be just a blab so far. He talks of his choice of location for one of the films.

"I argued with a whole team over one of the houses I selected for a lead character. I remember how depressed the director of the film was when we went home the weekend before the shoot.

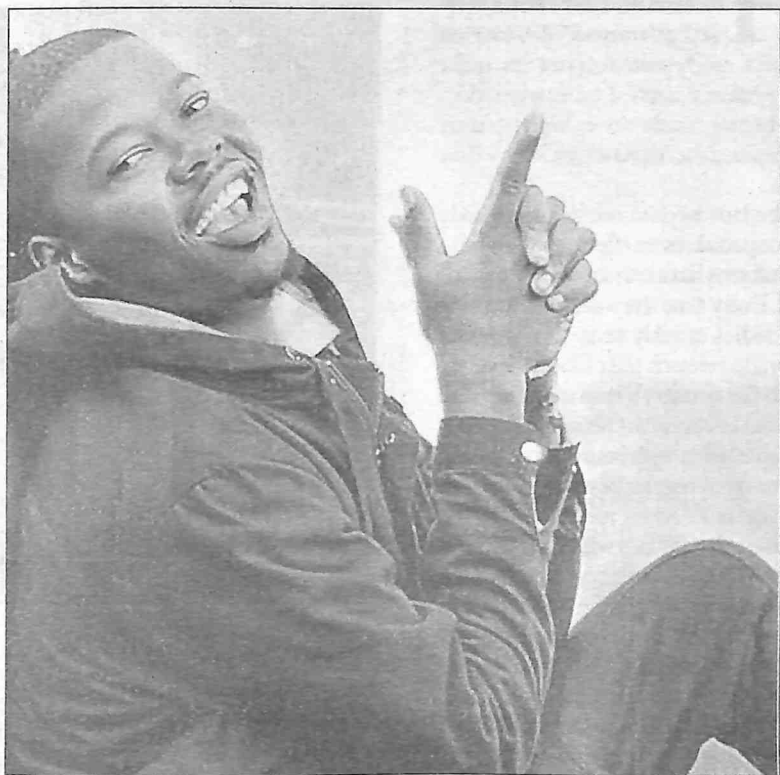
Everyone said the place was a little extreme even for the character that we were trying to portray. Having the ability to put oneself in a space and envision how to turn it into an authentic world for your character, is the core ingredient for great art direction."

The art department worked their magic, rearranging furniture and dressing the space with character appropriate knickknacks.

When the rest of the team arrived for filming, no one could believe this was the same space. "I had almost caused a rift between the director and director," says Savior, smiling with satisfaction. "Looking at the director's face, we were convinced of the immense talent of the team which included international photographer Ephile Sibanyoni."

"When I watch a movie, I can tell you whether or not I want to continue watching it just by looking at the character's world and how the characters fit in," chuckles the flamboyant art director.

"It is important that characters are believable in terms of dress code and they fit in their worlds perfectly. Art



direction, which includes designing the worlds, costumes, make-up and props are such an integral part of any film. If this is ignored, well, the film falls flat as well," explains Savior.

Various colourful lights illuminate the White House Club, giving the illusion one is floating at Disney's dance movies shoot.

You can tell that each crew member is both excited and nervous. No one wants to drop the ball in this first ever local dance movie. The cinematographer, director and mentor are having one last quick discussion before the mentor booms "quite on set!"

Costumes on, some cast members are enjoying final touches of make-up while others are nervously murmuring their lines before the camera rolls. The now bare footed Kakama and his team are making their final touch of magic with the already glittering club, putting colourful curtains behind the stage to match the lashing lights. They seem to work until the last minute, nothing must be out of place for this team. They are on their toes until Savior steps aside, waves his hands about

shouting "Bunandzi!" a word he uses often confirming his satisfaction with the product.

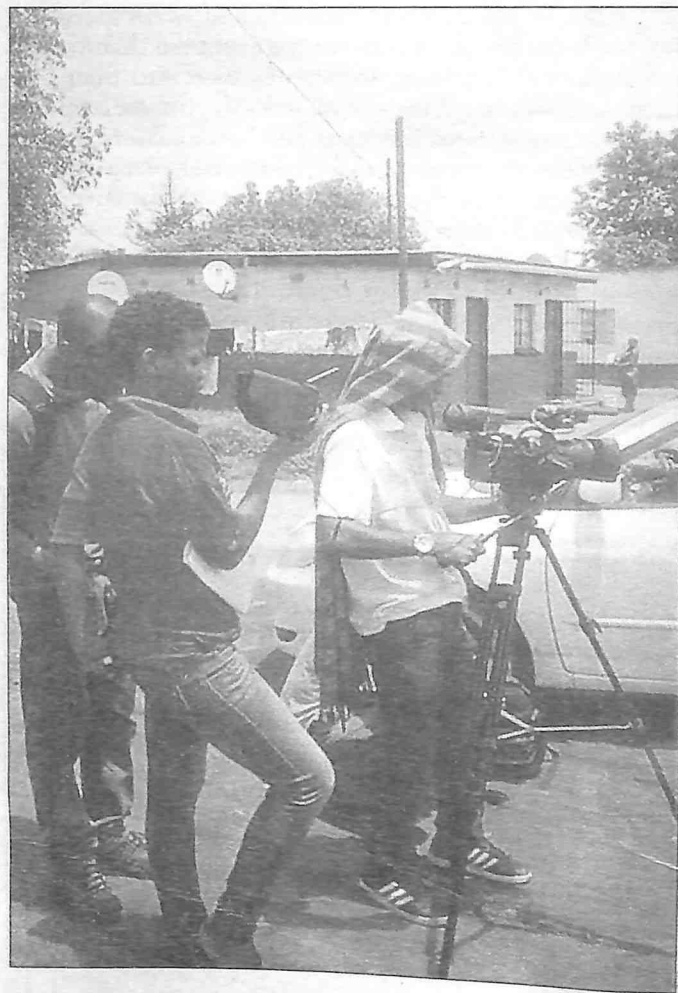
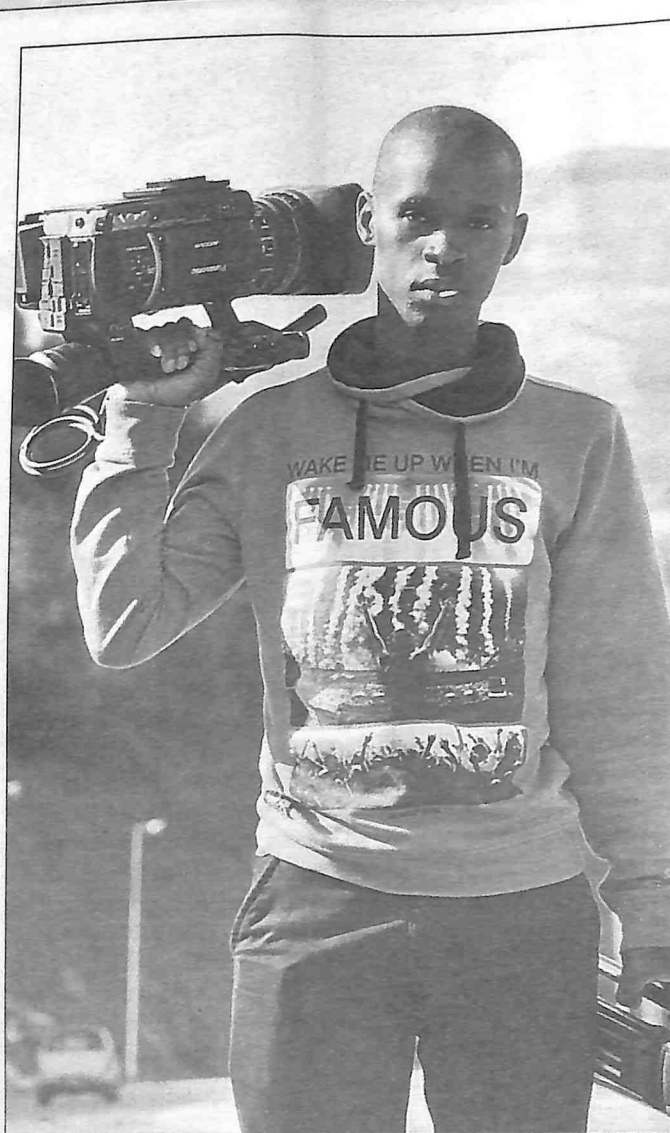
"Set designing is about creating a space that doesn't draw attention to itself but instead enhance the authenticity of the space. Often it brings out a certain je ne sais quoi," beams the elegant Kakama.

"What's important as an art director is reading the script and connecting with the story emotionally and putting yourself in every character's world."

I remember reading the 'Hobbit' before seeing the 'Lord of the Rings' and when I eventually watched the movies, everything was almost the same as I had imagined it," recalls the art director.

He speaks of Peter Jackson's trilogy one of the best examples of great art direction. He cites other films such as 'the Avatar' which rely heavily on CGI, as some that are also heavily vested in art direction.

"Art direction can even go to the level of creating worlds that do not exist because, let's face it, there are films such as 'Avatar' and 'The Lord Of The



Rings' where the world itself is the centre of the story. Then you know you have your work cut out for you as the art department."

One can believe that art direction is about set dressing while it involves the visual aspects of film making including costume.

"We worked so hard on creating the Sihlongonyane family in 'Human' without relying on what they were saying or doing."

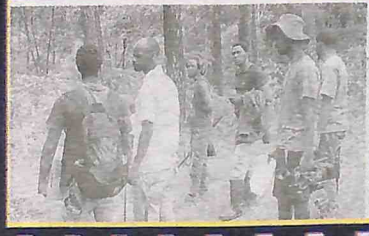
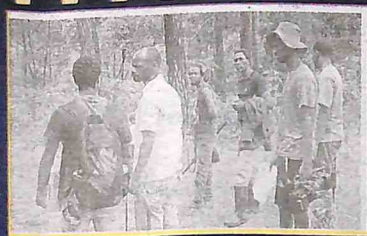
We used costumes to show who they are and how they see them-

selves fit in the community giving them neat, vintage and conservative clothing," Savior explains.

"Creating worlds that doesn't exist where you don't have an immediate reference and putting those creations and visions in visual."

There is no visual reference you just have talented people creating those worlds from their minds and that is the beauty of art directing," says Kakama before saying "Bunandzi, done deal!"





## COVER STORY

### EU FILM FESTIVAL

**B**efore the arrival of the EU Film Festival (EUFF), the Swazi film industry had almost nothing it could point at to convince everyone that Swaziland had the talent to produce 'quality' films.

Even though those working in the filmmaking industry have always known that the spirit of greatness lives within them, everyone else seemed to believe otherwise. Every corner we turned as Swazis all we ever seemed to hear was how inferior we were, accompanied by dismissive suggestions that the Swazi film industry did not exist. The arrival of the EU Film Festival (EUFF) has been a game changer for the Swazi film industry and art. Not only has it taken the existence of the industry out of the shadows and brought it into the light, it has also served to confirm two fundamental truths: That Swazi talent is inferior to no one, and that Swaziland can produce quality films.

To the uninitiated, the EU Film Festival is an annual cultural event that brings together Europeans and Swazis to celebrate the bond that exists between the European Union and the Kingdom of Swaziland. Showcasing short films from Europe and Swaziland, the festival seeks to promote cultural understanding between European and Swazi cultures, as well as support the development of the Swazi filmmaking industry. Initiated in 2014, the festival has, over the past three years, facilitated the production of seven local films; has empowered 50 aspiring filmmakers with filmmaking knowledge; has provided 15 'in development' filmmakers with the opportunity to produce their first professional film; and has provided work experience to about 80 actors and industry technicians who have previously lacked the opportunity to practice their chosen craft. Today we are celebrating other home brewed films, *Human* and *Liphupho Lami* (My Dream).



The crew of *Human* preparing for shoot.



Setsabile doing her effects

## FROM THE SETSABILE TSELA: MAKE-UP AND SPECIAL EFFECTS ARTIST

**W**ho would have thought we'd live to see authentic ageing, third degree burns, scars, severed limbs, pimples and blood flow on our screens.

**H**ave you seen the sexy Janet Jackson on Tyler Perry's *Why did I get married?* Matt maroon lipstick nicely pasted on vast lips, make up perfectly applied on flawless skin, eyebrows nicely done, high volume lashes and the Mohawk seals the whole look.

The lady behind our films, the lady who specialises on effects, the lady who transforms faces into something incredible. Every time she walks by, I am sure the ladies quickly revisit the powder room to retouch their faces to level up with the country's stop make-up and special effects artist Setsabile Tselu.

Table laden with countless make-up items from regular powder to Yardley mascaras to Avon matt lipsticks, lip glosses, elegant face wipes, classy large make-up cases with drawers. As if the table is not enough, the floor is neatly laid with fancy fabrics and more of face sprays, lavish nail polishes, all sorts of make-up brushes and loofas.

It's clear this is not your typical make-up artist and we can't wait to see cast members being transformed to look like Hollywood A-list celebrities.

"I fell in love with beauty and fashion when I was young and I remember I made my cousins my guinea-pigs. I would steal my mother's face powder and sponges and get down to work. Obviously they would laugh at me after seeing the results in the mirror," chuckles the cheerful make-up artist.

"Straight long black eyeliner that goes all the way to the ears and so many mishaps that I observe on the street make me want to offer make-up classes for the dear ladies," says Tselu.

For a while we feel outdated as we thought that was the right way to do one's eyebrows. "Rather keep your eyebrows as they are," Setsabile reasons.

Her obsession with make-up exposed her to the film sector. Film special-effects is a far cry from the frivolous 'make me pretty' world of simple make up. In Setsabile, the local film industry has scored the jackpot. Who would have thought we'd live to see authentic ageing, third degree burns, scars, severed limbs, pimples and blood flow. This is just a tiny bit of her resume in



the local scene.

"I watch a lot of horror movies, I used to be so scared as a kid but I realise now that such films are not pure entertainment for me. I learn a lot from them, I don't cringe at blood and gore, I actually pause and study the image. 'Wrong Turn' has to be one of my favourite films because of the craftsmanship on that film," explains the make-up and special effects artist.

A couple of sips of chilled Orange juice, as if to gear herself up for the challenging work that lies ahead. She confesses "I just love juice and cocktails, that's my coffee."

On the second film, 'Blessed', she brings on her A-game with beauty make up for the extras. The Nyakatfo resident had manna from Hollywood and glamour as some had the chance to have the taste of the red carpet feel as they lined up for Setsabile's touch. "Ngitawufana nebantfu bakuGenerations yini mntfwanami" (Am I going to look like those people on Generations?) asks an excited woman of Nyakatfo as Setsabile neatly applies lipstick on her. In this instance make-up becomes a tool that can easily transform and up lift one's mood and confidence. It is evident as the old woman walks away with a spring in her step. Tselu thrilled the residents further when

she made a 30-year-old cast member to look like a 50-year-old man. When the actor finally sits in front of the rolling camera, many of the young extras can't help but be envious of this seamless transformation and the opportunity to experience old age, if only for a moment.

There are endless possibilities in the craft of make-up and special effects. With each film, he Film Lab Initiative has managed to push boundaries with Setsabile leading the way in the SFX department.

Have you ever wondered why in the movies people step out of the shower with their make-up still intact? We will pardon you for thinking they didn't actually get in the water. With the prevalence of technology these days, one can never know. When SCENE finally asks the make-up artist, she just gives a huge smile and patiently explains the trick behind this look. "I want to see the film industry in the country grow to the level of Hollywood and to know that I was part of that epic progress," says Setsabile. We let her continue with her impressive work on a host for a talk show that the Film Lab Initiative is producing for the local public broadcaster. We just look at her in amazement knowing that the film industry has landed itself a big fish in Setsabile.





# SHADOWS AND INTO THE LIGHT

## WE WANT TO PLAY ALL THE GAMES! - THE DIRECTOR

“I speak through my clothes” if these words by world renowned academic and fashion designer Umberto Eco’s are anything to go by, then I am lost in translation as I try to understand the playful statements on the various T’s this first time director wears on set.

Manqoba Shongwe’s demeanour is serious and borders dangerously on cold as he regularly recesses to caucus with his directing mentor and actors. With an air of dissatisfaction and a hunger for perfection these ‘side bars’ seem to take a bit of a serious and an intellectual tone that thankfully yields the right results each time.

An avid lover of computer gaming who enjoys nothing more than a can of cool Fanta grape at the end of each shoot, Manqoba seems to possess contrasting attributes to direct “Human”; an intense and sometimes tear jerking human rights film. “I am an eclectic. I love a lot of things both serious and very playful” he says, as he casually dips his margarine pasted white bread into a steaming cup of coffee.

Even as we enjoy our hot beverages on this chilli night, there are sporadic technical conversations between the director and his cinematographer.

“This is my favourite meal. It brings back such great childhood memories” he chuckles upon seeing the shock on my face and I openly label this as “sikhaya”. It would seem I am not the only one surprised at this casual and carefree side to Manqoba as his Mentor Director also quips “I wouldn’t do that in front of people.”

We all laugh at the gleeful smile on this young director who seems to be in heaven if only for a minute as he takes another bite.

He spent his formative years participating in minor roles in school plays never knowing that this was only the beginning of a journey that would place him at the helm of big film productions in his later years.

Talking about subject matter of his film, Manqoba is quick to say he is simply inspired by “... a great story. Whether you are a director getting a good script or a scriptwriter seeing life



unfold. That generally is an inspiration,” he says.

He admits though that no matter how great the story is, any director’s interpretation will have a nuance of their personality, experience or understanding of the subject. The casting is one moment that stands out, he says, referring to his choice for the main actor ‘Phiwayinkhosi’.

“When I had to choose my actor for Phiwayinkhosi, I felt we needed to have a bubbly kid playing that role regardless of the character’s circumstance. There was something that resonated with a part of me; I couldn’t put my finger on it. It was just a ‘knowing’ and Emmanuel Hillary’s aura was just right,” he adds.

As we continue our chat, it is clear why a cheerful child would appeal to Manqoba as his alter-ego slowly emerges and it is something akin to the playful, childlike Disney personalities we watch on television. It is a side that many here on set rarely see.

The film has really taken a lot out of the director and his cast and from whom he demands a stellar performance and product.

For the director the most important element was to capture the story right, and interpret it in a way that will foster social transformation. A story is for nothing else if not to yield a positive mind shift in audiences. These are Manqoba’s sentiments when he talks about the film’s message.

“It’s a reflection of our society. Our shortcomings in the way we treat those that are different from us. It is a story that needed to be told and I can only hope I did it justice as a director. I hope

people walk away from this film having learnt something about acceptance.”

So, can we hope to get more stereotype busting, mindset shifting films from this up and coming director?

“I’d like to direct one of two types of films. Something like ‘Fight Club’ or ‘Inception’; something which leaves audiences with their jaws on the floor because of the crazy twists in the plot. They never see what’s coming and are still somewhat in the dark about the true nature of events.

Then because I am such a huge fan of superhero films, I’d like to direct one. Something like ‘Captain America: Civil War’.”

Manqoba’s love for the industry and desire for its development is unquestionable as he mentions rather ‘unknown’ directors as his inspiration.

“I have quite a number of directors that I think are great but I look up to directors such as Ryan Connolly and our very own Samkeliso Nxumalo, whose time and effort is channelled towards teaching others the craft, for the betterment of the industry as a whole”.

As we wrap up the interview and he takes a final sip of his now cold and oily Milo with soggy bits of bread, Manqoba promises that as time goes by he will treat his fans to a Biopic of himself.

“I think that things that happen to you as a person are probably things that impact you the most and what you most want to share with the world. It’s like a piece of your soul, and nothing could be more sincere than that,” he states.

## MAIN CHARACTER OF ‘HUMAN’, NQABA

Nqaba Tsela has been on our film industry for some time and his talent is simply the best. Having watched the film HUMAN, he is one of the best actors the kingdom has.

The Mbabane born actor had always dreamt of being on the silver screen portraying someone and exploring worlds beyond his imagination and with art, strategy. Yes, he has achieved that. “Working with Kenneth Nkosi and Leon Schuster was my one of his biggest achievement in the film industry.” The 33-year-old actor is looking forward to own his studio.

“As I have been in this industry for such a long time, I think now it’s about spreading my wings and fly higher to achieve the impossible.

My future plans for this industry is to own a studio one day and make things bigger and better and help young and upcoming artists to achieve their goals and their dreams,” he states.

Tsela believes that in art you need to be true to what you are doing.

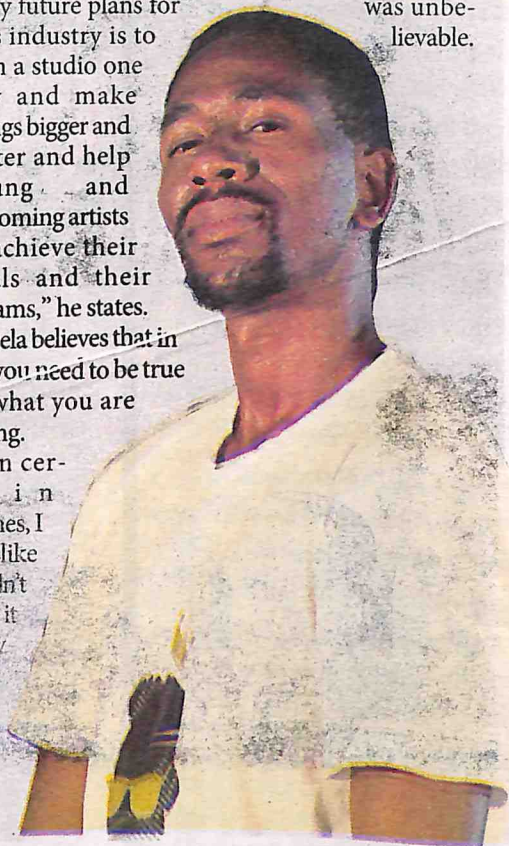
“In certain scenes, I felt like I didn’t give it my all

and that frustrated me because I felt like I would have done better if I wasn’t worn-out due to lack of sleep and that falls under my difficult moment on set.”

He strongly urges young people to study and learn more about art and archiving their dreams.

### Memorable moments on set

I can’t choose a specific one but the whole creative process of the film still lingers on my mind. The most memorable moment on set I have to say everyday was memorable because I worked with an amazing team, talented team both cast and crew. We worked like one big family it was as if we were from the same mother because we joked occasionally and the chemistry was so good, it was unbelievable.





Ayanda Dlamini

## WRITER'S NOTE:



As we approach March 27, which marks the beginning of the third edition of the film festival, not only are we looking forward to enjoying the Swazi talent and films that will be on offer, we are also looking forward to celebrating the continued growth of the Swazi film industry and the heart-warming legacy the EU Film Festival has created within its short existence.

It is a legacy of seeing the possibility beyond the fog of pessimism, believing in the ability imprisoned by inexperience, and staying the course even when there is no trail to follow.

As SCENE today, we are celebrating the art in lenses, celebrating the local talent through lenses in motion pictures. I'm talking about Swazi brewed films.

The opportunity the EU has given Swazis is overwhelming. The cast is happy! Their dreams are coming true. They want to be tomorrow's stars. Meet the film specialists of HUMAN film on PAGE 4 and 5, also read about the crew behind Liphupho Lami on page 6 and 7.

That is all the Swazi filmmaking industry has ever asked for: opportunity and empowerment. In this regard, the EU Film Festival has not just been a pioneer, it also has no equal. Consider this for a moment. Before FLI, there was no platform, or initiative, that presented Swazi filmmakers with the opportunity to make films, or supported them with the means to create films. Three years since the birth of FLI, there is still no other platform, or initiative, that presents Swazi filmmakers with the opportunity to make films, or supports them with the means to create films. Basically, at this moment in time, FLI is the only platform, in the country, that provides support to local filmmakers to produce local films.

This massive contribution towards the empowerment of local filmmakers, as well as the production of local films, has been made possible by a unique feature of the EU Film Festival called the "Film Lab Initiative" (FLI). Funded by the European Union, and facilitated by SIFT-PA, the Film Lab Initiative (FLI) is a skills development programme, under the EU Film Festival, responsible for the professional mentorship of aspiring Swazi filmmakers, as well as the production of the Swazi films that are screened at the EU Film Festival.

Thank you EU for such opportunity.  
Till next week  
Yandie.

# WOMEN ON SCREENS

## MEET THE ACTRESSES OF HUMAN AND LIPHOPHU LAMI

In celebration of International Women's Month, let's celebrate these women who have

changed the world of work in the film industry. They deserve recognition too as we know that

the film industry is male dominated.

These women have inspired and

created unbelievable work of art in the country, their work is incredibly beautiful.



### LIPHUPHO LAMI CHARACTER - DUDU MANANA

They say dreams do come true eventually. Dudu Manana grew up wanting to be an educator, but she fell in love with the arts. "When I grew up I wanted to be a teacher but I fell in love with theatre and drama along the way and I enjoyed it massively," she states boldly.

She is a full time member of Siphilane Drama Society. Through many years of experience in the arts industry, she has achieved her dreams as she has been cast in many local films such as 'Umjingi Udliwa Yinhlitiyo', 'A Tale of two Futures' and now 'Liphupho Lami'.

Dudu is planning to cast in more local films in future.

"Perhaps one day I will direct a play of film aimed at showcasing our Swazi culture, our language and beauty."

She believes film aspirants should work hard and achieve the impossible and fly the country's flag high.

"Let's combine ideas and thrive to make our local content and show the world what our kingdom has to offer," she urges.

#### Memorable moments on set

The whole experience of filming was memorable for me. Seeing local talents are being driven by passion to take the arts industry to higher levels, was just a dream come true and a truly unforgettable moment.



### FROM MODELLING TO ACTING - NOMVUYO MNCINA

"At eight years old my dream was to become Miss Universe, I've always been obsessed with feminine beauty and from that age I already wanted to see a stronger representation of Africa and the world's definition of beauty," says the cast Nomvuyo. She believes being part of 'Liphupho Lami' is a dream come dream.

"As a teenager I wanted to be a high fashion model but I was too busy with school to pursue beauty pageantry or modelling. LiphuphoLami has been my dream coming true as an adult," she says.

Mncina has no future plans in film industry but when opportunities come her way, she would grab them. "I have no future plans for this industry. My interest is in Biology and Physical Science now. My sights are on a degree in Biology but if Paramount Pictures France has a script for me, I will definitely fit in a film shoot for a box office hit, who wouldn't!"

#### Memorable moments on set

The challenges I encountered on the set of 'Liphupho Lami' were memorable and invaluable to my life skills. Due to being immersed in scenes in 'Liphupho Lami' my time on set was very scarce. Between rehearsing with the cast and attending to make-up and costume I sometimes couldn't fit in my meal. What I found though was that having a warm chemistry with my supporting cast and with the crew made the process easier day by day.



### HUMAN ACTRESS SETSABILE SITHOLE - MASINA

Human actress Setsabile Sithole-Masina.

Film industry is well-known for being a male dominated industry but hey, women are changing the world of work! Setsabile has been in the acting industry for about 20 years and now her craft is on another level.

"Growing up I always wanted to be an actress and I started acting at very young age, acting for Sunday school dramas," she recalls. "So acting has been forever my life and I always wanted to be a star. I wanted to be the greatest thing that has ever happened and I do believe that somehow that has been achieved even though it's just a fraction of it." Nonetheless, she's planning to spread her wings internationally and nothing is stopping her.

Setsabile urges the youth who want to pursue a career in this industry to just follow their dreams, and keep positive, keep saying positive things because what you say is what you get and the furthest your eyes can reach is where you can go.

#### Memorable moments on set

I just loved it when I had to sit for make-up where I was made to look glamorous. I just couldn't wait to sit for make-up.

My difficult moment is when we had to break very late and wake up early, other than that I enjoyed being amongst passion driven individuals.





The way people are hypocrites shocks me sometimes, not so long ago everyone was on Sands' case, criticising his *TIGI* video, telling him it's a wrack video, he must re-do it and so on. The very same video recently got its play on Channel O

and as we speak it's on top five music videos.

Anyways let me get to my point, I was shocked when I read this tweet 'Oh Sands, you're making us proud, *Tigi* video on channel O love it...' mind you this is one of the fans who were criticising the

same video but is now praising the rendition, what kind of human beings are we? Anyways big ups to Sands and his manager. You guys knew exactly what you were doing. Look now, your craft is being showed to the world and it is being appreciated.

Guys this is the very same music video that met by mixed feelings when it came out. Many feeling the storyline in the video does not interpret the lyrics of the song. They believed the music video would have been better if it had romantic or love scenes as the lyrics of the song itself.

Personally, I wasn't happy with the music videos not because I was expecting romance love scenes but I was hoping to see creativity. But I see no creativity.

In as much as his manager Phila



would defend himself and say they wanted to do something different and not cliché. Trust me you, the music video was really something different from what we hoped it would have been. But hey, look today the video is

making waves.

I must say I respect you guys; Sands and Phila for believing in your craft. Look now you've made us proud in as much I don't like the music video but congratulations.

## WHY IT MATTERS: 'HUMAN' AND 'LIPHUPHO LAMI'

### HUMAN:

Having or showing compassion. A quality that one may argue is innate to all human beings. It is life's experiences that erode this natural ability, resulting in a lack in qualities of sympathy, pity, warmth, compassion or the like.

With about 16 per cent of Swazis living with disability and in a period when the African Union declared the year 2016 as the year for Human Rights, advocacy for marginalised groups and agenda cannot be over emphasised.

We live in a world that thrives on alienating that which is different from us. It is 'them' and 'us', it is 'normal' and 'abnormal', it is 'able' and 'disabled'. Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote: "Silence in the face of evil, is in itself evil. God will not hold us guiltless.

Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act." It is from this premise that the film 'HUMAN' was born with the financial support and encouragement from the European Union, which has, over the last 50 years, taken an active role in empowering minorities towards a better Swaziland.

### Synopsis:

When a visually impaired boy is rejected at a high school without the amenities for his disability, his entire family is devastated. Things take a turn for the worst when newspaper articles threaten to expose an old family secret that could change his life forever.

### 'LIPHUPHO LAMI':

The thirst to follow one's passion and the determination to quench that thirst resembles a butterfly inside a cocoon longing to spread its wings.

Parental support becomes the incubator: allowing the worm to turn into a beautiful butterfly. Teenage pregnancy, drug abuse, criminal activity; these are just but some of the demons that young people battle with on a daily basis. Such challenges are commonplace in communities such as the informal settlements that surround our cities. It is against this backdrop that youngsters harbour dreams that seem unattainable to those that lack the understanding that even Impossible spells 'I'm Possible'.

### Synopsis:

After six years of chasing an elusive dream, Nomzamo finds herself faced with the pres-

DAY 1	27 March 2017	OFFICIAL LAUNCH & CINEMA PREMIERE
		VENUE: MOVIE ZONE
		TIME: 6 PM
DAY 2	28 March 2017	OPEN CINEMA NIGHT (BY INVITATION)
		VENUE: MOVIE ZONE
		TIME: 6:30 PM
DAY 3	29 March 2017	TERTIARY STUDENTS & GENERAL PUBLIC
		VENUE: LIMKOKWING UNIVERSITY
		TIME: 3 PM
DAY 4	30 March 2017	GENERAL PUBLIC
		VENUE: ALLIANCE FRANCAISE
		TIME: 7 PM
DAY 5	31 March 2017	HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS & GENERAL PUBLIC
		VENUE: MSUNDUZA HALL
		TIME: 2 PM



sure to 'Grow Up!' as her mother often tells her. Held back by her sense of responsibility and her mothers' disapproval of

her career choice, it is a race against time as she tries to realise her dream against all odds.

Hope is the thing with feathers, perched in the soul, sings the tune without the words and never dare stops.

Could have been five years ago but I could have also chosen the number five because all fingers are up in the sky when you count but to be precise add four more fingers in the air.

Hope was conceived by creatives who, pushed by passion, could not back down nor wait for a caesarean section to give birth to a bouncing sign that somewhere along the journey the child would grow up to be an industry.

A self-sustaining industry, separate from the music sector, a film industry that one will wake up and say my eight to five job is shooting scenes for movies.

'Batjele' written by the dynamic Welile Masuku, who has tonnes of experience in front and behind a camera, directed by the knowledgeable and passionate Samkeliso Nxumalo and produced by Thembumenzi Mabuza was captivating and motivating enough to give birth to a star shining bright.

This formidable team is now the brains behind

the skills transfer and mentorship programme Film Lab Initiative (FLI).

*Batjele* 'Tell them' in a wrap tells the story of a bright school girl who was abused sexually by her teacher and after the same happened to one of her classmates, the two survivors felt the need to shame the corrupt teacher in front whole school hence the title 'Batjele'.

We could go on and on talking about the hardships faced by rape survivors but that is a subject for another day.

What is at hand is the amazing pleasure of experiencing Hollywood right on Swazi shores. Dressed to kill for a movie premier, three movies to be exact.

This must be a norm; it must be in the cal-

endars' of each and every year. More movies should be produced. The direction is clear now as the clay has taken a shape.

As the Sands of Time have been cast to the rest of the African continent, these three movies must exceed what 'Batjele' achieved. *Batjele* went as far as the New York Film Festival in 2009.

The works of Siphila Nje Drama Society that were produced could never be overlooked too, they were informative and enlightening. Their titles may be dim to recall now but the lessons forever linger on.

Hope still sings the tune without the words. The dreams that you were told to follow you do not have to, you own them. You have more

authority over them pestering you every night, causing sleepless nights. Go, get them. The time is now.

A conversation the other day with one of the comedy poster boys in the country revealed that there is no time better than now to be in the arts in Swaziland.

You know fingers are crossed with regards to the upcoming SWAMA Awards. Two to three years from now those fingers must be crossed by a different breeze of talent, for a refreshing concept as the Oscar Awards. Solely for Swazi actors, Swazi produced world standard movies.

To aspiring actors, the time is now.

By Nomfundo Sifundza

# THE SWAZI FILM THAT GAVE BIRTH TO HOPE



# Behind the Scene

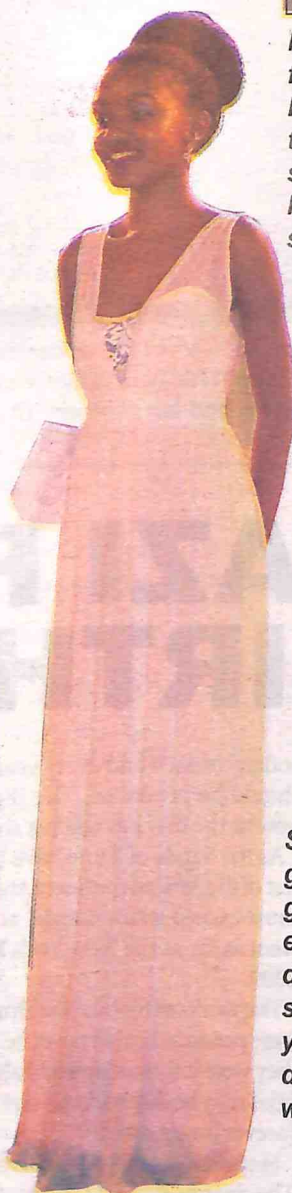
## UNISWA's BEAUTY PEAGENT FASHION POLICE



Well done, suited up well! But next time, don't fasten to the bottom button of your blazer so we can see you waist coat. I will give you 9/10 just for control.



Are we going to church now, darling? In anycase, I love the outfit for a different occasion though.



Yass! Walk that walk. Own that runway. Face beat on fleek.



Mmh, your suit is on point, the fitting, the colour, and the lapel pin goes well with everything. Bhuti, you should remove that label on the suit. It spoils everything!



The queen! Lovely youthful dress blends well with your shoes. I'm not sure about the nerdy glasses hey. They made you look like a carton.



Simple and elegant. The hairdo goes well with everything my darling. But you should relax your body and don't walk like a warrior.

Oh designers, how on earth would you design such? I don't understand the gold going on there but it looked good on her.



Oh yes! Lovely dress and perfect for the ramp.



MIND THAT  
ERROR

ADIDI UYO



What we refer to here as COP is that very fascinating phenomenon in grammar: Case Of Pronoun.

Catching an errant case of pronoun is something we must know how to do as good writers or knowledgeable readers. Like most grammatical errors, faulty case of pronoun shows that a writer has a weak grounding in the fundamentals of grammar.

To be sure, case is a matter that falls under that vital aspect of grammar known as inflection, and it pertains to the forms which nouns and pronouns take according to what they are in a sentence, that is, the role they play. In sentences, nouns or pronouns may be one of three things: subject, object, or owner. Respectively, these are the nominative or subjective case, the objective case, and the possessive case.

"Who's fooling who about king's jet?" is the headline of a news story which runs across two inner pages of the Times of Swaziland, March 15, 2017. The lead of the story reads, thus: "Members of Parliament (MPs) were yesterday reminded of Double You's song lyrics 'who's fooling who' when two Cabinet ministers gave different versions about the whereabouts of the King's jet."

Well, as the saying goes, anywhere there is a pronoun, there is a case. Like the headline of that story, the lead has two pronouns; so each has a case to answer, so to say! The two pronouns in the headline are "who" and "who." The same two pronouns are repeated, albeit in a quote, in the lead of the story.

Double "who" in one sentence is signal enough that something is amiss, for you cannot have two captains in a ship. Since one of the two pronouns must be a noun, the other cannot also be a noun.

Whereas the first "who" is correct, because that is the form it should take in the subjective or nominative case, the second "who" is incorrect, because that is not the form it should take in the objective case. The correct form of this demonstrative pronoun in the objective case is "whom."

Accordingly, the headline may be revised, thus: "Who's fooling whom about king's jet?" And the lead of the story may be revised to read, "Members of Parliament (MPs) were yesterday reminded of the lyrics of the song by Double You, 'Who's fooling whom?' when two Cabinet ministers gave different versions of the whereabouts of the King's jet."

The title of an article in the Sunday Times of October 12, 2016 is an example of the correct case of this pronoun.

It reads: "Who's fooling whom? Why tip-

toe around the 'K' word?"

GOOD WEEK FOR FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION is the title of an opinion piece in the Sunday Observer of March 20, 2016. The third sentence of the article's opening paragraph reads, thus: "Makhubu, spent 15 months behind bars for expressing himself, and was released after the State dropped its charges against him, took serious offence with the minister's statement who he accused of threatening those people he disagreed with – and people who, as the minister had stated earlier, were protected in the forums at which they spoke freely."

In that sentence we find the pronoun, "who," occurring two times, again. Yet, again, it is its second appearance that is incorrect. In this instance, "who" is a relative pronoun, and its correct case should be the objective case, not the nominative. With regard to the element of interest to us, here, the sentence may be revised, as follows: "Makhubu... took serious offence with the statement of the minister whom he accused of threatening those people he disagreed with..."

The culpable use of the nominative case, "who," instead of the objec-

tive case, "whom," is something that may be rightly characterised as pervasive. Most of what we may call "who-errors" are due to non-use of the objective case. We find another case in this headline: RESPECT FOR WHO? This is the title of an opinion piece in the Swazi News of January 23, 2016.

The fault in that headline may be better seen, if we change the case of the demonstrative pronoun, "who," to the case of its personal pronoun, "he." Imagine this for a title: RESPECT FOR HE? Surely, this would amount to a piece of illiteracy.

A preposition always comes before the objective case of a noun or pronoun, but this is not obvious when the element is a noun, since its spelling or form does not change. Take the following two sentences, for example. "Maxwell loves Maxine" and "Maxine loves Maxwell."

In both sentences, neither noun changes its form or spelling. But once we change the two nouns to the pronouns, "he" and "she," the story changes.

We can no longer have these sentences, "He loves she" or "She loves he." Instead, the sentences should read, "He loves her" or "She loves

him" – "her" and "him" being the correct case of the pronouns, "he" and "she," respectively.

Such juxtaposition, some gurus of grammar would say, is the formula for catching the culpable COP. All said and done, the aforementioned title with an incorrect case of pronoun should be revised to read, RESPECT FOR WHOM?

In The Star of December 3, 2014 was a news story with the headline, "You raped me, Bill Cosby." The fourth paragraph of the story reads, thus: "She said she had suspected Cosby, who she now considers a 'monster', of ill-intent as he was married."

Clearly, the "who" in that sentence is not the subject, so it should not be in the subjective or nominative case. If you apply the juxtaposition test, this is what you would get: "She now considers he a 'monster'." That would be a grammatical atrocity, no doubt!

Properly revised, the relative pronoun, "who," should be in the objective case, and the sentence should read, "She said she had suspected Cosby, whom she now considers a 'monster', of ill-intent as he was married."

"People are free to worship who-

ever they want but the God of the universe warned the children of Israel and us, through His written Word, that He had put life or death before them and us, and they must choose whether they want to do His will or the devil's by running after other gods – gods these false prophets represent."

That rather long sentence is an excerpt from an article in the Times of Swaziland SUNDAY, September 28, 2014, with the title: TB JOSHUA A MAN OF GOD?. And lurking therein is the culpable COP, "whoever." In the construction, "People are free to worship whoever they want," the pronoun is the object, not the subject. And as the object, it is supposed to be in the objective case, which is "whomever."

In The Citizen of February 24, 2016 was a caption-like identification that followed this quoted statement, "He is more qualified than any minister I have ever appointed in the finance ministry." And the identification reads, thus: "President Jacob Zuma on Monday about David van Rooyen, who he appointed to replace Nhlanhla Nene as finance minister last year."

Check out the "who" in the construction and you would find that it is not playing the part of a subject, that of an object. Accordingly, its correct case is the objective one, "whom."

Call the following sentence our parting pot-shot for today, if you like. It reads, "Does anybody in this room really believe that Hillary will be tougher on Putin than me?" Speaking, of course, is the President of the United States of America, during a press conference on January 11, 2017.

In correct Queen's English or traditional, prescriptive grammar, the pronoun, "me," which is in the objective case, is incorrect – a good case of a culpable COP!

The sentence should be revised to read, thus: "Does anybody in this room really believe that Hillary will be tougher on Putin than I (will be)?"

CATCH THAT  
CULPABLE COP!

## Dups will help you find inner peace



This past week the Swazi Observer ran an ominous report from the World Health Organisation to the effect that depression will be the second highest medical concern by 2030, second only to HIV/AIDS.

This is quite worrying, particularly in our country, where we have a high suicide rate which saw a staggering 41 people taking their own lives between October and December last year.

The good news is we can do something to turn the ship. Depression can be prevented and treated. Many stud-

ies show that people who exercise regularly benefit with a positive boost in mood and lower rates of depression.

When you exercise, your body releases chemicals called endorphins, and the feeling that follows a run or workout is known as a "runner's high." It can lift your spirits and give you a positive and energising outlook on life.

Last Monday we were honoured to be at UNISWA for the official opening of the BOLESWA Interschool games. Dups donated squash racquets, handrails, and balls in support of the sport and general physical and mental wellbeing.

Depression is not a condition that should be taken lightly as it has the potential to destroy relationships, chances of employment, and at its worst can result in suicide.

Research has shown that second leading cause of death among people between

the ages of 15 and 29 is suicide.

That is definitely something that needs to be looked at considering that it is the younger workforce killing itself, and this has a negative impact on the economy of the country and the quality of life within families. Who will fend for the younger and elderly members of the family when potential breadwinners take their own lives?

As a family-oriented organisation, Dups would like to urge people to take up sport, even for recreation, to keep depression at bay and save precious lives.

Regular exercise has been proven to reduce stress, ward off anxiety and feelings of depression, boost self-esteem and improve sleep. Research has shown that exercise is an effective but often underused treatment for mild to moderate depression.

Sometimes depression creeps up on you slowly not only because of lack of a proper workout routine, but in some cases because of poor financial management. If you don't have a funeral policy, you will always worry about how you or your family will manage in the event of loss in the family. One can also easily sink into a depression because the bills have piled up and one feels overwhelmed. We have read a few stories about people committing suicide because of debt.

Where Dups premiums are concerned, there is a way to ensure you never feel overwhelmed.

Proper financial management involves preparing a budget and paying important monthly bills on time to avoid penalties. It helps even more to pay your Dups premiums in advance as it takes some weight off your shoulders.

You could pay quarterly, bi-annually, or just settle the full amount for the year and never have to worry about

defaulting.

If you do not pay your premiums for 12 consecutive months, your policy will be cancelled, and that is not something we look forward to doing. However, if premiums are not received for a shorter period, there shall be a waiting period of three months following the settlement of your arrears. Debt is like having a dark cloud always hanging over your head, and preventing you from finding inner peace.

A stitch in time saves nine. Please ensure you are on track with your monthly premiums. If you are in arrears, please get in touch with us on 2505 2028 so that we can discuss how the situation can be salvaged.

You can also pay us a visit at our offices in Manzini, Matata, Matsapha, Simunye, Nhlangano, Mbabane, Pietermaritzburg, and Siteki. Alternatively, you can send queries to [info@dupsgroup.com](mailto:info@dupsgroup.com), [www.facebook.com/dups](http://www.facebook.com/dups) or on Twitter @dupsinsurance.





Khulekani Msweli engaging with the participants



RSSC MD Nick Jackson addressing the youth during the Bootcamp.



A participant presenting her business idea

**NOKUKHANY  
A GAMEDZE**

JA BOARD CHAIR

**Introduction**

**T**he creation of ecosystems is increasingly and significantly taking centre stage in the global entrepreneurship space.

This is about knowing who is well positioned to play a particular role in the ecosystem. This is very vital for the coherent and sustainable development of entrepreneurship in the country.

Today I want to pay particular attention to one sector that has a very important role in the entrepreneurship ecosystem and that is the corporate sector.

We need to ask ourselves what role the corporate sector can play in advancing the entrepreneurship agenda.

As JA Swaziland we are very grateful to the corporate sector that has come on board in supporting us to carry out our mission of instilling the entrepreneurship culture in our Swazi youth. The past two weeks we have seen in this column how these partnerships are extending

## THE ROLE OF CORPORATE IN YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP

*JA Swaziland partners with RSSC to empower youth under Mhlume Inkhundla*



to address the serious issue of youth unemployment in the country through projects we are conducting with the FNB Foundation and the MTN Foundation.

**Partnership with RSSC**

Corporate companies have a responsibility and obligation to impact the communities they are operating at. The youth unemployment challenge is well docu-

mented and has varying effects to society, and by extension has an impact on the success of corporate companies operating in such an environment. This therefore calls for our corporate sector to

tackle this challenge.

JA Swaziland's partnership with the Royal Swaziland Sugar Corporation (RSSC) seeks to address this concern. Over the years we have had a fruitful partnership with RSSC, ensuring that all the schools under its wing actively participate in all our in-school programmes.

Such support has seen schools such as Lusoti High and Ngomane representing Swaziland in the Africa region, with the former winning the Africa Company of the Year competition two times.

This success then begged the question; can we not partner again to support the out of school youth? To pilot the programme we set out to empower 30 young people with entrepreneurship skills under Mhlume Inkhundla. This called for engagement and involvement of community leaders, i.e.

Bucopho from the five chiefdoms under this constituency, Indvuna Yenkhundla and the member of parliament as well. They played an active role in mobilising the unemployed youth to participate in the programme called Youth Entrepreneurship Support (YES). The targeted

## TEATQ Campaign is Going Nowhere!

Sir,

**W**ith a much heavy laden heart and tears streaming down my haggard face, I lay my pen on this paper solely for the plight of Degreed teachers teaching at primary schools in this beloved country of ours.

Mr. Editor, much has been said about this yearly inhuman treatment slashed out willy-nilly by government's MoET together with MoPS (Public Service) against these educated elites referred to Degreed teachers but nothing is

**It is an open secret that the government of eSwatini is greatly benefiting from this fiasco: giving it a cold shoulder as non existent.**

done at all. These two government ministries are still acting too deaf and dumb on this burning issue.

The question that boggles my mind is: why? Are they not at all troubled by this or is it pretty normal to them and these teachers to have nothing concrete against them such that it is business as usual?

It is an open secret that the govern-

ment of eSwatini is greatly being from this fiasco: giving it a shoulder as non existent. The dimension of same is that this labour practice is equally capable shaking the very core foundation of this country if left unattended the urgency it deserves.

Why is the government failing to upgrade all these Diploma posts to

give value to the service rendered by these educated individuals? These are some of my burning questions Sir, which this government seriously has to address with immediacy.

It has been almost a decade now since these inhuman, unjust and injudicious laws were put in place. Degreed teachers at primary schools are not paid according to what they

deserve: which is C5; instead, they are remunerated at an insulting scale; C3, not entitled to promotions of any kind in their work stations and to add salt into their already bleeding wound, they are harshly treated by principals who, some of them, are threatened by the hard earned top qualifications possessed by these teachers. To everyone, TEATQ is for justice. The campaign is here to stay until we accrue justice & justice delayed is justice denied. The anger is boiling, TEATQ is real.

Spitting fire  
Mxolisi S. (TEATQ Member)



youth are from Simunye, Mhlume, Vuvulane, Tshaneni and Tambankulu.

These programme comes with a seed capital to be shared by three winning business concepts.

Our previous experience in dealing with out of school youth has taught us the importance of putting in place a proper screening process to select young people who demonstrate the entrepreneurial sharpness and drive to be part of the programme.

This is to ensure that we minimise the attrition rate and we increase the impact, hoping to realise the returns on the investment in the long run.

The screening process has given us an interesting picture of the youth that are participating in the programme. The average age is 25 and 53 per cent are already in business. This is an indication that there are young people that are not sitting down waiting for handouts, and this is the caliber of young people that need all the support. What is even more interesting about this particular group is that 63 per cent of the participants are young women.

This is a very encouraging statistic given that we have seen young women shying away from such programs in the past.

The participants have gone through the first stage of the programme, which is a three-day bootcamp training.

This is a motivational training aimed at instilling the entrepreneurial mindset. The beauty of this programme is that it brings local entrepreneurs who share their experiences to inspire the young entrepreneurs.

In the case of this this project, one of the entrepreneurs who came to share his experience is Khulekani Msweli who has made a mark in the fashion industry as a designer. He is a young person from the same community, Vuvulane, and he shared his personal journey, encouraging the youth to have a clear vision to stay focused on their set goals. He further addressed the issue of funding and the difficulties in accessing start up capital. He put emphasis on the importance of networking and discouraged the tendency of pushing blame to the government.

#### Conclusion

With youth unemployment becoming a heightened concern we all have a role to play. At JA Swaziland we believe in the power of partnership. Young people need the motivation, training, guidance and financial resources to succeed in business. Corporates need to make a deliberate decision to invest in the youth.



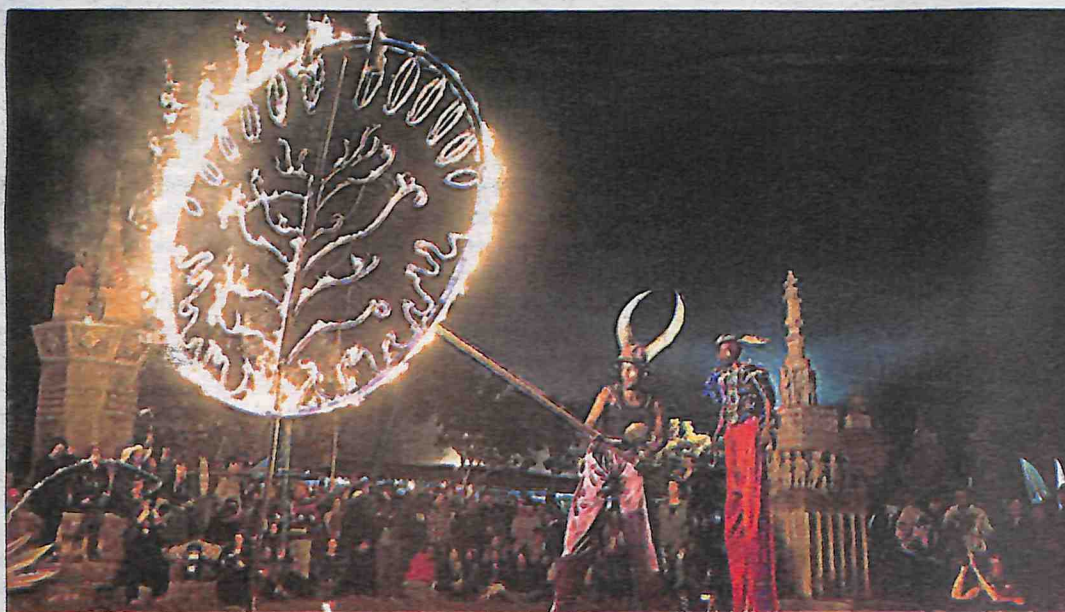
## TOURISM & TRAVEL

BY BONGANI DLAMINI  
STA Marketing Manager  
Email: mm@tourismauthority.org.sz



# CAVES, CRAFTS AND CELEBRATION IN SWAZILAND

...Swaziland indeed is a little paradise hidden in southern Africa!



Joysunbear.com is a global education website for children and primary schools.

Each week, a travel writer posts a travel letter aimed at educating children worldwide about various destinations across the world. We are delighted to share with you a travel letter about our very own Kingdom of Swaziland, posted to the site, and viewed already by tens of thousands of parents and their kids across the globe. The letter is accompanied by great images taken from Swaziland. It reads:

"Hi friends, sawubona! It has been another amazing week here in Swaziland, full of ancient caves, unique and special crafts, and preparing for a big celebration, so I'm glad you're visiting again to share all of this with me!

After the beautiful canopy tours and wildlife preserves I got to see last week, the next exciting spot I wanted to see was the bushman caves of Swaziland. For the very adventurous, there are cave systems made by a river that flows between a couple of mountains at a place called Gobholo.

There are special trained guides who can take you through the 800 metre, nearly half a mile, course that goes down 90 metres, or almost 300 feet. Wow!

For me though, I wanted to see more of the bushman cave paintings, so I headed to the Nsangwini cave shelter, a preserve in the north-west area of Swaziland.

There I got to see the ancient cave paintings that were discovered in 1955. The amazing thing is, no one really knows how old the paintings are - they could be 400 years old, or maybe even as old as 4 000 years! They weren't all painted at once though, many generations of natives painted them long before Swaziland was a colony of Great Britain. By the way, Swaziland won its independence in 1968 and became its very own country then! Oops, I got distracted, hee hee...I just get so excited when there is so much to learn!

On the rock paintings I could see all sorts of interesting animals, like elephants, lions and even a wildebeest, which is interesting because there are no other wildebeest cave paintings other than this one south

of Zambezi, Mozambique, about 1000 km, or 620 miles, north of here. Even more strange, there are paintings of humans, like hunters with spears, but also pictures of make-believe characters like floating humans with feathers, or human-animal hybrids like the painting of one human with the head of a mantis! All around it was a pretty amazing experience.

#### Land

I wonder what the land must have looked like that long ago, before roads and buildings and power lines. Can you imagine your home town without anything man-made? Try going to your park and drawing or painting just the nature you see to get an idea of what it might look like.

Swaziland is very well known for its artisans and craftsmen. One such example is the Ngwenya Glass Factory, whose workers are amazing to watch

when blowing glass. They are very earth-friendly, and only use recycled glass! So when glass is thrown away, people who need jobs or extra money can collect it - carefully because it can be sharp! - and sell it to the factory. The factory then breaks it and melts it down, then uses it to make beautiful works of art like tableware, glasses, vases, and little decorations like African animals! The factory sells the glass products it makes all over the world. They even work with local schools, getting the children involved in cleaning up and recycling in exchange for sponsorship of their sports teams.

Meanwhile, my tour guides told me about an upcoming festival called MTN Bushfire Festival, where artists, musicians, and poets from all over Africa gather to celebrate how everyone can use their unique perspectives and talents to make the world

a better place. They say, "bring your fire!", not real fire, of course, but your spirit and the fire in your heart. I just love that phrase because when I think about it, it inspires me to think about all the good changes I could inspire in this world. The best part of the Bushfire Festival to me is how it is a place the whole family can enjoy. There are workshops, dances, art exhibits, storytelling, puppets, theater and a KidZone with face painting, bounce houses, games and more!

#### Hidden

Swaziland indeed is a little paradise hidden in southern Africa! Marvel at some of the pictures I brought you. *Salani kahle* for now!"

To see more pictures that were shared with kids from all over the world, visit [www.joysunbear.com/single-post/2016/05/24/Caves-Crafts-Celebration-in-Swaziland](http://www.joysunbear.com/single-post/2016/05/24/Caves-Crafts-Celebration-in-Swaziland).

## Do Primary Teachers' Deserve such Treatment?

Sir,

I spend sleepless nights thinking about the plight of Degreed primary teachers in the Kingdom of eSwatini.

I wonder why is it that these loyal citizens are being subjected to such inhumane and unacceptable treatment by their government whom they so dearly serve.

It is a known fact that we as a country once witnessed an exodus of professionals to countries abroad, mostly to neighbouring South Africa for they were lured by better pay and better working standards.

These teachers I am referring to here (Degreed teachers teaching in primary schools) remained

in the country for they want to see every Swazi child accorded quality education as is our dream as a nation.

They stayed and never left even though they saw their friends who migrated outside the country showing life changing differences with the justified pay they got.

Were these Degreed teachers not tempted to leave the country themselves for these riches? The answer is simple: yes they were, but why did they stay to be robbed their monies and benefits?

Isn't such a sacrifice a sign of loyalty and patriotism? It undoubtedly is.

What are these loyal educators or sculptors of society getting for such loyalty? What is the

government doing to show its appreciation for such an act of patriotism? The sad response to such is: sadly nothing. Even worse, she is not paying them what they deserve as per their qualifications and the work they do. The disregard with impunity of international obligations & conventions, ratified by the same regimes, stinks to the core.

Before 2009 degreed teachers teaching in primary schools were paid according to their qualifications and all was well in a way, except for a few glitches.

Since that Friday, September 18, 2009, when Legal Notice No. 147 of 2009 got issued in Mbabane, multitudes of Degreed primary teachers have been subjected to the humiliation of

C3. This has gone unabated with much unfairness, exploitation, degradation & degeneration of these affected teachers' professional development process.

Why was this overnight circular put into force? Why did government suddenly decide to deliberately and openly break the law and contravene acts such as the IRA, Wages Act to mention just a few? It is hard to understand what precipitated such an action from.

The resolve is unwavering; unshakable; unperturbed. We demand to be paid judiciously.

TEATQ (To Each According To Qualification) as a campaign started by these aggrieved teachers is calling for a quick solution to this problem i.e. Degreed teachers be paid according to their qualifications and value of work they do.

Aggrieved TEATQ member  
COW 1





# EVERYTHING WE NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DRY BEAN PRODUCTION

## Growing Season

Temperatures, especially during the night, determine the length of the growing season of a cultivar:

- short (85\_94 days)
- medium (95\_104 days)
- long (105\_115 days).

## SEED QUALITY

For successful production, it is important that high-quality (certified) seeds with a high germination percentage (80 per cent or higher) be used. This production cost factor is slight when compared to probable yield losses due to disease or poor stand. Low-quality seed can cause a poor and an uneven stand, resulting in uneven maturity, harvesting problems and yield losses. Using disease-free seed will reduce the incidence of seed-borne diseases such as bean common mosaic virus (BCMV), bacterial diseases (common blight, halo blight and bacterial brown spot) and the fungal disease, anthracnose.

Other benefits of disease-free seed are that it is:

- labelled to indicate germination percentage
- guaranteed true to type and ensures homogeneity
- guaranteed free of weed seeds and foreign matter.

## SOIL PREPARATION

Seedbed preparation for the planting of dry beans follows the same pattern as that for any row crop planted in the spring. The seedbed must be deep, level and firm because this ensures better surface contact between the seed and the soil, increasing the absorption of moisture. A level seedbed also facilitates planting to a uniform depth.

## FERTILISATION

It is recommended that beans be planted on soils which have been previously well fertilised. General fertility is more advantageous than direct fertilisation, because beans are sensitive to high concentrations of mineral salts.

## SOIL ACIDITY (pH)

The optimum soil pH levels for dry beans are:

- pH (H<sub>2</sub>O): 5,8\_6,5
- pH (KCl): 4,8\_5,5.

The percentage of acid saturation has to be lower than 10 per cent for the cultivation of dry beans. The soluble aluminium content has to be less than 25 to 30 per cent.

The pH can be raised (acid saturation reduced) by applications of agricultural lime.

These applications to acid (low pH) soils can make certain micronutrients, such as molybdenum, more available to the plant. The availability of phosphorus is influenced by the pH. It is readily available at a pH (H<sub>2</sub>O) of six to 7.

Calcium and magnesium deficiencies can be alleviated with agricultural lime. High pH soils are often associated with an excess of sodium salts which reduce nutrient uptake.

Beans will tolerate a sodium saturation percentage of up to eight or 10 and an electrical conductivity of up to 1 mmho/cm.

## PLANTING DATE

The most suitable planting date is determined by the following factors:

- Correct soil temperature
- Probability of heavy rain which may lead to soil crusting and restrict seedling emergence
- Possibility of high temperatures later in the season which may cause blossom drop
- Length of the growing season (high temperatures during flowering, rain during harvest and frost damage should be avoided)
- Crop rotation programmes (position of the bean crop in the total crop setup, i.e. planted after another crop, i.e. planted after another crop, in frost-free areas, March and April are the best months for planting beans.

Planting dates are mainly restricted by the possible occurrence of frost (planting too late), and rain at harvesting, resulting in poor quality (planting too early). Planting dates range from November to mid-January in areas where frost occurs. In frost-free areas, March and April are the best months for planting beans.

## SPACING, PLANT POPULATION AND PLANTING DEPTH

The between-row spacing for all types of beans under commercial production is 900 mm because dry beans are usually cultivated in rotation with maize. For early maturing cultivars, especially those with a determinate growth habit, a row spacing of 750 mm is recommended if mechanisation is practical.

Planting depth is determined by the soil texture and its moisture content. Generally the seeds are placed 2,5 to 5,0 cm below the soil surface.

## IRRIGATION

Irrigation offers the potential for increasing yields and enabling production in otherwise unsuitable soils. Sprinkler irrigation is the most frequent means of irrigation for dry beans. The system used is determined by the size and shape of the lands, as well as available labour and capital.

In areas where water is unrestricted (not merely supplementary irrigation), the soil should be wet to field capacity to the depth of the 1 m root zone before planting. As soon as the soil is sufficiently dry, the seedbed should be prepared and planted and thereafter the field should not be irrigated until the seedlings have emerged.

Irrigation scheduling is essential for optimum yield per unit of water. The critical, moisture-sensitive growth stages are flowering and early pod set which occur at 40 to 50 per cent and 50 to 60 per cent of the growing season.

It is important that irrigation cycles be correctly scheduled, because excess moisture can create conditions conducive to root rot and Sclerotinia. Moisture stress can also aggravate some root rots such as Fusarium

oxysporum. Irrigation should cease when a quarter of the bean pods have turned yellow. For the correct irrigation scheduling, expert advice must be obtained.

## HARVESTING

Dry beans have a moisture content of about 50 per cent at physiological maturity.

The beans, however, are only ready for harvesting when the moisture content drops to 16 per cent, the ideal being 15 per cent. Seeds may split during threshing when the moisture content is less than 12 per cent and such seeds are rejected by canners and seed companies. It is difficult to clean without further seed split or broken seed coats. Dry beans should be harvested when all the pods have turned yellow, but before they have become so dry that the pods begin to shatter. Dry beans can be harvested as follows:

- Hand pulling and threshing by driving a tractor over them on a threshing floor. Smaller volumes can be threshed by hand by beating with a stick covered in a hessian sack. The wind can be used to separate the seed from the chaff
- Partially mechanised systems, where the plants are pulled up by hand, placed in windrows and threshed with a harvester or stacked, where after they are threshed with a stationary threshing machine
- Fully automated system with mechanical pulling. The beans are raked into windrows and threshed by means of an automated combine.

## Tips

- Pulling of beans should start when the moisture content of the pods is temporarily high (to prevent shattering), i.e. early in the morning before the dew has evaporated.
- Mechanised harvesting must be done when there is no danger of crop damage by rain.
- To prevent cracking and splitting beans should be threshed at slow cylinder speeds with a machine equipped with an axial flow threshing mechanism.

## WEED CONTROL

Effective weed control is a prerequisite for high dry-bean yields. Dry beans, being low-growing plants, struggle to compete with or overshadow weeds. Early control is extremely important, because the root system of the plant develops at this stage and some weeds secrete chemical inhibitors which limit plant growth. At a later stage weeds hamper the harvesting and threshing processes, adversely affecting the quality of the crop.

## DISEASES AND PESTS

Diseases and pests may have been partially responsible for the unstable production that has been experienced in the past. Incidence and severity vary between seasons because of environmental and management practices. Integrated disease and pest management, using all suitable control measures, is recommended.



## JOY NDWANDWE'S ZONE LEADERSHIP

Joy Ndwandwe born and nurtured to be bold for change, thus resonating with international women 2017 and His Majesty's theme per speech from the throne 'rising above diversity.' My boldness originates from formative years, nurtured by maternal grandparents in the Makhubu homestead, Luyengo.

They allowed my voice to speak truth to power, boldness emerged, and many thought it was rudeness, but grandparents were disciplinarians. Uncle Simanga, recalls how my grandfather 'Qamu' said I had my paternal grandfather, Mgcobeya's gift of speech. My boldness, asked questions and questioned many things, did not give up until listened to or heard. I probed during my formative years, the born change agent, hence the questioning and inquisitorial. The death of my maternal grandfather at 21 years, a significant moment as family and relatives began suppressing my boldness. After turning 40 years, I disciplined my suppressors and at 50 years walked away and began focusing on transforming from bold change agent towards transformative agent.

## My life as a vehicle of change

The most painful vocation and passion is being a vehicle of change. As everyone believes it is a mission impossible, thus requiring believing in yourself. Hence my formative years were 'the' significant foundation for rooting a vehicle of change. Now am enjoying the fruits of being allowed to speak truth to power by my grandparents. In retrospect the truth resonated within my soul, old soul of LaZidze even then, hence my maternal grandfather likened my gift of speech to that of my paternal grandfather. When I learnt how my grandfather, Mgcobeya, member of the kings-council, spoke truth to King Sobhuza II, I understood my gift. And why my Makhubu grandfather anchored my boldness, he envisaged how I will speak truth to power in the future. Today, I use my voice to speak truth to power, as my formative years rooted me on speaking from the soul.

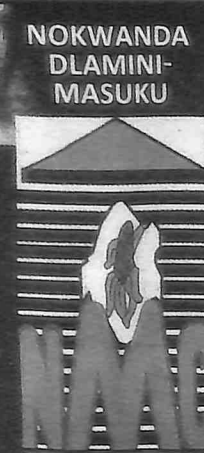
Most people do not get it, when speaking truth to power comes naturally even when am without a cent in my pocket, due to my formative years. My Makhubu grandfather during the 60's built a four bedroom mansion, had cows, cash-flow and later my grandparents built houses in suburbs, Mbabane and Manzini. A formative base such that whilst experiencing recent cash-flow challenges, I maintained my boldness as a vehicle of changes and never considered myself poor. My Makhubu grandfather's family excelled in education in health sciences, sciences and behavioural science, this further affirmed my boldness. As my background anchors boldness propelling me as a vehicle of change, by transcending beyond achievements standards of my family. This boldness originates from my formative years, hence I have a vision for a new Africa, as a renaissance activist and researcher.

In my paternal side of the family there are writers, diplomats, medical scientists, economist, politicians, business leaders and lawyers. Further anchoring my boldness as a vehicle of change, towards the vision for a new Africa. My Ndwandwe grandfather's gift of speech, evident in the song 'ElaMgcobeya Kwadumizulu Ekuseni Kwamazama uMhlaba.' Meaning my grandfather's voice sounded like morning thunder that tremors the earth, indicating his boldness. Similar to when I stand firmly on how African's must connect with their ancestors, to tap into their voices and gifts to be vehicles of change. Both my grandparents propel me to be bold for changes, my Makhubu grandfathers second generation converted Anglican and male nurse during the colonial era. My Ndwandwe grandfather in the kings-council, an anti-colonialism and pro-independence proponent thus ensuring King Sobhuza II's recognition as king and not paramount chief.

## Women in the Changing World of Work

My grandparents propel this international women who is in pursuit of a new Africa through an aca-





**NOKWANDA  
DLAMINI-  
MASUKU**

ON THE  
GRAIN

EMAIL:  
MARKETING  
@NMC.CO.  
SZ  
WWW.NMC.  
CO.SZ

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They allowed my voice to speak truth to power, boldness emerged, and many thought it was rudeness, but grandparents were disciplinarians. Uncle Simanga, recalls how my grandfather 'Qamu' said I had my paternal grandfather, Mgcobeya's gift of speech. My boldness, asked questions and questioned many things, did not give up until listened to or heard. I probed during my formative years, the born change agent, hence the questioning and inquisitorial. The death of my maternal grandfather at 21 years, a significant moment as family and relatives began suppressing my boldness. After turning 40 years, I disciplined my suppressors and at 50 years walked away and began focusing on transforming from bold change agent towards transformative agent.

## My life as a vehicle of change

The most painful vocation and passion is being a vehicle of change. As everyone believes it is a mission impossible, thus requiring believing in yourself. Hence my formative years were 'the' significant foundation for rooting a vehicle of change. Now am enjoying the fruits of being allowed to speak truth to power by my grandparents. In retrospect the truth resonated within my soul, old soul of LaZidze even then, hence my maternal grandfather likened my gift of speech to that of my paternal grandfather. When I learnt how my grandfather, Mgcobeya, member of the kings-council, spoke truth to King Sobhuza II, I understood my gift. And why my Makhubu grandfather anchored my boldness, he envisaged how I will speak truth to power in the future. Today, I use my voice to speak truth to power, as my formative years rooted me on speaking from the soul.

Most people do not get it, when speaking truth to power comes naturally even when am without a cent in my pocket, due to my formative years. My Makhubu grandfather during the 60's built a four bedroom mansion, had cows, cash-flow and later my grandparents built houses in suburbs, Mbabane and Manzini. A formative base such that whilst experiencing recent cash-flow challenges, I maintained my boldness as a vehicle of changes and never considered myself poor. My Makhubu grandfather's family excelled in education in health sciences, sciences and behavioural science, this further affirmed my boldness. As my background anchors boldness propelling me as a vehicle of change, by transcending beyond achievements standards of my family. This boldness originates from my formative years, hence I have a vision for a new Africa, as a renaissance activist and researcher.

In my paternal side of the family there are writers, diplomats, medical scientists, economist, politicians, business leaders and lawyers. Further anchoring my boldness as a vehicle of change, towards the vision for a new Africa. My Ndwandwe grandfather's gift of speech, evident in the song 'ElaMgcobeya Kwadumizulu Ekuseni Kwamazama uMhlaba.' Meaning my grandfather's voice sounded like morning thunder that tremors the earth, indicating his boldness. Similar to when I stand firmly on how African's must connect with their ancestors, to tap into their voices and gifts to be vehicles of change. Both my grandparents propel me to be bold for changes, my Makhubu grandfathers second generation converted Anglican and male nurse during the colonial ear. My Ndwandwe grandfather in the kings-council, an anti-colonialism and pro-independence proponent thus ensuring King Sobhuza II's recognition as king and not paramount chief.

## Women in the Changing World of Work

My grandparents propel this international women who is in pursuit of a new Africa through an aca-



# BE BOLD FOR CHANGE



demic and leadership legacy. My paternal family endowed with a profound unpublished leadership legacy suppressed by King Shaka's legacy, the military strategist. The Ndwandwe Royalty leadership legacy within my DNA, emerged through the old soul LaZidze with indigenous cosmologies and knowledge systems. Hence the Vice Chancellor's award of academic excellence for my African humanism leadership model and theory. This intellectual property towards changing the world of work, advancing my vision of a new Africa. A continent rooted on cosmological principles embedded within African leadership. Not the African leadership based on adapted Socialism, Marxism and Capitalism copied from Europe, South and North America. But African leadership embedded within indigenous cosmologies and knowledge systems, researched guided by the soul of LaZidze. Evidently the myopic irk me with their negativity reflecting captivity, lack of identity and religious dogma and demagoguery. As my ancestors are not evil nor demonic nor witches but endowed with intellectual property to change the world of work.

Hence envisaging a new Africa rooted with ancestral intellectual property to transform the world of work, which requires boldness from formative years. The African humanism leadership research began with *Akusiko Kwami Kwebantfu*, the King Sobhuza II legacy book. Exemplifying through recorded speeches how in the 20th Century Ubuntu Leadership existed and was preserved.

Ubuntu Leadership is intellectual property, critical as the transformative intervention in the world of work, and this journey began with my personal transformation. Towards contributing to a new African vision, am being mentored through a transformative intervention by Professor Catherine Odora Hoppers, this is on-going. Through this process, being prepared as a transformative agent towards changing the world of work.

The plan is, end of 2019 will graduate in Doctorate in Development Education on Ubuntu Leadership towards Restorative Action within Public Policy at Regional Level, SADC.

This transformative intervention for transcending beyond boldness as an agent of change

towards being a transformative agent. I love Africa, and read a lot of African books and documents. The amount of research on transforming towards a new African vision, towards achieving my vision as a transformative agent is clearly articulated. This research justifies my vision of setting up the academy in Swaziland, evident in the African Union Capacity Report for Agenda 2063. Extensively researched speaking to my old soul LaZidze on the Africanising the African University and integrating indigenous knowledge systems in higher education. My vision and mission, extensively researched on how to implement transformative interventions through intellectual property.

*The most painful vocation and passion is being a vehicle of change. As everyone believes it is mission impossible, thus requiring believing in yourself. Hence my formative years were 'the' significant foundation for rooting a vehicle of change.*

## In conclusion

When God is for us, who can be against us, with all that said, women must be bold for change to become transformative agents

in the changing world of work. However, a transformative agent requires letting go of comfort zones, which captivate the heart whilst suppressing souls. Lack of cash-flow is frustrating and painful, but being a transformative agent through intellectual property of ancestors is 'The Summit.' Driving a *Khehle-khehle* des is risky and humiliating but being immortal, due to contributing towards a new Africa vision is immensely fulfilling. Listening to idiots, misogynists and myopic men and women laughing when you dress down and are angered when you dress up, as they consider you poor. Due to my risk appetite for investing in intellectual property, propelled by never being poor during the formative years. Hence blessed with the vision to achieve the 'impossible,' building an academy for ancestors' intellectual property to transform the world of work, by mentoring new leadership cadres. At 80 years my vision is to have mentored over 1 000 leaders to lead the AU 2063 Agenda, when celebrating 100 years.

I will be with God, but immortal through intellectual property Africanising African University rooted within indigenous cosmologies and knowledge systems. This begins during eSwatini's hosting AU Summit 2020 the year for launching, the on-going proposed transformative intervention, Academy for African Leadership, pseudo name.

# Understanding down syndrome



Charlotte Chipangura

## Disability Rights Advocate

E-mail: [celi@asantestewartfoundation.com](mailto:celi@asantestewartfoundation.com)

Twitter: @AsanteEducation

Facebook page: Asante Stewart Foundation  
[www.asantestewartfoundation.com](http://www.asantestewartfoundation.com)

A few weeks ago South African DJ Phat Joe, who works for East Coast Radio in KwaZulu Natal, commented that he kept making the same mistake on air because he was feeling "a bit down syndromish." Listeners were offended and complained to his employers, who consequently took him off air.

Next Tuesday is World Down Syndrome Day, observed on 21 March every year. This is a global awareness day which has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012. This year's commemoration will be the fifth, and it looks like there is still a lot of awareness to be raised if people like Phat Joe, who people look up to and expect to know better, are still passing such irresponsible comments.

Down syndrome is a set of physical and mental traits caused by a gene problem that happens before birth. Normally, a person has 46 chromosomes. But most people with down syndrome have 47 chromosomes. In rare cases, other chromosome problems cause down syndrome. Having extra or abnormal chromosomes changes the way the brain and body develop. Although there are no local statistics at hand, down syndrome is regarded as the most common chromosomal condition in human beings. Sources say about 6 000 babies with down syndrome are born in the United States each year. Children who have down syndrome tend to have certain features, such as a flat face, a short neck, low muscle tone, small stature, an upward slant to the eyes, and a single deep crease across the center of the palm - although each person with down syndrome is a unique individual and may possess these characteristics to different degrees, or not at all.

This varies from person to person, and in most cases it is mild to moderate. Down syndrome is a lifelong condition. But with care and support, children who have down syndrome can grow up to have healthy, happy, productive lives. Because of their distinctive physical features, their disability is usually almost immediately picked out unlike that of people with no visible features. This makes unfortunately exposes them to unfair discrimination, yet individuals with down syndrome are becoming increasingly integrated into society and community organisations, such as school, health care systems, work forces, and social and recreational activities.

Experts don't know the exact cause, but some things increase the chance that you'll have a baby with down syndrome. Your risk of having a baby with down syndrome is higher if you are older when you get pregnant. Many doctors believe that the risk increases for women aged 35 and older. Other risk factors are if you have a brother or sister who has down syndrome or if you had another baby with the condition.

If you've had a baby with down syndrome and are planning another pregnancy, you may want to talk to your doctor about genetic counselling. Your doctor may suggest that you have tests if you are already pregnant to find out if your baby has down syndrome. You may decide to have screening tests, such as an ultrasound or a blood test during your first or second trimester. These can help show if the developing baby is at risk for down syndrome. These tests, however, sometimes give false-positive or false-negative results. You can also opt to have a diagnostic test, such as amniocentesis. This can show if a baby has down syndrome. You may want to have these tests if you have abnormal results from a screening test or if you are worried about down syndrome.

Starting soon after birth, a baby with down syndrome will be tested for health problems. Many children with down syndrome are born with heart, intestine, ear, thyroid, or breathing problems. These health conditions often lead to other problems, such as respiratory infections or hearing loss.

Most of these problems, however, can be treated. Regular doctor visits can help the child stay in good health. Most children with down syndrome need speech therapy and physiotherapy. Teens and adults with down syndrome may need occupational therapy to learn job skills and learn how to live on their own. Earlier this month we discussed what occupational therapy and speech therapy entailed, and will make an effort to run something on physiotherapy soon. Counselling may help with social skills and emotional issues.

Because children with down syndrome sometimes have low muscle tone, they may need help at home to strengthen their muscles through directed play. As the child gets older, you can work with a physiotherapist and doctor to design an exercise programme to help your child maintain and increase muscle strength and physical skills.

In other countries, individuals with down syndrome have the opportunity to participate in a variety of postsecondary education programmes, such as academic programmes or courses at colleges or universities, vocational or training programs, such as apprenticeships and trade schools, or innovative programmes that combine these two types of education. Successful transitioning will not only depend on a good understanding of the individual's personal strengths and interests, but also on knowledge of what options and services are available in the community. And herein lies our problem in Swaziland. There aren't many choices for people with down syndrome in terms of schools, let alone career opportunities. Earlier this year we published an article about a Cape Town coffee shop, Downies & Brownies, which trains young adults with down syndrome for retail and hospitality industries. It is an initiative that would certainly change many lives if it came to our shores.

\*Additional information obtained from National Down Syndrome Society and Mayo Clinic websites.



# Aspire

## A Youth Section On Youth Issues By The Youth



### WRITER'S NOTE...

**G**reetings to you dear readers, and welcome once again to your favourite youth section on the land - ASPIRE where we aim to INSPIRE young people to ACHIEVE what they ASPIRE.

A fortnight ago, ANATII was in the country. Yes, the ARTTIFACT tour was in our beautiful Kingdom and De Javu was lit! Big shout to Shadow – the grandfather of thing! - You youngsters better be learning.

Anyways, the main man on the night ANATII brought the house down with a killer performance with a smartly selected playlist.

The boy knows his thing, and his production is undoubtedly up as one of the crème le de crème in our continent. We couldn't let you down, so we made sure to get some words of advice from him.

Read the interview on this very page.

On the next page, we have the Sunday Podium, where I share my thoughts on the whole MP's rejecting this year's budget tabled by minister of Finance Martin Dlamini.

On the next page, we bring you pictures from DJ Tira's show.

Yes the UNISWA opening bash. We were there and here are a few snaps. We round everything off with ISTAYELA SYALAHLELA, and today we discuss the issue of record labels.

Let's continue the conversation at [sbusisodlaminitheg@gmail.com](mailto:sbusisodlaminitheg@gmail.com)/

Have a good read and till next time

## DON'T FORGET TO PRAY - ANATII

“And please bra, remind the youth that they should never forget to pray.”

Those were the last words by South African musical genius Anatii when we concluded the interview.

This was a day after the 24 year old youngster, real name Anathi Mnyango had set the De Ja Vu cocktail lounge alight with a lit performance.

Not much is known about him, (Thank of course, his music) and his rise to the top, as some have assumed that he blew up quick, yet he had always been part of the industry.

His production is undoubtedly one of the best in the African music industry. So, we got to have an interview

### ADVICE TO UP-AND COMING-RAPPERS

“You have to love what you do. Love it with all your life. It should be what you breathe and what you live.

Then that's a start. After that dedicate yourself and be very passionate.

Nothing is going to fall in place overnight, so be passing and wait for your time.

Don't compromise on the work

though, get better every time. Never lose hope!

If you want to be in the music industry, perfect your talent. Know your strengths and be clear with your weaknesses.

It is true that it's a dog eat dog industry, and you need to make sure that you make it by putting in a lot of work. And over everything, don't forget to pray.

with Anatii to get a few words of advice from him.

Firstly, we wanted to hear about the reception he has got from Swazis. “The reception was humbling. The performance was great, and I can't even find the perfect words to describe it.

The feeling I got from performing for all those people who were all pumped up was awesome. They sang along to my lyrics, and that was more than just great. This was my second visit to the country, and I have to say, I am in love with your country. Swaziland is such a tranquil and peaceful country, with amazing people.”

Late last year, In September to be precise, he dropped his debut album – Arttiifact, and we quizzed him on the feedback he's been getting.

“People are loving the music man. I can't believe it. It's not your chart-

ing topping kind of album, but the great reviews that I've been hearing are truly humbling, honestly!

After the 10 Fingers hit-track, we've kept our ears on the ground for rumours on a joint project between him and the Mega, so since we had gotten the opportunity, we asked him if it was true, and if it was - how far they were with the completion of the album? (Since we know there are fire tracks like Holy Matrimony, which we heard in AKA's doocie, and oh who can ever forget THE SAGA.) “Yes, it's true that me and AKA are working on something and that we plan on dropping sometime this year. We'll see as the year progresses. I like working with people who are passionate about their art, and that's the thing that makes us tick with AKA. We both love music too much, and therefore cannot afford to settle for mediocrity.”



**B**asically, I am a DJ from Botswana. As you heard my set today, I do both house and hip hop depending on the crowd. Today (UNISWA opening bash) was more of a house day, so I gave the crowd exactly that. The only advice I can give to young people who want to be disk Jockeys, is that they've got to make sure that they love what they are doing, and brace themselves for some hard work. You need to sacrifice a lot of time, and a lot of things. I also want to add that formal education is also very important. I always think it's better to study music to add on the talent, because this is a very hard industry. Don't let anyone tell you that you can never be what you want.



Your future is in your hands, take charge of your destiny. Also break boundaries and do what has never been done before. I am about to

open the first night club in my city. It's a scary idea but I'm keen on making sure that I do it, hence I am also urging young people in Swaziland

to do so as well. Follow your dreams, but be clear with the fact that they'll be a lot of hate, sweat and hardly any sleep along the way.



## SUNDAY PODIUM



# NOTHING BUT RUBBER STAMPS

By Sibusiso Dlamini

This past week, I had a conversation with a friend who ASPIRES to join the dirty game of politics. It was a really interesting conversation we had, especially considering her age and gender.

She was livid with the issue of MPs being told to zip it on the budget. She argues that when the people's representatives can't have a say in how the country's monies should be spent, then we are not democratic at all.

I stood for a moment, to soak everything she said in. I then realised, that everything she said was true.

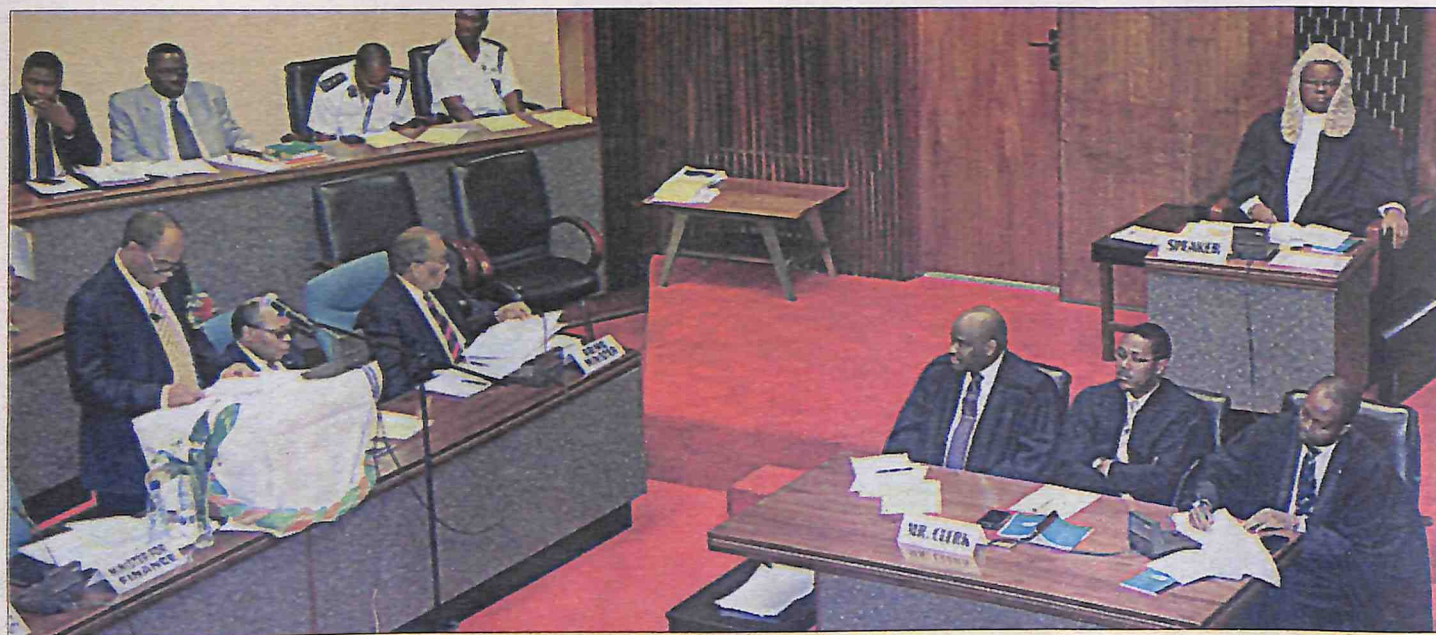
I also got to really understand that these recent act by the Executive arm of government brings back the old debate on the legislative arm of government's role under the Tinkhundla system of governance.

What is the role that MPs play under this system of governance and has it been effective?

Yes, I do admit that the act to reject the budget by the MPs was really misplaced and just one of their silly stunts to try score political points. How predictable they are these lot!

I do admit that we have a crisis as a country, hence it is worrying that in these critical times in our nation, we still have our 'decision makers' being concerned by nothing else but themselves and their stomachs.

I also acknowledge that they



are politically inexperienced; call them novices if you want.

Yes, they do immature things, and still have that egg in their faces - with Themba Msibi still their Speaker. And how sure they were that the plan to oust him had succeeded. But he presides in front of them, till this very day.

And it's funny that they (MPs) accuse the Executive of being removed from reality, but they themselves are out of touch with the real issues on the ground. Instead of focusing on real issues on the ground, they are busy with fatuous cheap political point scoring attempts, which only waste the taxpayer's time and money.

Members of Parliament are honesty clueless as to what their

role is, and therefore act like kindergarten kids in a candy shop, *bayanhlanhlatseka*, as the PM once gave a fitting description of them.

They easily get too excited, and oh lawd, do they never learn! But through all these faults they have, I plead that we do not miss the point.

There's a point we cannot afford to miss. We must remember that we have three arms of government, which should all be independent of the other in their operations.

Now one of the tasks that the legislative arm has is to critic decisions by the Executive.

But I guess we can now safely say, the people we vote for have no say, whatsoever, on how the country is and should be run.

And that's my major concern. The fact that we don't seem concerned about this as the public, is wrong.

Yes, we knew when we heard about this hullabaloo that they were just making a lot of unnecessary noise, instead of focusing on real issues, but if they can't have a say on the budget, the million dollar question then is - who represents the populace when decisions are made in the country?

And that's where the problem lies. We pay people who don't want to be held accountable.

They don't want to tell us how they spend our money, and they don't want our input on how we want our money to be spent. Typical of Swazi politics, but very disheartening.

Well mainly because, the Tinkhundla system of governance still has to be explained to a lot of people.

And His Majesty has always delivered speeches to Heads of State explaining to them how our system of governance works. The plan may really look good on paper, but the people tasked with implementing it are failing. Dismally!

In turn, they are letting His Majesty down, and are watering his efforts of developing this nation. When I heard of what the head of the Executive, the PM had to say to PMs, on them rejecting the budget, I felt like reading Senate President Gelane Zwane's 2015 speech during the opening of Parliament, I really don't know why.



# UNISWA OPENING BASH



DJ Tira on the ones and twos. This was during the official opening bash of UNISWA, at the Prince of Wales Grounds last week Saturday. (Pics: Sibusiso Dlamini)

## NAAKMUSIQ'S CORNER



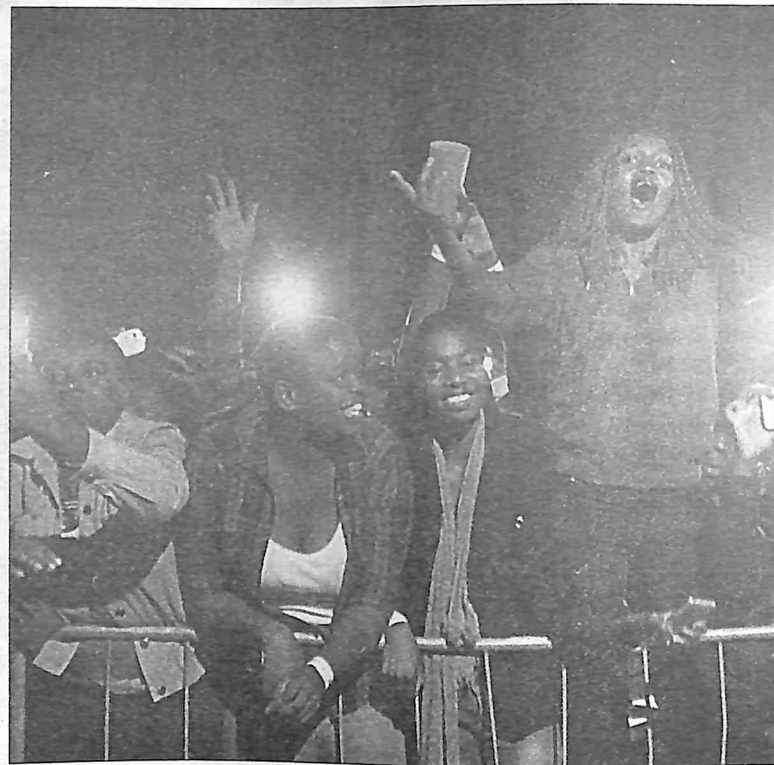
Skeel displaying his deejaying skills.



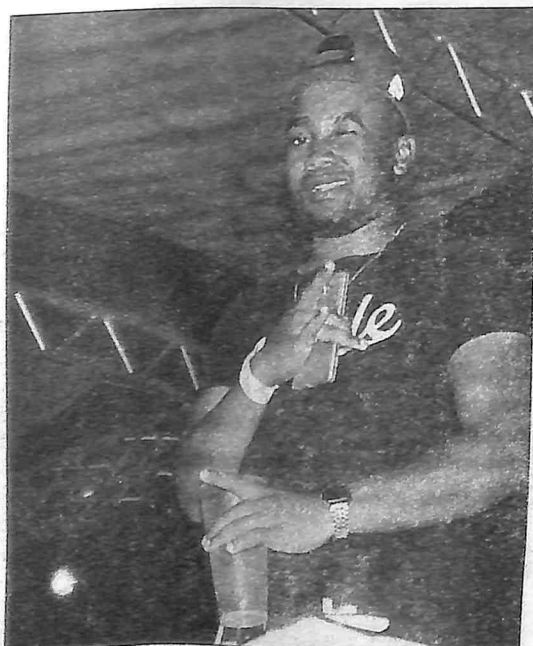
Lyrical Busta serenading them with his backup singers.



This young lady could not contain herself as she moved to the beat all night long.



These revellers thoroughly enjoyed themselves at the event.



Mavele, who was the MC for the day, posing for the camera.



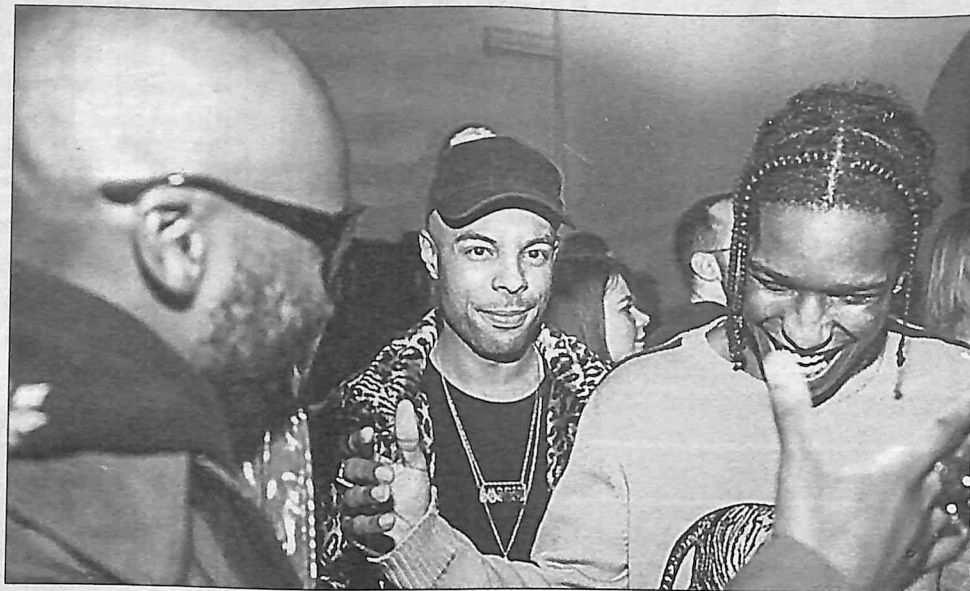
Ncwiki F feeling himself on stage.



These three ladies had a memorable outing at the VIP section.



# ISTAYELA S'YALAHLELA



By Sibusiso Dlamini

**T**he issue of record labels has always been debated in the music circles ever since the days of Eazy E. But most recently, we have seen it happening to a lot of youngsters that have grown in our generation.

Well the most recent has to be Ricky Rick's one. He announced that he has officially left Mabala Noise. This was after his shady lyrics - 'If these nig\*\* buy these f\*\*\*\*\* awards, then I don't want them' which happened to coincide with the speech he delivered when accepting his Metro award. "Don't play with the people; they are not stupid," was part of what he said before his speech was cut off.

He literally dissed radio stations, at a radio awards show! But he then announced that 'after prayer and conversations with God', he had decided to leave Mabala Noise. Okay no comment.

We move on to the second one - A-Reece, Fifi Cooper and Benchmark all leaving Ambiotioz Entertainment who were dominating awards recently.

A-Reece released a track titled 'Loyal' where he claims they earned less than 20k per month and the PR was buying cars they couldn't afford as artists. He further delved into more controversial matters - claiming talented afro soul singer Amanda Black hasn't seen her platinum plaque.

But the point is, they also claimed there were funny things done with

their money. Emtee, on the other hand, claims those that left are jealous of what he has.

Also Zahara has left TS Records. I haven't heard much about the situation but she said something about leaving the label making more business sense for her.

AKA, yes the Supermega also left

Vth Entertainment claiming they looted his money. He also came with the shady lyrics - 'Record labels acting like Suge Knight.' Those who know the name know very well who Suge Knight is. We all know he is a business minded artist but they somehow managed to take some of his money. He has now ventured into his own

business, the Beam group of companies. So to all you up-and-coming youngsters, learn and be smart. Don't sign anything before reading. Never forget that this is a cruel world where people are capable of doing anything for money. It's very important to know the history of any profession you get into, for example, as a journalist it's

an open secret to know that you become the worst person among your family, because you become a workaholic who puts work above everything else, yet the fourth estate 'ain't' really that financially appetising, - all about the passion fam. So of course, it's any scribe's duty to do some proper financial planning.

## RECORD LABELS ACTING LIKE SUGE KNIGHT

*...The rich man either nurtures your talent or he exploits it, but somehow the latter can never be avoided*

### SK AND EIMSOLFY

**I**t was a great performance today. The crowd loved it as they enjoyed every single track we performed. I think it can also be attributed to good work from us as it validates the fact that we have the varsity crowd on lock. They are our main target market at the time, and today we performed for them once again.

This year, we are working on more performances, and more music. We are really determined to showcasing the work we've been doing.





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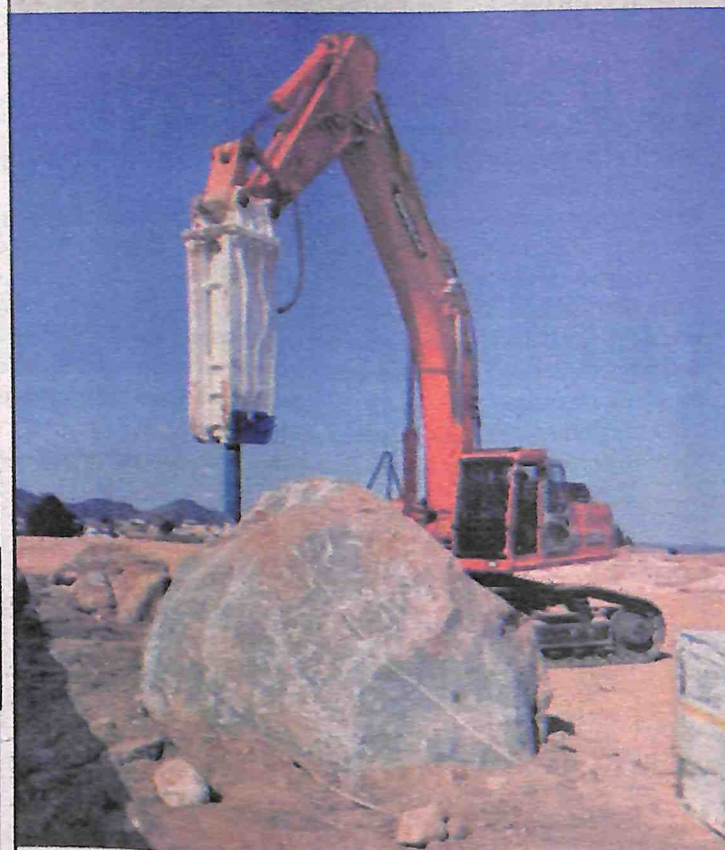
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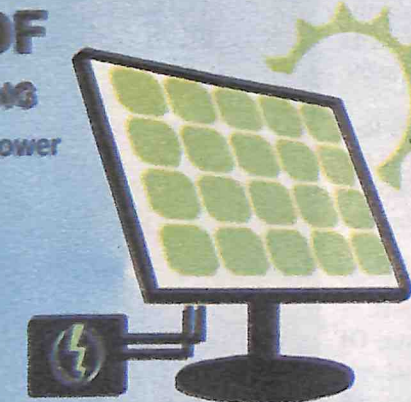
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# 'COUTINHO'S FORM HAS BEEN 'UP AND DOWN'

**L**ONDON - Liverpool Manager Jurgen Klopp has no concerns about the form of Philippe Coutinho despite the Brazilian struggling to recapture his best since returning from an ankle injury.

The 24-year-old was one of the standout performers during the first four months of the campaign, scoring six times in his first 12 appearances and creating numerous other chances.

However, he missed seven weeks with an ankle injury sustained at the end of November, and since returning he has not rediscovered the same level.

His only goal in the dozen matches he has played since coming back was a consolation effort in the shock 3-1 defeat at Leicester.

He was substituted after an hour following an anonymous performance in last weekend's win over Burnley, but Klopp is prepared to be patient with his playmaker.

"That's the life of an outstandingly good football player like Phil," he said.

"The influence of him on the game is really big. If he is not at 100 per cent you miss something, that's how it is.

"But two weeks ago, we played Arsenal and he did really well. Yes, Burnley again was not the best game, but he misses in this moment - which is pretty normal after a long injury - this kind of consistency.

"But the training week so far was perfect, he presented himself really well; it was fluent, confident and looked really well.

"There are always steps in this direction. Sometimes it works. It's about, in this moment, consistency but he is in a really good way."

Klopp will hope for a big performance from Coutinho

against top-four

rivals

Manchester

City at the

Etihad Stadium

today, especially

with fitness

doubts hanging

over his compa-

triot Roberto

Firmino and striker

Divock Origi.

With Daniel

Sturridge still not

recovered from a

hip injury which

has kept him out

since early February

and fellow striker

Danny Ings ruled

out for the season

with a serious

knee problem.

Liverpool's forward

line is look-

ing a little bit light.

Captain Jordan Henderson is not expected to return from a foot problem until the Merseyside derby after the international break, but on the positive front defender Dejan Lovren is fully fit after a 75-minute run out for the Under-23s on Monday.

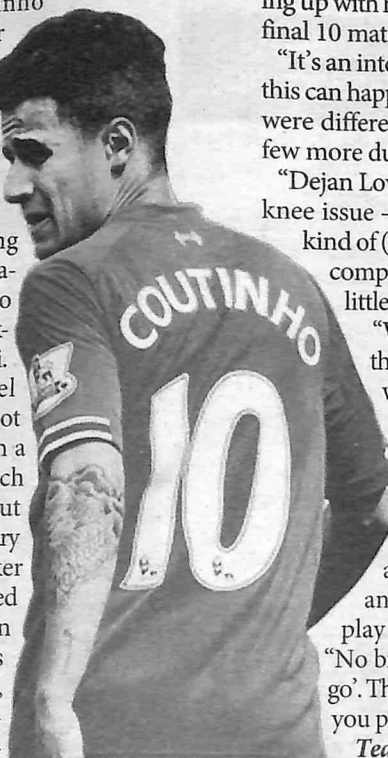
Klopp does not believe fatigue is catching up with his players heading into the final 10 matches of the campaign.

"It's an intense season and things like this can happen. All the injuries we had were different, different players had a few more during the season," he said.

"Dejan Lovren had, for four weeks, a knee issue - nothing was fatigue. It's kind of (because) the body is a very complex thing and sometimes a little thing has a big influence.

"We took a little time to find the cause, a lot of specialists were looking for it, then he was fit again and he got a knee in his back when we trained set-pieces. That happens too. "There are different reasons for it, for all of us, it's a long season and especially players who play for their national teams. "No breaks, it's always: 'Go, go, go'. That makes it more likely that you pick up a few injuries."

Teamtalk



## 'Facing Guardiola motivates me'

**L**ONDON - Manchester United star Zlatan Ibrahimovic admits that he is extra motivated and gets adrenaline when facing former coach Pep Guardiola.

The duo were together at Barcelona for a season in 2009-10, but their relationship was notoriously fractious and the striker made the move to AC Milan after only one season at Camp Nou.

Ibrahimovic and Guardiola find themselves in the Premier League, the striker at United and the manager at Manchester rivals City.

The 35-year-old Ibrahimovic said taking on Guardiola's teams gave him more inspiration, although

he insisted it was nothing personal. "When I play against his team, it's something that motivates me, it gives me adrenaline," he told Fox Sports Italia.

"It's not personal what I have. It's part of the game."

Ibrahimovic and Guardiola won the Spanish title in their season at Barca, with the Swede scoring 16 league goals.

He Swede explained that his relationship with the former Bayern Munich coach changed quickly.

"First he called me every day to have me and from one day to the next I didn't play anymore," Ibrahimovic said.

Goal



Harry Redknapp.

## Redknapp 'interested' in Middlesbrough job

**L**ONDON - Harry Redknapp wants the Middlesbrough job, according to a report yesterday.

Redknapp, 70, "is interested in returning to management with Middlesbrough should Steve Agnew's spell in charge prove unsuccessful", report the Daily Mail.

The former Spurs boss has not worked in the Premier League since leaving QPR in 2015 but he is apparently keen on succeeding Aitor Karanka, who was axed this week. Redknapp's assistant at Tottenham, Joe Jordan has been named Boro's assistant manager and he will offer advice to Steve Agnew who is in caretaker charge.

Boro owner Steve Gibson wants Agnew to take the reins until the end of the season and if he can manage a positive result against Manchester United tomorrow then he may well find himself in pole position for the permanent job.

Speaking in The Times today Gibson suggested Agnew is a seri-

ous contender for the post.

"I've known Steve a long time," said Gibson. "He's a very good coach and a very good number two."

"There's more to him than people know and a bit more steel. Steve could be a surprise number one."

"That may disappoint those people who want glamour and somebody to come in ready-made, a sexy name, but that's now what we need at this point."

Redknapp however is believed to be keen to get back into the game having recently been in charge of Jordan and having a spell as Derby's football advisor during Darren Wassall's spell as interim manager.

Redknapp has reportedly applied for the Ghana national job after Avram Grant recently resigned.

He had a short stint in charge of the Jordan national team last year and was also made Derby's football advisor for Darren Wassall's spell as interim manager from February to May last year.

Teamtalk

## I wasn't good enough for Mourinho - Memphis

**L**ONDON - Memphis Depay has said that he feels he never learned the trust of Jose Mourinho at Manchester United, and so leaving Old Trafford was not difficult to do.

The Netherlands international was sold to Lyon in January for £16 million, having rarely featured under the Portuguese, who took charge at Old Trafford from Louis van Gaal in the summer of 2016.

Memphis had only been at the Red Devils 12 months longer, but he felt it was the right time to bring his stay to an end and is pleased with the start he has made at Lyon.

"I have no bitterness towards Mourinho," he told beIN Sport. "I did what I had to do in training. Of course, I didn't understand his choices, but he was the boss. I had to accept those choices. I think I was not good enough for him. But it's okay, I'm showing my quality here."

"I'll be back to the top and we'll see what will happen."

"Leaving Manchester United? That was not complicated. I'm young, I need to play."

"When I think about the last time I played a whole 90 minutes before coming here, it was a year ago. It's incredible."

The 23-year-old has made a positive start in France, scoring five times in nine Ligue 1 appearances, including a stunning goal from the halfway line against Toulouse last weekend.

Goal



## Arsenal commitment not enough

**L**ONDON - Nacho Monreal has promised Arsenal fans that they will see an improvement in their side's fortunes in the coming weeks after suggesting the commitment levels of the squad have been below what they should be. The full-back, 31, is a member of the team that exited the Champions League due to an embarrassing loss against Bayern Munich and has seen their Premier League title hopes

fade since the Christmas period.

Since the beginning of February, the Gunners have lost four of seven fixtures, recording wins against non-league opponents Sutton and Lincoln in the FA Cup, as well as relegation-threatened Hull. It is a state of affairs the Spaniard knows is not good enough. "We have had difficult games, but maybe our commitment hasn't been enough [lately]," Monreal said.



# NIEKERK, USAIN BOLT HEADLINE JAMAICAN MEET

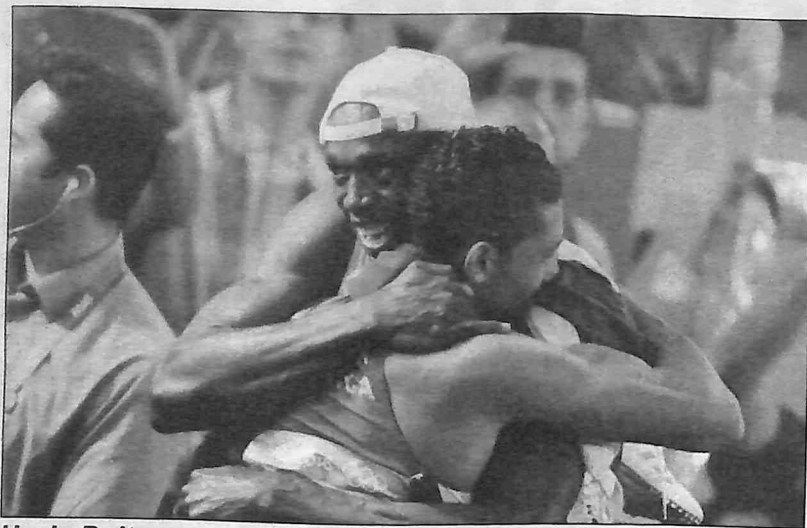
**K**INGSTON - Usain Bolt, fellow world record holders David Rudisha and Wayde van Niekerk and middle distance king Mo Farah will headline the JN Racers Grand Prix on June 10, organisers announced on Friday. The meet dubbed a 'salute to the legend' is set to be Bolt's last professional race in Jamaica as the eight-time Olympic sprint champion closes the meet in the 100m.

"It will be my last competition on home soil ... I might shed a tear even though I'm not an emotional person as I close out where it started on Jamaican soil," Bolt told reporters, adding that he was eyeing a time of under 9.8 seconds.

"I'm feeling good ... the fact that I got a few sprints in at the Nitro series in January and I've come back to training, I'm feeling good, coach is happy with the fluency that I have so that's a good sign.

"I haven't really run a fast time early in the season, so for me to a run 9.7 would be very good and I think that would be sufficient enough to say that's a very special time," added the man who won the 100m and 200m at the past three Olympics.

Coach Glen Mills has little doubt Bolt will be ready to give his home fans a siz-



Usain Bolt congratulates Wayde van Niekerk.

zling farewell.

"Based on the standard he (Bolt) sets himself I'm sure he'll be in good shape to give the people a performance," Mills told Reuters. Bolt will end his career at the world championships in London in August.

He will share the spotlight at the Kingston meet, at least partially, with a decorated group, including two-time Olympic 800m champion Rudisha of Kenya.

Briton Farah, double Olympic gold medallist in the 5 000m and 10 000m,

will also be in action, along with American dual Olympic triple jump champion Christian Taylor. Also scheduled to compete will be South African Van Niekerk, who electrified the Rio Olympics with a world record of 43.03 in the 400m.

Bolt hinted that his 200m world record of 19.19 could one day be under threat from van Niekerk, whose best mark is 19.94.

"Just knowing him, he's a very determined person and he trains really hard," said Bolt. **REUTERS**

## Kuznetsova, Vesnina set up all-Russian Indian Wells final

**I**NDIAN WELLS - Svetlana Kuznetsova toppled world number three Karolina Pliskova 7-6 (7/5), 7-6 (7/2) on Friday, to book an all-Russian Indian Wells final against Elena Vesnina.

Vesnina powered past France's Kristina Mladenovic 6-3, 6-4, continuing a sparkling campaign that has seen her shock German's soon-to-be world number one Angelique Kerber in the fourth round and seven-time Grand Slam champion Venus Williams in the quarter-finals.

It's a sharp turnaround from Vesnina's first-round ouster in qualifying here last year, and marks her first trip to a final of one of the WTA's elite Premier Mandatory events.

World number eight Kuznetsova is back in the Indian Wells final for the first time since back-to-back runner-up finishes in 2007 and 2008.

She withstood 10 aces from Pliskova, who has already won titles at Brisbane and Doha this year.

"I tried my best to fight every point," said the 31-year-old Kuznetsova, owner

of two Grand slam singles titles who enjoyed a resurgence in 2016, winning two titles as she returned to the top 10 in the world for the first time since 2010. "Karolina is one of the best players this year."

After falling behind 5-3, the Czech made Kuznetsova work to close out the opening set, saving a set point in the ninth game and four more in the tiebreaker after Kuznetsova seized a 6-2 lead in the decider.

A double fault left Kuznetsova with one more chance at 6-5, and she grabbed it with a forehand passing shot.

After an exchange of breaks in the second they went to the tiebreaker, where Kuznetsova again took a 6-2 lead and the increasingly frustrated Pliskova surrendered with a string of errors.

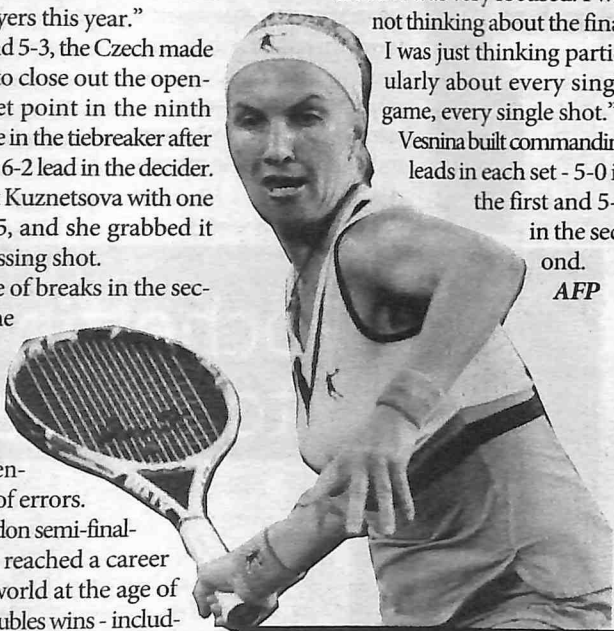
Vesnina, a Wimbledon semi-finalist last year who has reached a career high of 15th in the world at the age of 30, said important doubles wins - including a gold medal at the 2016 Rio Olympics

- had helped her big-match composure. "It's not easy to hold your nerve," she said. "But I'm really happy the way I handled it. I was very focused. I was not thinking about the final.

I was just thinking particularly about every single game, every single shot."

Vesnina built commanding leads in each set - 5-0 in the first and 5-1 in the second.

**AFP**



Svetlana Kuznetsova.

## Maharaj sets 'impossible' win for SA

**W**ELLINGTON - South African captain Faf du Plessis hailed an "impossible" victory after the Proteas recovered from a desperate situation to win the second Test against New Zealand by eight wickets in Wellington yesterday.

Keshav Maharaj took a career best six wickets as New Zealand crumpled in their second innings and needed just 25 overs to reach the modest 81 to win.

Just five sessions after South Africa were on the ropes, they found themselves with an unbeatable 1-0 lead in the series with one Test to play.

New Zealand captain Kane Williamson branded the change in fortunes and his side's second innings capitulation when

they were out for 171, as a "very, very poor" effort. But du Plessis said the result was testimony to the determination of the South Africans.

"It's happened a few times this season where we've been in impossible situations," he said.

"At lunch-time yesterday, 90 for six, it's not too long ago, and here we are.

"We've somehow found this ability to have a lot of faith in our batting line-up or whatever, for guys in the team to stand up when there's a pressure situation."

From being 94 for six before lunch on Friday, South Africa rallied to be all out for 359 to take a 91-run lead into the second innings.

On a flattening track and with nearly

three days remaining, there was time for New Zealand to mount a strong comeback. Instead their second innings was done in 63.2 overs with a career best 80 by Jeet Raval and a 65-run partnership between Raval and BJ Watling (29) the only sign of resistance.

Raval's dismissal signalled the beginning of the end as the last five wickets fell for 16 runs. Faced with the guile of Maharaj's left-arm spin and the seam and bounce of Morne Morkel, New Zealand struggled through their second innings. Maharaj finished with six for 40, the best figures and second five-wicket haul in his fledgling six-Test career while Morkel took the top off the New Zealand innings, including the key wicket of Kane Williamson, to have three for 50. **AFP**

## Federer to face Sock after ailing Kyrgios withdraws

**I**NDIAN WELLS - Roger Federer reached the 10th Indian Wells Masters semi-final of his career by walkover on Friday as Australian Nick Kyrgios withdrew from their highly anticipated quarter-final with food poisoning.

Federer, a four-time champion in the California desert, will take on 17th-seeded American Jack Sock, who toppled fourth-seeded Kei Nishikori of Japan 6-3, 2-6, 6-2. "Unfortunately I am unable to play today due to sickness," Kyrgios said on Twitter. "At this stage we think it's food poisoning, and I'm praying it's nothing more."

Kyrgios had been due to face Federer after knocking out Novak Djokovic in the last 16 on Wednesday.

The Australian's illness is a cruel twist of fate for the talented 21-year-old, who has shown signs of finally starting to deliver on his promise in recent weeks after a young career marked by controversy.

His stylish win over Djokovic was the second time in as many weeks he had beaten the former world number one after also defeating the Serb in Acapulco.

In his statement on Friday, the world number 16 said he had taken the decision to pull out in California

with a heavy heart.

"After a restless night of being sick, I have nothing left and to play a great champion like Roger I need to be at my best to have a chance," Kyrgios said. "I don't take this decision lightly, these are the matches we train for, but I'm in no fit state to take to the court," he added.

"I'm sorry to the fans... but I have to put my health first and I hope you understand."

Federer, meanwhile, tweeted his support to the Australian youngster. "Hope you feel better @NickKyrgios," said the Swiss ace, who took the court briefly on Friday to speak to disappointed fans. "I was actually really looking forward to the match," said Federer, who had looked sharp in a 6-2, 6-3 dismantling of Rafael Nadal in the fourth round - a reprise of his thrilling five-set victory over his old foe in the Australian Open final.

Federer's 18th Grand Slam title in January came after a frustrating 2016 campaign marred by injury. "I think the six months of last year was really difficult," Federer said. "I played one tournament where I felt normal. All the other tournaments either I was sick, hurt or injured." **AFP**

## Hoffman shoots 66 to seize lead at Palmer event

**M**IAAMI - Charley Hoffman fired a six-under-par 66 on Friday to seize a one-shot lead after the second round of the Arnold Palmer Invitational at Bay Hill while Rory McIlroy continued to struggle.

The 40-year-old American opened with a bogey but recovered with seven pars to stand on 10-under 134 after 36 holes at the famed Orlando course where Palmer, the golfing legend who died last September, hosted the US PGA event for many years.

"If you get in the fairway you can sort of attack," Hoffman said. "The greens are surprisingly receptive. You can shoot at some of those pins that in the past you haven't and I was able to take advantage of it. A pretty solid round. I'm pretty happy. I hope I can keep it going the next few days."

Hoffman finished one stroke ahead of Argentina's Emiliano Grillo - who had two eagles, two birdies and two bogeys in a round of 68 - and two in front of Britain's Matthew Fitzpatrick, who had shared the 18-hole lead with

Grillo.

Northern Ireland's McIlroy, preparing for his bid at a career Grand Slam in three weeks at the Masters, fired a 71 Friday to stand 11 adrift on 145.

McIlroy, a four-time major champion, opened on the back nine with back-to-back bogeys, sending his first tee shot way left and his second into a fairway bunker.

The world number three birdied the par-5 12th, sank a 30-foot eagle putt at the par-5 16th, then sent his tee shot at the par-3 16th into the water on the way to a double bogey.

McIlroy, 27, completed the roller-coaster opening nine with a nine-foot birdie putt at 18 before closing with eight pars and a birdie at the par-5 fourth.

World number two Jason Day of Australia was in a pack on 141 shooting 71 Friday, a nine-foot eagle putt at 16 his highlight.

Hoffman, at Bay Hill for the first time since 2013, seeks his fifth US PGA crown and his first since last April's Texas Open. **AFP**



Charley Hoffman.





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# POGBA INJURY GIVES JOSE MOURINHO FRESH HEADACHE

**M**ANCHESTER - Paul Pogba's absence has given Jose Mourinho another headache as Manchester United look to revive their Champions League qualification hopes at managerless Middlesbrough today.

United midfielder Pogba will miss the Premier League fixture, plus France's forthcoming matches against Luxembourg and Spain, with a hamstring problem sustained during Thursday's 1-0 Europa League victory over Rostov.

Mourinho is hopeful Pogba, who has had an inconsistent season following his world record move from Juventus, will be ready after the next international break.

But the United manager will have to rejig his midfield as he attempts to boost his team's challenge for a place in next season's Champions League.

In truth, their best hope of qualifying for that competition may be to win the Europa League, given that they go into the weekend in sixth in the table, six points behind fourth placed Liverpool.

United must face Middlesbrough not only without Pogba, but also minus top scorer Zlatan Ibrahimovic and midfielder Ander Herrera, both suspended, and they may also be missing defender Daley Blind, who suffered a head injury against Rostov.

Thursday's win set up a two-legged Europa League quarter-final tie against Anderlecht next month, but also added

to the fixture congestion that has left Mourinho deeply unhappy.

The Portuguese coach was not pleased that their FA Cup quarter-final defeat at Chelsea, originally scheduled for last weekend, was moved to Monday so it could be televised.

He has also criticised the Premier League for ordering the match at Middlesbrough to kick-off at 1200 GMT, again to suit the demands of television, arguing that a later kick-off today would have given his players a crucial extra few hours to rest.

"We have lots of enemies. It's difficult to play Monday with 10 men, it's difficult to play on Thursday, it's difficult to play 12 o'clock on Sunday," he said.

"I don't think it's

a funny situation. When I watch marathons and people go to their limit, I don't think it is funny, and I don't think it's funny some of my players in six weeks play 11 matches.

"Play on Monday with 10 men, enjoying five hours on the M6 coming back to Manchester.

"We are living all these things and let's see if Sunday we get a point. That would be great result."

United captain Wayne Rooney, left out of the England squad for the forthcoming matches against Germany and Lithuania, has declared himself fit after a recent knee injury, and may be recalled.

Meanwhile, Steve Agnew insists he can fill the void left by the sacking of Middlesbrough boss Aitor Karanka.

The club's assistant manager has stepped in as caretaker after the Spaniard's stormy three-and-a-half year reign was brought to an end with the Teessiders second-bottom of the Premier League and in danger of an immediate return to the Championship. *Goal*



## Fernandinho hopes City can bounce back against Liverpool

**M**ANCHESTER - Midfielder Fernandinho has urged Manchester City to cast aside their painful Champions League exit at the hands of Monaco and make a swift return to winning ways in today's Premier League clash against Liverpool at the Etihad Stadium.

City were fiercely criticised after the Champions League last-16 tie against Monaco, which they lost on away goals as the French side brutally exposed their fragile defence in a 6-6 aggregate draw.

"We have to keep our heads up. It's a great game to play -- especially at home in front of our fans. We have to give an answer to our

fans," Fernandinho told the club's website. "It (Monaco) was not the result we wanted."

Fernandinho remained optimistic about City's chances of picking up silverware this season as they sit third in the league, 10 points behind leaders Chelsea, and take on Arsenal in the FA Cup semi-final at Wembley next month. "We have two competitions to play -- the league is not finished yet and we have the semi-final of the FA Cup so we are looking forward to that," the 31-year-old Brazilian added.

City are a point and a place above Liverpool, who have played one game more.

*Reuters*

## Karanka 'sacrificed himself' for Middlesbrough

**L**ONDON - Middlesbrough Chairman Steve Gibson has praised Manager Aitor Karanka for "sacrificing himself" as the club battle relegation.

The former Real Madrid assistant boss left the Riverside by mutual agreement on Thursday after arriving in 2013 and leading Boro to the Premier League. But with the club second from bottom of the standings, a fresh approach was required.

"He sacrificed himself," Gibson told The Times. "I know people are cynical when you say that a decision was mutual, but he wasn't sacked."

"He's in a good frame of mind. I think he's relieved. He has been

enormous for our club. He has progressed us and he will have learned an enormous amount from this experience.

"I had a lot of discussions with Aitor since the weekend. We agreed that a different approach is required."

"Aitor is tired, he has worked so hard for our football club over the last three and half years and the tension surrounding the end of last season would have taken its toll on anyone. Then we had a very busy summer."

Caretaker boss Steve Agnew will be in charge when Boro tackle Manchester United in the Premier League today.

*Goal*

## 'Arsenal star a victim of of his own reputation'

**L**ONDON - Arsenal Manager Arsene Wenger believes Granit Xhaka has become an easy target for referees and fears his tough-tackling reputation now precedes him.

The 24-year-old Switzerland international arrived at the Emirates Stadium last summer as Wenger shelled out in excess of £30million to prise Xhaka away from Borussia Monchengladbach.

Despite such a fee, Xhaka found himself in and out of the Arsenal side at the beginning of the season and had only started four games before October.

The former Basle youngster came with a reputation for collecting red cards and was given his marching orders by referee Jon Moss in the 3-2 win over Swansea later that month.

Xhaka established himself in Wenger's side over the Christmas period before another sending-off against Burnley on January 22 saw him become the player in Europe's top five leagues with the most red cards since the start of last season

– and he has racked up nine in three years.

Although there have been no further dismissals since, Wenger admitted he is concerned about Xhaka being a marked man after seeing him cautioned in each of his last five games. "I believe he is now in a position where on the first foul he gets a yellow card. For example on Saturday (against Lincoln) – first foul, soft yellow card," the Arsenal boss said.

"So he is a victim a little bit of his reputation. You see tackles of some players who are much worse than what he did who don't even get a yellow card and he got a straight red and because he had a history of that in Germany, I think he is a bit of a victim of that."

"Overall he is quite in a positive way, he masters himself much better. He was maybe a little bit before looking too much to impress but overall he has to stay on this ground because it is tackling that can get him sent off. When he defends well, staying on his feet he is a fair player." *Goal*

## Pochettino expects Spurs to thrive without Kane

**L**ONDON - Mauricio Pochettino believes Tottenham are better equipped to cope without star striker Harry Kane than they were earlier this season, as they approach the defining point in their campaign.

Kane is sidelined for several weeks with ankle ligament damage sustained against Millwall in the FA Cup quarter-finals last weekend.

Tottenham last time failed to fill the void left by Kane's 10-game absence with the same injury, going six matches without a win during a lean run in October and November. But Pochettino believes his title hopefuls, who host Southampton today, will ensure there isn't another drop in form with England forward Kane back on the treatment table.

"It was a different period," he said. "We are finding our best form now and the team is more solid. We have improved a lot since then."

"We had a very difficult pre-season with players returning from Euro 2016, so today is a completely different period and we

are at a completely different level."

Kane will also miss England's friendly against Germany on March 22 and the World Cup qualifier against Lithuania four days later.

League matches in April against Burnley, Swansea City, Watford and Bournemouth could also come too soon, while an FA Cup semi-final against Chelsea is looming next month.

But Kane, who has 24 goals in all competitions this season, is confident he will return from injury ahead of schedule, according to Pochettino, and play some part in the run-in.

"We need to assess him day-by-day. He's very positive, he's always joking about being fit after the international break or in three or four weeks," Pochettino said.

"He's very positive and that is good, but at the same time we need to be careful with his injury."

"We trust completely in our doctor and physios and department that looks after them in the best way."

*Goal*





# South African SOCCER

## Stuart Baxter buoyed by improved PSL competition

**P**RETORIA - Supersport United coach Stuart Baxter believes the improved level of competition in the Absa Premiership has helped PSL clubs make a bigger mark in continental competition.

South African teams are going big in this weekend's CAF clashes, with Mamelodi Sundowns and Bidvest Wits in CAF Champions League action against Kampala Capital City Authority and Al Ahly respectively. Meanwhile, in the CAF Confederation Cup, Supersport face Al Ahly Shendi of Sudan today while Platinum Stars need to score two goals without conceding when

they host Vipers after losing 1-0 in Uganda.

Domestic clubs were heavily criticised in the past few years for not prioritising club tournaments in Africa, but things seem to have taken an upturn, highlighted by Sundowns' continental conquest last year.

And Baxter, who has been tipped with taking over the Bafana Bafana reins, says the reason why South African teams are slowly climbing the ladder is because the league is getting better and the experience gained in the past in Africa sojourn is now bearing fruit.

**KICKOFF**



Supersport United coach Stuart Baxter.

## BILLIAT'S CONCERNED ABOUT HIS FUTURE

**J**OHANNESBURG - Former Mamelodi Sundowns midfielder, Lionel Mutizwa, believes that Khama Billiat's ongoing contractual negotiations have nothing to do with money.

As reported in Soccer Laduma, Sundowns have offered the Zimbabwean ace a contract extension, with a view to securing his services for the long-term.

However, the player has yet to make up his mind about whether he wants to remain at Chloorkop.

Mutizwa says that Billiat will be weighing up his option and that Sundowns will still be able to compete, even without his services.

"For me, I think it could be the time that Khama moves

on now," the 32-year-old told Soccer Laduma.

"He could be weighing up his options.

Now he hasn't got much time left on his contract with Sundowns and maybe he's looking at the long term.

I think he's weighing up his options.

And, with all the quality they have, Sundowns are able to make do without him."

However, Mutizwa believes that Sundowns will be hoping to hold onto Billiat, considering the standard of quality that he offers on the pitch, but also that money will not determine the final outcome, even though the report revealed that he could become the highest paid player in the country.

**SOCCERLADUMA**



## 'NO ISSUE WITH MOKOTJO'S ELIGIBILITY'

**J**OHANNESBURG - Last week, Kamohelo Mokotjo was called up by interim Bafana Bafana coach Owen Da Gama for the upcoming friendlies against Guinea-Bissau and Angola.

The 26-year-old, who has subsequently retired from international football following a row with former Bafana coach Shakes Mashaba, has recently attained Dutch citizenship, bringing into question his eligibility to represent South Africa again.

Despite Da Gama admitting that he was unaware of Mokotjo's newly found nationality, reports had suggested that the South African Football Association (Safa) would investigate the

matter. With the national team players set to report for camp today, SAFA President Danny Jordaan has confirmed that the FC Twente defensive midfielder will report for international duty.

"No [there is no issue]," Jordaan told The Times.

"You [the media] made an issue. Where was Mokotjo born? In this country. Does he want to play for the country? Yes. Is he a South African? Yes."

"He was born here - how can he not be eligible?"

Jordaan also confirmed that Safa has spoken to the former SuperSport United academy graduate. "Watch him in his Bafana jersey in Durban," Jordaan concluded. **GOAL**



## Celtic, Chippa keeping tabs on Pirates' striker Kutumela

**J**OHANNESBURG - Bloemfontein Celtic and Chippa United are keeping tabs on Orlando Pirates striker Thabiso Kutumela with a view of making a move for the player at the end of the season.

The 23-year-old forward whose last PSL appearance for Bucs was against Maritzburg United, has fallen out-of-favour at Soweto giants.

Recent reports have suggested that the 2015/16 National First Division (NFD) Golden Boot winner is unhappy due to lack of game time.

An impeccable source has revealed to Goal that Celtic and Chippa are some of the Premier Soccer League (PSL) clubs that are monitoring

Kutumela's situation at Bucs.

"His lack of game time at Pirates has attracted interest from clubs which are willing to offer him regular game time," the source told Goal.

"But he is still tied to a long term contract at Pirates and there's still time for him to impress the new technical team and change his fortunes at the club," the source added.

"So far Celtic and Chippa are some of the teams that have been keeping tabs on the player's situation," the source concluded.

Kutumela has made six appearances in all competitions for the Buccaneers - netting once against Platinum Stars last September. **GOAL**



Thabiso Kutumela.

## PUBLIC NOTICE



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The Swazi Observer shall therefore not be held liable nor take responsibility for any dealings conducted with Mr Nkosinathi Methula.

**BY MANAGEMENT**

Swazi  
OBSERVER

OBSERVER  
ON SATURDAY

SUNDAY  
Observer



## 'Modric wanted me at Real Madrid'

**B**ARCELONA - Ivan Rakitic has revealed that Luka Modric tried to talk him into a move to Real Madrid before he took the decision to join Barcelona.

Having impressed with his creativity and consistency at Sevilla, the Croatia midfielder was a much sought-after talent in the summer of 2014.

The scramble for his signature was ultimately won by Barca, with a big-money agreement taking him to Camp Nou.

His career path could have been markedly different, though, had he listened to an international team-mate.

Modric had already been in Madrid for two years by the time Rakitic was presented with a big future call, and the former Tottenham playmaker was hoping to be joined by a familiar face.

Rakitic, though, has seen his decision to head for Catalonia justified by two La Liga titles, two Copa del Reys and a Champions League triumph, and the 29-year-old admits there is no way he could cross the divide now.

He told Cadena Ser when pressed on whether Modric had asked him to join Madrid: "Before, when I was with Sevilla, he did. It would be more difficult now!"

"He's a person I respect a lot. Of course, he's capable of playing for Barca because for me he is one of the top three players in the world in his position."

"I enjoy playing with him a lot and, with complete respect to everyone else, we see a different Madrid when he's there and when he's not." **GOAL**

## 'Man City want to be a winning machine'

**M**ANCHESTER - Yaya Toure insists Manchester City can still become a "winning machine" like Manchester United and Barcelona, despite their dramatic exit from this season's Champions League.

City crashed out against Monaco at the last-16 stage, losing 3-1 in the second leg to exit on away goals after a 6-6 aggregate draw.

But Toure believes City are still capable of reaching their goal of becoming a consistent winning force that compares to some of the most dominant teams in Europe.

Toure feels City do not get the same kind of recognition for their temperament as sides like United due to lacking their rivals' trophy-winning history, but he wants that to change.

Asked if City do not get the credit they deserve for their character, he told the Times of India: "Maybe yes, but I think that is because we don't have the history to show it."

"When you play a team like Manchester United, people always believe it because they have a story in that situation. They have done it before."

"We will build our own story. Of course, that [being as big as United] is the plan. The plan at this club was always to bring in big players to win big trophies and to change the club into a winning machine like Man United or Barcelona."

Toure still thinks City are capable of enjoying a successful season and will not give up on catching Premier League leaders Chelsea, who sit 10 points clear at the top with 11 games to go.

**GOAL**



Yaya Toure.

# ARSENAL SLIP TO FOURTH DEFEAT

**L**ONDON - It's undignified now. Being overwhelmed by Bayern Munich is one thing; West Bromwich quite another.

Tony Pulis' side didn't go the full Bayern; they stopped at three and didn't get to five. But they did enough damage to dig into Arsenal's wounds and expose the laughable fragility of this team.

"You don't know what you're doing" chanted the Arsenal fans in the stadium when, at 3-1 down, Alexis Sanchez was withdrawn for Alex Iwobi. And the 'Wenger Out' banners are no longer lonely protests. There were several displayed at the end, and this from Arsenal's hardcore away support.

All that ought not to overshadow West Bromwich Albion's performance, which was excellent. Pulis knew exactly which buttons to press to induce an Arsenal collapse and his players duly followed his instructions.

It will do, however. West Brom are merely playing for extra bonus money dependent on which mid-



Arsenal Manager Arsene Wenger.

table position they can secure. Arsenal are attempting to maintain a 19-year run in the Champions League. They may drop down to sixth by the end of the weekend if Manchester United beat Middlesbrough.

If this is Arsene Wenger's twilight year, it's not looking like ending well, an FA Cup run notwithstanding. Perhaps you are allowed one off year in 21? But you don't want it be your last. And yet there is no sign

that these Arsenal players are responding to whatever their manager is telling them.

The fight back which was promised after the Bayern debacle only encompassed Lincoln City. In serious competition. Arsenal players folded yet again. Leaderless on and off the pitch, it is no wonder fans are confused. Aeroplanes had been hired to trail banners, with one demanding 'No contract, Wenger Out',

another stating 'In Arsene we Trust.'

It looked to be a familiar Arsenal tale of woe when Craig Dawson headed home Nacer Chadli's delightful in-swinging corner on 13 minutes. Arsenal had already been exposed when Allan Nyom had charged down the right wing, leaving Granit Xhaka and Shkodran Mustafi in his wake. It was an extraordinary burst, ruined only by him pulling the ball harmlessly across goal when Salomon Rondon was waiting for the pass.

And there was Chris Brunt's superb through ball to James McClean and his equally-excellent strike, which forced a fine save from Petr Cech. All of this in the first 12 minutes before the goal, which featured a noticeable lack of marking and Darren Fletcher blocking Cech on the goal-line. All the familiar Arsenal tropes were featuring: the soft centre, the lack of defensive organisation, the absence of leadership with a Tony Pulis team thrown in for good measure.

**DAILYMAIL**

## Difficult to rest Messi - Luis Enrique

**B**ARCELONA - Barcelona boss Luis Enrique suggested Lionel Messi will have to be rested for some of an April packed with huge clashes, but that even the Catalan giants would struggle without the "best player in the world".

Messi has started every Barca game in 2017 and will do so once more when Valencia visit the Camp Nou today.

However, the Spanish champions face 10 games in April after a two-week international break, including a two-legged Champions League quarter-final against Juventus and crucial La Liga clashes against Sevilla and Real Madrid.

"To do without the best player in the world is difficult, but we have thought about resting him," said Enrique yesterday.

Barca trail Madrid at the top of La Liga by two points, but have also played a game more than their eternal rivals.

"La Liga will be decided in the last few games. The most decisive part of the calendar is still to come," added Enrique.



Lionel Messi.

"It is a brutal schedule for those of us in European competition and those at the bottom are going to fight too."

Barca's route to a potential second treble in three seasons under Enrique before he leaves at the end of the campaign wasn't made any easier by a pairing with Juventus in Friday's Champions League draw.

Enrique's men beat the Italian champions 3-1 in the final two years ago to complete the treble.

And despite a significant turnover in personnel for Juventus in the

intervening two years, he expects a "frightening" challenge.

"We have the final in Berlin fresh in our minds."

"They have changed players, but they are a difficult and frightening opponent of the standard you expect in the quarter-finals of the Champions League."

Off the field, tying down Messi's long-term future remains Barca's priority with just over a year to run on the Argentine's contract.

However, club captain Andres Iniesta's deal is also due to run out in 2018. **AFP**

## Ruud Krol confirms approach over Bafana Bafana coaching job

**C**APETOWN - Former Orlando Pirates coach Ruud Krol has disclosed that he has been approached for the South Africa coaching job.

The 67-year-old Dutch tactician was recently said to have agreed personal terms with the South African Football Association (SAFA).

The organisation then moved swiftly to dismiss the reports, but Krol has now revealed that an unnamed SAFA official contacted him over the Bafana job.

"I was on holiday in Italy. I informed him I was certainly interested and we left it at that," Krol told Mail & Guardian.

"He said he would call me back to finalise mundane issues like the terms of a contract and working conditions," he said.

The former Egypt and Tunisia coach feels he is ready to guide Bafana, who are campaigning in the 2018 FIFA World Cup qualifiers.

"There is a lot that I can bring to the table ... If we can work very hard together, we can achieve success," Krol added.

"There are no shortcuts in attaining success in football. Hard work, discipline and more hard work bring success," Krol concluded.

SAFA are expected to announce a new Bafana coach ahead of the team's international friendly games against Guinea Bissau and Angola.

**GOAL**



Former Orlando Pirates coach Ruud Krol.

## 'I don't know where I will be next season'

**L**ONDON - Adnan Januzaj admits he is uncertain over his long-term future following a difficult time on loan at Sunderland from Manchester United.

The Belgium international moved to the Stadium of Light in August to link up with former United boss David Moyes, under whom he enjoyed a superb breakthrough campaign in 2013-14.

Januzaj has struggled to hit the heights of those performances since then and has yet to score in 19 Premier League appear-

ances this season, having spent a similarly frustrating loan spell at Borussia Dortmund last term.

The 22-year-old insists he will be stronger for the experience of playing his part in a relegation battle, but is unclear where he will be playing next term.

"It has been very difficult because it is not easy to go from Man United to Sunderland," he told The Northern Echo. "I had to just do it. I will learn from it because I am 22."

"People think I am 26 or 27 - I am only 22. I know people want

more from me. The other side of it is that they have to look at other parts of my game."

"When I leave here I know I will be happy. I have learned a lot and it will make me stronger. I don't know where I will be, but I will feel much fitter and will be happy."

Januzaj revealed it was difficult to adapt to a system in which his first thought must be to defend, but he says he has enjoyed playing in recent weeks, despite Sunderland sitting bottom of the table. **GOAL**



# LATE CAHILL STRIKE SENDS BLUES 13 POINTS CLEAR

**L**ONDON - Gary Cahill's 87th-minute effort sent Chelsea 13 points clear at the Premier League summit with a 2-1 victory over Stoke City in a tempestuous encounter at the bet365 Stadium.

Chelsea looked set to miss the chance to extend their advantage over the chasing pack, but Cahill atoned for giving away a penalty by pouncing after a tactical switch from Antonio Conte to pile more pressure on Tottenham, Manchester City and Liverpool - all of whom play today.

With the teams level after 70 minutes, Conte - who was without star forward Eden Hazard due to a reported muscle injury - changed his much-vaunted 3-4-3 formation to a 4-2-3-1 and Chelsea responded by upping the pressure to force a late winner.

The Blues led after 13 minutes when Willian caught Lee Grant out with a near-post free-kick for his first top-flight goal since scoring a double in the reverse of this fixture in December.

After having a goal ruled out for



Chelsea's Gary Cahill celebrating after scoring during the English Premier League soccer match between Stoke City and Chelsea at the Britannia Stadium yesterday. (AP)

Saido Berahino's shove on Cesar Azpilicueta, Stoke were awarded a soft penalty when Cahill pushed Johnathan Walters to ground - the forward slamming the spot-kick beyond Thibaut Courtois.

Marcos Alonso rattled the cross-

bar before Conte made his tactical move and it played out perfectly for the Italian thanks to Cahill's late intervention, while Stoke's misery was compounded when Phil Bardsley was sent off for a second bookable offence in second-half

stoppage time.

Chelsea led early on after Willian's free-kick beat Grant, who dived down to his near post and got a hand to the ball but failed to stop it finding the back of the net.

The visitors' dominance continued unchecked and they should have moved two up in the 30th minute, Victor Moses scooping the ball into the box for Alonso, who drilled his shot straight at Grant. Stoke thought they had equalised when Bruno Martins Indi headed home, but the goal was ruled out as Berahino - standing in an offside position - pushed Azpilicueta away from the ball.

The hosts did not have to wait long for another chance, though. Cahill sent Walters tumbling and referee Taylor pointed to the spot, the Republic of Ireland international drilling home the penalty himself. Diego Costa was his usual fiery self and was involved in heated clashes with Ryan Shawcross and Bardsley before half-time, the latter earning a yellow card.

**Goal**



Lukaku.

## Lukaku ends 31-year wait as Everton destroy 10-man Hull

**L**ONDON - Lukaku ended the week how he had started it - in the headlines - with two goals in the 4-0 win over 10-man Hull.

On Tuesday the Belgium international told the club he would not be signing the new £140,000-a-week contract to make him the highest-paid player in their history as he questioned whether they had the ability to reach the Champions League.

His double yesterday, with both goals in added time, may not have been the decisive factor in putting the Toffees level on points with fifth-placed Arsenal, but it at least showed his professionalism cannot be called into question.

The platform had been laid by a first goal for 20-year-old Dominic Calvert-Lewin, in his sixth Premier League appearance, and, after Tom Huddlestone's red card, another from Enner Valencia. Lukaku then took centre stage to register his 20th and 21st league goals of the season, the first time an Everton player has reached that tally since Gary Lineker in 1985-1986 - 31 years ago.

The win puts Everton tantalisingly close to the top four, five points behind Liverpool with the Merseyside derby at Anfield up next after the international break.

Lukaku's comments angered Koeman, but the Dutchman knew only too well dropping the Premier League's top-scorer would amount to cutting off his nose to spite his face. **Teamtalk**

## Leicester continue good form with dramatic win at West Ham

**L**ONDON - Leicester City made it three league wins on the spin as they beat West Ham United 3-2 at the London Stadium.

The visitors struck twice inside the first ten minutes to stun the Hammers. Firstly they opened the scoring on five minutes through Riyad Mahrez, and just two minutes later it was 2-0 thanks to Robert Huth.

Manuel Lanzini got the home side back into the game with a quick reply, but Jamie Vardy netted before the break to put the Foxes firmly back in control.

Andre Ayew reduced the deficit to a goal once again in the 63rd minute but it was not enough, with Andy Carroll missing a huge chance to level late on.

The Foxes showed no signs of a European hangover following their epic win over Sevilla, and although they may have a quarter-final meeting with Atletico Madrid on their minds Shakespeare knows they still need to get their domestic affairs in order.

Fortunately they faced a West Ham side playing as though they just want their 'historic' first season at their new stadium to end as quickly as possible.

Manuel Lanzini briefly halved the deficit with a free-kick but they were booed off at half-time, and although Andre Ayew pulled another back after the break Leicester repelled a late rally to claim all three points.

Rejuvenated under Shakespeare following Claudio Ranieri's sacking last month, the first half was once again a throwback to last season's flying Foxes. **Teamtalk**

## Benzema, Casemiro send Zidane's side five points clear

**M**ADRID - Real Madrid stretched their lead at the top of LaLiga to five points thanks to a 2-1 victory away to Athletic Bilbao at San Mames.

Goals from Karim Benzema and Casemiro, either side of an Aritz Aduriz header, were enough to settle a hard-fought encounter at San Mames and put the pressure on Barcelona ahead of their meeting with Valencia today.

Athletic had won 16 and drawn three of 19 games in front of their own fans since their last home defeat, which came against Barca in August, and were bright and industrious in the early stages.

They were given a warning sign of Madrid's threat on the counter when Cristiano Ronaldo had an early goal disallowed but the Portugal star exploited the home side's high defensive line to better effect in the 25th minute, as he raced through before crossing for Benzema to side-foot home his 16th goal of the season.



Real Madrid's Karim Benzema, centre, celebrating with Gareth Bale and Marcelo Vieira, right, after scoring his goal during the Spanish La Liga soccer match between Real Madrid and Athletic Bilbao, at San Mames Stadium, in Bilbao, northern Spain, yesterday. (AP)

Ernesto Valverde's side enjoyed plenty of possession without threatening Madrid's goal too often, but Aduriz capitalised on a rare moment of slack defending to head his team level midway through the second half.

But Casemiro proved Madrid's unlikely hero just three minutes later, tapping in from close range

after being left unmarked at a corner to secure Madrid's 13th win in 15 league meetings with the Basque side.

The result ensures that Zinedine Zidane's team will be top of the table heading into the international break and leaves Barca needing a good result at Mestalla to keep the pressure on in the title race.

Athletic had Madrid penned back into their own half in a dominant opening 10 minutes, although Keylor Navas was forced to make only one save of note to keep out a Raul Garcia volley.

Madrid had the ball in the net with their first attack of the match but Ronaldo was offside when he tapped in Dani Carvajal's low cross from the right.

Yeray Alvarez prodded a glorious chance wide following Garcia's knockdown but Madrid continued to look dangerous on the break, and Kepa was forced into a one-handed stop low to his left after Ronaldo was played in by Benzema.

It was a warning sign Athletic failed to heed, though, with the visitors' attacking duo combining in ruthless fashion to give them the lead after 25 minutes. Ronaldo timed his run to escape the offside trap and reach Casemiro's pass, and his low cross from the left was guided into Kepa's bottom-right corner by the Benzema. **Goal**

## Sundowns survive scare to progress

**K**AMPALA - Reigning African champions Mamelodi Sundowns progressed to the Caf Champions League group stages after edging Ugandan side KCCA 3-2 on aggregate at the Phillip Omondi Stadium in Kampala yesterday.

Liberian forward Anthony Laffor scored a screamer in the 80th minute to cancel out Geoffrey Sserunkuma's goal in the first half, sending Pitso Mosimane's side to the next level as they seek to defend their title.

Sserunkuma had opened the scoring at the half hour mark when he got to the end of a Brian Majwega

cross from the left flank past goalkeeper Wayne Sandilands to give the home side a deserved lead.

Majwega forced a great save from Sandilands in the 13th minute as Sundowns sought to settle after the substitution of Yannick Zakri who was stretchered off with an injury and replaced by Ivorian defender Soumahoro Bangaly four minutes earlier.

Sundowns captain Kekana Hlompho attempted a long-range effort from the centre in an attempt to replicate his goal against Cameroon last year in the AFCON 2017 qualifiers, in

March, but Ochan punched it over the bar.

The lead gave the home side confidence going forward with 17-year-old Allan Okello orchestrating KCCA's attack in midfield with the support of the fast-paced Paul Mucureezi.

However, two changes at the beginning of the second half with the introduction of Paul Musamali and Nigerian Sulaiman Akinyemi Oladimeji for Mucureezi and Okello respectively halted KCCA's attack as Majwega was forced to the right flank rather than the left where he was lethal.

Mosimane brought in Laffor for Anele Ngcongca and the former got off to a lightening start, combining

with Percy Tau and Hlompho to trouble the KCCA defence.

Laffor made a run in from the right flank before passing to Tau who cut into the box past Joseph Ochaya, but his attempt was picked up easily by Ochan.

The same move was replicated two minutes later but central defender Habib Kavuma blocked Morena Thapelo's powerful shot.

The pressure eventually paid off when Laffor scored with 10 minutes left to play in regular time and the visitors held on to force a 1-1 draw that helped them progress to the group stages.

**Supersport**



# BECKONING MOMENT FOR 'BEAUTIFUL BIRDS'

Mbabane Swallows vs Azam Football Club  
Somhlolo National Stadium, 3.30pm  
(Average score 0-1)

BY SABELO MAJOLA

**S**OCCER- The day has come when all hopes will be on the country's CAF Confederation Cup envoys Mbabane Swallows as they take on Azam FC at the Somhlolo National Stadium this afternoon.

The Mbabane giants go into this game with a shortfall after losing 0-1 to the Tanzanians, in the away leg of the tournament played at the Azam Complex last weekend.

The nation will be holding its breath for Swallows to net at least two goals to turn the result to their favour and advance to the next group stages. History favours Swallows as they have not lost a single game at the country's Mecca in this tournament and judging by their home performance against Botswana's Orapa United, the 'Beautiful Birds' have what

it takes to turn things around and score those two vital goals or more.

They however need to make sure they do not concede, something that almost cost them the game against Orapa.

Swallows head coach Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati will be pinning his hopes on influential midfielder Njabulo 'D4D' Ndlovu to stand firm in the middle of the park and break every move made by the



Mbabane Swallows during the first round of the CAF Confederation Cup against Azam FC last week. (Courtesy pics)



opposition in the absence of DRC born talisman Papy Kabamba who has nabbed by the yellow card rule. Ndlovu and Banele 'Pupu' Sikhondze have been cited as a threat

by the opposition. With the pair being at their best today, Swallows are very capable of going all the way. The striking force is one that is expected to keep the football lovers at the edge of their seats and hoping that top man, Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa does not disappoint as long as he is given the ball.

His ability to connect with his head

and his eye for goal makes him the finest that the country has in this era. The pair of Wonder 'Samba' Jive Nhleko and Tony 'TT' Tsabedze will be key in bringing those crosses and passes in the box for Ndlovu to do what he does best and hand Swallows that much needed victory.

The possible starting line

1. Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza
2. Sifiso Mabala
3. Sanele Mkheweli
4. Mandla Palma
5. Siphamandla Mathenjwa
6. Njabulo 'D4D' Ndlovu
7. Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko
8. Banele 'Pupu' Sikhondze
9. 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa
10. Sandile Hlatshwako
11. Tony 'TT' Tsabedze

## JOB OPPORTUNITY

### CIRCULATION OFFICER

The Swazi Observer Group of newspapers invites applications from suitably qualified and energetic local professionals to fill the above vacancy tenable at the Head Office.

#### JOB PURPOSE:

To ensure that the newspapers (Swazi Observer - Daily, Observer on Saturday and Sunday Observer) printed are circulated throughout the country in the most cost effective way and to increase circulation figures and enhance revenue by increasing the number of outlets and minimizing returns.

#### KEY RESPONSIBILITY AREAS INCLUDE:

- To ensure that daily print orders are computed in line with daily and weekend demand of the newspapers throughout the country and that the newspapers printed are delivered on time to all outlets listed with the Swazi Observer and to account for any shortages.
- To monitor from time to time that demand is in line with the print order and minimise newspaper returns.
- To ensure that money is collected and accounted for in a proper and prompt manner and to ensure adequate controls are in place to safeguard daily cash collections.
- To monitor and control the budget of the department.
- To ensure that a strategic plan for the department is in place and is constantly monitored to ensure that the objectives are met.
- To monitor daily sales in respective outlets so as to ensure adequate supplies and minimum returns.
- To produce accurate monthly and quarterly reports timeously.

#### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS, EXPERIENCE:

- A B. Comm. Marketing Degree, or equivalent from a reputable institution;
- At least three years proven experience in Marketing and promotions initiatives;
- A valid driver's License.

#### COMPETENCIES: (Qualities required to effectively handle this post)

- Computer literacy especially in Excel spreadsheets;
- Numeracy and attention to detail;
- Customer Service
- Resource management
- Good interpersonal and analytic skills;
- A person of sober habits
- Be of strict and strong character
- Be well articulate / good communicator
- Be a hard worker and meet deadlines
- Be a team leader and team player
- Be able to work odd hours
- Ability to work under pressure with minimal supervision;

#### REMUNERATION:

The Company offers an attractive market related remuneration package commensurate with the responsibilities of the position. This position is a three year Performance based Contract.

#### APPLICATIONS:

Letters of application, including certified copies of academic qualifications, detailed Curriculum Vitae, recent traceable references and a contact number should be addressed to or handdelivered to:

The Human Resources Officer - Ref EDREP  
The Swazi Observer (Pty) Limited,  
Observer House,  
Betfusile Street,  
P.O. Box A385,  
SWAZI PLAZA  
MBABANE.

E-mail: [hrofficer@observer.org.sz](mailto:hrofficer@observer.org.sz)

NOTE: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted and they will be expected to bring the following documents to the interview:  
A Police Clearance, Certified copy of ID (PIN)

Closing Date for Applications: 31st MARCH 2017.



## TENDER

TENDER NUMBER: SCCOM/005/2016/17

Consultancy for the development of a Comprehensive Strategy for the Swaziland Communications Commission (SCCOM)

#### Invitation

The Swaziland Communications Commission (SCCOM) invites suitably qualified and competent companies to submit tender bids for the development a Strategic Plan. The overall objective of the consultancy is to develop a comprehensive 5 year strategic Plan for the period 2018 to 2022, to ensure that SCCOM fulfils its mandated objectives as stipulated in the Electronic Communications Act (ECA) of 2013.

#### Terms of Reference

A detailed Terms of Reference document with full specifications for submission of tenders and evaluation criteria will be available for collection from 20 March 2017, upon payment of a non-refundable E 500.00 fee, from the following address:

Postal & Physical Address for Tender Submission  
Finance Manager 4<sup>th</sup> floor, North Wing, Sisekelo Building,  
Mbabane Office Park, Mhlambanyatsi Road, Mbabane

#### CLOSING DATE & TIME

Friday 7 April 2017 at 15h00

#### SUBMISSION OF TENDER PROPOSALS

The SCCOM implements a two-envelope tender process, meaning that the Technical and Financial Proposals must be submitted separately in sealed envelopes. The Tender should be delivered to the Physical Address for Tender Submission" specified on the cover page above in six (6) hard copies each (1 original plus 5 copies).

The technical proposals should be inserted in a separate envelope, clearly marked "Technical Proposal" and the financial proposals should be placed in their own separate envelope clearly marked "Financial Proposal". All envelopes should be properly sealed and clearly marked as indicated below:

#### TECHNICAL PROPOSAL / FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

TENDER NUMBER: SCCOM/005/2016/17

Consultancy for the development of a Comprehensive Organisational Strategy for The Swaziland Communications Commission (SCCOM)

NAME OF THE BIDDING COMPANY/ORGANISATION/FIRM

#### Enquiries

Enquiries must be submitted in writing to the Finance Manager at;  
Email: [Sifiso.Gulwako@sccom.org.sz](mailto:Sifiso.Gulwako@sccom.org.sz)

Swazi  
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ON SATURDAY

SUNDAY  
Observer



# MTN NATIONAL FIRST DIVISION



Mbabane Citizens officials celebrating the team's 4-3 victory over Malanti Chiefs. The game was played at Killarney yesterday. (Pics: Sabelo Majola)



Malanti's Kabelo Temba fighting for the ball with Baimba Kamara.



Malanti Chiefs skipper Thokozani Khanyile negotiating his way past Mvini Mavuso.



Citizens goalkeeper Mancoba Mvula failed to stop the ball as Malanti scored their second goal.



Malanti Chiefs supporters celebrating one of their goals.



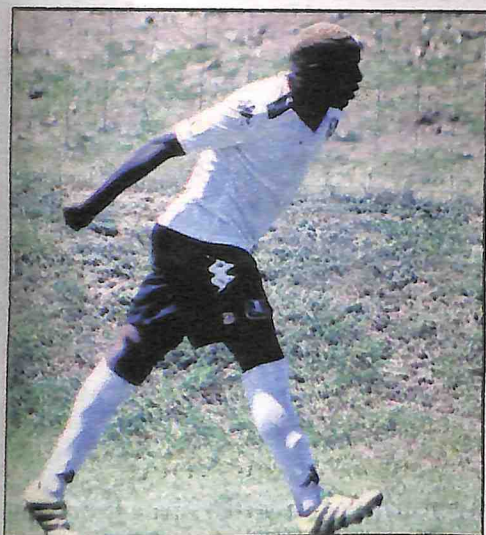
Citizens Manqoba Vilakati vying for the ball while Sifiso Makhubu tries to close him down.

## #YELELE

## YELELE

### PICTURES

### UNDER-17



Moneni Pirates striker Celane 'Hlokoloza' Mabila celebrating his goal against Manzini Sea Birds. This was during their SwaziBank Cup encounter yesterday at the Manzini Club. (Pics: Sibusiso Dlamini)



Celane 'Hlokoloza' Mabila dribbles past two Sea Birds players.



Linda Dlamini tries to mark Sabelo Mdluli.



Zwelethu Sibandze shields the ball from a Sea Birds player.



Mhlengi Mngomezulu displaying deft touches as Celane Mabila challenges him.



Innocent Ndzinisa selling a dummy to Akhona Dlamini.



# MONENI PIRATES, SEA BIRDS SHARE SPOILS IN MINI-HUB DERBY

Moneni Pirates..... (1)1  
Manzini Sea Birds..... (0)1

STORIES BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

**S**OCCER - A spot kick by Sea Birds' Mzwandile Zubuko in the dying minutes, cancelled out Celani 'Hlokoloza' Mabila first half strike, to end the mini-hub derby in a 1-1 stalemate.

This was during the #YeLele SwaziBank Cup U-20 encounter played at the Manzini Club yesterday.

Moneni Pirates settled early in the match, and would now and again cause problems for the Sea Birds defence though trusted striker Celane 'Hlokoloza' Mabila.

Moneni Pirates should have broken the deadlock in the 21<sup>st</sup> minute when Ndimiso Mabaso's goal bound strike was mistakenly cleared on the line by teammate 'Hlokoloza'.

## Redeem

Hlokoloza, however, managed to redeem himself in the 32<sup>nd</sup> minute and scored for the Buccaneers after capitalising from a blunder by Sea Birds goalkeeper Khulani Mavuso. The match went to the break with Moneni Pirates on the driver's seat.

After the break, Sea Birds came back the better side, with midfielders Innocent Ndzinisa and Mhlengi Mngomezulu upping the tempo. As Sea Birds got more possession, their confidence levels soon rose, and they started creating more scoring opportunities. After huffing and puffing, their efforts finally paid off seven minutes before time when Mzwandile Zubuko was awarded a penalty after he was fouled inside the box. He stepped up to convert the spot kick, and he made no mistake, sending Pirates Sibusiso Sibandze the opposite direction.

## RESULTS

Red Lions 1 - 2 Green Mamba  
Tambuti 4 - 1 Midas City  
Sundowns 2 - 0 Highlanders



## Tambuti, 'Downs through to Swazi Bank Cup U-20 quarterfinals

**S**OCCER - Tambuti and Manzini Sundowns have earned a ticket to the Swazi Bank Cup U-20 quarterfinals. The Lubombo based outfit beat Midas City 4-1 at the Manzini Club to top Group C with six points after winning against Manzini Wanderers in their first game last weekend. Manzini Sundowns, on the other hand, recorded a 2-0 victory against Mbabane Highlanders to make it six points in Group D.

## LOGS

### Group A

1. Y. Buffaloes  
2. Green Mamba  
3. Red Lions

P	W	L	D	GF	GA	GD	Pts
1	1	0	0	2	0	2	3
2	1	0	0	2	1	1	2
3	0	2	0	1	4	-3	0

Group B  
1. Royal Leopard  
2. Moneni Pirates  
3. Sea Birds

P	W	L	D	GF	GA	GD	Pts
1	1	0	0	2	0	2	3
2	0	0	1	1	1	0	1
3	0	1	1	1	2	-1	1

Group C  
1. Tambuti  
2. Wanderers  
3. Midas City

P	W	L	D	GF	GA	GD	Pts
2	2	0	0	6	1	5	6
1	0	1	0	0	2	-2	0
3	0	1	0	1	4	-3	0

Group D  
Sundowns  
Swallows  
Highlanders

P	W	L	D	GF	GA	GD	Pts
2	2	0	0	3	0	3	6
1	0	1	0	0	1	-1	0
3	0	1	0	0	2	-2	0

## SNVA ANNOUNCE WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS SQUADS

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

**V**OLLEYBALL - The Swaziland National Volleyball Association have announced the squads to represent the country in the World Cup qualifiers to be held in Mozambique from 8-13 May.

The male team will be led by Royal Swaziland Police coach Israel Magagula who will be assisted by Correctional's Themba Sifundza while Thulani Maphosa will lead the ladies squad assisted by Wandile Sithole and Mbuso Vilakati. Making up the squad are the likes of Correctional Sunrise's Sabelo Nxumalo, RSP's Bredon Dlamini and Allen Bilal

from Lomahasha Customs while the ladies team comprises Bob Ladies Khosi Dlamini, Macolela Dlamini, Phendulile Gwebu, Correctional Sunrise's duo of Nokulunga Dlamini and Affie Dlamini, to name the few.

## Confirmed

SNVA Secretary Affie Dlamini confirmed the matter when contacted yesterday.

"We are confident that the two teams will make the country proud during the games. We will give them all the necessary support to ensure they represent the country well during the games. The teams' training programmes will be announced in due course," she said.

## The male squad

Head coach - Israel Magagula  
Assistant coach - Themba Sifundza

## Players

Machawe Malindzisa, Sabelo Nxumalo, Mlamuli Simelane, Musa Khathwane, Nduku Masangane, Qiniso Mtsetfwa,

Allen Bilal, Andile Dzingindzawo, Mangaliso Singwane, Brendon Dlamini, Mthobisi Nkambule, Fortune Nerves, Banele Ndwanwe, Xolani Mahlalela, Sanele Mndzebele, Bongokuhle Mlapha, Sandziso Maseko, Nathi Shiba, Steven Khatwane, Pholane Nxumalo.

## The Female squad

Head coach - Thulani Maphosa  
1st assistant - Wandile Sithole  
2nd Assistant - Mbuso Vilakati  
Support technical - Phathizwe Motsa

## Players

Sebenzile Nxumalo, Norncebo Malambe, Khetsiwe Numaio,

Angela Dlamini, Khosi Dlamini, Maxolela Dlamini, Phendulile Gwebu, Slindile Dlamini, Philile Kunene, Jabu Khathwane, Nono Gama, Nomfundo Dlamini, Gcwalisile Dlamini, Ncobile Dee Dladla, Abigail Simelane, Cebile Moyane, Nokulunga Kunene and Afi Dlamini

## Moneni Pirates mourn death of Ace's mother

BY SABELO MAJOLA

**S**OCCER - After losing his father early this year, Moneni Pirates head coach Zenzele 'Ace' Dlamini is once again bereaved after losing his mother.

The coach's mother Tsandvwayini Dlamini (nee Simelane) passed on after a short illness while admitted in hospital at Manzini on Thursday.

Moneni Pirates CEO Thami Dlamini

said the team was shocked and saddened by the death of their mentor's mother. He said the team would do all they could to support him through these trying times.

## Bench

"On behalf of the team's managing director, patrons, the players and technical bench and the entire Moneni Pirates family, we would like to send condolences to the Dlamini family for the sad loss. As a team, we are deeply saddened by the death of our mentor's mother

and would like to urge the entire Pirates family to come together and give support to the family," he said.

## Vigil

The deceased will be laid to rest on Saturday at Ludzeldzwe, Soweto, after a night vigil. A memorial service will be held at Kwaluseni Methodist Church in Matsapha on Friday, commencing at 2pm. The CEO then urged Moneni Pirates supporters to come in great numbers and show support both at the memorial and the funeral.

## Mashobeni South wins Ngwane athletics

BY STARKY MKHONTA

**A**THLETICS - Mashobeni South Methodist Primary School are the champions of Ngwane Practising Sister Schools Athletics' competition held at Ngwane Teacher's Training College Sports Ground this past week.

Mashobeni Methodist Primary School recorded 161 points and were followed by Mhlanga Methodist Primary School, which got 158 points. Third placed was Madulini Primary with 140 points while Mlambo Community Primary recorded 113 points, to settle for the fourth spot. A total of 15 schools participated in the competition.

The athletes competed in various races, including 60m, 100m, 150m, 800m 1 500m, 3 000m and relay

races. Winning the 3 000m race in the U-17 girls was Bethusile Maseko from Mbita Primary, who recorded a time of 15:12:89m and followed by Nelisiwe Lukhele of Mashobeni South Methodist Primary, who finished in 15:29:72 minutes. In the male category, Mzikayise Mmema from Madulini Primary was first to cross the finish line after recording 10:31:39.

## Position

Taking second position was Mandla Nkambule, also from Madulini Primary on a time of 10:32:59 minutes. Another event that was enjoyed by the majority was the 1500m of under 17 girls where Bethusile Maseko again from Mbita took the first position at exactly 9min:04sec:20ms, followed by Ayanda Sibandze from Madulini, who reached the finish line at 10min:31sec:76ms.

## TABLE OF RESULTS

Name of School	Points	Name of School	Points
Mashobeni	161	Nkoneni	43
Mhlanga	158	Mahlandle	39
Madulini	140	Mbita	34
Mlambo	113	Nzongomane	22
Ngwane Practice	85	Othandweni	19
Nyamane	77	Machobeni	14
Etjedze	64	Ekuthuleni	12
Makhonza	58		

## Over 150 artists in third edition of Mnazzy taekwondo tourney

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

**T**AEKWONDO - Over 30 artists took part in the third series of the Mnazzy competition hosted by St Michael's High School yesterday.

The tournament is part of the Swaziland Taekwondo Association's preparations for the World Championship to be in South Korea in June. The artists competed in four categories namely the U-12, U-14, U-17 and the open section in both males and females sections. STA Secretary Sandile Mchunu said they were happy with the turn-out recorded on the day.

"We are currently working hard to make sure we select a squad that will represent the country well during these international competitions. We are also looking for new artists to join the sport so that it continues to grow. We will be monitoring the progress of the players before selecting the final 16 to represent the country in South Korea," he said. Mchunu also stated that they would be competing in the World Youth Olympics Games to be held at a country still to be confirmed next year.

"The youth games are on the priority list because training the youth will go a long way towards the development of the sport in the country," he said.

The second edition of the Mnazzy tournament held last month was won by Manzini Nazarene at their own backyard where they outclassed over 10 local teams.



# WE ARE HERE TO FIGHT - AZAM COACH

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

**S**OCCER - Azam FC coach Aristica Cuba says they are here to put up a good fight against local giants Mbabane Swallows.

Interviewed upon their arrival at the Lugogo Sun Hotel last night, the Romanian born mentor said they were ready for the challenge that would be poised by Swallows when they clash in the Total CAF Confederation Cup first round return match slated for the Somhlolo National Stadium this afternoon. We are here to fight for our place in the second round after winning the first leg match last weekend.

It won't be easy since Swallows are a strong side and they gave us

a tough time during the first leg match but we will give it our best shot so that we get a result that will favour us," he said. Asked about their late arrival in the country and if it would affect his players, the coach said they had done all the necessary preparations for the match.

"Football is a universal sport and what matters most is how you have prepared your team psychologically, which is very key in such kind of matches," he said.

The team's Media Officer Jaffary IDD said they were confident that they would beat Swallows and advance to the next round.

The Tanzanian outfit came through the Ngwenya Border Post after camping in Pretoria, South Africa, since Wednesday.



Azam FC Media Officer Jaffary IDD and coach Aristica Cuba upon arrival at Lugogo Sun Hotel last night. (Pic: Sibusiso Masilela)

## We want First Division crown- Matsapha United

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

Matsapha United..... (1)3

L.Brothers..... (0)1

**S**OCCER - A brace by Sabelo 'Sawa' Gamedze saw the high flying Matsapha United maintain the top spot in the MTN National First Division league after beating Ludzeldudze Brothers 3-1 on Friday night.

The big spending side scored their goals through veteran midfielder Dennis 'Yuki' Masina, who gave the home side the lead 25 minutes into the game after tapping home a Vusimuzi Zungu low cross.

Brothers were reduced to 10 men in the 37th minute when defender Mthobisi Mazibuko was sent off for a second bookable offence.

United doubled the score line four minutes into restart from a spot kick converted by Sabelo 'Sawa' Gamedze, who was fouled by the opposition goalkeeper Sifiso Maseko inside the box. The former Mbabane Highlanders man completed his brace in the 59th minute with a sublime strike after combining well with Zungu. Matsapha striker Msimisi Ncanywa gave Brothers a consolation goal in the 85th minute when he scored in his own net while trying to

### THE LOG

Position	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Matsapha United	18	13	2	2	47	13	34	44
Malanti Chiefs	18	11	1	6	40	14	26	38
Vovovo	18	10	5	3	30	17	13	33
Mbabane Citizens	18	10	7	1	28	25	3	28
Madlenya	18	8	8	2	23	20	-3	27
Amalanda	18	7	10	1	21	29	-8	22
Hub Sundowns	18	5	8	5	20	23	-3	20
Hlatikulu Tycoons	18	6	9	3	19	41	-22	20
Sikhalo	18	5	10	3	17	21	-4	19
Bad Boys	18	4	7	7	19	35	-16	18
City Warriors	18	4	9	4	17	31	-14	16
Ludzeldudze Brothers	18	4	10	4	18	36	-18	16

### Results

Hub Sundowns	1	Bad Boys	1
Matsapha	3	Brothers	1
Malanti Chiefs	3	Mbabane Citizen	4
Tycoons	0	Vovovo	2
Amalanda	2	City warriors	0
Madlenya	1	Sikhalo	1

clear a Themba Mnisi free kick.

Interviewed, United coach Saul Chaminuka said he was happy with the outcome of the match as it kept their dreams of winning the championship alive. "I am happy with the win and we need to continue fighting and take each game as it comes. Our main goal now

is making sure we become the champions at the end of the season and this means we need to win all the remaining matches. I am very happy and proud of my players," he said.

No comments could be obtained from Ludzeldudze Brothers as they had no coach on their team list.

## Mohammed blunders in post-match interview

BY QONDILE NTIWANE

**S**OCCER - Former Mbabane Swallows player Anus Mike Mohammed is currently trending but for the wrong reason after blundering during a post-match interview on Friday night.

The now Free State Stars striker shocked many when he thanked both his wife and girlfriend, in what has been termed the Best man of the speech in South African football. Mohammed, who joined the Absa Premiership outfit side during the January window period, was interviewed after winning

### Former Swallows star thanks both wife and girlfriend in same sentence

the man of the match after scoring two goals for his side in the 2all draw against Ajax captain at the Athlone Stadium in Cape Town. Just after thanking his fans, things took a far-reaching turn when he, in the same sentence, thanked both his wife and girlfriend. "Firstly I want to thank God for this. I appreciate my fans. My wife and my girlfriend er I mean my wife, sorry," before declaring that he loves his wife with all his heart.



Former Mbabane Swallows player Anus Mike Mohammed during the post-match interview (Sourced from internet)

## THE RACE IS STILL ON - MALANTI COACH

BY SABELO MAJOLA

**S**OCCER - Despite suffering a 3-4 defeat at the hands of Mbabane Citizens, Malanti Chiefs head coach Mduduzi Nxumalo has not lost hope on clinching the NFD title.

Malanti remain unmoved in the second spot although log leaders Matsapha United opened the gap at the top with a six point lead. Interviewed after the game played at the Killarney Stadium in Pigg's Peak yesterday, the coach said the game was theirs to win but were let down by defensive blunders.

"We have not lost hope yet on winning the championship.

There are four games remain-

ing and the race is still on. We played well but we were not firm at the back and defensive errors cost us the game," he said.

Meanwhile Mbabane Citizens head coach Bongani Makhanya congratulated his players for their bravery and wonderful performance, noting they started badly in the league due to administrative misunderstandings.

He, however, stated that these issues have been sorted and the boys were now committed inside the field of play. "We are looking for a finish within the top four and the win today (yesterday) seems to be driving us to our objective. We are looking to compete for the championship next season," he said



Malanti Chiefs player Potego Mokoena dashing with the ball.

## FOUR-MIDABLE CITIZENS BEAT MALANTI CHIEFS

BY SABELO MAJOLA

Malanti Chiefs... (1)3

Mbabane Citizens... (1)4

**S**OCCER - Malanti Chiefs have let slip the chances of closing the gap on Matsapha United at the top after losing 4-3 against Mbabane Citizens.

The two teams made it rain goals in what was an entertaining encounter witnessed by about 200 fans at the Killarney Sports Ground in Pigg's Peak yesterday. Citizens showed their intentions of winning as early as the fourth minute and it was through Samkeliso Dlamini who connected a cross with a fine shot in the box.

Malanti Chiefs responded and levelled the score after Citizens goalkeeper Manqoba Mvula failed to deal with Thembumenzi Mayisela's shot in the 33rd minute and the score remained 1-1 going to the break. Malanti then took the lead in the second half after South Africa born Thokozani Khanyile took on the opposition's defenders before unleashing a thunder strike, to make the score 2-1 five minutes into the stanza. Citizens endured and calmly knocked the ball around and a

### Teams

**Malanti-** Mpendulo, Siyabonga, Mpendulo, Bhakisisa, Thembumenzi, Kabelo, Thembinkosi, Lindokuhle, Thokozani  
**Citizens-** Mancoba, Brian, Mvini, Mphendulo, Kamara, Dan, Mxolisi, Mancoba, Vusi, Samkeliso, Siphon

superb combination of play from the middle of the park led into an equaliser that saw Samkeliso Dlamini scoring a long range shot that beat Malanti Chiefs keeper Mpendulo Dlamini in the 76th minute.

Two minutes later, Citizens were back in the lead after Mithabi Tsabedze scored the third for his side in the same fashion as Samkeliso. It was nine minutes before full time when Malanti pulled one back through substitute Gomez Gondwe, who navigated his way past defenders before letting fly a shot straight into the net.

But Citizens made sure to run away with all three points, scoring yet another thunder strike three minutes from time through Vusi Ndzima and Malanti were left licking their wounds as their title hopes faded away.



## RESULTS

### ABSA PREMIERSHIP

Bloemfontein Celtic 0-0 Cape Town City FC

### ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

West Brom 3-1 Arsenal  
Crystal Palace 1-0 Watford  
Everton 4-0 Hull City  
Stoke City 1-2 Chelsea  
Sunderland 0-0 Burnley  
West Ham 2-3 Leicester

### SPANISH LA LIGA

Athletic Club 1-2 Real Madrid  
Eibar 1-1 Espanyol

# SundayObserver SPORTING

March 19, 2017

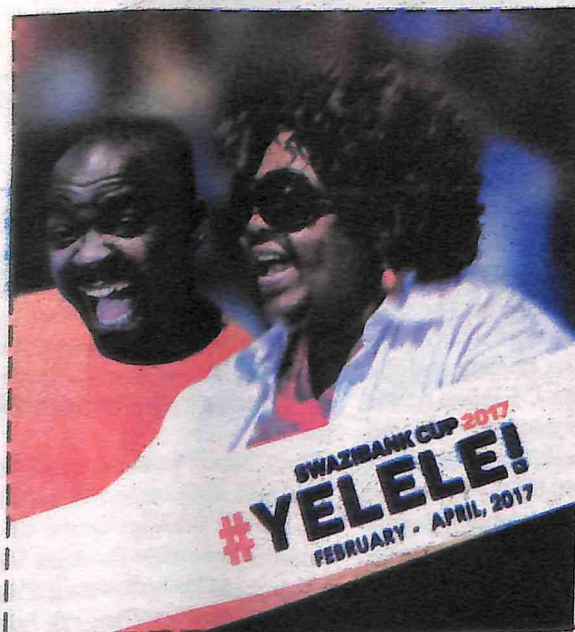


AZAM FINALLY HERE....

# 'WE ARE HERE TO WIN!'

**S**OCCER- The day has come when all hopes will be on the country's CAF Confederation Cup envoys Mbabane Swallows as they take on Azam FC at the Somhlolo National Stadium this afternoon. The Mbabane giants go into this game with a shortfall after losing 0-1 to the

Tanzanians, in the away leg of the tournament played at the Azam Complex last weekend. The nation will be holding its breath for Swallows to net at least two goals to turn the result to their favour and advance to the next group. **STORY ON PAGE 43**



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