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TEST OF TIME: A photographer captured picturing the vintage cars which were part of the 2017 Classic Rally on Saturday. The rally attracted 40 vehicles which were categorised as Vintage and Touring cars. The rally started off in Pretoria on Thursday, proceeded to Mpumalanga in Malelane on Friday and moved to Swaziland on the evening on Friday and left for Mozambique on Saturday after spending a night at Pigg's Peak Hotel. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)

GIVE THEM WHAT THEY DRINK...

'SKHOTTHANE' RUNS E20 000 BILL ON BOOZE, ARRESTED

...The loose cannon is said to have offered anyone who cared to drink something to quench and the bigger beneficiaries were randomly plucked girls who rocked up at the bar. He later hired a taxi and disappeared into the blanket of the night

STORY ON PAGE 3

IMF WARNS COUNTRY TO CUT SPENDING

>>Story on page 3

TRUCK ROLLS WITH 26, TWO DIE

>>Story on page 2

PRES. ZUMA, 3 MINISTERS HERE ON FRIDAY

>>Story on page 2

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President Zuma coming to SD for SACU Summit

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

SOUTH African President Jacob Zuma is coming to Swaziland to attend the Southern African Customs (SACU) Summit.

According to the Citizen newspaper, President Zuma will attend the 5th SACU Summit to be held on Friday in the country.

The heads of state and government of SACU meet on an annual basis to discuss progress in implementation of the agreed work programme. The summit also follows high level consultative meetings by Zuma in 2016 to discuss the SACU work programme, the presidency said in a statement.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Chief Mgwagwa Gamedze confirmed that President Zuma will be attending the

SACU Summit.

"Yes, it is true that South African President Zuma will be attending the SACU Summit," he said.

Discussions

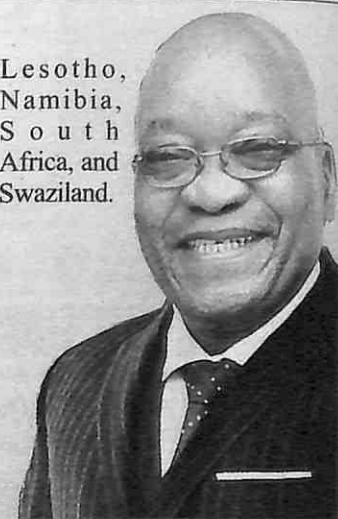
Swaziland, as the current chair of SACU, successfully led a process that facilitated discussions within SACU on the transformation towards a developmental integration agenda. The summit would receive and consider

a report from council on its activities with the purpose of providing strategic direction on development integration in SACU and to ensure that the SACU agreement facilitated implementation of this agenda.

Zuma will be accompanied by Trade and Industry Minister Rob Davies, International Relations and Co-operation Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, and Deputy Finance Minister Sifiso Buthelezi, the presidency said.

SACU, the oldest customs union in the world, is constituted of Botswana,

Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, and Swaziland.



PM's Photo Shoot



LIKE THIS: Mail and Guardian photojournalist Anthony Schultz directing the Prime Minister Dr Sibusiso Dlamini on how to pose as he captured multiple mark shorts of the head of government. This was at Somhlolo National Stadium during the St Engenas ZCC bishop's visit to the country as the PM waited to usher the King to the service. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

OVERLOADED MINI-TRUCK ROLLS WITH 26, TWO DIE

By Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane

AN overloaded Toyota Dyna mini-truck overturned with 26 passengers after its driver lost control of it, killing two on the spot.

The truck was driven by a 25-year-old man of Ka-Shoba. He was from Manzini to his home area.

It is suspected that the accident resulted from one of the truck's tyres bursting, thus the driver lost control.

According to an eyewitness, two passengers died on the spot.

"Two female passengers aged 35 and 17 both from Ka-Shoba sustained serious injuries and were rushed to Good Shepherd Hospital where they were certified dead on arrival," said the witness.

Two female passengers aged 35 and 17 both from Kashoba sustained serious injuries and were rushed to Good Shepherd Hospital where they were certified dead on arrival

Six other passengers were admitted to the same hospital with a further two at Manzini RFM Hospital.

Confirmed

Deputy Chief Police Information and Communications Officer, Assistant Superintendent Phindile Vilakati, confirmed the accident and said the mini-truck was ferrying mourners from a funeral to their respective homes.

"Two passengers were certified dead at Good Shepherd while some were admitted at the same hospital and some transferred to RFM," she said.

Those admitted are still in hospital and they are recover-

ing, according to an observation by doctors. The driver has been charged with culpable homicide and will appear before Siteki Magistrate's Court.

Meanwhile, a two-year-old girl died after she was run over by a tractor on Sunday at Mabhensane area.

Mabhensane is an area in Sithobelweni in the Lubombo region. The child was a passenger on the tractor and fell while it was in motion before it crushed her, according to a relative. Chief Police Information and Communications Officer, Superintendent Khulani Mamba, confirmed the accident and death of the child.

Ex-Minister Sibusiso's case allocated 10 days

By Sandile Nkambule
High Court

FORMER Justice and Constitutional Affairs Minister Sibusiso Shongwe has a date with the court as his trial is expected to kick-off in August.

The former minister, now Senator, will appear before High Court Judge Mbutfo Mamba.

He will make his first appearance on August 7 for the next 10 days ending on the 17th.

The former minister stands accused of Contravening the Prevention of Corruption Act 2006.

Account

The minister was in 2014 arrested in connection with the E2 million that was found in his law firm's trust account, which he allegedly failed to disclose its source when requested to do so by ACC investigators. Already, there has been a pre-trial conference for the leg-

islator and the Crown is expected to parade its witnesses.

Corruption related cases are being expedited by the courts following the appointment of more judges of the High Court and the subsequent appointment of a permanent full bench of Judges of the Supreme Court.

Already, the E50 million case has been concluded with three convicted and sentenced to 10 years and four years, respectively.

SA ready to host SADC summit

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

IT is all systems go for the 37th Ordinary Southern African Development Community (SADC) Summit of Heads of State and Government to be held in South Africa.

Media accreditation from Member States is now opened.

South Africa will assume the role of Chairman of the SADC in August 2017, taking over from Swaziland.

Host

The country will host the 37th Ordinary SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government from August 9th to 20th in Pretoria.

The summit will take place under the theme: 'Partnering

with the private sector in developing industry and regional value-chains'.

Meeting

The summit will be preceded by the senior officials' meeting on August 11-14, ministerial meeting on August 16 and the double troika on August 18.

All the meetings will take place at the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), O R Tambo Building in Pretoria.

Deputy loses application for promotion to be school head

By Sandile Nkambule
High Court

A deputy headteacher at Dvumbe High School lost an application for an order compelling the Teaching Service Commission (TSC) to promote him to the position of school head.

Bongani Dlamini had taken the TSC, under secretary in the ministry of education and the attorney general, respectively, to court.

Dlamini submitted that he was made to act as head teacher of Dvumbe High School from his substantive post of deputy head teacher from the period of October 4, 2012 in terms of three instruments and continued to do so until February 2014 when he was advised to cease to act.

He invoked General Order A245 in his application and had prayed that the court orders that the TSC confirms or promote him to the position of head teacher on the basis that he had acted for more than six months. The court, however, found that his application in this regard is ill-conceived in that the government general order will only apply where an officer has been acting for six months, only in a vacant position and on this matter the position was not vacant until October 2013 in that the then incumbent head teacher Johannes Shongwe was on suspension until his dismissal on October 17, 2013. In the premise, the court noted that not only was the post not vacant for a period of six months whilst applicant was acting but also, the applicant did not serve in the position for six months after Shongwe's termination of services.

"In the current matter, we find that there is no reasonable basis that created the impression that the applicant would be promoted and the period of acting, in the circumstances the applicant's application is dismissed in its entirety with no order as to costs," acting Industrial Court Judge Musa Sibandze pronounced.

The court had further noted that the applicant was appointed for fixed periods when the position was not vacant and the incumbent could have returned at any time and furthermore the period of this acting appointment was not inordinately extended. The circumstances, according to the court, are not such that the applicant was entitled to consultation before the acting appointment was terminated, as it had terminated on its own terms even before he was advised and his reverting to his substantive remuneration after 17 months does not give rise to unfairness, which the court must intervene to rectify.

S'KHOTHANE RUNS E20 000 BILL ON BOOZE, RUNS, ARRESTED

Cover Story

Stories by Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

A South African man believed to be part of the villainous 'tikhothane' gang has been arrested for defrauding The George Hotel after he failed to settle a bill of E18 321 he ran on one night.

In simpler terms, 'tikhothane' is the bunch of spoilt children who predominately come from rich families and go about flaunting their wealth in bizarre ways.

They go for expensive items on offer, purchase and burn them for the fun of it. In a nutshell, they are stupid, observers concluded.

Bongani Linda Mhlongo (26) of South Africa is said to have arrived at The George Hotel and started buying drinks, food and cigarettes for everyone at the bar.

Mhlongo is alleged to have made a false payment using a Nedbank account which later the hotel staff discovered when the accused had already left the place.

The George Hotel Manager Sjabulile Lukhele stated that the accused was arrested after he was tracked down by police and found at Ngwane Park area.

He made an appearance yesterday before Manzini Magistrate Philsilwe Simelane facing a fraud charge. Narrating the events which led to the hotel losing thousands of Emalangeni, Thabiso Mokoena, who is a barman at the hotel, told the court that Mhlongo arrived at

● The loose cannon is said to have offered anyone who cared to drink something to quench and the bigger beneficiaries were randomly picked girls who rocked up at the bar. He later hired a taxi and disappeared in the blanket of the night



LOOSE CANNONS: An internet picture of a group of 'tikhothane'. This gang is well known for its sleeky dress code and over-spending.

the bar alone and was later joined by two friends a male and a female.

The accused is said to have ordered 12 Flying Fish ciders, 12 Hunters Dry ciders, 12 Castle Lite and 12 Savannah Dry the moment he arrived at the pool bar, which is just next to the swimming pool.

Mokoena stated that Mhlongo further ordered Sky Vodka shots. The barman told the court that later on the day, two other ladies arrived and the accused approached them and asked what they would like to drink and they told him that they

wanted Hunters Dry beverages.

The accused then ordered 12 bottles of Hunters Dry and told the ladies to join him in his table where he was seated with three others already. Mokoena further told the court that after he was joined by the other women, the accused ordered 10 shots of Black Sambuca and 12 shots of Tequila.

When the bill reached E2 130, the concerned barman said he then called the accused and told him about his bill.

He said the accused told him not

to worry but he must tell him once the bill reaches E4 500.

Mokoena said the accused proceeded to order 24 Castle Lites and 12 Hunters Dry ciders. Mokoena informed the court that the accused approached a random customer who was seated enjoying his drinks at the bar and ordered eight shots of 1880 Smirnoff Gin.

The barman said at around 7pm, the bill stood at E5 000 and he again informed the accused who told him to relax.

Mokoena said he began to get suspicious and decided to call the reception to enquire about the accused person.

He said he was worried that he might not be able to pay for his accommodation but he was told that he must relax as the South African man's bill was going to be paid for by Grace Travelling Agents.

Mokoena said at around 9pm, more ladies arrived at the bar and again Mhlongo approached them and asked what they were having and they told him that they wanted cocktails.

The accused then bought the ladies cocktails known as 'Sex on the Beach'.

The bar man said there were about six packets of Lays potato chips which were for sale at the bar and the accused person opened all of them at once and ate them.

Later on when asked to pay, the accused told the barman to come

What S'khotane bought

- 60 Castle Lite
- 48 Hunters Dry
- 12 Savannah Dry
- 12 Flying Fish
- 10 Shots of Black Sambuca
- 12 Shots of Tequila
- 8 shots of Smirnoff Gin
- Sex on the beach cocktail
- 6 packets of Lays potato Chips
- Several Sky Vodka shots

...Grace Travelling Agents was used by the fraudster

INFORMATION revealed in court is that the accused deceived the hotel staff by booking a room using Grace Travelling Agents.

The hotel's Manager Sjabulile Lukhele told the court that it is normal for travelling agents to make booking for clients by either sending a voucher or proof of payment.

Lukhele stated that, however, as a hotel they had never worked with a company called Grace Travelling Agents which is why he asked for proof of payment from the accused.

She said she soon received an email from the travelling agents saying they must give their client alcoholic beverages amounting to E2 000. She said after that, the travelling agent sent a proof of payment for E15 731.

However, later it was discovered that the payment the accused made through Nedbank had bounced and by that time the accused was long gone.

The taxi, which he hired to ferry him to Ngwane Park, was called and police were able to track him down and arrested him. The total bill ran by the accused according to the hotel manager, was E18 321.

to his room for the money.

When the bill hit E6 331, the accused is said to have ordered another 24 Hunters Dry beverages and 12 Castle Lite. The barman told the court that he then went home as his shift ended.

He said on Monday, he received disturbing news that the accused did not pay his bill which stood at E18 321.

IMF insists govt has to cut spending, contain deficit

Stories by Manqoba Makhubu
Mbabane

THE International Monetary Fund (IMF) insists government has to cut spending and at least contain the 2017/18 8.2 per cent fiscal deficit.

This recommendation comes after the IMF staff end of mission to conducted the 2017 Article IV consultation discussions with the country, following their visit from June 7 until yesterday.

During the Article IV consultations, the IMF team of economists visits a country to assess economic and financial developments and discuss economic and financial policies with government and central bank officials and then give a diagnosis report about the economy.

Noteworthy, the IMF made the same recommendation during the country's last Article IV consultation in 2015.

Speaking during a press conference held yesterday at the ministry of finance, IMF Mission Chief for Swaziland Geremia Palomba insisted that in light of the economic outlook, the country requires sig-

nificant fiscal adjustment starting from the 2017/18 fiscal year, to ensure macro-economic stability and debt sustainability. "Policies need to be carefully designed to address the main sources of recent fiscal deterioration and include both expenditure and revenue measures that can support long-term growth," he said.

He said strengthening public financial management and improving the management of public entities outside the central government remains critical to implement fiscal adjustments plans.

"To this end, the mission welcomes the authority's intention to consider additional actions to contain the 2017/18 fiscal deficit within the original limit (8.2 per cent) and start fiscal adjustment in the next year's budget," said Palomba.

He insisted that public debt should not keep increasing, but be stabilised.

Adding, Palomba said there was a need to strengthen financial management and improve the management of public entities outside the central government to implement fiscal adjustment plans.

Government's total expenditure for the current financial year was estimated at

just over E21.8 billion, with the fiscal deficit edging at about E4.9 billion.

Responding to the IMF recommendations, Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini said they were looking at possibilities of at least maintaining the budget deficit of eight per cent which was budgeted at the beginning of the financial year.

"We are going to engage within the ministry and try to find out where we can introduce measures to reduce spending to substantially reduce the arrears that we have accumulated during the past two years," he said.

He said the three years adjustment period suggested by the mission could be adequate for the country to introduce measures that could keep the country within acceptable budget deficit levels.

Dlamini said they would also ensure that they reduce government debt to suppliers.

Preceding its initial recommendations, the IMF mission met with the ministers of finance and public service, Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) governor, other senior officials, market and business representatives.

... Recovery to remain muted in 2017

MEANWHILE, the IMF has projected economic growth to remain muted going forward this year.

IMF Mission Chief for Swaziland Geremia Palomba noted that the country's economy was hit by two large shocks during the past year, which were the prolonged El Nino induced drought, coupled with the sharp decline of the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) revenue which has had a negative effect to both the budget and the country's gross official reserves.

He noted that government in turn, also provided an expansionary budget to support the economy.

However, he said that expanded the fiscal deficit, weakened the fiscal account and led to the accumulation of payments which were still overdue. "This was a sign of pressure and weakness of the fiscal account," he said. Therefore, he said in the past year, growth was projected at zero per cent and going forward, he said though growth

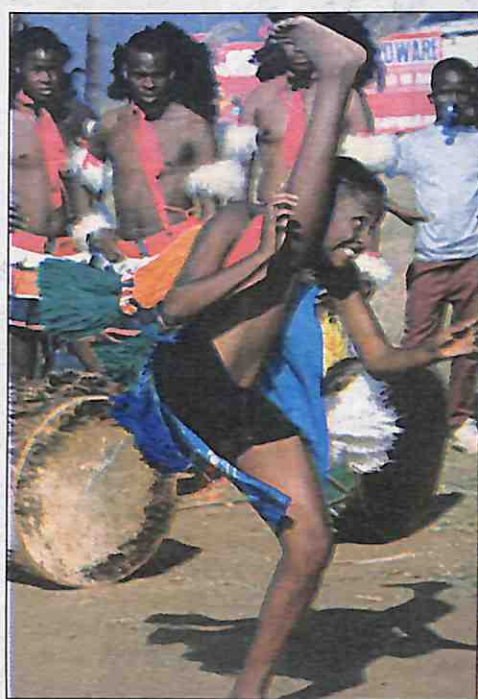
would recover a bit, given the pressure of the economy, it would stay below one per cent. "Risks to the outlook are tilted to the downside and include further tightening in budget financing, volatile SACU revenue, lower demand for key exports and tightened global monetary conditions," said Palomba. He said the main challenge that the country faces was to define a policy position that preserves micro-economic stability, but at the same time be able to sustain growth and reduce the current high level of poverty and income inequality. He noted though that the financial sector remains sound and commended authorities for taking steps to monitor and manage possible risks and advance key financial sector reforms. "There are strong links between the financial sector and government. A strong government will help the financial sector and a weak government will weaken the financial sector," he said.



HOST: Ngculwini senior sibhaca team performing during the Lujikeleto sibhaca competition sponsored by Corban Build Hardware at Ngculwini Royal Kraal on Saturday. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



THIS WAY: Ubombo Sugar leader Professor Dlamini.



THROWING A LEG: Pinky Mkhathwa of Ngonini showing them how it's done.

LUJIKELETO CULTURE COMPETITION

By Observer Reporter
Ngculwini

THE Ngculwini Chiefdom Lujikeleto Culture Competition was a great success as nine companies were represented at the competition, which was eventually won by the home team which was a cow sponsored by the area's chief, Prince Mgebiseni.

The competition, which drew

hundreds of culture competition lovers, was held at the Ngculwini Royal Kraal on Saturday.

The stiff competition and classy presentation displayed by the groups has set the tone for upcoming competitions. The groups came as far as Tambankulu, Royal Swaziland Sugar Corporation, Ubombo Sugar, Royal Swaziland Police, Umbutfo Swaziland Defence

Force and His Majesty's Correctional Services, among others. They are also yet to host the competitions as the year progresses.

The winning group from Ngculwini is sponsored by Corban Build Hardware which has one of their hardware outlets in the area.

The director of the stores is also a resident of Ngculwini and hard core fan of the cul-



FOCUSED: Sponsor of the event Corban Build Hardware Director Theminkosi Nkonyane, Waterson Dlamini and Meshack Maseko (both from USDF) and Sehlo Dlamini from Ubombo Sugar following the proceedings.



1. UP: Ngonini ingadla team members' Gabsile Mkhathwa, Zandile Sihlongonyane, Nokuthula Mkhathwa and Pinky Mkhathwa doing their best.

2. COMPETING: USDF sibhaca team doing what they know best.

3. MASPALA: Mbabane City Council sibhaca team among the performers.

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A HUGE SUCCESS

ture, especially sibhaca. The area's chief, Prince Mgebiseni, is also the biggest supporter of culture as he often supports the local teams when they engage in any culture competition. This was not the first time he contributes to this initiative which is aimed at promoting culture at grassroots level around the country. The participating companies came with different teams which resulted in different categories competed for, especially in the sibhaca section.

The winning teams of the day were

Seniors Sibhaca

1. Ngculwini
2. HMCS
3. USDF

Ingadla

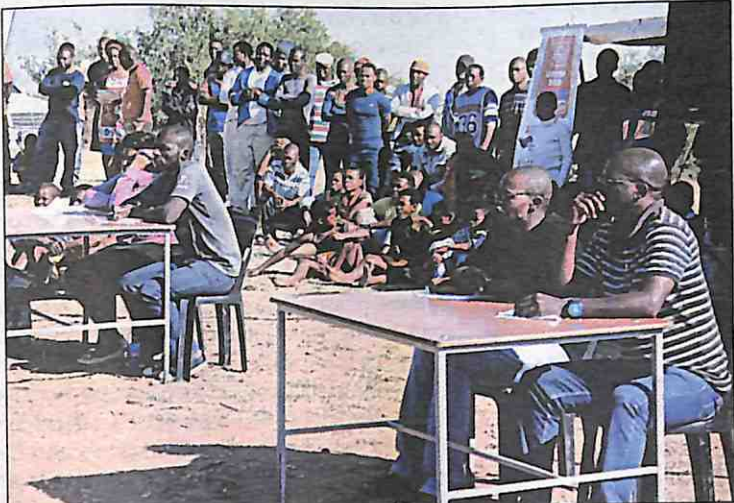
1. HMCS
2. Ngculwini
3. RSP

Sibhaca juniors

1. Ngculwini and RSP
3. Yes Yes

Infants

1. Yes Yes
2. RSSC
3. Ubombo Sugar Corporation



SCORES: Judges doing their work.



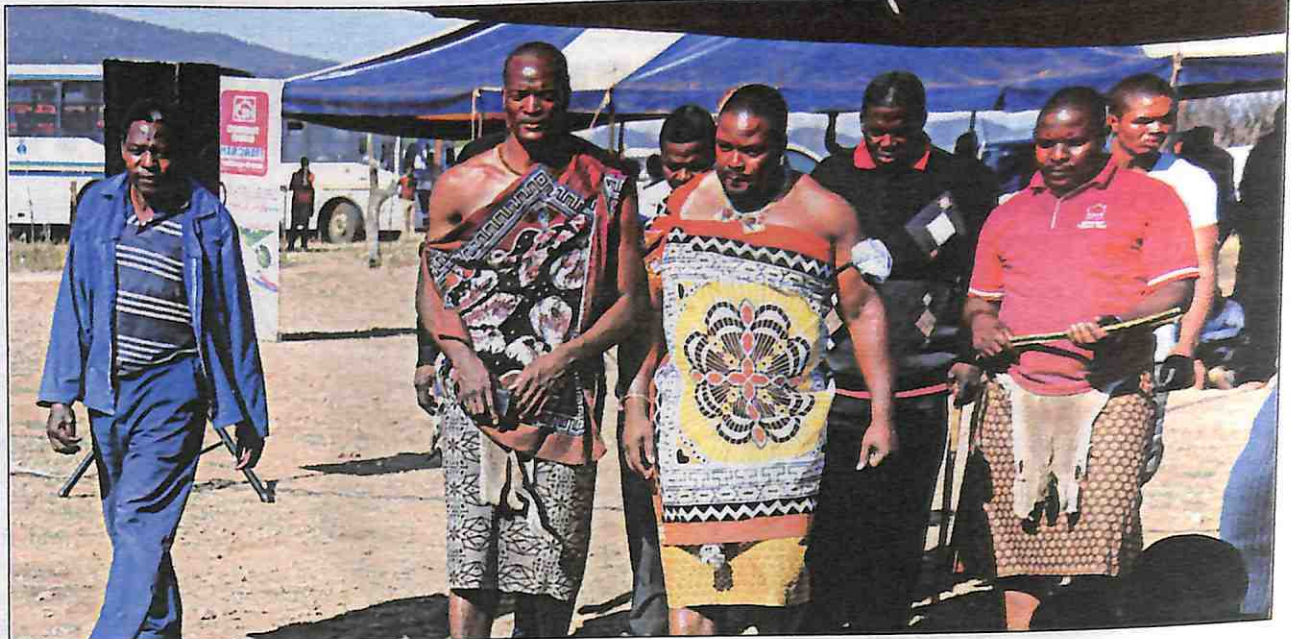
THE YOUNG SHALL GROW: Juniors of RSSC sibhaca team going through their set.



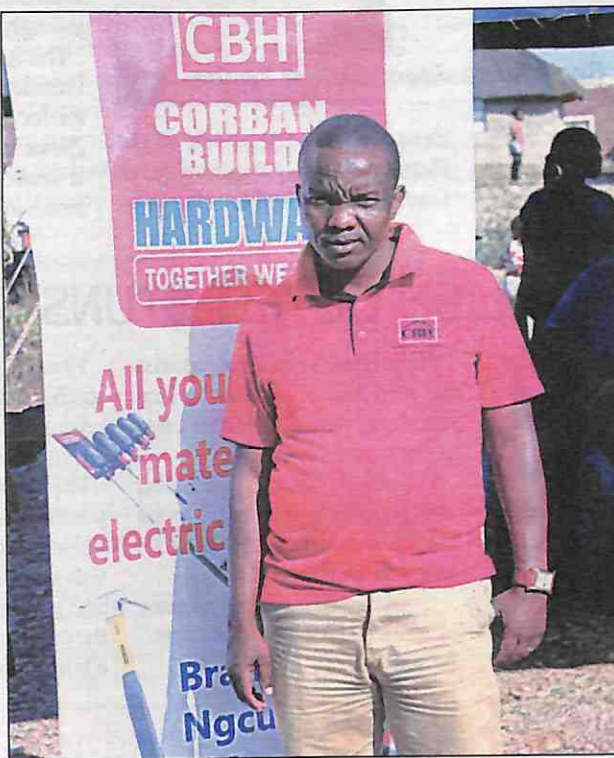
IN FULL CONCENTRATION: Residents of the area in full concentration.



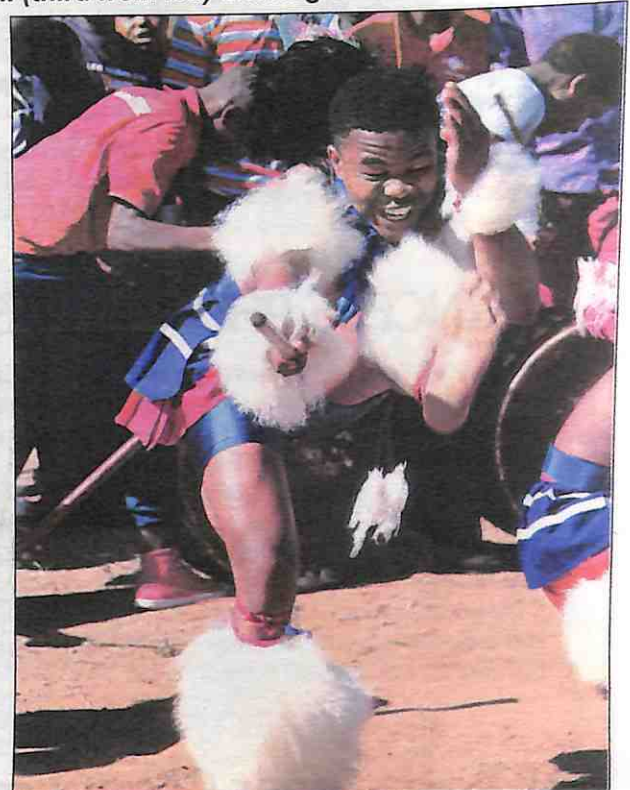
IN SONG: Ngculwini followers in a jubilant mood.



SUPPORT: Ngculwini Royal Kraal Chief Mgebiseni (third from left) arriving at the event.



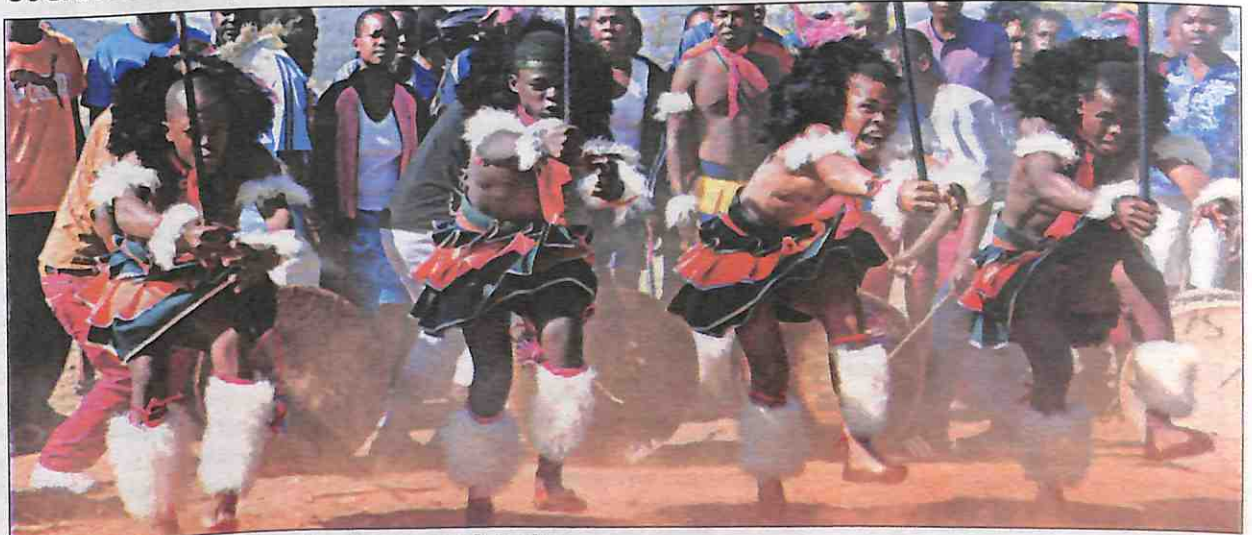
WATCH: Corban Build Hardware Marketing Manager Reggie Kunene following the proceedings.



SHAYA: Leader of Ngculwini Juniors Boy Boy Simelane in action.



SUGAR BOYS: Royal Swaziland Police (juniors) sibhaca team competing.



DUST: Juniors of Ubombo Sugar performing.

SENATE PRESIDENT GELANE AT IT AGAIN

By Lungelo Nkambule
Senate

THE house was thrown into a fit of laughter when Senate President Gelane Zwane mistakenly referred to Senator Menjeni Mahlalela as deputy speaker.

Senators were debating a motion by Senator Prince Kekela, who was moving that the senate debate the report of the ministry of housing and urban development portfolio committee on the sectional titles (Amendment) Bill Number 20 of 2014.

Senator Mahlalela was one of the four senators who had shown interest in debating the matter; the other three were Senators Mike Temple, Princess Phumelele and Moimoi Masilela.



AGAIN: Senate President Gelane Zwane.

When the moment to speak came, Zwane was heard saying first to speak would be the deputy presi-

dent much to the shock of the Deputy President Ngomuyayona Gamedze who had not shown an

interest in debating the matter. Upon hearing this other senators started laughing.

The deputy president told the president that it was not him who had shown interest but Mahlalela who was three seats away from him. The senate president was looking at Senator Mahlalela the whole time. Upon realisation of her mistake, the senator laughed together with the other senators.

Senator Mahlalela gladly accepted this saying it was a prophecy. "I accept, next year the deputy president's term of office comes to an end, I will take over," he said jokingly.

This is not the first time the Senate President has mistaken one senator for another as early this year Zwane was heard addressing another senator by someone else's name much to the shock of the house.

PRINCESS PHUMELELE'S STYLISH OUTFIT STUNS SENATORS

SENATOR Princess Phumelele was the centre of attraction in Senate yesterday after she came dressed in a stylish youthful outfit, which was finished off with four green leaves pinned to her head in place of a normal headgear.

The vocal senator, upon arrival had the other senators laughing because of her unusual outfit,

especially her headgear. Other senators were heard asking where she was from and where she had picked the leaves.

Picked

The senator it seemed had picked the fresh leaves from the lawn outside Parliament.

The princess jokingly told the senators that it was all part of her outfit.

Prince Kusa even jokingly accused the princess of distracting him when they were debating a motion in the house.

The prince was heard mumbling and grumbling which led to the president asking what the problem was and he said;

"Ngimangaliswa ngunamacembe aPhumelele lanhloko president," he said.

This sent the other senators in stitches of laughter as the princess responded by saying it was eMagwalagwala.

The Princess was dressed in a youthful outfit as she was wearing a green Coco Chanel dress, with gold embroidery on the arms and gold zippers. She matched the dress with grey sneakers and a home made leaves headgear.

Nkhamba Inner Council member shoots subject in land dispute

By Sandile Nkambule
High Court

THE High Court has heard how the on-going land dispute at Nkhamba turned nasty when a member of the Nkhamba Inner Council allegedly pounced on a subject and attempted to kill him over a piece of land.

High Court Judge Nkukuleko Hlophe heard how two men charged with attempted murder fired a hail of bullets at the land owner after claiming that the land he occupied belonged to one of the assailants.

Mefika Matsebula was charged together with Solomon Malambe for attempting to kill Mandla Ngwenya at Hawane under Nkhamba Umphakatsi. Leading evidence in court was Albert

Jele, who is an overseer of Hawane (Sibondza) who told the court that while inside his house, he heard two gun shots fired on different intervals below his homestead.

Jele said in no time, Matsebula's daughter who is married to Matsebula and his grandchildren, stormed into his house running for cover. Later he was told that Matsebula and Malambe were involved in a fight with Ngwenya.

Inspected

Jele said after the incident he was taken by the police who inspected the area where two empty cartridges were found at the scene of crime.

This, after Ngwenya in the company of other family members, approached Matsebula and enquired why he had built on land that belonged to the Ngwenya family.

This was when corrugated sheets to the main house were ripped off by the angry Ngwenya family and left on the ground before leaving for their Mbabane home.

Ganged

They, however, later came back in the evening only to find that Matsebula had allegedly ganged up with Malambe armed to the teeth with their shot guns and this was when they shot at Ngwenya whom they seriously injured in his arm, further shattering windows with the bullets.

A ballistic expert Inspector Vincent Mbingo also gave evidence to the effect that he examined the firearms and further tested the ammunition of which results confirmed that the cartridges found at the scene were those of the two firearms used in the shoot-

ing.

In defence, Matsebula told the court that he was merely protecting his children in the whole scenario since Ngwenya had chopped off the corrugated iron sheets which might have killed his family.

Matsebula blamed his father-in-law (Jele) for setting him up with the Umphakatsi and the Ngwenya family since Jele failed to inform the Umphakatsi as Sibondza that the land had been allocated to him (Matsebula).

Representing the Crown in the matter is Stanley Dlamini while the two Matsebula and Malambe are conducting their own defence in the matter. Judge Hlophe postponed the matter to July 5, 2017 for continuation of trial as the crown is expected to parade two more witnesses.

Suspect sneaks dagga into police holding cells

By Sizwe Dlamini
Pigg's Peak

A man from Luhlangotsini has been found in possession of dagga seeds while in a holding cell at the Pigg's Peak Police Station.

Fana Hlatjwako (38) of Luhlangotsini had initially been arrested for theft only for the Pigg's Peak police to find him with 9 grammes of dagga concealed in his jacket.

The theft allegedly happened on May 23 near Luhlangotsini where Hlatjwako allegedly stole clothes worth E1 150 belonging to one Patrick Dlamini. Hlatjwako was arrested this past Saturday afternoon. After his arrest he was taken to the Pigg's Peak Police Station where he was booked before seeing a magistrate. Unfortunately, while at the police station the accused was then found hiding of 9 grammes of dagga leaves and seeds by the police. Appearing inside the Pigg's Peak Magistrate's Court yesterday, Hlatjwako pleaded not guilty to both offences of theft and dagga possession. Senior Pigg's Peak Magistrate Siphosini Dlamini then asked Hlatjwako if he wanted to be admitted to bail and the accused replied to the negative. Dlamini then informed Hlatjwako that his trial date is set for December 18, meaning he will be remanded into custody pending his appearance for trial. Below are the items Hlatjwako had originally stolen from Patrick Dlamini at Luhlangotsini:

| | Total value |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 2 blue overalls | 300 |
| 1 DH T-shirt | 450 |
| 1 blue top | 150 |
| 1 light green top | 250 |
| Total value | E1 150.00 |

SECTIONAL TITLES BILL PASSED INTO ACT

By Lungelo Nkambule
Senate

SENATE yesterday passed the Sectional Titles Bill Number 20 of 2014 with amendments into an Act.

The Bill, which had been in Parliament for a long time, was finally passed into an act after making the necessary amendments to it, which were the same amendments that had been adopted by the House of Assembly.

Passing the Bill the Senators said it was long overdue yet it would ben-

efit the country economically as well as empower and allow people to own property. This Act provides for the division of buildings into sections and common property and for the acquisition of separate ownership in sections coupled with joint ownership in common property.

Senator Mike Temple said it was time that the House passed the Bill into a law as Swazis stood to benefit the most and the country would benefit economically.

Princess Phumelele said the Bill

was in line with vision 2022 as there were certain standards and yardsticks that a country needed to meet for it to be called a first world.

"There are things that we need to have accomplished before reaching 2022 and one of them is having this law in place so that all Swazis have a chance at owning property," she said. She also applauded that it had addressed the issue of citizenship, as this had been an area of concern for senators. After the senators had passed the Bill into an Act, the Minister of

Housing and Urban Development Phwayinkhosi Mabuza thanked the Senators for working around the clock to have this Bill passed. He said they had drafted the Bill, responding to the needs of the people and they had been getting calls from members of the public enquiring what was holding the Act up. "We would get calls from the public from time to time asking why there was still no law allowing them to purchase sectionals," he said. He said he was happy that this was now an Act as Swazis would now be able to sell and buy property, something that would benefit the country economically.

EBC NOT HIRING FOR 2018 ELECTIONS YET – GIJA

By Nozipho Sibiyi
Mbabane

THE Elections and Boundaries Commission (EBC) has distanced itself from a hoax message circulating around social media that there are job opportunities for the upcoming 2018 National General Elections.

According to a press release issued by Elections and Boundaries Commission Chairman Chief Gija yesterday, the misleading and false information circulating in the social media forum on job opportunities invited the public to apply for the upcoming 2018 General Elections.

"The Elections and Boundaries Commission would like to distance itself from such false infor-



ASICASHI: EBC Chairman Chief Gija.

mation stating it has not yet started recruiting for National Elections at Tinkhundla centres," he said.

The commission urged the

public to keep calm and that be informed of any developments pertaining the recruitment of the public at the Tinkhundla centres.

"Therefore, the chairman would like to clarify that the Elections and Boundaries Commission is an independent body under the ministry of justice and constitutional affairs not a department in the ministry of home affairs. However, the commission urges the public to continue attending the ongoing civic and vVoter education exercise in their respective chiefdoms in order to be empowered on electoral issues," he said. The country will be going to polls next year, where members of Parliament will be elected to form the 11th Parliament.

Pamela Motsa wins against govt

By Sandile Nkambule
Industrial Court

SHE had taken government to court where she sought relief that the principal secretary in the ministry of natural resources and energy, the Civil Service Commission (CSC) and Attorney General (AG), comply with the government gazette appointing her as Secretary to the Land Control Board.

Pamela Motsa has, however, won an alternative relief of being paid acting allowances.

The PS had been cited as the first respondent, while the CSC and the AG were cited as the second and third respondents respectively.

Acting Industrial Court Judge Musa Sibandze ordered that the PS, who has been cited as the first respondent, should pay the applicant the applicable acting allowance she would have been paid for acting as land administrator for the period from May 23, 2015 when she last received her acting allowance to date of judgment.

Allowances

In her application, Motsa had further sought relief for not changing her job title as Secretary to the Land Speculation and Control Board with respect to grade D4 for remuneration and paying her arrear wages and or allowances with effect from January 2015 in terms of grade D4 and paying her wages in terms of grade D4 as opposed to B4.

The court noted that the applicant was appointed in November 2015 to act in the position of secretary to the land control board due to the retirement of the incumbent to that position and she continued to so act until

January 2016.

The applicant during her acting appointment was paid an acting allowance in addition to her normal pay and was not paid at grade D4 during this period as she alleges.

Remuneration

The allegation however was based on a misconception, according to the court rather than an attempt at deception and this represented more than a substantial difference in her remuneration in that not only was she paid her basic salary, but was also paid an acting allowance which ranged from E8 646.15 on February 23 2015 to E7 883.66 on May 22 2015 according to payslips submitted by the respondents.

The allowances according to papers filed in court, were actually higher than her basic salary as observed by Judge Sibandze.

After her acting appointment elapsed, the applicant was appointed as Secretary to the Land Speculation Control Board by Legal Notice No 8 of 2015, in terms of Section 5 (5) of the Land Speculation Control Act of 1972, and the appointment still subsists and will terminate on December 31 2017 unless renewed.

The court found that an appointment as Secretary to the Land Control Board is not the same as employment as Secretary to the Land Control Board in the ministry of natural resources and energy.

The substantive secretary to the LCB it appears would also double as secretary to the LCB under the Land Speculation Control Act hence Motsa confused things.

In these circumstances, the court found that Motsa is not entitled to the relief as prayed, however based upon papers filed before it, the court noted the application made in terms of having executed the functions of the office of the secretary to the LCB diligently.

Orders

"The court is alive to the fact that the applicant was paid sitting allowances in respect of various boards, however this does not detract from the fact that she would still be entitled to an acting allowance for doing the work of the land administrator, in the circumstances, under the prayer of further and or alternative relief, the court orders that the first respondent is to pay applicant the applicable allowance she would have been paid for acting as land administrator for the period from May 23 2015 when she last received an acting allowance to the date of judgment," Judge Sibandze ordered.

With the court having noted that with regard to the Swaziland government, acting appointments are accompanied by allowances and it was therefore unfair to allow the applicant to perform the duties of the land administrator with no acting allowances, the first respondent was ordered to pay costs of the application.

Swazi journalists to partake in SADC Media Awards

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

SWAZI journalists will for the first time in 22 years partake in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Media Awards set to be presented during the 37th SADC Extraordinary meeting to be held in South Africa in August.

Director of Information in the Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Phesheya Dube said it was quite exciting that local journalists have shown interest in taking part in the SADC Media Awards.

Stories

He was speaking during the official opening of the 22nd SADC Regional Adjudication Committee workshop held at the Royal Swazi Sun.

Acting Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Bhekithemba Gama revealed that the main purpose of the workshop is to adjudicate the work done by journalists from those who wrote or produced stories that were relevant to the SADC goal of promoting regional integration and issues of region-

al importance.

"This type of commitment by journalists needs to be applauded and accorded the befitting incentives to encourage them in their quest to ethically report regional issues without fear or favour," he said.

Gama highlighted that the media is crucial in promoting regional integration and sustainable socio-economic development.

"Recognising the significance of the media in promoting the activities of SADC, decision of the 2016 Lozitha Summit called for member states to review the E26 000 (\$2000) prize money, to see if it was still adequate. They were requested to come up with a justifiable proposal that would continue to motivate journalist to even go beyond their scope of duty.

We all know that the media has the power to make anything that exposes itself either in a good or bad light and it

is therefore in this premise that journalist have to be recognised for their commendable efforts and given where it is due," he said.

Gama further revealed that the workshop would also deliberate on the proper training of journalist and remuneration so that they meet international standards that will take the region forward.

Director of Information in the Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Phesheya Dube said during the meeting they will also revisit the rules and regulations of the SADC Media Awards so they can be watertight.

On the same note, the country is hosting the SADC ministers of education responsible, training, science, technology and innovation.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



AIDS Free
Strengthening High Impact Interventions
for an AIDS-free Generation

Children's
Foundation
SWAZILAND

Background

Baylor College of Medicine Children's Foundation - Swaziland Centre of Excellence (BCMCF-SD COE) situated in Mbabane and the associated Satellite Centres of Excellence (SCOE) at Hlathikulu Government Hospital and RFM Hospital in Manzini are a manifestation of a public-private partnership between the Government of the Kingdom of Swaziland and Baylor College of Medicine, Texas, USA. The Foundation seeks to immediately fill the following position:

Medical Officer /Doctor (1 position)

Reporting to the Executive Director the Medical Officer/Doctor provides clinical management of pediatric related conditions including TB and HIV at the COE, its satellite clinics and outreach sites and also participates in research, training, mentoring and other programs at these sites in order to meet the objectives of the COE.

Academic Requirements:

- A medical doctor's degree from a recognized University
- Pediatric specialization would be a preferred advantage.

Professional Experience and Requirements:

- At least two years work experience in a similar environment
- Sound knowledge in pediatric clinical care.
- HIV related care for children would be an added advantage
- Computer skills: word, power point, excel, internet
- Strong desire or inclination to work with children, especially those with HIV
- Strong report writing and presentation skills
- Strong organizational and planning skills
- Experience in program management and reporting will be an asset
- Excellent communication skills
- Experience with outreach community care.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Provide quality clinical care and treatment to children and their families including those with TB and/or HIV and other complicated diseases.
- Assist the MOH in achieving excellence in the clinical care and management of childhood conditions.
- Provide PMTCT services to HIV infected pregnant and breast feeding women.
- Manage TB/HIV co-infected children and their families
- Train health care workers in the management of pediatric related conditions
- Provide support, supervision and mentorship to health care workers in the country with a view of task shifting HIV/AIDS management in the COE and at National level.
- Monitor own activities with objective data and provide regular feedback to ones supervisor
- Adhere to national patient management protocols as amended from time to time
- Assist in designing new activities and evaluation of existing ones.
- Be a highly collaborative team player
- Carry out any other duties assigned by the Executive Director and/or Clinical Coordinator

Applications

Interested individuals can send an application letter addressed to the Executive Director, Baylor College of Medicine Children's Foundation (BCMCF-SD), P.O. Box 110, Mbabane. Application letters can be hand delivered to the Finance and Administration Manager at BCMCF-SD, Cnr. Somhlolo and Sigwili Street, Kent Rock, Mbabane or e-mailed to: cmasinga@baylor-swaziland.org.sz by COB - 26 June 2017. All applications should be accompanied by a cover letter, CV, certified copies of academic certificates and three names for professional references. Faxed applications will not be accepted and only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Bhunu Mall Partnership



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Bhunu Mall invites eligible and competent consultants for improvement and value addition to one of their facilities.

Registration can be confirmed through the Centre Manager by the 26th June 2017 and sight-briefing to be held on the 27th June 2017, office 101, Bhunu Mall at 10h00. The terms of reference will be collected on the day of briefing.

Musa-Lee Dlamini

Centre Manager

Tel: 2505 6001/5427,

email:musaleedlamini@bhunumall.co.sz

8 PICTURES

VINTAGE - THE 2017 CLASSIC RALLY



CLASSIC: The fleet of vintage cars which took part in the 2017 Classic Rally captured at the Corner Plaza parking where the crew drove off to Mozambique on Saturday morning. The rally ended on a high note with a track race at Samora Machel Square in Maputo.



EOI for the provision of Goods and Services for the United Nations Head Office (UN House) in Mbabane, Swaziland

Title : EOI for suppliers to provide Goods and Services for the United Nations Head Office (UN House) in Mbabane
Submission Deadline : 23rd June 2017
Quality Assurance : UN Operations Management Team (OMT)

BACKGROUND AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Construction of the five storey United Nations (UN) Swaziland Head Office building in Mbabane is scheduled for completion in September 2017. To this effect, the UN hereby solicits Company profiles and CV's for the pre-selection of Companies for the provision of the following services:

- Suppliers of Office Furniture
- Conference Facility Furniture and Equipment
- Cafeteria and Food Catering Services
- Office Moving Companies
- Office Furniture Auctioneers
- Office Cleaning Services
- Security Services

Only service providers with extensive experience and reliable track records in these environments will be considered for selection. Preference will be given to locally registered companies with fully trained staff. Companies must provide a full profile (four pages' maximum) justifying their candidacy. They should provide evidence that they are qualified to carry out this assignment through their company profiles of similar assignments, references of previous similar work completed with contact details, evidence that they have staff in sufficient numbers and with the appropriate skills and evidence that they can meet the required task.

Interested entities are requested to submit bona fide company information which should include the following:

- Company Profile
- Details of services provided currently and in the past, with 3 references
- Valid Tax Clearance Certificate
- Valid Trading License
- Form J
- Certificate of Incorporation
- Certified Copies of IDs of Company Directors

Submissions will be evaluated and tender documents made available to the successful shortlisted service providers. The building floor plans and seating arrangements shall be provided by the United Nations Swaziland to qualifying service providers after the pre-selection has been concluded. This will contain additional clarification and site visits. The UN shall not be bound to accept any submission.

SUBMISSIONS

Interested and qualified firms/companies should submit their Expression of Interest (EOI) outlining their interest for the above listed services by the 23rd June 2017 and deposited at Registry UNDP, 5th Floor, Lilunga House, Somhlolo Street, Mbabane, marked (or subject):

EOI - UN 2017/01 - UN BUILDING SUPPLIER OF OFFICE FURNITURE.
 EOI - UN 2017/02 - UN BUILDING SUPPLIER OF CONFERENCE FACILITY FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT
 EOI - UN 2017/03 - UN BUILDING CAFETERIA AND FOOD CATERING SERVICES
 EOI - UN 2017/04 - OFFICE MOVING COMPANIES
 EOI - UN 2017/05 - OFFICE FURNITURE AUCTIONEERS
 EOI - UN 2017/06 - OFFICE CLEANING SERVICES
 EOI - UN 2017/07 - SECURITY SERVICES

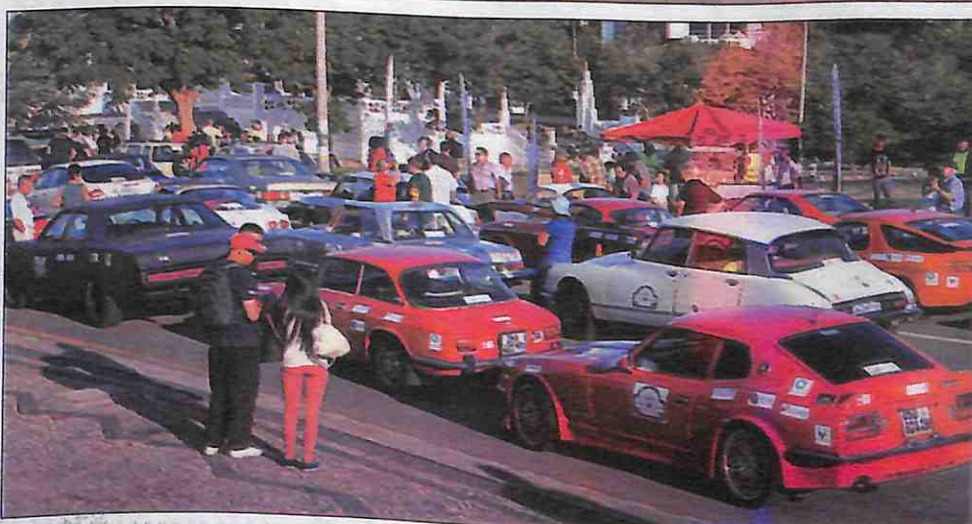
Failure to mark the envelope clearly and accurately may result in rejection of the application.



FRESHEN UP: Zacharia Dlamini issuing snacks to the motorists.



LOCAL: Rui Benedito of Super Motors based at Sidvwashini was the only local who took part in the rally with his 1960 Datsun, which he has owned since 1982.



BEHOLD: The vintage cars on arrival at the Samora Machel Square in Maputo where the rally ended with a track race event.

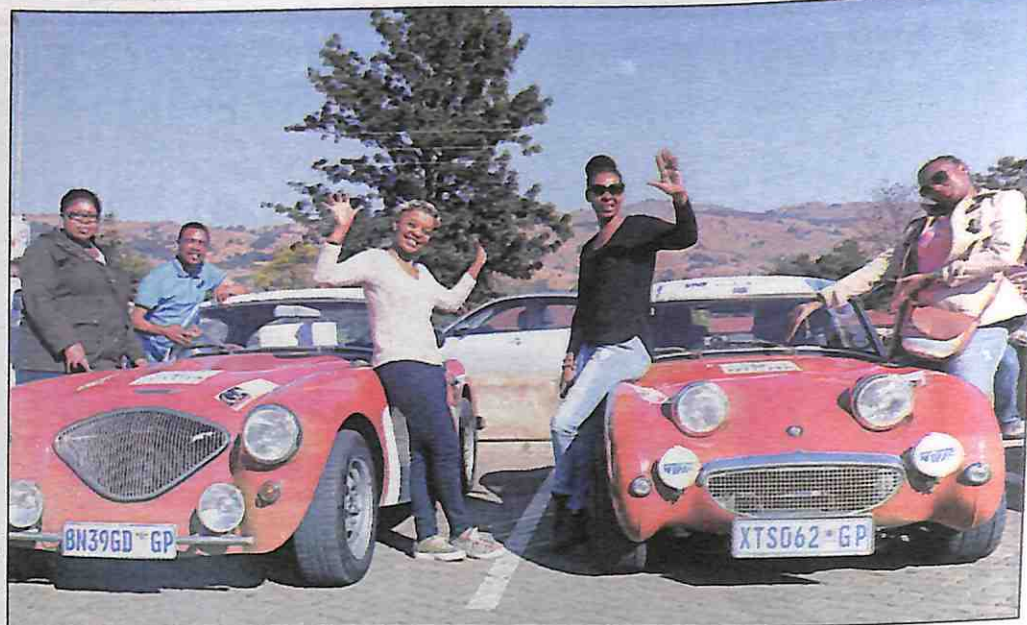
VINTAGE - THE 2017 CLASSIC RALLY



OWNERS: Some of the vintage car owners who took part in the rally.



READY TO ROLL: Some of the cars at the Corner Plaza before departing for Maputo.



HAPPY DAY: STA staff Nosipho Dlamini, Jackson Dlamini, Nontsikelelo Mazibuko, Nonhlanhla Kgololo and Xolani Gama posing on some of the cars.

THE GOVERNMENT OF SWAZILAND



Ministry of Tinkhundla Administration
and Development
P.O. Box 2701
MBABANE

Ministry of Economic Planning and Development
Microprojects Programme
PO Box 2122
MBABANE

INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE PROPOSED FABRICATION, SUPPLY, FITTING OF CARPENTRY AND JOINERY AT VARIOUS PROJECTS FOR VARIOUS SCHOOLS AND REGIONS.

Tenderers are invited from locally registered Specialist Carpentry Fitting Contractors to tender for the above mentioned project. Only firms that can clearly demonstrate that they have previous experience and capacity in executing similar works will be considered. The qualification process will include the evaluation of personnel capabilities, equipment capabilities, financial standing, previous experience and current work load.

- Lot 1: Carpentry works for a Home Economics block at Mlambo Primary School under Maseyisini Inkundla
Lot 2: Carpentry works for a Home Economics block at Jerusalem High School under Sandleni Inkundla
Lot 3: Carpentry works for a Home Economics block at Dwalile High School under Mangcongco Inkundla
Lot 4: Carpentry works for a Staff Room at Jack Hesov Primary School under Mhume Inkundla

Bonafide tenders should comprise the following:

- A completed set of Tender Document
- A tenderer's valid tax clearance certificate (Certified)
- A copy of the General Receipt as proof of purchase
- A valid Labour Compliance (Certified)
- A copy of a valid registration certificate issued by the Construction Industry Council (Certified)
- A copy of a Company current Form J, stamped by the Registrar of Companies (Certified)
- A copy of a Company current Form C, stamped by the Registrar of Companies (Certified)
- The shareholders as listed in Form J should provide certified copies of identity documents
- E1000,00 Tender deposit in a form of a Bank Guarantee

Tender Documents will be available from 10:00AM on Monday 26/06/2017 and may be collected from:
Microprojects Programme
Dlan'ubeka Building 6th floor
Mbabane

Tenderers are advised to pay a E300.00 (Three hundred Emalangeni only) a non-refundable amount for each document at the Government Revenue Office and should use code 233/1201/04199/G51299 when making payment. Companies are advised to consult Microprojects Unit office on the availability of tender documents prior to payment. The unit will not be liable for the refund in the event one pays for unavailable tender documents.

There will be compulsory site inspections as follows:

| Meeting Place | Project Name | Date | Time |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------|----------|
| Mbebeleni | Jerusalem High School | 03 July 2017 | 11:00am |
| Zheng Young | Mlambo Primary School | 03 July 2017 | 13:00hrs |
| Sandlane Boarder Post | Dwalile High School | 05 July 2017 | 11:00am |
| Maphiveni | Jack Hesov Primary School | 04 July 2017 | 11:00am |

Please note that Tenderers who will not attend site inspections will not be evaluated.

- Date and place of tender submission: 21st July 2017, Friday, at the Office of the Employer
- Time for submission ...: 11:00am Swaziland time
- Opening.....: 11:15am Swaziland time

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

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

Any action or tendencies that will be interpreted as an attempt to interfere with or influence the tendering process will result in immediate disqualification of the Tenderer.

Microprojects Programme does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.



SWAZILAND ELECTRICITY COMPANY (SEC)

Head Office, Glenvale House, Mhlambanyatho Road
P.O. Box 250 Mbabane 3000
Tel: 2400 4000, Fax: 2404 2300
www.sec.co.sz Toll Free: 800 9000

Energy for the Future

NOTICE OF DISCONNECTION

SEC shall be conducting a major disconnection exercise on all overdue accounts, commencing on Wednesday the 21st June 2017. Customers are requested to pay all their overdue bills to avoid being disconnected.

Customers who are on the prepaid system, and had made payment arrangements, are requested to honor those arrangements. Failure to do so will result in SEC disconnecting their installations.

All disconnected accounts that have been neglected shall result in SEC taking legal action and the holders' names will be black-listed with ITC.

Please be advised that negotiations on overdue payments will not be accepted.

MARKETING AND CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS



ATTENDED: A section of the residents in attendance. (Courtesy pics)

TURN-OUT FOR EZULWINI CIVIC EDUCATION IMPRESSIVE

Stories by Observer Reporter
Ezulwini

THE Ezulwini Municipality has been commended for its good turn-out of residents and business community for civic education on the upcoming elections.

It was noted, however, that there were still a substantial number of people who did not attend the civic education meetings.

The civic education meetings were held at the Swaziland Water Services Corporation (SWSC) auditorium and the Royal Villas last week. The civic education exercise is meant to empower residents and stakeholders with information about the upcoming elections before they can register to vote or be voted for.

Coordinator of Local Government Elections from the ministry of housing and urban development Melusi Hlanze made a presentation in both sessions, highlighting key items voters need to know about the elections.

Remarkd

"We have been going around different places conducting such civic education and I must say we are quite impressed with the turn-out of residents of Ezulwini," he remarked.

The theme of the elections is 'Be a Champion, form your own government' with sub-themes of accelerating sustainable local development, delivery of sustainable development goals, implementation of a new urban agenda and attaining vision 2022.



LISTEN HERE: Melusi Hlanze the Coordinator of the Local Government Elections making his presentation.

The participants in the meetings also asked questions about their voter rights.

The meetings were opened by the town's Chief Executive Officer Vusumutiwendvoda Matsebula, who thanked the residents and stakeholders for coming in their numbers.

Participate

"We thank your interest on how the town is run and we have this forum to give you more information about how you can actively participate in the elections," he said.

The presentation by Hlanze gave an overview of the system used in elections and also highlighted how residents qualify to vote or stand for elections.

He also assured the residents that with each elections, they strengthen the sys-

tems so that there are less incidents of malpractice from voters or candidates.

"The system is computerised and we match your finger prints with your Personal Identification Number card so that we have no situations where an individual produces someone else's card in a bid to have people voting for them," he said.

The elections are provided for by the Constitution of Swaziland in Section 226 and conducted in terms of the Urban Government (Elections) Regulations.

The interactive meetings were both held for about two hours as the residents and stakeholders were taken through each and every step of the elections process. Registration for local government elections started on May 5 and will end June 30.

of illegal practices. While campaigning is allowed, we do not expect people to start throwing parties to bribe voters to vote for them nor are they expected to threaten other candidates with violence," he said.

Hlanze invited the stakeholders to get a copy of the Urban Government (Elections) Regulations to acquaint themselves on what can be done and

what cannot be done.

At both meetings, the residents and business people also asked for an electronic copy of the regulations as well as Hlanze's presentation so that they can study them further.

Hlanze said in some instances, individuals were banned from participating in future elections if found guilty of some of the crimes.

Residents want to recall councillors

RESIDENTS have expressed a desire to be able to recall councillors who do not perform to their expectations.

This was raised during the civic education for the fast developing town where one of the residents even questioned the length of the term of councillors.

"Why do councillors have a five year term, can this not be reduced to at least three years because if we are not happy with the person voted for now we are stuck with that candidate for the full five years?" asked one of the residents.

In response, Hlanze said the term was stipulated in the constitution. He, however, advised the residents to be very careful

when voting so that they vote for someone they are certain will deliver for them, otherwise they will have the unfortunate situation of being stuck with that individual who was not delivering for the whole term.

Another concern was with the nomination system on why it was the candidates coming with a nomination form instead of them being in a group like in the national elections.

Hlanze said each of the processes had its advantages and disadvantages because even in the group process, some could claim that the officer did not look in their directions and they did not get a chance to nominate their preferred candidate.



WELCOME: Ezulwini Town Council CEO Vusi Matsebula welcoming the residents.

'COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY AIMED AT IMPROVING TOWN'

EZULWINI stakeholders have been told not to be disturbed by commission of enquiries or audits as such only serves to improve the town.

This was noted by the Coordinator of Local Government Elections Melusi Hlanze when responding to a question from one of the residents on when the findings of the recent enquiry would be given to residents.

"It is not for me to answer such, I am here to speak on the elections. However, do note that such exercises are merely set up to establish the true picture of any situation that may not appear clear to the honourable minister.

It is not a witch-hunt to get any one out or whatsoever. Take the commission of enquiry to be like an audit.

In the past, some people used to fear auditors yet today many see them as necessary such that they even invite them to come through to the organisation because they help them improve their systems and service delivery," he said.

As such, he stated that an official feedback about the commission of enquiry report could only come officially from the minister and not him since he was very junior to deliberate on such.



PRESENT: A section of those at the breakfast meeting for Ezulwini ratepayers.

Warning against bribery, parties, threats to voters

RESIDENTS participating in local government elections have been warned against engaging in illegal practices in order to be elected.

This warning was sent by the Coordinator of Local Government Election Melusi Hlanze, who highlighted the various outlawed acts that one must not engage in.

"The regulations are clear in terms

SECURITY GUARD FINED E15 000 FOR DAGGA POSSESSION

Stories by Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

A security guard employed by Sharp Eye Security was fined E15 000 after he was arrested and charged for the possession of dagga weighing 71.33kg.

The accused person, Kaizer Maziya of Maphungwane, was arrested together with Theminkosi Matsenjwa, who is alleged to have been a passenger in the company's vehicle used to transport the said illegal herb.

They appeared before Principal

Magistrate Dumsani Magagula where they faced a charge of contravening Section 12(1) of the Pharmacy Act No. 38 of 1929. The accused persons were represented by Kush Vilakati Attorneys.

When the charge sheet was read to them, the first accused pleaded guilty

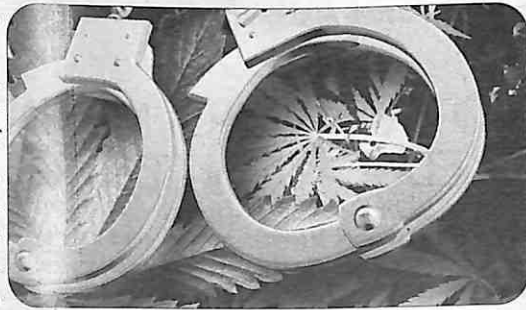
to the charge while the second accused pleaded not guilty. Matsenjwa told the court that he was only offered a lift

by the first accused person, and was not aware that the vehicle was carrying dagga.

The crown, which was represented by Melusi Lukhele, accepted the pleas

without leading evidence to prove commission of the offence. Lukhele, however, handed in a forensic report as part of the evidence. Maziya was accordingly found guilty by the court while the second accused was acquitted and discharged. In mitigation, Maziya asked the court to be lenient when passing sentence, saying he was a first time offender of the law. He stated that he was only taking a chance to make some extra money as he had a family to provide for with the little income he gets as a salary from his employment. Meanwhile, Director of the security company, Mduduzi Dlamini, filed an application to have the company vehicle released to his possession. Dlamini stated that he had no knowledge of his employee engaging in illegal business while using the company's vehicle. He said normally, he allowed Maziya to use the company's vehicle when on duty and also when visiting home. But

on the day of his arrest, he had not permitted him to take the vehicle anywhere. The motor vehicle was eventually released to Dlamini.



Man arrested for tying, whipping nephew

A man of Malindza appeared before the principal magistrate after he was arrested for allegedly beating up his nephew in a cruel manner.

David Lima was said to have wrongfully and unlawfully assaulted *Senzo with a stick and a plastic pipe several times on the body with intent to cause

him grievous bodily harm. The accused is said to have done this after tying up the boy with a cow's rope on both hands and legs.

During his appearance before court, Lima elected to conduct his own defence after his rights to legal representation were explained to him. He further

pleaded not guilty to the charge when it was read to him.

Prosecutor Melusi Lukhele then filed an application to have the accused remanded in custody while a trial date is set. The matter was then postponed to June 22, for setting of a trial date.

Pastor threatens to stab another in fight over debt

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

A pastor in one of the prominent churches in Matsapha is alleged to have threatened to stab another in a bitter battle over an unsettled debt

This information was revealed to this publication by a congregant, who attends one of the churches belonging to the two pastors.

When one of the pastors, Pastor Shabangu was contacted about the matter, he alleged that the feud between him and the pastor in question came after he borrowed Mabuza* (not his real name as he hasn't been reported to the police) his vehicle.

Shabangu stated that he rented out his vehicle to Mabuza who wanted to take his congregants on a trip. The two pastors are alleged to have entered into an agreement that Mabuza was to pay around E3 500 because they were friends and were not strictly doing business.

However, according to Shabangu, while Mabuza was using his vehicle it broke down and the latter called a tow truck

to take it to a garage.

Mabuza is said to have done this in good faith not knowing that the vehicle was not supposed to be towed, as a result as it ended up being damaged.

Shabangu said after that incident, Mabuza promised to pay him E17 000 or have his vehicle fixed. He also agreed to pay him the E3 500 they agreed on earlier on.

But Shabangu said the only thing Mabuza did was to pay him E800 and never gave him any money after that.

Shabangu said he decided to call Mabuza in order to get his money back but he did not get a promising response from the pastor as he was met with insults.

Shabangu stated that he even took this matter to court under civil matters, unfortunately due to financial implications and the matter dragging before court, it was dropped.

Shabangu said he did not give up hope of getting his money and decided to visit Mabuza at

his home but that only made matters worse as he found that Mabuza was not present at his homestead.

He alleged that he received a call from the pastor who hurled unpalatable insults at him and

threatened to stab him if he ever dared come to his place again.

Shabangu alleged that the pastor then started making allegations that he was not in his place to collect his money but was after his wife.

When asked why he did not open a case with the police for the threats he received from Mabuza, Shabangu stated that he did not do that because he did not want that much tension between the two of them and he just thought that the threats were a result of frustration from Mabuza. When Pastor Mabuza was tried on his mobile phone to get his side of the story, his phone was not available on the network.

...When one of the pastors, Pastor Shabangu was contacted about the matter, he alleged that the feud between him and the pastor in question came after he borrowed Mabuza* (not his real name as he hasn't been reported to the police) his vehicle.

Tindvuna, bucophu want govt to employ participatory communication models

By Zwelethu Dlamini
Manzini

TINKHUNDLA headmen and bucophu are calling upon development officers to engage the people on the ground when bringing and planning development projects in communities.

The community leaders were speaking during a workshop for the constituency headmen and bucophu under Manzini region on Sustainable Development Goals, which was hosted by the ministry of economic planning and development (MEPD) at The George Hotel recently. The politicians said development should start from the people not being imposed on them after being defined and designed by officials. This is the same view that is outlined by the participatory communication approaches.

This was after the principal economist from the ministry said Swaziland had prioritised seven out of the 17 SDGs. The prioritised goals included: decent work and economic growth, quality education, good health and well being, affordable and clean energy, industry innovation and infrastructure, zero hunger, clean water and sanitation.

The officer said it would be difficult for government to allocate funds to fund projects outside these Goals. "The main issue is that all development projects should be

aligned to these SDGs, otherwise if it doesn't speak to them you it won't get funds for that project," added the officer. This raised the question on who decided on these priority areas. First to question this was Manzini Regional Administrator Chief Gcokoma who asked when did the ministry do consultations and engaged the people before choosing the priority goals. "Do you know that the people from the ministry once constructed a road from Mafutseni to some area? Now when do the people from the ministry come to us to gather our views or consult us before prioritisation?" he said.

On that note, Nhlambeni bucophu said the ministry simply did the planning on its own and such resulted in the planning of capital projects that benefits a few individuals. The Mhlambanyatsi indvuna yenkundla supported the other speakers as he added that it appeared that the ministry was focusing on the development of structures and leaving out developing the ordinary Swazis.

He noted that more funds were allocated for infrastructure development as opposed to improving lives of the poor.

He also mentioned that they were facing pressure from the people as they now view development as being sold to them, citing the 10 per cent requirement for them to have clean water.

Employment Opportunity Swaziland National Trust Commission Director of National Parks

On behalf of our client the Swaziland National Trust Commission (SNTC), we invite suitably qualified and experienced candidates to apply for the position of Director of National Parks.

As Director of National Parks you will be responsible for directing the conservation of resources within nature reserves under the custody of SNTC. The ability to provide visionary leadership, be an inspirational leader and quickly solve problems are considered key for success in this role.

Academic background and required competencies

- M.Sc. in Conservation Ecology or equivalent; a Ph.D. in Conservation or a postgraduate qualification in Project Management or Monitoring and Evaluation will be an added advantage
- Well established communication and interpersonal skills
- Ability to collaborate and network at a strategic level
- Knowledge of relevant national policies and legislation, as well as regional and international conservation agreements, protocols, treaties, policies and strategies
- Computer literate

Minimum experience

- 10 years' experience working in a similar position in conservation, preferably within Southern Africa
- Exposure to developing and implementing species conservation strategy
- Financial management experience
- Scientific publications in refereed international journals

Main responsibilities

- Development and implementation of the conservation strategy
- Develop and manage key partnerships with relevant stakeholders
- Serve as the primary liaison between SNTC and key stakeholders and partners on science and conservation initiatives
- Ensure compliance with relevant national environmental laws and other laws
- Engage the Board's Conservation Committee on conservation issues and report on same as required
- Guide the implementation and reporting on regional and international agreements, treaties, protocols, policies and strategies relevant to SNTC's conservation mandate
- Participate in the implementation of national policies and strategies, as well as programmes and enforcement of legislation relevant to SNTC
- Build strategic, scientific, and technical capacity within the department

This vacancy is also advertised on the African Forest Forum website on www.afforum.org.

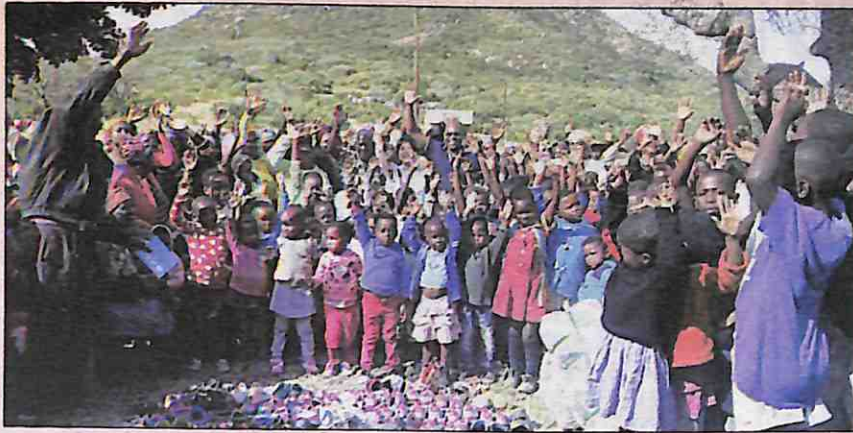
Closing date for applications is 27 June 2017. Written applications are to be submitted together with a comprehensive Curriculum Vitae, as well as a full list of publications.

All applications will be acknowledged. No late applications will be accepted. Should you not receive further correspondence within one month of the closing date, please consider your application unsuccessful.

Please apply in writing clearly specifying the position applying for to:

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Umkhwa House, Lot 195, Kal Grant Street, Mbabane
Email: recruitment@kpmg.co.sz

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BENEFICIARIES: Member of Parliament Gideon Dlamini with beneficiaries at Sidwambelweni Care Point, STEP30 representative Michelle Hu and Dvokolwako Indvuna Malambe taking a group picture last Friday at Sidwambelweni Care Point.

TAIWAN-BASED NGO DONATES SHOES, CLOTHES AT MKHIWENI

Stories by Nozipho Sibiya
Mliba

STEP30 International Ministry, a Taiwan-based non-governmental organisation (NGO) donated 2 500 pairs of shoes and 4 000 pieces of clothing to over 900 children under the Mkhweni constituency.

Mkhweni Member of Parliament (MP) Gideon Dlamini when making his remarks during the donation last Friday at Sidwambelweni Care-point explained that their donor Michelle Hu was a friend of the Sidwambelweni NCP and by extension all the Mkhweni NCPs. Last December, Michelle Hu together with Mkhweni MP co-financed a Christmas party for over 60 children at Sidwambelweni NCP. During the Christmas party, Dlamini requested Michelle Hu to adopt the NCP as her child to which Michelle agreed hence the over 2 500 pairs of shoes and 4 000 pieces of clothing for the children being shipped from Taiwan. "Shipping the clothes has cost the NGO a lot of money and to



DONATIONS: Mkhweni Member of Parliament Gideon Dlamini addressing the beneficiaries during the donation by Michelle Hu and STEP 30 International Ministry last Friday. (Pics: Nozipho Sibiya)

clear the consignment into Swaziland, Dlamini has spent over E6 000. However, he is happy that the children will be pleased," he said.

He explained that the consignment

during the donation was a sample of a very large consignment which was safely stored and would be delivered to each of the three constituency chiefdoms NCPs in the next week. "Today



THANK YOU: Dvokolwako Ministries Pastor Mgodloli shaking hands with STEP30 representative Michelle Hu while Mkhweni Member of Parliament looks on.

...TO TRANSFORM NCP INTO EDUCATION CENTRE

STEP30 International Board Member Ministry Michelle Hu is planning to develop one Neighborhood Care Point (NCP) to an advanced learning centre for children.

She vowed to work with the MP to develop Sidwambelweni NCP into an advanced learning centre for children and provide educational material including books and computers and possibly internet connectivity plus two big containers which will serve as mobile classrooms. "I will continue to work with MP Gideon Dlamini to support and take care of the chil-

dren. I am happy to be donating these clothes that will go a long way in helping the needy Swazi children," she said. She also promised to connect the NCP with electricity.

Committed

Hu committed to providing toys as well as swings for the children. As former director of Step30 International Ministries she said the entity would visit Swaziland on June 28, to check on Sidwambelweni NCP. "I am planning to bring more clothes for the children in August this year," she said

every child will receive shoes and clothes.

Bulk

Otherwise the bulk of the items will be delivered by me personally to each of the three chiefdoms of Mbebeleni, Kutsimleni and Dvokolwako," he said.

He said at Mkhweni they were also working with the Inkhundla

church leaders' forum to care for the needy and as such part of the consignment would be given to each of the three chiefdom forum committees to distribute to needy children in their churches and communities. He thanked the caregivers and NCP teachers for the wonderful voluntary work they do with the children.

GOVT DRIVER FAILS TO PAY E800 FINE FOR NEGLIGENT DRIVING

By Sizwe Dlamini
Pigg's Peak

A government driver has failed to pay a fine of E800 for negligent driving and crashing into an electricity pole.

The man claims to be a driver employed

by the Ministry of Health. Menzi Dunne (32) failed to pay E800 for negligent driving and causing an accident recently at Nkhamba. He appeared before Senior Pigg's Peak Magistrate Siphosini Dlamini last Wednesday. Dunne said he had underestimated the corner, thus he ended up going off road and crash-

ing into the light post belonging to Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC).

Error

"It was a serious error on my part and I am very sorry, I misjudged the corner thus I was driving quicker than I usually do only to end up going off road and into the light pole. I then

phoned the police to come assess the situation, the electricity pole, car damages and no one was injured during the accident as I was not driving negligently," said Dunne.

The magistrate sentenced Dunne to five months in a correctional facility or pay the E800 fine. Dunne respond-

ed to the verdict by asking if he could pay E500 first and then at the end of next month pay the E300 balance. Dlamini agreed but warned Dunne to reappear before the Pigg's Peak Magistrate's Court on June 20 with proof of payment.

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CRISTÓFOLI
Winter 2017

ARISE

MONEY LAUNDERING SUSPECT OFF TO BOTSWANA

By Mbono Mdluli
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

A Botswana national, who was arrested and charged with money laundering, has been allowed to go to back to his country of origin.

Gwakuba Majebe, who hails from Selebi Phikwe, approached the Mbabane Magistrate's Court seeking to be granted permission to go to Botswana to attend to his medical health last Thursday.

Majebe was arrested on April 21 and charged with money laundering, as he was found with E97 800, which was in South African Rands.

The case appeared before Mbabane Principal Magistrate Fikile Nhlabatsi.

Majebe also submitted, through his lawyer Noncedo Ndlangamandla that he also had to attend to his family issues, as he had his own family back home.

Ndlangamandla, when making submissions on behalf of Majebe, said her client had to be given permission to go to Botswana.

Ndlangamandla added that being in Swaziland was an inconvenience to her client because he had to squat in his friend's place (in the country).

His medication had already run out and he had to go to Botswana to get it.



LAW AND ORDER: Mbabane Magistrate's Court.

Majebe is currently out on E5 000 bail and has all along been in the country pending trial, which was set for July 2. He was admitted to bail on April 24, 2017.

Arrested

Ndlangamandla said it was a pity that since April 21 when Majebe was arrested, the state had been unable to gather enough evidence to show that indeed her client committed the said crime.

She also pointed out that it was unfortunate for her client to be arrested before investigations could be done. Such a situation could be prejudicial to him.

The situation could even be worse as the investigation officer took a long time to gather enough evidence that could point out that Majebe committed the crime indeed.

Ndlangamandla pleaded with the court to set a trial date for her client.

She also pleaded with the court to grant Majebe his passport to go to Botswana as he once travelled to that country and came back.

Investigations

Meanwhile, the state, which was represented by prosecutor Mbutfo Mbingo, had opposed Majebe's application to go to his country. The state submitted that Majebe's case was still under investigations.

The investigation officer was reported to be in Botswana working on the case. The state pleaded with the court to postpone the matter for another two weeks to allow the investigations to go on.

The officer was reported to be coming back home the past weekend.



DANGEROUS: The van which flew four metres off the road and landed inside Malolotja Nature Reserve after rolling once. (Pic: Sizwe Dlamini)

Van 'flies' off road, lands inside nature reserve

By Sizwe Dlamini
Malolotja

A van surprised many when it flung about four metres from the road in Malolotja and landed inside the nature reserve.

Speaking to this newspaper on Friday, the driver of the van pleaded that his identity be withheld and said he was lucky to be alive after his company van rolled once without killing him. "I was driving to Pigg's Peak from Mbabane

on a job assignment.

As I was driving past a sharp corner, the left rear van tyre burst, hence the van lost stability that resulted in the change of direction and heading off road down an incline towards the Malolotja Nature Reserve fence.

Crashed

The vehicle crashed into a rock and because I was moving at a high speed, the rock was used as a ramp that flung me into the fence, tearing it and then rolling once," said the visibly shaken driver.

Bystanders found at the accident scene said they thought it happened inside the nature reserve. "I was shocked to hear that the van flew metres off the road and landed inside the nature reserve.

Emergency

From the road, it looks like the van was inside the nature reserve then it rolled, at least the driver is alright.

We are just waiting for emergency services to come and collect him as the van experienced minor damages," said the bystander.

PUBLIC NOTICE



2017 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS REGISTRATION CENTRES

All property owners, residents, occupiers of immovable property of the towns and cities listed below are notified that the registration for the 2017 local government elections will be conducted in the centres listed below. Registration will be open from the 5th of May to the 30th of June 2017 between 0700 and 1700 hours daily.

| Town/City | Ward | Registration Centres |
|-------------|---------|---|
| Ezulwini | | Gables Shopping Centre Corner Plaza Complex Municipal offices |
| Mankayane | | Mankayane Market Municipal offices |
| Manzini | Ward 1 | Two Sticks Shops Zakhele Shops Skom Shops |
| | Ward 2 | Pendray Park Sobhuza Clinic |
| | Ward 3 | Kamthunyelelwa Shopping Complex Fairview North New Shops Helemisi F.E.A. Training Centre Ludwala Shops |
| | Ward 4 | Sihlahleni Shops The Vibe Shops/ Ebenezer Supermarket |
| | Ward 5 | Murray Camp Soup Kitchen Sikhunyana Shopping Centre |
| | Ward 6 | Grand Valley Shops |
| | Ward 7 | Sterkstroom Shops Mangwanene [Under the tree] Mneni Matata |
| | Ward 8 | Khanyisile |
| | Ward 9 | KaMatsenjwa Bus Station Mneni Umphakatsi |
| | Ward 10 | Mjingo School Day Eve Guest House |
| | Ward 11 | Old Enjabulweni Gate KaZakhali P School SNPF Village SNPF Village |
| | Ward 12 | Manzini Civic Centre RiverStone Mall The Hub Bhunu Mall President Centre Bus Rank Spar |
| Ngwenya | Ward 1 | Mchalangeni Offices |
| | Ward 2 | Back To Jesus Church |
| | Ward 3 | Kangini (QRS Offices) |
| | Ward 4 | Ngenya Town Hall |
| Mbabane | Ward 1 | Mahwalala Red Cross African Continent Mission Mbabane Central High School Nkwilini Primary School Mangwaneni Pre-School Mangwaneni Primary School Mbabane City Council Offices St Marks Primary School |
| | Ward 2 | Khula Guest House |
| | Ward 3 | SEDCO - Sidwashini |
| | Ward 4 | St Frances High School |
| | Ward 5 | Khula Guest House |
| | Ward 6 | Sifundzani High School |
| | Ward 7 | Fonteyn Primary School |
| | Ward 8 | Fonteyn Pre-School |
| | Ward 9 | Ka-Boyce Primary School |
| | Ward 10 | Mqolo Primary School |
| | Ward 11 | Deepest Life Bible Church |
| Siteki | Ward 12 | Shoprite |
| | Ward 1 | Municipal Offices Siteki Market and Bus Rank Methodist Church Apostolic Faith Mission Khala Mntwana Good Shepard Primary Mahwala Hall Soup Kitchen |
| Matsapha | Ward 2 | Tubungu Township Recreation Centre |
| | Ward 3 | Mashayitafula Shopping Complex Matsapha Civic Centre Mobenil Flats Matsapha Maintenance Depot Weights and Measures Office Swaziland Hospice at Home Mahhala Shopping Complex |
| Lavumisa | | Lavumisa Town Council Offices Lavumisa Primary School Lavumisa Park Hall |
| Nhlangano | Ward 4 | Khayalami Township |
| | Ward 5 | Neighbourhood Care Point |
| | Ward 6 | Nhlangano Civic Centre Nhlangano Post Office Nhlangano Market Mathendele Hall |
| | Ward 7 | Neighbourhood Care Point |
| | Ward 8 | Nhlangano CTA Offices |
| Pigg's Peak | Ward 9 | Malendalale Soup kitchen |
| | Ward 10 | Mangwaneni Soup Kitchen |
| | Ward 11 | Pigg's Peak Civic Centre |
| | Ward 12 | Pigg's Peak Civic Centre |
| | Ward 13 | Nazarene Church |
| | Ward 14 | Mhlatane High School |
| | Ward 15 | Civic Centre |
| Hiathikhulu | | Municipal Offices |
| Maikerns | | KaNtuli Location Sentra Complex Nyanza Market Mpophoma Conference Centre Dalcru |

To facilitate ease of registration kindly bring the following documents: Identity Document (ID), Proof of Residence, Proof that you had stayed/or conducted business in the town for minimum six months

Issued
C.S. MAMBA
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY (HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT)

BE THE CHAMPION! FORM YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT
REGISTER TO VOTE

LUBOMBO NEWS

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...With

Wonderboy Dlamini

RA HOPES FOR BETTER ATTENDANCE
FOR MLAWULA - MAGADZAVANE WALK

LUBOMBO Regional Administrator (RA) Sylvia Mthethwa has urged members of the public from across the country to partake in the upcoming Mlawula-Magadzavane Challenge Walk scheduled for July 30.

The walk which is championed by the RA was recently launched by Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs Christopher Gamedze during an event which was held at Siteki Park. The RA is also the chairperson of the Eco Lubombo Organisation, an entity which has taken the initiative to raise funds for charity while promoting tourism in the region. Mthethwa reported that this would be the second walk following another which was held last year.

She stated that even though last year's event was successful with slightly over 1 000 participants, the organisation was looking forward to an improvement on the number of attendants.

Mthethwa highlighted that the challenge walk offered a variety of experiences as it also allows people of different fitness ability to participate.

The walk has two categories; it consists of the medium trail which is about 6.72 kilometres with an estimated duration of approximately two hours and 40 minutes while the long trail is about



LEADING: Minister of Tourism and Environmental Affairs Christopher Gamedze.

21 kilometres with an estimated duration of approximately six hours.

This event being hosted for the second time with more sponsors and we're hoping for a record breaking attendance from members of the public.

She said this would go a long way towards providing the much needed intervention to the disadvantaged population of the region. The RA said this was also in line with the ministry of tourism and environmental affairs' call for Swazis to adopt and be seen to be

promoting domestic tourism as it has immediate benefits.

On another note, Mthethwa said the organisation has also arranged for a number of activities which will be introduced to complement the walk and also add value to the prospects of eco-tourism development in the region. "This will basically be a fun-filled day where people of different ranks will also share ideas while taking part in the walk which will eventually benefit the entire country," said the RA.

Will partake in the challenge walk - traditional leaders

TRADITIONAL leaders from all parts of the region are reportedly geared up to take part in the second historic Mlawula-Magadzavane Challenge Walk.

Speaking on behalf of all traditional leaders from the region, Maphungwane Chief Maliwa Maziya said they were delighted with the Eco Lubombo Organisation's vision of taking care of the needy while simultaneously promoting tourism in the region.

He said as a result, traditional leaders from various chiefdoms have indicated their personal participation in the upcoming event.

Maziya said the initiative taken up by the organisation was one that must be supported by all residents of the region as it is for a good course.

The youthful and well-expressed chief said they were also happy to note that a majority of traditional leaders contributed to last year's event both financially and by taking part in the challenge walk.

He said this was a sign which indicates the authenticity of the hosting organisation which has so far, reached

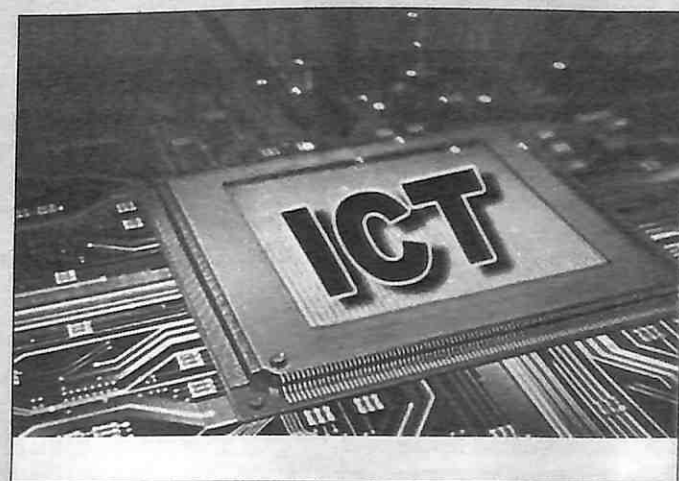


out to some charity organisations and landed assistance. Maziya then urged members of the public to come in their numbers to support this good initiative.

Meanwhile, Kenneth Fakudze who spoke on behalf of the Siteki Town Council said the council took pride in partnering with strategic institutions to promote eco-tourism and related activities. Fakudze disclosed that the council was currently working on a seven objective strategic plan,

of which two of them are pertinent to the upcoming walk; wherein the main objective is to promote environment protection and conservation and promoting public health and safety.

Moreover, Fakudze said the council supported the region's vision and would continue to partake in other initiatives with an intention to promote tourism, socio economic activities, as well as wellness of employees, citizens and the region at large.

LCMC LAUNCH FREE
ICT LESSONS FOR PUPILS

PUPILS from the three Siteki giant schools will be delighted to learn that Lubombo Community Multimedia Centre (LCMC) has since launched lessons for Information Communication and Technology (ITC) at almost no cost.

The benefitting schools are Lubombo Central High, Siteki Nazarene High and Good Shepherd High.

LCMC Chief Executive Officer Ambrose Zwane said the organisation has implemented the programme which aims at empowering the pupils with internet usage skills.

Zwane said from this Saturday, they would be providing the lessons at their offices situated behind Lubombo Central High School. To cater for administrative costs, each pupil is required to pay only E5 (five emalangeni) upon arrival. Zwane explained that this amount is mainly for transporting the teachers who will be coming to assist the pupils.

He stated that the programme is mainly aimed at helping the children upgrade in research skills where the use of internet is required. He pointed out that many chil-

dren attending the aforementioned schools come from rural areas, something which limits their knowledge and skills to internet usage. During the lessons which will be provided only on Saturdays, the pupils will get to know of other uses of a cellphone, other than making calls and logging into social networks.

Zwane said they were aiming at encouraging the pupils to use cellphones for purposes of learning to refrain from spending more time on social networks. He further pointed out that there was currently an evident gap between pupils from well-developed schools between the corridors of Mbabane-Manzini and those from the Lubombo region. Zwane said therefore, their aim is bridging this gap.

Meanwhile, Zwane reported that they will be taking in at least 50 pupils from each of the three schools on each day (which will be a Saturday). "We want pupils to know benefitting uses of a cellphone, rather than social networks," he said. He then urged principals from the schools to encourage pupils to take part in the lessons.



WFP EXTENDS FOOD BY PRESCRIPTION PROGRAMME TO DECEMBER



Stories by Bodwa Mbingo
Mbabane

WORLD Food Programme (WFP) has extended the Food by Prescription programme in the country to December this year.

WFP provides assistance to people living with HIV and TB through the Food by Prescription programme. The programme offers nutrition assessments, counselling and support services to malnourished clients receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART), treatment for TB, or the prevention of mother to child transmission (PMTCT) services, as well as support to their families.

WFP and government aim to improve treatment and recovery outcomes by mainstreaming nutrition into HIV and TB support services. The WFP Report for June reveals that concerns over the food security situation during the lean season and its impact on people under ART and TB/Drug Resistant-TB treatment is compounded by the limited funding for this programme.

On another note, WFP provides a social safety net for young orphans and vulnerable children. The organisation provides nutritious on-site meals to 52 000 orphans and vulnerable children under eight years of age who attend Neighbourhood Care Points (NCPs), many of whom live with relatives or in child-headed households. NCPs provide a safe place for boys and girls to equally access early education and care services.

The report reflects that due to the drought impact, the project has been extended throughout 2017, to allow for assistance to continue in a time of increased need. WFP also continues to support government to strengthen social protection systems.

In April, WFP conducted the last food distribution under the Emergency Operation (EMOP), reaching 71 090 people with a 45 day ration. The primary objective of the EMOP was to provide emergency food assistance targeting the most vulnerable households affected by the El Niño induced drought through in-kind food distributions and cash based transfers (CBT). The project

| IN NUMBERS: | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Food by Prescription Assistance (Jan 2012 – Jun 2017) | | | |
| Total Requirements (US\$) | Total Received (US\$) | 6 Mths Net Requirements (US\$)* | |
| 10.7m | 4.6m (42%) | 321 825 (59%)* | |
| NB: *May 2017 – October 2017 | | | |
| Assistance to OVC at NCPs and Schools (Jan 2013 – Dec 2017) | | | |
| Total Requirements (US\$) | Total Received (US\$) | 6 Mths Net Requirements (US\$)* | |
| 20.7m | 11.1m | N/A* | |
| NB: *May 2017 – October 2017 | | | |
| Emergency Assistance to Drought-affected Population in Swaziland (Jun 2016 – Mar 2017) | | | |
| Total Requirements (US\$) | Total Received (US\$) | 6 Mths Net Requirements (US\$) | |
| 16.8 m | 12.7 m (76%) | N/A | |
| HIGHLIGHTS | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In April, WFP conducted the last food distribution of the Emergency Operation (EMOP). A Budget Revision was approved to extend cash based transfer (CBT) activities through May In April, WFP assisted 213 238 people with emergency assistance, of which 71 090 received food and 142 148 received CBT. In May, 56 973 people received CBT WFP's Food by Prescription project remains underfunded, and pipeline breaks are expected in July 2017 | | | |

supported the government's response under the National Emergency Response Mitigation and Adaptation Plan (NERMAP), to improve and stabilise household food consumption for drought-affected groups.

The EMOP targeted 250 000 people and ended in May 2017 coinciding with the next harvest. CBT assistance, which was extended through May, reached 142 000 people in April and 56 973 in May. Food distribution ended in April, but CBT were extended one month and phased out in May.

WFP closely monitored the food security situation to tailor its assistance to best meet the needs on the ground. CBT assistance, which was extended through May, reached 142 000 people in April and 56 973 in May.

Furthermore, government is coordinating a multi-sectoral assessment to update information on impact of the drought at the peak of the lean season and the final report will be published in the coming weeks. Preliminary findings from the agricultural survey point to a 37 per cent increase (68 240 hectares) of land under cultivation compared to last year. The 2017 Annual Vulnerability Analysis Assessment started early June with results expected by end of the month and the report finalised by end of August. WFP is the implementing partner for USAID's PEPFAR project which focuses on nutrition intervention targeting people

living with HIV and AIDS and orphans and vulnerable children. Project implementation started in March for selected health facilities in the most food insecure areas. WFP's Food by Prescription project has been extended to December 2017. It remains underfunded and pipeline breaks are expected in July 2017.

"Thanks to recent funding, assistance to orphans and vulnerable children through DEV 200422 will resume in 2017. The project has been halted since May 2016 due to lack of resources. Results from the Swaziland Vulnerability Analysis Committee and IPC analysis indicate that 350 000 people are in need of emergency food assistance, with 640 000 potentially affected by some degree of food insecurity at the peak of the lean season (November 2016 - April 2017). Swaziland faces fiscal and economic challenges, with poor predictions for Southern Africa Customs Union revenue, continued slow economic growth and the devaluation of the South Africa Rand, to which the local currency is pegged. Swaziland's economic situation may also hamper advances in WFP's country strategy approach, which aims towards full national ownership, financial and operational, of food and nutrition security initiatives. The government has endorsed the priorities of the draft strategy," further states the report.

SADC maize output expected to rise by 45%

REGIONAL production in Southern Africa of cereal is expected to jump by almost 45 per cent compared to 2016 when crops were affected by El Niño, with record maize harvests forecast in South Africa and Zambia.

This should help to reduce food insecurity in countries, such as Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Swaziland and Zimbabwe. While worldwide cereal output is near record levels, production outcomes are mixed across the globe. According to a UN report, South America is expected to post strong increases,

led by Brazil and Argentina. After two consecutive years of bumper crops, the report notes that the overall food supply situation in the Sahel region is satisfactory.



Suffered

However, at the start of the 2017 season, East Africa has suffered insufficient rainfall, armyworm infestations and local conflicts, leaving in the sub-region a record 26.5 million people in need of humanitarian assistance.

The report warns that the situation could be aggravated further as the lean season peaks, saying, "An estimated 7.8 million people are food insecure in Ethiopia, where drought has dented crop and pasture output in southern regions."

Moreover, cereal domestic prices reached exceptionally high levels in May, with the local cost of maize jumping by as much as 65 per cent this year in parts of Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. The report also notes that a severe drought in Sri Lanka, followed by heavy rains and local flooding in late May, will likely reduce the country's paddy production by nearly a third, compared to the average. Meanwhile, protracted fighting and unrest are swelling the ranks of the displaced and hungry in some parts of the world, even as

large agricultural harvests in some regions are buoying global food supply conditions, according to a new report by the United Nations agriculture agency.

"Civil conflict continues to be a main driver of food insecurity, having triggered famine conditions in South Sudan and put populations in Yemen and northern Nigeria at high risk of localised famine," said the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation on its Crop Prospects and Food Situation report.

FAO also notes that adverse weather conditions are exacerbating the threat

of famine in Somalia. Refugees from civil strife in countries such as Iraq, Syria and Central African Republic are putting additional pressure on local food supplies in host communities.

It also points out that some 5.5

million people are estimated to be severely food insecure in South Sudan, where maize and sorghum prices are now four times higher than in April 2016. In Somalia, about 3.2 million people need food and agricultural emergency assistance, while in Yemen the figure is as high as 17 million. In northern Nigeria, disruption caused by conflict has left 7.1 million people facing acute food insecurity in the affected areas, with even more deemed to be in less dire but still "stressed" conditions, according to the report.

According to FAO, 37 countries require external assistance for food including Swaziland. They are namely: Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Haiti, Iraq, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Uganda, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

ELDERLY PROUD OF QUEEN MOTHER

By Sizwe Dlamini
Pigg's Peak

AN elder of Pigg's Peak Gogo Malindzisa has praised Her Majesty the Queen Mother for establishing Philani MaSwati in the country.

Malindzisa was one of the many Pigg's Peak folks who were invited to answer questions about Philani MaSwati Foundation as well as the Biggest Braai by Chairperson of the organisation Lutfo Dlamini. Malindzisa said she was proud of the queen mother for starting the foundation that looked after the elderly.

"We are very proud of the queen mother who started this organisation to help us the elderly, we have also heard today through Lutfo Dlamini that the children who look after the elderly are now also going to benefit.

This gives us hope and peace of mind knowing that the children who are sometimes forced to



IT'S YOURS: Gogo Malindzisa receiving her cash prize from Lutfo Dlamini. (Pics: Sizwe Dlamini)

look after us will also benefit from donations," said Malindzisa.

She added that she heard that

Philani MaSwati would make sure that no Swazi lacked a dignified burial.



LENYE FUTSI: Bishop Mavovo Mkhonto handing cash over to Gogo Malindzisa.



AGAIN: Even Pigg's Peak Station Commander Webster Methula gave Gogo Malindzisa money.

WORLD VISION'S E170 000 GIFT TO CHILDREN

By Starsky Mkhonta
Nhlangano

WORLD Vision Swaziland donated children's gifts worth E170 000 during the commemoration of the Day of the African Child held at Equisweni Primary School.

The donation was presented by World Vision Swaziland Country Director Francis Dube to the Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini. The donation, which consisted of school bags, was meant to be distributed to 1 500 pupils, some being those who were part of the event on Thursday.

In his remarks when handing the gifts to the DPM, Dube said these were from their overseas sister organisations.

"It's our hope that what we are presenting today will go a long way in ensuring that this future generation is taken care of," said Dube.

Dube said World Vision would remain committed in supporting government, especially on all initiatives meant to see vulnerable children having a bright future.

"That we are going to do because we understand that it takes a world to bring change, it takes a world to take care of our children, and it certainly takes a world to end the increasing violence against them," said Dube.

Dube said since his organisation is child-



REMARKS: The Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini delivering his speech during the commemoration of the Day of the African Child at Equisweni Primary School.

focused, it advocated for the protection of rights and wellbeing of vulnerable children, without leaving out those living with disabilities as well as giving developmental support of to communities these children lived in.

He said under the Shiselweni region alone, his organisation had offices in 12 constituencies where they are mainly focusing on issues of education, health

livelihoods and water sanitation and hygiene (WASH), which programmes catered for 25 371 children, together with their families and communities.

Dube said it was encouraging to see traditional leaders being part of the event as World Vision relied on them in ensuring that its work was not hindered.

Protected

"We rely on you (chiefs) in making sure that children are protected in your various communities. Our good working relationship with you has made our work easier," said Dube. Dube thanked the DPM and his office for the good work in addressing the plight of the children of the country. "Your dedication and that of your office on issues of these little souls is encouraging," said Dube.

Also commending the good work done by the DPM's office was Shiselweni Regional Administrator Themba Masuku, who stated that Dlamini was taking all issues touching on children seriously. He was optimistic that even the increasing complaints that were received by his (RA) office on daily basis, judging from the commitment Dlamini was showing, all this would soon be a thing of the past. Masuku was the DPM before becoming the RA, which is a position also previously occupied by Dlamini.



MCs: These two pupils from Equisweni Primary School Ncedo Khumalo and Nduduzo Mkhonta were the programme directors during the event.



MORE SPEECHES: Shiselweni Regional Administrator Themba Masuku and UNICEF Representative Rachel Odede also had something to say.

UMLILO MUSIC IN COLABORATION WITH SOUL BROTHERS MUSIC

PRESENTS

GAWZELA VS SOUL BROTHERS

BATTLE OF THE GIANTS

Charity Benefit Event

DAMAGE: E50

CHANGING LIVES ON COMMUNITY AT A TIME

THEME: FISHING FROM DEEPER WATERS

WORD OF GOD: REV. DRAZE MASILELE, PROPHET KHULANI KANGA

PD & FAMILY

PHUZUKHEMISI

GUEST SPEAKER: NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSIONER SAAC MASAGULA

SA ARTISTS: SOUL BROTHERS (PHUZUKHEMISI), SIPHO MAKHASANE, SIPHUMELELE NGAMBO, PD & FAMILY GOSPEL WAGON

LOCAL ARTISTS: GAWZELA, FRANS DLAMINI, SHIBA & THE TRAVELLERS, APOSTLE MACULUVE, GONA MASUKU, POLICE GOSPEL MESSENGERS & MANY MORE

DATE: 1 JULY 2017 VENUE: BIG BEND MAYALUKA STADIUM TIME: 6PM TO 6AM

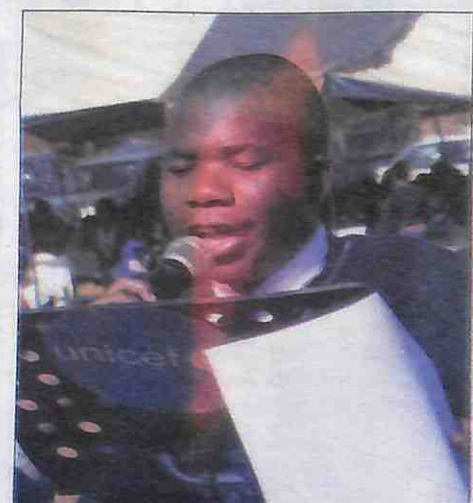
TICKETS AVAILABLE: FRESH @ MATATA, SHOPRITE BIGBEND, OK & SAVEMOR, GAWZELA SHOP

ALUDLE LUFUKUTSE LUBOMBO!!!!

PARTNERS: PD & FAMILY GOSPEL WAGON, ILLOYO



STRESSING A POINT: Save The Children National Director Dumisani Mnisi making his address. (R) **PRESENT:** Equisweni Primary School Principal Duncan Nzima addressing the gathering.



WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT: Engwenyameni Chief Mbiko speaking on behalf of chiefs. (R) **NOT LEFT OUT:** Veli Vilakati from Evelyn Baring High School, who is visually impaired, stressing a point on behalf of children with disabilities.



FEATURES & OPINION

REFRESH WHAT YOU THINK...

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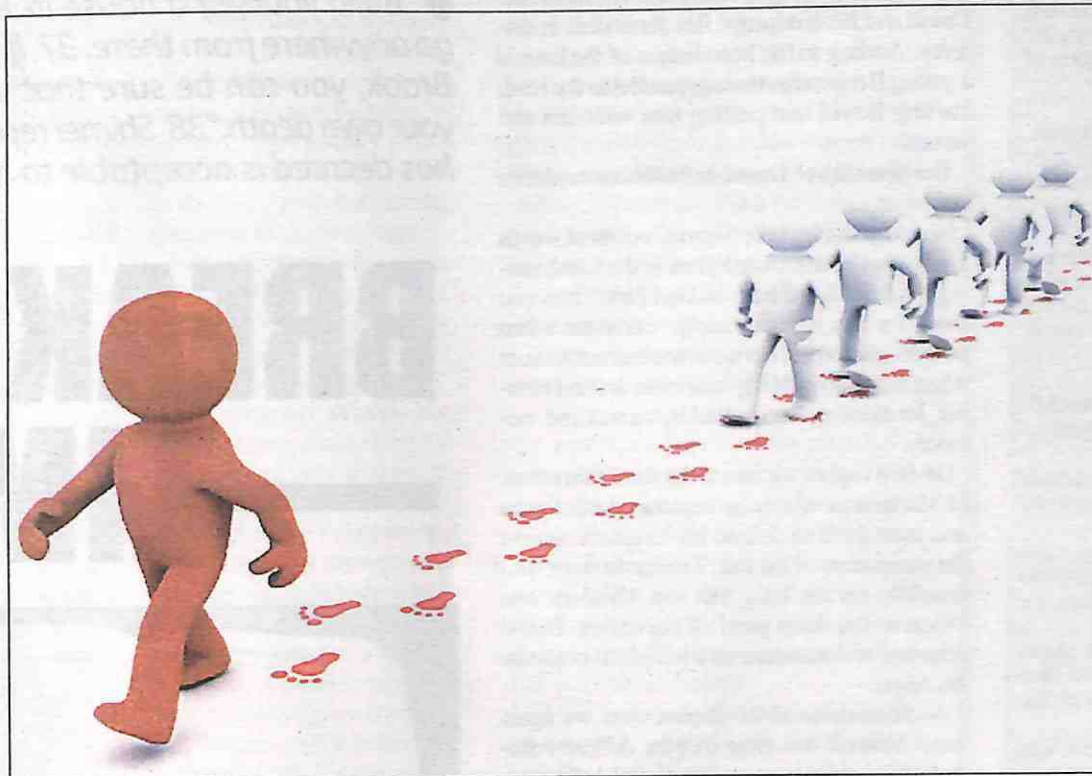
TIVE
LEADERSHIP
CENTER



... With
**Kholwaphi
Mdziniso**

Guest Writer

THE LEADER-FOLLOWER RELATIONSHIP



ORGANISATIONS are successful or not, partly on the basis of how well their leaders lead, but also in great part on the basis of how well their followers follow. Surely improving the performance of followers should be worthwhile for any leader.

Often, people think the leader plays a solo game when leading a group yet the people being led also play an important part, hence the leader/follower relationship is symbiotic. The leader is the visible person in the relationship such that many people do not think on what is the role of the follower and how does it affect the leadership behaviour and effectiveness.

The Job of Effective Followers

When followers recognise and accept their significant position, then they can fully develop responsible, synergistic relationship in their organisation. According to Chaleff (2003), there are three positions that followers need to understand in order to fully assume responsibility as followers.

- Understand the power - followers need to understand the power dynamics of both the leader and that which they possess as followers and know how to use it. Followers have far more power than they know. They just need to understand; the sources of the power, whom they serve and the tools they have to achieve the group's mission. Followers have a unique vantage point as follower or team member, but they have to know that and use it effectively.

- Appreciate the value of the leader - Appreciating the value of the leader and the contributions he or she makes to forward the organisation's mission. Followers need to understand the pressures upon the leader that can wear down creativity and good humour. Followers can learn how to minimise these forces and contribute to bringing out the leader's strengths for the good of the group and for the common purpose.

- Work toward minimising the pitfalls of power - by helping the leader to remain on track for the long-term common good. We are all witness to how power can corrupt, and it takes courage and skill to speak up. Followers can learn how to counteract politely the dark tendency of power.

The five dimensions of courageous followership

Chaleff (2003) identifies and defines what is required of followers to become equal partner with the leader in fulfilling the purpose of the organisation.

- The Courage to assume responsibility - courageous followers assume responsibility for themselves and the organisation. They do not hold a paternalistic image of the leader or organisation, nor do they expect either to provide for their security and growth or give

them permission to act. They initiate values based action. Their "authority" comes from their understanding and ownership of the common purpose.

- The Courage to serve - courageous followers are not afraid of hard work and they assume additional responsibilities to unburden the leader and serve the organisation.

They stand up for the leader and the tough decisions he/she must make. They are as passionate as the leader in pursuit of the common purpose.

- The Courage to challenge - courageous followers give voice to the discomfort they feel when the behaviours or policies of the leader or group conflict with their sense of what is right. They are willing to stand up, stand out, to risk rejection and to initiate conflict in order to examine the actions

of the leader or group when appropriate.

- The Courage to participate in transformation - courageous followers champion the need for change and stay with the leader and group while they mutually struggle with the difficulty of real change. They examine their own need for transformation and become full participants in the change process as appropriate.

- The Courage to take moral action - courageous followers know when it is time to take a stand that is different from the leaders. The stand may involve refusing to obey a direct order, appealing the order to the next level of authority, or tendering one's resignation. This may involve personal risk but service to the common purpose justifies and sometimes demands such action.

Robert Kelley (1988) stated that

"In an organisation of effective followers, a leader tends to be more an overseer of change and progress than a hero. He asserts that as organisational structures flatten, the quality of those who follow will become more and more important. Kelley observed four essential qualities of effective followers.

- They manage themselves well: The key to being effective as a follower is paradoxically the ability to think for oneself. Followers also see themselves as equals to the leader they follow.

- They are committed to a higher purpose: They work towards the purpose of the organisation, and to certain principles and values outside of themselves. If they see a misalignment with personal values, they may withdraw their support either by changing jobs or by changing leaders.

- They build their strengths: They have high standards of performance and are continually learning and updating their skills and abilities. They seek out extra work and responsibilities gladly in order to stretch themselves.

- They take risks: They are credible, honest and have the courage to speak up. They give credit where due, but also admit mistakes. They are insightful and candid and they are willing to take risks. They can keep leaders and colleagues honest and informed.

Emotional Intelligence when interacting with the boss

Part of the problem in following responsibly and courageously lies in the tendency for people to relate to authority figures as they would in a parent-child relationship. Early childhood memories are deeply embedded in the subconscious and trigger old patterns of behaviour and emotion in a split second. These memories are often outside of our awareness, and it does not take much; a look, a tone of voice, to trigger anger or anxiety when confronted by the boss. Developing one's emotional intelligence as Daniel Goleman (2002) puts it can help regulate the split second reactions and allow more productive and satisfying interactions.

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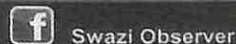
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ON THIS DAY

...JUNE 20

1863 - West Virginia became the 35th state to join the US.

1863 - The National Bank of Philadelphia in Philadelphia, PA, became the first bank to receive a charter from the US Congress.

1898 - The US Navy seized the island of Guam enroute to the Philippines to fight the Spanish.

1910 - Mexican President Porfirio Diaz proclaimed martial law and arrested hundreds.

1910 - Fanny Brice debuted in the New York production of the "Ziegfeld Follies".

1923 - France announced it would seize the Rhineland to assist Germany in paying its war debts.

1941 - The US Army Air Forces was established, replacing the Army Air Corps. The Army Air Forces were abolished with the creation of the United States Air Force in 1947.

1943 - Race-related rioting erupted in Detroit. Federal troops were sent in two days later to end the violence that left more than 30 dead.

1947 - Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel was murdered in Beverly Hills, CA, at the order of mob associates angered over the soaring costs of his project, the Flamingo resort in Las Vegas, NV.

1948 - "Toast of the Town" debuted on CBS-TV. The show was hosted by Ed Sullivan.

1950 - Willie Mays graduated from high school and immediately signed with the New York Giants.

1955 - The AFL and CIO agreed to combine names and a merge into a single group.

1963 - The United States and Soviet Union signed an agreement to set up a hot line communication link between the two countries.

1966 - The US Open golf tournament was broadcast in colour for the first time.

1967 - Muhammad Ali was convicted in Houston of violating Selective Service laws by refusing to be drafted. The US Supreme Court later overturned the conviction.

1977 - The Trans-Alaska Pipeline began operation.

1979 - ABC News correspondent Bill Stewart was shot to death in Managua, Nicaragua, by a member of President Anastasio Somoza's national guard.

1983 - The US Supreme Court ruled that employers must treat male and female workers equally in providing health benefits for their spouses.

1997 - The tobacco industry agreed to a massive settlement in exchange for major relief from mounting lawsuits and legal bills.

2001 - Barry Bonds (San Francisco Giants) hit his 38th home run of the season. The home run broke the major league baseball record for homers before the midseason All-Star break.

2002 - The US Supreme Court ruled that the execution of mentally retarded murderers was unconstitutionally cruel. The vote was six in favour and three against.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Frank Lampard
(SOCCER PLAYER)
- June 20, 1978 (39 years old)



Tika Sumpter
(TV actress)
- June 20, 1980 (37 years old)



BISHOP KEITH
HARRINGTON'S CORNER

SHIMEI was of the same family as King Saul and evidently opposed the accession of David to the throne of Israel.

We first meet him on one of the darkest days in King David's life.

David's son, Absalom, has gained the upper hand in his bid to replace his father on the throne. David and his entourage flee Jerusalem in disarray. Adding to the humiliation of the hour is a young Benjamite running parallel to the road, cursing David and pelting him with dirt and stones.

The humility of David in this instance shines out.

Not only did he take Shimei's critical words kindly, but he attributed them to the Lord, saying, "for the Lord hath bidden him." It is one thing for any of us to accept criticism when offered graciously, but quite another not to react when attacked publicly and in an unkind manner, let alone accompanied by curses and violence.

David's flight took him to the mountain retreat of Mahanaim where he regrouped his forces and went forth to defend his kingdom against the usurpation of his son. The battle went successfully for the king. His son Absalom was killed to the deep grief of his father. David returned to Jerusalem in triumph to continue his reign.

As he re-crossed the Jordan river we again meet Shimei, this time in a far different attitude. No longer cursing David with bold bragadocio, he assumes the position of the humble penitent. Once again David rejected the counsel of his nephew Abishai, and graciously forgave the groveling Shimei.

He refused to mar the joy of his triumphant return with a show of vengeance on his enemies. Judgment Deferred If the Bible narrative stopped here, we would have a lovely anecdotal account of forgiveness for sins against ourselves.

But the record of Shimei picks up again many years later, when David is old and about to turn over the kingdom to his son Solomon. We find our scripture reference in **1 Kings 2 verses 36 to 46:36**. The king sent for Shimei and told him, "Build yourself a house in Jerusalem and live there, but don't go anywhere from there. 37 If you ever leave and cross the Kidron Brook, you can be sure that you'll die. You'll be responsible for your own death." 38 Shimei replied to the king, "What your majesty has decreed is acceptable to me. I'll do what you've said."

Escaped

So Shimei lived in Jerusalem for quite some time. 39 But three years later, two of Shimei's servants escaped to Maacah's son Achish, the king of Gath. Somebody told Shimei, "Look! Your servants went to Gath!" 40 So Shimei got up, saddled a donkey, and travelled to Gath to find his servants. He found them and brought them back from Gath.

41 Later, Solomon found out that Shimei had left Jerusalem, gone to Gath, and had returned, 42 so the king sent for Shimei and asked him, "Didn't I make a promise to the LORD and warn you, 'The day you leave and go anywhere else, you can be sure you'll die'? And you told me, 'What your majesty has decreed is acceptable to me.' 43 So why haven't you kept the oath you made to the LORD, and why didn't you obey my personal order to you?" 44 The

the Waves of

Praying with Conviction and Confidence

1 Kings 18:36-46

³⁶ At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: "LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. ³⁷ Answer me, LORD, answer me, so these people will know that you, LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again."

● "Build yourself a house in Jerusalem and live there, but don't go anywhere from there. 37 If you ever leave and cross the Kidron Brook, you can be sure that you'll die. You'll be responsible for your own death." 38 Shimei replied to the king, "What your majesty has decreed is acceptable to me. I'll do what you've said."

BREAKING THE LIMITS



king also reminded Shimei, "You know all the evil things that you admit you did to my father David.

Therefore, the LORD is going to repay you for all of your evil. 45 But King Solomon will be blessed, and David's throne will be established in the presence of the LORD forever." 46 So the king gave orders to Jehoiada's son Benaiah to go out, attack Shimei, and kill him. That is how the kingdom was established under Solomon's control.

Limits

Notice that Solomon set a limit for Shimei that he can build a house in Jerusalem but that he's not allowed to leave there and go anywhere else. It is typical of the devil to set limits for people. Today I declare that all the Satanic limits are broken. Some people have been told that they can have a degree, certificate, etc, but they should not try to get married, because they will be crossing over a limit. Some ladies come from a family of many girls, but they are all in unhappy marriages as that limit has been set. I don't know who put the limit on you, but I know who can break the limits. 1. Limits are restrictions.

Having a limit is like carrying a heavy yoke. When looking at the word 'Yoked', you'll discover that only oxen are yoked because they are stubborn. Yoked also means to be stuck on a spot. In **Luke 8: 42 - 50** we find the account of the woman who had an issue of blood for 12 years. This woman was bold enough to break the limits set over her life. According to the law, when a person had an issue of blood, the person was not allowed to be in the presence of other people. That person was to remain in isolation and was limited to her own space, as everything she owned and wore was regarded as unclean. However, she broke the limits set for her and pushed through the crowd and touched Jesus garment.

When she touched His garment, she was instantly made whole. However, when she got healed, Jairus 12-year-old daughter died. That brought news to Jairus that his daughter had died and he shouldn't trouble the Master any longer. However, the Bible says that Jesus Christ answered them though they weren't talking to Him. This is because God doesn't only hear prayers, but He hears gossip as

well. Some people are limited by unforgiveness. We need to forgive people and not allow what they did to us to limit us. However, forgiveness is not memory loss. The fact that we forgive people doesn't mean we must give them another chance to manipulate us again. There are people that you forgive but you must unfriend. 2. Limits are set so that you can be monitored. They want to monitor you. The devil works on information we give him. David was absent for his own coronation because Samuel announced that he was coming to Jesses' house in search of a king.

Information

Lazarus was raised from the dead on chapter 11 and in chapter 12 the Jews came to see him celebrate as they received information that Jesus Christ would be visiting him.

They came not to celebrate his miracle but rather to put him to death again. People don't want to see others rise up, but would rather keep people down. Shimei lost his life because he crossed a limit that was set for him.

He left Jerusalem in search of escaped servants. He had the opportunity to negotiate with Solomon before being bound by that limitation, but he didn't use the opportunity well. We must not allow limits to keep us bound but we must strive to break all limits set for us. I prophesy that you shall break records in the year 2017. Till next week.

ARE ZUMA'S ALLIES JUMPING SHIP?

THE road to the ANC's December elective conference is becoming increasingly uncertain; even for those within the party who thought they were guaranteed victory in what promises to be a very dramatic conference.

President Zuma's camp, Camp Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, seems to be encountering serious headwinds, not only caused by the rival Cyril Ramaphosa, but also from some people who were presumed to be Zuma's allies. The Zuma camp is driven by the so-called Premier League and draws membership from the premiers of Mpumalanga, the Free State and North West provinces. Together with the ANC Youth League, the Women's League, and the Military Veteran's League, this camp has outright credibility problems because it is seen as a coalition of the mean and corrupt.

The statement posted on Twitter a few days ago by Police Minister Fikile Mbalula shows that within the Zuma camp, there might be those who are beginning to feel that indeed a compromise has to be made on the top six leaders preferred by this camp.

Mbalula stated that the presence of Free State premier Ace Magashule on this camp's proposed top six list spells disaster. Having been recently promoted to lead the influential police department, Mbalula's statement seems to be

a challenge to Zuma's staunch allies including the Free State premier and the ANC Youth League.

Jeopardise

Why would Mbalula take a position that could jeopardise his relationship with Jacob Zuma and his allies? Is he just being naively honest about the fact that the success of the Zuma camp in December will indeed spell disaster for the ANC in the 2019 elections?

It has always been my observation that if the Zuma camp gets all its candidates elected to the party's top six positions, the ANC will lose the 2019 elections.

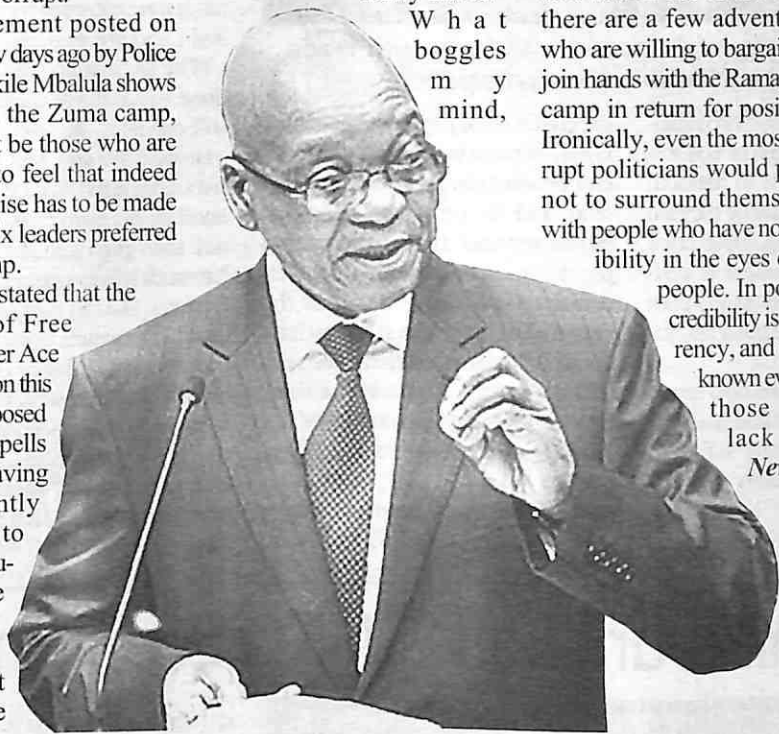
With his tweet, Mbalula proposes a compromise by removing some of the people from the Zuma camp's list and bringing to the list the name of Gauteng premier David Makhura; a known anti-Zuma person who does not have credibility issues.

What boggles my mind,

however, is how to interpret Mbalula's proposal. Is this proposal a third way, or does it make Mbalula still a Zuma ally trying to patch a badly leaking boat? Perhaps his reasonable proposal that Makhura would be a fitting secretary general of the ANC is Mbalula's way to shop for a political home away from the Zuma camp. Since his failed bid to topple the then staunch Zuma ally Gwede Mantashe as the secretary general of the party at the 2012 Mangaung conference, Mbalula has been forced to lie low and live under the mercy of the Zuma camp.

In his bizarre tweet last week, Mbalula mentioned his failed campaign to become the secretary general of the party, opening the wounds of 2012! The truth is that Mbalula has never been a Zuma ally; he only needed to be to survive politically. It could be the case that within the Zuma camp, there are a few adventurers who are willing to bargain and join hands with the Ramaphosa camp in return for positions. Ironically, even the most corrupt politicians would prefer not to surround themselves with people who have no credibility in the eyes of the people. In politics credibility is a currency, and this is known even by those who lack it.

News24



NO PLAN?: Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma.

The candidate with no plan

By Anneke Scheepers

IT isn't hard to see that the reason why Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma was installed as the chairperson of the African Union (AU) was to keep her at arm's length in a way that wouldn't compromise her esteem or give her access to influence here at home.

After all, she was always set to be a proxy-president, on behalf of Jacob Zuma.

I suppose it's not a bad game plan, and the candidate, lured by the promise of executive power, would be all too willing to play along. The same can be said of the former Mayor of Johannesburg, Parks Tau, who remains president of a forum called the United Cities and Local Governments. Just to clarify, Tau is the President of a forum of mayors, without being a mayor himself.

There is a resemblance in these two instances: It seems that the ANC is having Tau wait in the wings, just as they did with NDZ, in a position that offers little more than the appearance of power.

The AU made perfect sense because not only was she in a position of sufficient reverence but she was also kept at a distance. This left her unable to build her own network of power. As such, she would be entirely reliant on Jacob Zuma's network upon her return.

Hegemony works like that – it needs a network of support to sustain it; other entities in relation to it that give it power. So if she wants to be president, she better do what Zuma says.

News24

Science has the power to boost farming in Africa

THE agricultural sector is the world's largest single employer. It provides jobs for more than 40 per cent of the global population. It's also the largest source of income and jobs for poor, rural households.

It is, by and large, a successful sector. There have been huge improvements in yields and food production over the past five decades. More cereals have been produced annually during the past 40 years than in any earlier period. It is also predicted that more grain will be harvested in 2017 than in any year in history. This is as a consequence of scientific advances, increased fertiliser use and favourable rain-

fall patterns. Many of these gains have been felt in Africa. Improved seed varieties, new fertilisers and pesticides, improved credit and market access have all played a role. So have scientific innovations such as improved and more reliable weather prediction, improved drought tolerance and increased resistance to extreme climatic conditions, and cross-breeding for improved efficiency. And yet hundreds of millions of people in Africa are going hungry every day. Globally, 800 million people are categorised as chronically hungry. Around 30 per cent of them – 227 million people – live in Africa.

So where is the disconnect between

food production and food security in Africa? Why does the continent spend about \$40-billion a year importing food when so many of its own residents are farmers? And how can this situation be changed?

At least part of the answer lies with science. There are already several excellent examples of ways in which science has led to dramatic increases in food production and moved farmers in some countries closer to self-sufficiency.

Science at work

A project in Uganda provides an excellent example. Ugandan scientist Robert Mwangi won the 2016 World Food Prize for his work in addressing Vitamin A deficiencies.

Without Vitamin A, children are more likely to develop entirely preventable blindness. Working with people in Uganda's poor, rural areas, Mwangi set about substituting, at scale, white sweet potato – which is low in Vitamin A – with a Vitamin A-rich alternative.

In Ethiopia, Gebisa Ejeta was awarded the 2009 World Food Prize for his work on improving the food supply of hundreds of millions of people in sub-Saharan Africa by increasing the production of sorghum hybrids resistant to drought and the parasitic Striga weed.

None of these projects would have been possible without governments supporting the research that lay behind them. But much more needs to be done. *Frans Swanepoel, University of Pretoria*

Wit and Wisdom

"Some say the world will end in fire,
Some say in ice.
From what I've tasted of desire,
I hold with those who favor fire.
But if it had to perish twice
I think I know enough of hate
To say that for destruction ice
Is also great
And would suffice."
— Robert Frost

"You don't know what goes on in anyone's life but your own. And when you mess with one part of a person's life, you're not messing with just that part. Unfortunately, you can't be that precise and selective. When you mess with one part of a person's life, you're messing with their entire life. Everything... affects everything."
— Jay Asher, *Thirteen Reasons Why*

"Great spirits have always encountered violent opposition from mediocre minds."
— Albert Einstein

"The most beautiful experience we can have is the mysterious. It is the fundamental emotion that stands at the cradle of true art and true science."
— Albert Einstein, *The World As I See It*

"It is a curious thought, but it is only when you see people looking ridiculous that you realize just how much you love them."
— Agatha Christie, *An Autobiography*

"What you do, the way you think, makes you beautiful."
— Scott Westerfeld, *Uglies*

"Why is it," he said, one time, at the subway entrance, "I feel I've known you so many years?"
"Because I like you," she said, "and I don't want anything from you."
— Ray Bradbury, *Fahrenheit 451*

"Hate the sin, love the sinner."
— Mahatma Gandhi

"The true soldier fights not because he hates what is in front of him, but because he loves what is behind him."
— G.K. Chesterton

"Sometimes it seems safer to hold it all in, where the only person who can judge is yourself."
— Sarah Dessen

"Is standing by the window muttering about blood something he does all the time?" asked Simon.
"No," Jace said. "Sometimes he sits on the couch and does it."
— Cassandra Clare, *City of Ashes*

"Do not fear to be eccentric in opinion, for every opinion now accepted was once eccentric."
— Bertrand Russell

"You're wishin' too much, baby. You gotta stop wearing your wishbone where your backbone oughtta be."
— Elizabeth Gilbert, *Eat, Pray, Love*

"You are imperfect, permanently and inevitably flawed. And you are beautiful."
— Amy Bloom

"All we demanded was our right to twinkle."
— Marilyn Monroe

"It's not because I want to make out with her." Hold on." He grabbed a pencil and scrawled excitedly at the paper as if he'd just made a mathematical breakthrough and then looked back up at me. "I just did some calculations, and I've been able to determine that you're full of shit."
— John Green, *Looking for Alaska*

BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

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VITALS

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Prime Rate | 10.75% |
| First National Bank | |
| Inflation Rate | 7.1% |
| Central Statistical Office | |
| Mortgage Rate | 9.75% |
| Swaziland Building Society | |
| Bank Rate | 7.25% |
| Central Bank | |
| Petrol (u) | E11.80 per litre |
| Replacement | E11.85 per litre |
| Diesel | E11.70 per litre |
| Paraffin | E 7.95 per litre |
| Engen Garage | |

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Correct as at 15 JUNE 2017

| CURRENCY | BUY | SELL |
|-------------------------|------------|---------|
| US Dollar / SZL | 12.6561 | 12.7061 |
| British Pound/SZL | 16.1175 | 16.1812 |
| Japanese Yen/SZL | 8.6344 | 8.6654 |
| Swiss France/SZL | 13.0301 | 13.0775 |
| Botswana Pula/SZL | 1.2466 | 1.2554 |
| Australian Dollar/SZL | 9.6224 | 9.6630 |
| Canadian Dollar/SZL | 9.5532 | 9.5881 |
| Mozambique Meticals/SZL | 5.5211 | 5.5942 |
| Euro/SZL | 14.1862 | 14.2423 |
| Gold | 1,261.4100 | |
| Oil | 44.9100 | |

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Standard Bank

Farmers can pocket E14.6m from pork import substitution

Stories by Manqoba Makhubu

IF the country could be able to substitute the current import volume of pork through local supply, pig farmers could pocket over E14.6 million more.

This is according to data presented by the ministry of agriculture during the pig industry seminar which was recently hosted by the Small Enterprises Development Company (SEDCO) in conjunction with LULOTE and Sefika Piggery.

Ministry of agriculture's Xolani Ndlangamandla said pig farmers were currently cashing just about E16 327.

He said looking at the current import volume, there was a potential that pig farmers could cash in over E14.6 million more. However, he said the country still remains a net importer of pork and pork products.

"There is a need for developmental interventions to help uplift the level of local production of this commodity," he said.

In line with developing and improving the pig industry, the ministry has come up with interventions which were informed by the department's strategic plan and the Swaziland National Agriculture Investment Plan (SNAIP).

As part of the developmental interventions, Ndlangamandla said farmers



ADDRESS: Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Jabulani Mabuza addressing the participants.

were encouraged to form organised commodity groups or cooperatives from grassroots to national level in an effort to enable bargain power in; bulk buying, input price negotiation, establishment of central meat centres or markets, pig/pork price negotiations and other associated benefits.

He said farmers were also urged to explore other possible markets within the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region.

"Other interventions also include

the provision of pig production training to farmers to promote commercial production and entrepreneurship, and the provision of animal health services to treat and control pig diseases, thereby ensuring veterinary public health, so that the country's meat products access both local and external markets," he said.

The ministry is also at the forefront of the implementation of the Pig Industry and Enhancement Project (PIEP).

The ultimate objective of the project is to stimulate job creation,

income generation, food and nutrition security.

Ndlangamandla said under the project, they were also looking to renovate and expand the existing pig houses, increase the supply of breeding stock to smallholder farmers and construct an Artificial Insemination (AI) centre.

He said the AI centre was now 80 per cent complete.

The aim of the centre is to locally produce pig semen straws to meet national demand.

"The centre is projected to be fully operational by end of July 2017," said Ndlangamandla.

Also, he said currently, an inventory of pig producers/farmers was being conducted and GPS coordinates were recorded for the Hhohho and Lubombo regions.

"The Shiselweni region is almost done while the Manzini region is still pending," he said.

He said the aim was to come up with a pig identification system and enrol all pig farmers in the country and their pigs into the Swaziland Livestock Information and Traceability System (SLITS) data base.

Ndlangamandla urged farmers to ensure sustainability of the PIEP project and that it serves the purpose for which it has been established, that is job creation, income generation and food and nutrition security, culminating in the improvement of livelihoods.

Further bank rate hike unlikely - NKC Economics

AMID the recent marginal increase of the country's inflation rate, NKC African Economics says they see further hikes of the bank rate by the Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) in the near term as unlikely.

NKC African Economics is majority owned by Oxford Economics, the world's foremost independent global advisory firm.

The CBS kept the bank rate and prime rate unchanged at 7.25 per cent and 10.75 per cent in May, respectively.

NKC analyst Chantelle Mathee further said the higher interest rate relative to South Africa's seven per cent repo rate would also safeguard against capital outflows.

Mathee noted that the central bank's most recent decision to hike interest rates in January was likely aimed at anchoring inflation expectation. But, the analyst said food prices were likely to ease

...Says higher interest rate relative to South Africa's seven per cent repo rate would also safeguard against capital outflows

slightly during the second half of the year.

"With added pressure from the electricity tariff hike, price pressures look set to remain fairly elevated this year, exacerbated by hefty salary increases in the public sector, still-elevated food prices and possible increases in administered costs and fuel prices. That being said, the Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) expects better

weather conditions to improve maize output compared to the previous season, which will most likely contribute to food price pressures easing slightly from the half of 2017 onwards," said the analyst.

According to the data released by the Central Statistics Office (CSO), the country's headline inflation increased by 0.1 index points from 7.0 per cent in April to edge

at 7.1 per cent in May. According to the CSO, this high-

er headline inflation was due to increasing annual rates of change reflected in May in the price indices for alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics and restaurant and hotels.

The increasing rates were slightly counteracted by decreasing rates of growth in the price indices for recreation and culture, which showed a decrease from 7.7 per cent in April 2017 to 5.4 per cent in May 2017.

The Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC) announced in March that it approved electricity price increases of 15 per cent on average rates and 6.8 per cent on all other fixed charges, which was officially implemented on April 1 following an approval from the regulator, the Swaziland Energy Regulatory Authority (SERA).

NKC noted that the electricity tariff hike continues to place pressure on Swaziland's price inflation.

The CBS kept the bank rate and prime rate unchanged at 7.25 per cent and 10.75 per cent in May, respectively

Classic Rally helps Swaziland penetrate new tourist markets

Stories by Simon Shabangu

SWAZILAND Tourism Authority (STA) Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini says partnering with the Classic Rally will help augment the country's tourism sector in many different ways.

Dlamini said as the authority, they were very excited about the partnership, stating that the impression they made during the first day of the rally has earned the country a partnership status with the much followed rally, which is mainly made up of vintage cars.

This year's edition of the rally was sponsored by LM Radio, a Mozambican outlet and a South African based radio station.

A convoy of about 40 vintage vehicles drove through the country on Saturday, causing sheer excitement among the populace as they were escorted past the capital city after taking off at Pigg's Peak Hotel in the early hours of Saturday.

They made a stop at the Corner Plaza in Ezulwini, where the cars were refilled at the Galp Filling Station as part of the rally sponsorship by Galp Swaziland.

The Ezulwini community and shoppers at the Plaza had a chance to view the vintage cars which parked there for about an hour. They also had an opportunity to take pictures of the classic cars, some of which were as old as 50 years.

Opportunities

Dlamini said this partnership comes with economic opportunities that also have positive long term tourism boost.

"This partnership comes with a lot of value to us because we now have a niche of people who will add to the number of tourists who were already coming to Swaziland.

"This is a new group, with new interests and are businesspeople and family people who have business associates, family and friends who will now get to know about Swaziland after this visit.

"The value and quality of hospitality we extended to them will go a long way in them wanting to come back to Swaziland as well as become ambassadors of the kingdom at the different platforms they get," he said.



AWARDED: Swaziland Tourism Authority Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini, Pigg's Peak Hotel General Manager Zacharia Dlamini and Galp Swaziland MD Francisco Ferreira after receiving their partnership awards. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



VINTAGE: A view of the vintage cars at Corner Plaza parking in Ezulwini.

Dlamini said through this group, they will now access the different markets like Mozambique which they have always been struggling to attract over time.

He said they will now add the numbers of tourists, diversify the groups coming through, as well as economically boost the country.

He said these people also have other interests apart from the vintage cars, which means they will be coming back to pursue other interests.

Dlamini said they have struck a deal with them so that anytime there is this rally, the group will definitely come

through.

He thanked Swaziland Tourism former Board Chairman Zacharia Dlamini, Pigg's Peak Hotel General Manager, who he said played a huge role in attracting the group to the country and further ensured that they felt the Royal Experience Swaziland is known for.

The rally started at Malelane on Friday and proceeded to the country, where the group spent a night at Pigg's Peak Hotel where they were hosted for a dinner.

Dlamini thanked the hospitality extended to the group at Pigg's Peak as he said they represented the country well.

PIGG'S PEAK HOTEL HAILED BY RALLY GROUP

THE Group Director of the Rally Antonio Barbosa says the hospitality they received during their stay in the country, especially at the Pigg's Hotel, was first class treatment.

He said they had a wonderful night at Pigg's Peak Hotel, stating that the experience they received in Swaziland was just amazing.

He said the level of commitment and professionalism displayed by the GM of the hotel Zacharia Dlamini was out of the world.

The Pigg's Peak Hotel, Swaziland Tourism Authority (STA) and Galp Swaziland were all presented with trophies to officially welcome them as partners of the rally.

This was at the Togo Sun Hotel in Maputo, which marked the official end of the rally and where a closing dinner was held.

Also present was LM Radio Chief Executive Officer Chris Turner and officials from the Maputo government departments as well as Galp Swaziland Managing Director Francisco Ferreira.

Dlamini said he was very excited that they were finally able to bring the rally to Swaziland.

Rally

The rally started off from Pretoria on Thursday, proceeded to Malelane where the Swazi delegation met the group and proceeded with them to Swaziland where they spent the night at Pigg's Peak Hotel. It ended on a high note in Mozambique, Maputo.

He stated that the country has already secured the partnership, mentioning that the organisers have assured them that every year, the rally will definitely come through to the country.

"Even their logo will now be changed

to include Swaziland and we are excited about this development.

"We have done our best to attract this group, which we believe will be long time partners.

"I thank STA for the role they also played in securing this partnership and we hope our people and the different stakeholders will nurture this partnership and take care of the group because it has long term benefits for the country as a whole.

"I would like to thank the staff at Pigg's Peak Hotel for the dedication and commitment to ensuring that the group left with a positive image of the country," he said.

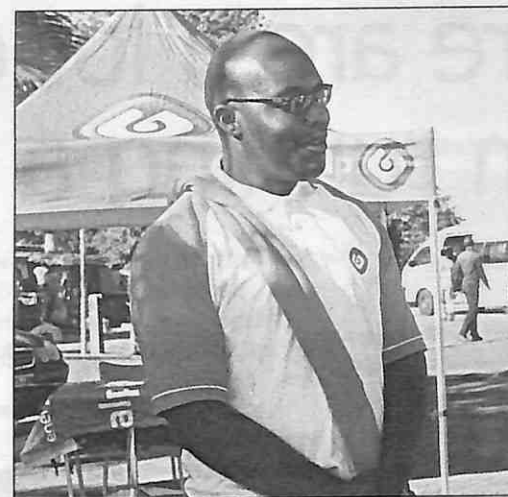
He said hosting the group was not about making money but was establishing the relationship and partnership, which will in bring positive spinoffs going forward.



YOU DESERVE IT: Event Director Antonio Barbosa presenting an award to Ferreira.



APPRECIATED: Dr Wannenburgh Janoe presenting the partnership award to STA Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini.



GALP: Ayandza Motsa from Galp was also at Ezulwini where the rally cars refilled before setting off for Mozambique.



VIPS: Guests and senior government officials from Mozambique following proceedings.



WINNERS: Barbosa posing with the participants who won prizes on the night.

MINISTER MABUZA INVITES TRADE FAIR SPONSORSHIPS

By Majaha Nkonyane

MINISTER of Commerce Industry and Trade Jabulani Mabuza has invited companies to assist them once more in the sponsorship of this year's edition of the Swaziland International Trade Fair (SITF).

This year's exhibition will run from September 1 to 11.

"We would like to once again invite companies to make their presence felt and leave footprints in this year's SITF, involving your business in such events will help the business grow tremendously," he said.

Categories

Companies that are willing to sponsor the exhibition have eight categories that they can sponsor which come with different benefits.

The different categories include: SITF partner, platinum sponsor, gold sponsor, silver sponsor, entertainment event sponsor, games sponsor, bronze sponsor, and associate sponsor. "Sponsoring the SITF in the different categories comes with numerous benefits that can



INVITES: Minister of Commerce Industry and Trade Jabulani Mabuza.

fast track the growth of a business," said the minister.

According to SIPA, the SITF partner will certainly enjoy certain benefits, including exclusive branding rights in all strategic places within and around the trade centre, exclusive branding rights of company name and logo on towers of SITF music stage, full page advert on the official opening pro-

gramme printouts as well as receive a trophy and certificate.

Gold and silver sponsors have more similar benefits in their different sponsorships. Gold sponsorship ranges between E50 000 - E100 000 whilst silver is between E30 000 - E50 000.

Sponsors

"Gold and silver sponsors will enjoy priority business matchmaking with intended partners, rights to use facilities of trade centre (PA system) and SITF programme to conduct brand activation campaign, mention of company in programme directors remarks, VIP status during official opening and closing ceremony and awards in their different categories."

SIPA said businesses were at liberty to sponsor different activities during the exhibition, which are inclusive of the official opening and luncheon by His Majesty King Mswati III, business seminars, business matchmaking, closing ceremony, and the stand excellence awards dinner by the prime minister, entertainment, raffle draw competitions, promotional material marketing, and coverage.

Swazi MTN apps challenge contestants eye bigger opportunities

By Majaha Nkonyane

TWO aspiring app developers Mpumelelo Ndwandwe and Siwakhile Mpanza, who are part of the Swazi MTN App challenge, are eyeing bigger opportunities.

The two business partners who are also students at the Swaziland College of Technology (SCOT) studying computer science, have dreams to create apps that would simplify the lives of ordinary people.

"We are happy to be part of the competition and we aspire to create more apps that will simplify the lives of people. We have created apps for different hymn books for churches, including Licilongo Levangeli which received over 2 900 downloads in two weeks," said Siwakhile Mpanza.

He said they were planning to work on more projects were meant to assist more young people in a lot of areas in business.

"Some of these apps we are planning on developing will assist entrepreneurs reach a global audi-

ence," he said.

"It is important that as more people venture into entrepreneurship, their businesses appeal to an international audience and we are working towards closing that gap in the market. One of the mobile apps we are working on will make it easier for small businesses to market their products on platforms that are hard to reach," he added.

Objectives

Adding, Ndwandwe said one of their objectives was to also assist small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to take their businesses to an international audience without having to spend more than they can afford as a small business on advertising their products.

"We are anticipating at least 4 000 downloads for our next app which will be charged at E20 per download. In the competition that we joined, we have to create apps that would simplify life in six categories. These categories include: entertainment, lifestyle, business, sports, and games. Winners will automatically be given a contract to put their apps on MTN platforms," he said.

'There are a lot of benefits from running a franchise'

By Majaha Nkonyane

ASPIRING franchisers in the country have an opportunity to establish their businesses quickly and efficiently as compared to an independent business.

This is according to Riaan Fouche, who was presenting to a group of business people who had convened at Royal Villas on Friday, during FNB's franchise seminar.

"There are a lot of advantages that business people have in opening a franchise business over an independent one," he said.

"When it comes to a trade name, a franchise business will use an established trade name, marks, logo, and style. The unit will be indistinguishable from others in the network. However, customers should be made of local ownership. Independent businesses, on the other hand, need to establish their own name which can take a long time whilst customers will be aware of the business name locally," he said.

Fouche said when it comes to the package of the business, franchisors will be investing in a complete business franchise format that has been proven elsewhere and possibly even has an established following in a target audience.

"Independent businesses, on the other hand, have little external sup-

port whilst the business is likely to start small and will require time to develop. In the meantime, overheads are building up, not to speak of lost opportunities," he said.

"A solid franchise will offer irrefutable evidence that the business has worked well elsewhere. However, this does not guarantee that it will work everywhere. Every franchise should have carried out a viability study in the target market," he said.

Adding, Fouche said "a franchise business has access to operations and procedures manual. In appropriate circumstances, a trouble shooting service may also be available. Moreover, a field service consultant will visit and offer on site assistance. An independent business will run on its own, the buck stops with the owner every time. There is a chance to hire an outside consultant at a price but he is unlikely to be familiar with specific needs," he said.

"As a franchise business your product/service will have public acceptance, which is a major benefit if the entire network has a sound reputation, but could be a drawback if other franchisees within the network perform badly," he added.

Fouche said "License fees for obtaining the right of use of the franchisor's intellectual property are capital in nature for the franchisee and therefore not tax deductible. On the other hand, amounts received by franchisors are to be included in gross income, with the costs incurred in drafting franchise agreements being tax deductible," he said.



MORE BENEFITS: Riaan Fouche.

FOREIGN EXTRA

Sibanye fires 1 500 wildcat strikers

JOHANNESBURG - Sibanye Gold has fired around 1 500 workers taking part in a wildcat strike at its Cooke mine, it said on Thursday, prompting an angry reaction from the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM).

Workers at the mine downed tools over a week ago, angered by a company drive to root out illegal miners which has included the arrest of employees for collusion and taking food down to the illegal min-

ers working underground.

Illegal gold mining has plagued South Africa for decades, and Sibanye has vowed it will clear all illegal miners from its shafts by January 2018. The Cooke mine employs close to 4 000 underground miners and Sibanye said the sacked workers could appeal their dismissals. NUM said earlier that nearly 2 000 miners were fired. Sibanye said 793 NUM members had been dismissed. *Reuters*

...Sibanye Gold secures two-year wage agreement

JOHANNESBURG - Sibanye Gold announced yesterday that it has secured a two-year wage agreement with the United Steel Workers of America, International Union, the representative union at its Stillwater Operations in Montana, USA.

Last month, Sibanye completed the acquisition of Stillwater, the United States' sole provider of platinum and palladium, for \$2.2 billion (about R30 billion), in a bid to create a premier global precious metals miner. Sibanye said negotiations with the United Steel Workers of America, International Union at East Boulder, would take place at year end. In terms of the agreement, there will be a two per cent general wage increase for all job categories effective from June 2, this year to January 1, 2018, with a further one per cent increase effective from January 1,

2018 to June 1, 2018. A two per cent annual increase will be in effect for the second year of the agreement, from June 2, 2018 to June 1, 2019.

Sibanye Chief Executive, Neal Froneman, said they were very pleased to have secured this wage agreement soon after having acquired the Stillwater Operations. "We note and are encouraged by the sensible and mature manner in which stakeholders have engaged, to agree on a mutually favourable outcome for the company and employees," Froneman said.

"We look forward to similar engagement with all of our stakeholders at the Stillwater Operations and are optimistic about the important role these operations will play in the future of the Sibanye Group." Sibanye is the largest individual producer of gold in South Africa. *African News Agency*

BRIEFS

UK pleads for increased aid to drought-stricken

ADDIS ABABA - The United Kingdom called for increased aid to East Africa and pledged R1.5-trillion to the region, which was gripped by a drought. Two-thirds of the money would go to Ethiopia, while the rest would be allocated to Somalia. The funds were expected to assist the more than two-million people in need of food, water and medical supplies. "This health centre shows exactly why UK Aid is making a difference here in Ethiopia," said UK Development Secretary Priti Patel about aid in that country. "It is both saving lives and changing lives." *AFP*

Woman breaks into men-only job

CAIRO - Dalal Abdel-Qader, a 43-year-old mother from Cairo, is doing something that has for centuries been the exclusive domain of men — being a "mesaharaty," or the person who walks the streets before dawn calling out to wake up the devout for their last meal, "sahur," before their dawn-to-dusk fast. It's a seasonal job that lasts for the duration of Ramadan, the holy month for Muslims during which they refrain from food and drink from dawn until sunset. It's neither salaried nor full time, but those who take up the job do so in part to serve their community and make a little extra money in tips. Abdel-Qader, also known as Hajjah Dalal, does not deviate from the methods of her male peers, following in the footsteps of her late brother Ahmed, a mesaharaty before he died. *AP*

Ethiopia rolls out e-visas

CAPE TOWN - The government of Ethiopia has rolled out e-visas, an online entry visa application process. Effective since Monday, 12



June, the policy was initiated by Ethiopian Immigration and Nationality Affairs. The e-visa is processed and issued online via a single web page where applicants apply, pay and secure their entry visa online. Once the online application is approved, applicants will receive an email authorising them to travel to Ethiopia and they will get their passport stamped with the visa upon arrival in Addis Ababa. *News24*

Human rights defenders face death sentence

KHARTOUM - Sudan's authorities are under pressure to release prominent human rights defenders facing the death penalty or life imprisonment for allegedly inciting an uprising against the state. Ibrahim Adam Mudawi and his colleague Idris Eldoma Hafiz face six charges such as "undermining the constitutional system" and "waging war against the state". Rights groups have denounced the allegations as trumped up and linked to their human rights advocacy. The trial is underway in the capital Khartoum. "Human rights work is not a crime, so Dr Mudawi and Hafiz must be immediately and unconditionally released," said Muthoni Wanyeki, Amnesty International's Regional Director. *African News Agency*

Fatal 'terrorist attack' at luxury Mali resort

BAMAKO - Gunmen on Sunday attacked a luxury resort popular with Western expatriates just outside Mali's capital, Bamako, killing two people in what the security minister called a terrorist attack, while 36 guests were rescued. Four gunmen arriving on motorbikes and a car stormed Le Campement Kangaba, near Dougourakoro, to the east of the capital Bamako, a resort that foreign residents visit for weekend breaks. Malian security forces backed by French troops deployed to push them out. "At first we thought they were armed bandits but we know how armed bandits operate, they don't hold territory, so now we think it is a terrorist attack," Mali's Security Minister Salif Traore told journalists. *Reuters*



US ENVOY ASSESSES DARFUR AHEAD OF UN FORCE DRAWDOWN

EL-FASHIR - The top US envoy in Sudan on Sunday embarked on a four-day trip to Darfur to assess security in the war-torn region as the United Nations prepared to downsize its 17 000-strong peacekeeping force.

The visit of Steven Koutsis, Washington's charge d'affaires in Khartoum, also came just weeks before President Donald Trump's administration was set to decide whether to permanently lift a two-decades-old US trade embargo on Sudan.

A joint report sent to the UN Security Council last month by the African Union and the United Nations recommends that the ceiling should be set for military troops to be cut by 44 per cent and the maximum number of police reduced by 30 per cent in the joint peacekeeping force, UNAMID. Ahead of the expected drawdown, Koutsis embarked on a visit to Darfur for a first-hand assessment of the situation in the region. The envoy met several Sudanese and UN officials, as well as tribal chiefs, academics and members of civil society groups in the North Darfur capital of El-Fashir.



DARFUR: United States' top envoy in Sudan, Steven Koutsis, holds a press conference following a meeting with North Darfur Deputy Governor Mohamed al-Nabi (l) on Sunday in the conflict-racked region's capital Al-Fashir. (afp)

"We are now discussing with UN the restructuring of UNAMID," he told North Darfur Deputy Governor Mohamed al-Nabi at a meeting attended by an AFP correspondent, in what was a rare visit by the international media to the conflict-racked region.

"Now the responsibility will fall on local authorities to bring security to the state."

Nabi assured Koutsis that

Sudanese security forces were equipped to tackle the security situation, but Koutsis expressed his "concern" over their ability at a separate meeting with academics and university students.

He said he was concerned about "whether the local government and the national government are prepared to assume responsibility of providing security" to the people of Darfur.

News24

Nigerian general sues media after graft claims

ABUJA - The Commandant General of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Abdullahi Gana Muhammadu, is suing an online publication after allegations he was involved in corruption to the tune of N6 billion (R243.25 million).

The publication had on Tuesday reported the money, allegedly traced to what is suspected to be Muhammadu's private account, was meant for corps salaries, said to be outstanding since December.

"The commandant general sees the publication as a sponsored handiwork of disgruntled elements which is a ploy to tarnish his reputation," said his spokesperson, Soji Alabi.

Operated

Alabi said the commandant general did not operate any private account in any new generation bank, neither did he have such an amount, which he said would have been discovered during the bank's verification.

"It is irresponsible to feed members of the public with such uncorroborated, false and malicious information that is capable of inciting the personnel of the corps against the authority."

The corps is a paramilitary, established in 2003 to work in conjunction with Nigeria police.

Nigeria has a reputation for corruption, which President Muhammadu Buhari's administration pledged to tackle upon his election. *African News Agency*

Ghost workers haunt Nigerian government

ABUJA - Nigerian courts have arraigned three suspected ghost workers for allegedly defrauding the government of N9 million (\$28 600).

Among the suspects is an official from the office of consultants to the office of the Auditor General of the Federation, Soft Alliance. Esther Onukaogu Onyinyechi is the prime suspect of the alleged crime committed between 2012 and 2013.

She has appeared at the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) court in

Abuja alongside her siblings Jennifer Ebeonuwa Chinazo and Joshua Onukaogu on a 13-count charge of conspiracy and obtaining by false pretence.

It is alleged the suspect input her name and her siblings' names into the Integrated Personnel Payroll Information System (IPPIIS) database as staff of Federal ministry of education and federal ministry of works respectively, for the purpose of receiving salaries from the federal government. *African News Agency*



PROMISES: President Muhammadu Buhari has promised to rid Africa's biggest economy of corruption.

Zim minister's home 'so huge police failed to notice break-in'

HARARE - Zimbabwe Defence Minister Sydney Sekeramayi's home in an affluent suburb of Harare is so big that the police officer guarding it "failed to notice" a break-in, state media reported on Sunday.

Thieves early on Friday morning jumped a wall, used bolt-cutters to cut an inside fence and then broke a window to gain access to the minister's house, in the leafy Borrowdale suburb, according to the official Sunday Mail.

Said the paper: "A police officer guarding the house is said to have failed to notice the incident because the property is huge and may require more people to monitor it."

President Robert Mugabe, 93, also has a palatial home in Borrowdale: a blue-roofed pagoda-style mansion where he hosted his only daughter Bona's wedding in 2014. Finance Minister Patrick Chinamasa has a home in the suburb too: in fact, Sekeramayi and Chinamasa have houses that are close to each other.

The lavish lifestyles of some ruling party officials - and those connected to them - is regularly a matter of debate in Zimbabwe, which is mired in a worsening cash crisis. It's not clear exactly how much a Cabinet minister earns.

But in February this year it was revealed that Mugabe and his two vice-presidents were likely to earn a combined \$672 000 in 2017. Most Zimbabweans earn less than \$500 per month. *News24*



LEAVE OUR LAND: Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe.

Leave our land and go play golf, Mugabe loyalist tells white farmers

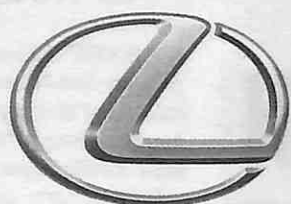
MUTARE - ZANU-PF youth leader Kudzi Chipanga has reportedly urged Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe to eject all remaining commercial white farmers in the country's Manicaland province, saying they should relocate to Harare's leafy Borrowdale suburb "where they can relax and play golf".

According to New Zimbabwe.com, Chipanga said this during a rally that was also addressed by Mugabe on Friday in Mutare.

Chipanga said most ZANU-PF party youths remained landless even after the country's controversial land reforms. Thousands of white commercial farmers and their employees were displaced and left without sources of income during the fast-tracked agrarian reforms that were masterminded by Mugabe's administration in 2000. *News24*



THE ALL-NEW



LEXUS

"Said to be the benchmark of Lexus' futuristic looks"

LC 500 COUPE



IMMEDIATELY identifiable as a Lexus, thanks to its hallmark spindle grille and dynamic character lines, the 2018 LC represents the most passionate expression of the brand's design direction.

The grille itself features a unique mesh texture that changes visual tension as it spreads across the front of the car. Independent L-shaped daytime running lights beneath new ultra-compact Triple LED headlamps create the distinctive LC front lighting signature. Functional venting serves aerodynamic stability and cooling.

The Lexus LC 500 debuts the first 10-speed automatic transmission for a luxury automobile. Smaller and lighter than some eight-speed units, this new transmission executes shifts at speeds rivaling dual-clutch transmissions, yet with the seamless performance and smoothness of a torque converter automatic. Very quick downshifts eliminate lag in G response.

The combination of a large glass panel and blacked-out rear pillars creates a floating roof appearance,

and chrome-plated mouldings along the edges, which echo the lines of a traditional Japanese sword, amplify the effect. The body's substantial, "planted" look stems from prominent quarter panels that flare away from the centre of the car and door panels that are pulled inward. The flowing lines maintain a consistent tension in the body panels through to the rear, where very slim tail lamps use mirrors to create a three-dimensional sequence of L-shaped graphics. The sweeping roofline tapers rearward between muscular, sloping fender tops, underscoring the car's wide and stable stance, and the Lexus spindle shape is repeated in the rear fascia. Large ducts feed air into the rear wheel arches, the airstream exiting smoothly across the tyre sidewall to bolster straight-line stability and steering responsiveness.

Exhaling

Upon start-up, exhaling through the variable Active Exhaust, the five litre naturally aspirated V8 issues a clarion call to driving enthusiasts. Based on the engine

the Lexus RC F high-performance models, the LC 500 version raises the output to 351kW and 450Nm of peak torque. The LC 500 can sprint from zero to 100km/h in less than 4.7 seconds. Under acceleration, the LC 500 V8 reveals its character in a continuously rising power curve, with the maximum power of 351kW developed at 7 100rpm and the torque peak of 540Nm at 4 800rpm.

The fast-revving V8 issues a stunning soundtrack amplified by a special resonance tube connecting the intake to the firewall, plus a standard Active Exhaust that rumbles and roars like a high-performance GT should. The driver can adjust the natural exhaust sound level via the Drive Mode Select system. This five-litre V8 is a well-proven performance engine, with a low-mass reciprocating assembly, using lightweight forged connecting rods, along with titanium intake and exhaust valves to allow a 7 300-rpm redline.

Newera.com



Taxi owner speaks out about:

"How high monthly instalments for his Toyota Quantum are crippling his business."

HIGH INSTALMENT RATES

LAST Thursday saw Gauteng (South Africa) taxi drivers bring parts of the province to a standstill when they staged a protest over the price of the Toyota Quantum taxi – which costs more than R400 000 – and the high interest they're being charged by SA Taxi Finance Holdings.

The issue was brought to light during a taxi protest in Durban in May.

Sipho Mabuza* has worked in the taxi industry for more than a decade and says he's become "a slave to his instalment" because he's not making any profit. Mabuza

bought his taxi about two years ago and still has two years to pay it off. He says he won't reap any rewards for the next three years. "For me, for the taxi industry, the price is too exorbitant," he says.

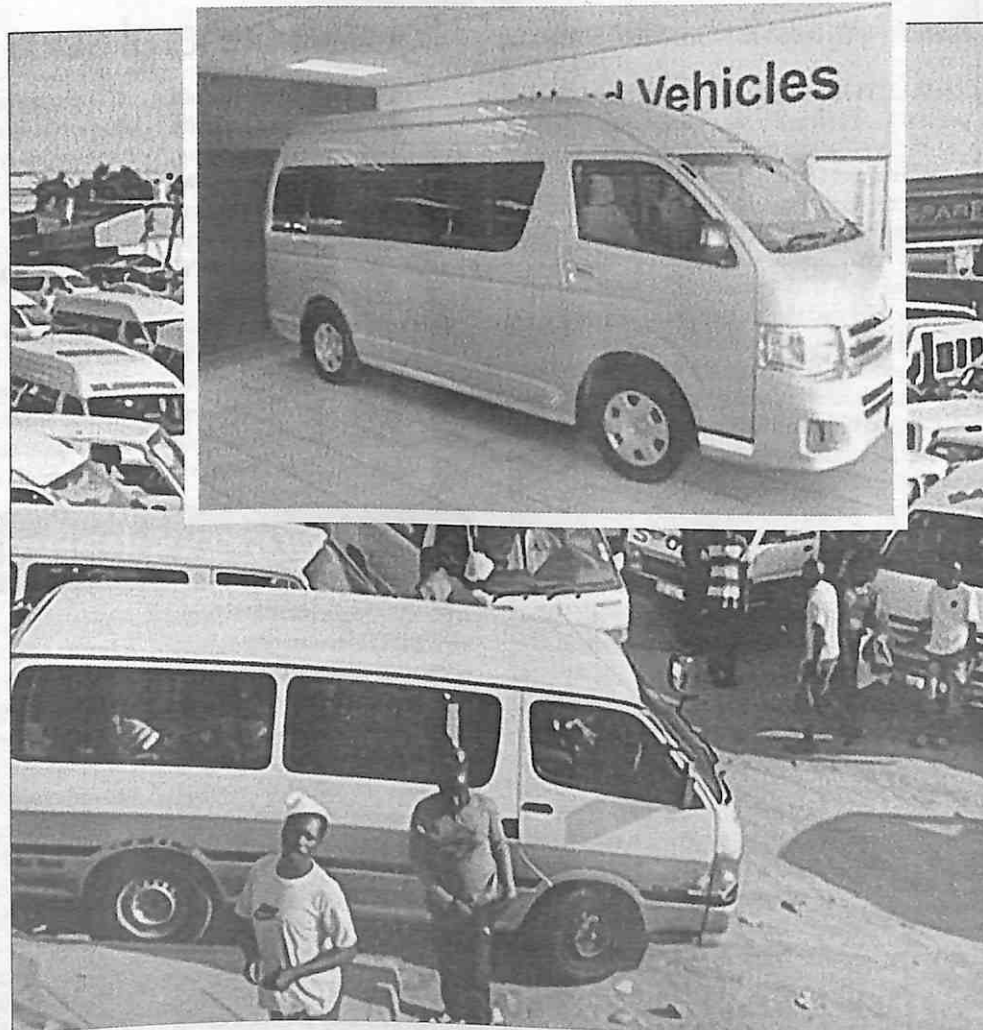
Instalment

"I'll give you an example: I have a Quantum operating from Manzini to Matsapha. This Quantum is making me E16 000, and I have to pay an instalment of R10 000. Now I'm left with E6 000. I still have to pay the drivers. So you're left with nothing."

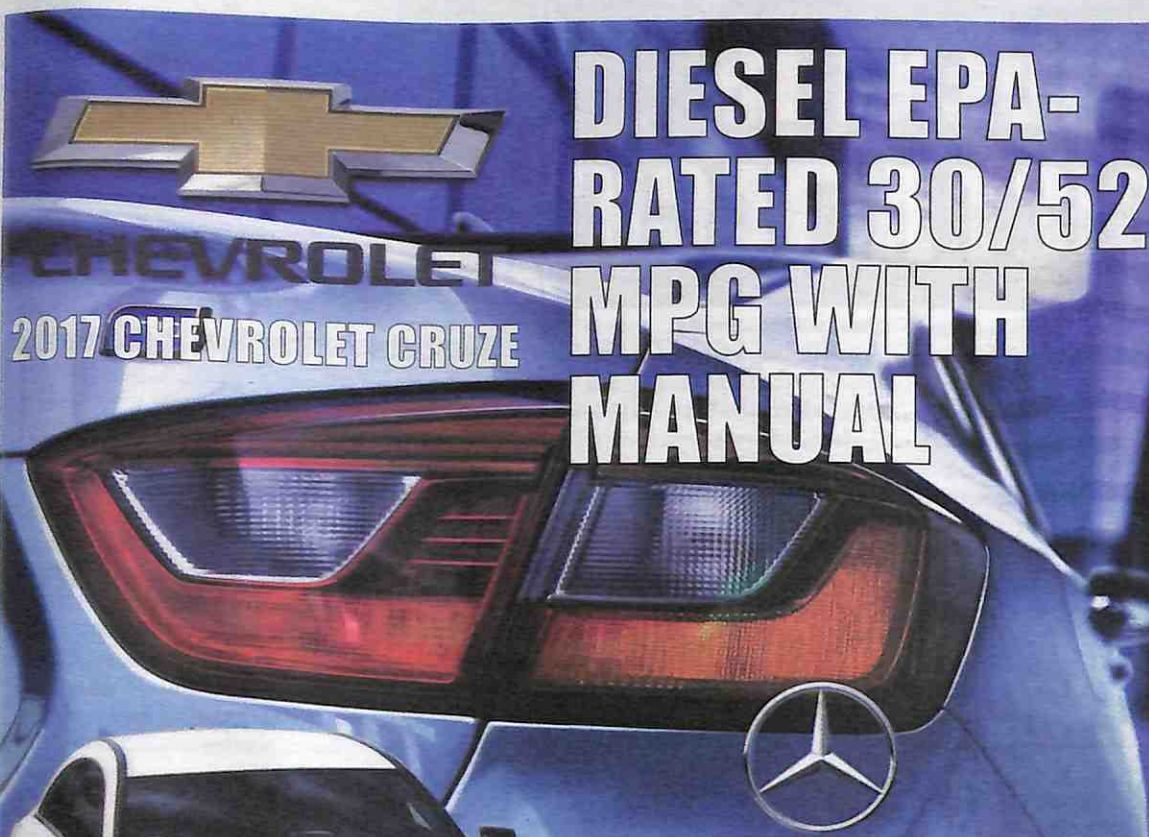
Mabuza alleges he bought his taxi for more than R300 000

because it had been a repossessed car from one of the local banking establishments and was a 2010 model. He had to pay instalments of E10 250, which amounts to E615 000 for the taxi over a five year period. He adds that the association also has no assistance whatsoever whenever he has problems with the Quantum, yet he has to pay exorbitant amounts for membership subscription. "One can only hope government will look into and act accordingly in the immediate future" said the businessman.

*Not his real name



motoring news



THE 2017 Chevrolet Cruze Diesel Sedan has been EPA-rated 30/52/37 mpg (city/highway/combined) when equipped with the six-speed manual transmission.

Based on those numbers, GM estimates the Cruze Diesel has a range of up to 1130km on one tank.

The Cruze Diesel is powered by a 1.6-liter turbo diesel I-4 that makes 137 hp and 325Nm of torque. In addition to the six-speed manual, the diesel is also offered with a **nine-speed automatic**, which is rated at 31/47/37 mpg. Chevy calls the 52-mpg highway number "segment-best," but with Volkswagen's Jetta TDI sidelined by the company's **diesel emissions scandal**, it's difficult to make any

apples-to-apples comparisons.

Both manual and automatic EPA estimates best the **previous Cruze Diesel's** 27/44/32 mpg result, however. That car was powered by a 151-hp, 347-Nm 2.0-liter Turbo Diesel I-4 mated to a six-speed automatic.

Not surprisingly, the diesels' fuel economy ratings also come in higher than their gas counterparts. The standard 2017 Chevrolet Cruze is powered by a turbocharged 1.4-liter I-4 that's rated 30/40/34 mpg with the six-speed automatic and 28/39/32 mpg with the six-speed manual.

The **Cruze Diesel hatchback** will arrive for the 2018 model year. Pricing and EPA estimates have not yet been announced for that model. (Chevrolet)

Mercedes-Benz issues global recall of 1 million cars

MERCEDES-BENZ – which recently surpassed BMW as the biggest selling luxury car manufacturer in the world for the first time in more than a decade – has had to recall certain A-Class, C-Class, E-Class and CLA cars as well as GLA and GLC SUVs manufactured between 2015 and 2017 after 51 cars caught alight as a result of a faulty starter fuse.

No deaths or injuries have been reported thus far, but the automaker isn't taking any

chances and will begin a US recall in July this year to fit affected vehicles with an additional fuse.

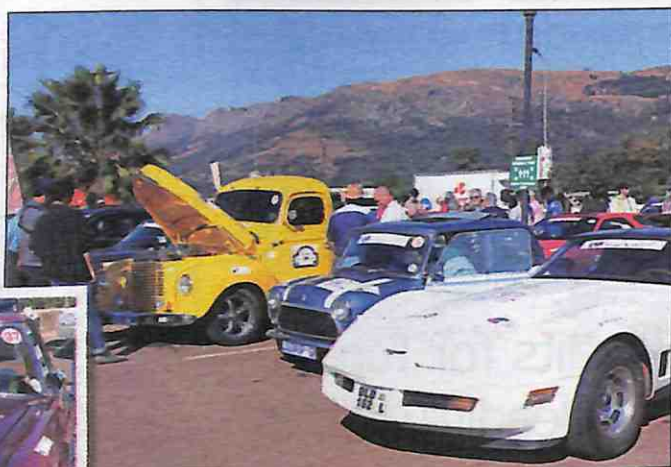
"Daimler AG has determined that on certain A-Class (176 platform), B-Class (242/246 platform), CLA (117 platform), GLA (156 platform), C-Class (205 platform), E-Class (213 platform) and GLC (253 platform) vehicles, the starting current limiter could be overloaded under certain conditions during the starting procedure," Daimler said in a statement.

In situations where the vehicle's engine is damaged and can't crank (when the engine has hydro-locked, for example), and the driver repeatedly attempts to start the vehicle, an extremely high electric current can flow through the starting current limiter, causing it to overheat."

Affected models will be fitted with an additional fuse in the electric line to the starter. Destinyconnect.com

German carmaker Mercedes-Benz has ordered the recall of one million new models and SUVs around the world over safety concerns

VINTAGE CARS



2018 McLaren 570S Spider: The no-compromise macca?

IT has long been held that chopping off a car's roof inevitably dulls performance due to the extra weight from structural bracing and folding-top mechanisms, but does it have to be that way?

McLaren rejects that paradigm with the new Spider version of the 570S supercar, which, despite carrying a complex retractable-hardtop mechanism, keeps extra weight to a minimum and doesn't give up much compared with its sharp-edged hardtop sibling.

The 570S gains just 101 pounds (about 45kg) in its transformation to Spider form and, according to McLaren, loses no stiffness at all in its carbon-fibre tub. The claimed zero-to-100-km/h time of 3.1 seconds is unchanged from McLaren's estimate for the 570S coupe, and top speed is undiminished, at 328 km/h—

with the top up, that is. You'll have to settle for 315 km/h with the top lowered.

The retractable roof itself is similar to the unit in the more powerful 650S Spider, being a two-piece arrangement that fold under a tonneau cover in 15 seconds and at speeds of up to 40 km/h. There's a power-operated wind deflector that's said to reduce buffeting when raised with the top down. McLaren also reworked certain elements of the car's aerodynamic profile to compensate for the different body shape, raising the rear spoiler by half an inch to provide additional down force.

Otherwise, the 570S Spider keeps the same twin-turbo 3.8-liter V-8 pumping out 562 horsepower and 600 Nm of torque, mated to a seven-speed dual-clutch automatic transmission. The suspension setup

also is unchanged from the coupe, as are the parameters for the Normal, Sport, and Track selectable driving modes.



World News



LONDON VAN INCIDENT IS 'POTENTIAL TERRORIST ATTACK'

LONDON - British Prime Minister Theresa May said an incident in which a van ploughed through pedestrians near a mosque in north London overnight was being treated "as a potential terrorist attack".

"I will chair an emergency meeting later this morning. All my thoughts are with the victims, their families and the emergency services on the scene," she said in a statement yesterday.

A van ran into pedestrians near a north London mosque, killing one man and injuring eight others in an

incident that police on Monday said was being investigated by counter-terrorism officers.

The 48-year-old driver of the van was detained by members of the public and then arrested by police, as Muslim leaders said worshippers were specifically targeted after leaving prayers at the mosque shortly after midnight.

The incident comes after two deadly Islamist-inspired attacks this year that used vehicles to ram pedestrians -- a stabbing spree earlier this month in the London Bridge area

and a March attack in which a man drove a car into crowds on Westminster Bridge.

"One man was pronounced dead at the scene... Eight people injured were taken to three separate hospitals," police said in a statement, adding that two other people were treated for minor injuries.

The Muslim Council of Britain said the vehicle hit people as they were leaving the Finsbury Park Mosque, one of the biggest in the country. The attack comes during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, when people

attend prayers at night.

The Finsbury Park Mosque gained notoriety more than a decade ago for sermons by radical cleric Abu Hamza al-Masri, who was sentenced to life in a US prison in January 2015 for his conviction on terrorism-related charges. A new board of trustees and management took over in February 2005, a year after Abu Hamza was arrested by British police, since when attendance has greatly increased among worshippers from various communities, according to the mosque's website. **AFP**

Six experts resign from Trump HIV/AIDS panel

WASHINGTON - Six top health advisors have resigned from Donald Trump's advisory council on HIV/AIDS, complaining that the US president doesn't really care about combatting the illness.

In a letter published last Friday in Newsweek, Scott Schoettes said the Trump administration has "no strategy" on AIDS and that he and his five colleagues will be more effective advocating for change from the outside.

Schoettes, counsel and HIV Project Director at Lambda Legal, resigned last Tuesday from the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, along with Lucy Bradley-Springer, Gina Brown, Ulysses Burley III, Michelle Ogle and Grissel Granados.

The council can have up to 25 members.

"The Trump administration has no strategy to address the on-going HIV/AIDS epidemic, seeks zero input from experts to formulate HIV policy, and -- most concerning -- pushes legislation that will harm people living with HIV and halt or reverse important gains made in the fight against this disease," Schoettes wrote.

Russia slams Trump's 'Cold War' policy on Cuba

MOSCOW - Russia said it was reaffirming its "unshakeable solidarity with Cuba."

Russia's foreign ministry on Sunday said it regretted US President Donald Trump's policy reversal on Cuba, calling it reminiscent of the Cold War era.

"The new line towards Cuba announced by US President Donald Trump takes us back to already half-forgotten rhetoric in the style of the Cold War," the ministry said in a statement on its website.

Decessor

Trump vowed last Friday to overhaul his predecessor Barack Obama's deal to restore ties with Cuba, promising instead to support the Cuban people against Raul Castro's government.

Moscow said Trump's policy changes showed that "anti-Cuban discourse is still widely in demand. This cannot but cause regret."



COLD WAR: US President Donald Trump.

It said that easing of sanctions under Obama was a "well-thought-out political decision in which there were no losers except marginal Castro opponents." Russia said it was reaffirming its "unshakeable solidarity with Cuba."

Cuban President Raul Castro visited Russia in 2015 while President Vladimir Putin visited the island on a tour of Latin America in 2014, meeting both the president and the revolutionary leader Fidel Castro, who died last year. **AFP**

Macron wins clear majority in French partly, but falls short of landslide

PARIS - French President Emmanuel Macron's centrist party swept to a large majority in parliamentary elections last Sunday, although it fell short of a predicted landslide.

Macron's year-old *Republique en Marche* (Republic on the Move, REM) and their allies won 351 seats in the 577-seat National Assembly, final results showed after the second round of an election which has eliminated many high-profile figures. The party Macron founded just 16 months ago has re-drawn the French political map, although the winning score was considerably lower than the 470 seats predicted by some pre-vote surveys. But it gives the 39-year-old president one of France's biggest



WINS: French President Emmanuel Macron.

post-war majorities, strengthening his hand in implementing his programme of business-friendly reforms. **(AP)**

Portugal waits for foreign help to fight deadly wildfires

LISBON - More than 1 500 firefighters in Portugal are still battling to control major wildfires in the central region of the country, where one blaze killed 62 people.

Reinforcements arrived yesterday including more water-dropping planes from Spain, France and Italy as part of a European Union co-operation programme.



Portugal is observing three days of national mourning after the wildfire which broke out this past Saturday night around the town of Pedrogao Grande. It is by far the deadliest wildfire on record. Scorching weather, with temperatures topping 40°C, as well as strong winds and dry woodland after weeks with little rain are fuelling the blazes. **AP**

BRIEFS

Revenge cause for fired missiles

TEHRAN - Iran's Revolutionary Guard said it launched a series of missiles into Syria this past Sunday in revenge for deadly attacks on its capital that were claimed by the Islamic State group. It was the first missile attack by Iran outside its own territory in 30 years, since the Iran-Iraq war of 1980-88, media in the Islamic republic reported. It came hours after supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, in a statement on his website, vowed Iran would "slap its enemies" in honour of the victims' families, including those killed in Syria and Iraq. The missiles were fired from western Iran across the border into Deir Ezzor province, in northeastern Syria, targeting what the Guard called "terror bases". **AFP**

China Eastern Airlines flight hits turbulence

SHANGHAI - At least 26 people were injured when a China Eastern Airlines flight from Paris to the southwestern Chinese city of Kunming hit turbulence, state news agency Xinhua reported. Passengers on board flight MU774 suffered injuries such as fractures when strong turbulence caused them to hit the overhead lockers while baggage fell on them, it said late this past Sunday. At least four people were in a serious condition, the news agency reported. In a post on its official Weibo account, China Eastern Airlines said that it had arranged relevant medical services for the flight's passengers, without confirming details of the injuries. **Reuters**

Abducted Muslim girl's remains found

WASHINGTON - Police found what are believed to be the remains of a 17-year-old Muslim female who was abducted overnight after leaving her local mosque in Sterling, Virginia, near Washington. The All Dulles Area Muslim Society (ADAMS) in Sterling identified the missing girl as Nabra. Her last name is currently being withheld. Local media reports that Nabra was a pupil who just finished her second year of high school. "We are devastated and heartbroken as our community undergoes and processes this traumatic event," ADAMS said in a statement. It is a time for us to come together to pray and care for our youth." **ALJAZEERA**



Syria, Iraq troops link at border

BEIRUT - Syrian troops and allied militias met up with Iraqi forces at one crossing point along their shared border this past Sunday for the first time in years, in a step described as a major achievement by the Syrian military in their fight against the Islamic State group. The development reported by pro-government media this past Sunday comes a day after Iraqi forces captured a border crossing point with Syria, al-Waleed, from the ISIS militants. It was not immediately clear if the Syrian forces reached a new point along their border with Iraq or whether it was the Iraqi forces that had moved northeast of their newly captured point. **AP**

Qatar accused Arab nations of 'publicity stunt'

DOHA - Qatar hit out yesterday at four Arab nations for cutting diplomatic ties and transport links, over Doha's alleged support for terrorism. Qatar accused the group of a "publicity stunt" aimed solely at attacking its image and reputation. Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Egypt cut ties with Qatar on June 5 in the worst diplomatic crisis in the region in years. "The blockade has been ongoing for two weeks and the blockading nations have offered no formula for resolving the crisis," said Sheikh Saif Bin Ahmed al-Thani, Director of Qatar's government



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COURAGEOUS LEADER THULANI NTSHANGASE LABELLED A 'CROOK'

By Ayanda Dlamini

FORMER Joyous Celebration music director Siyanqoba Mthethwa wants nothing to do with Courageous Singers leader Thulani Ntshangase.

Mthethwa was angered by Ntshangase's behaviour of using their name to promote his show, which was slated for June 2 but never saw the light of day as it was postponed on the day of the event.

Reasons for the abrupt cancellation could not be determined on that Friday; June 2 evening as none of the organising team members could be reached on their mobile phones. Mthethwa, who happened to be a music producer and former Joyous Celebration pianist, was also one of the main acts of Courageous CD and DVD live recording. Mthethwa said Ntshangase is a crook as he owes them a large sum of money.

"Thulani turned out to be a crook, as he was using our names to market his event and it didn't happen because he failed to meet all logistical requirements," Mthethwa said.

"This led to all service providers pulling out of the event. Now he owes us a lot of money, so I wish to make it clear to the people of Swaziland that we are not involved anymore with him, he told people that he is postponing the event and

- former Joyous Celebration member furious with Ntshangase
- Ntshangase still looking forward to Courageous show

they must hold on to the tickets they bought," Mthethwa said.

Meanwhile, Ntshangase said the artists were partly paid and they needed to be paid fully, which was an agreement they could not fulfil since they were not sponsored but were using cash from their pockets. "We had explained to them that we were still going to pay them as we had high expenditure than expected in our pre-production and yet were using money from our pockets.

The show is still going to happen. Right now we are still doing rehearsals and half-done with our pre-production. We are also trying to raise funds, then we can set the date and finalise every-



thing," Ntshangase said.

Ntshangase further apologised to their fans and public in general for disappointing them.

The show was slated for June 2 and music lovers had already bought their tickets from VIP to gener-

al because of the line-up which included Joyous Celebration's Zodwa Mahlangu, who is well known for her hit song *Ngizalilonda* and Hlengiwe Ntombela who is also well known for her Zulu worship song.

Music lovers and supporters of the newly revived choir got the shock of their lives upon reaching the gates of Mavuso Trade Centre as VIP Security guards turned them back.

HIP HOP TRIO PRODIGAL SONZ SPLIT

By Nomfundo Sifundza

AFTER 10 years of creating hip hop music, the Prodigal Sonz trio has called it quits.

Sadly, for the Swaziland Hip Hop Award winning trio's fans, their break-up comes at a time when they were just working on their second album after the first one was released in 2014.

According to the group's spokesperson, who is also the third member of the group, Ndumiso 'Mimz' Makhabane, the break-up does not imply that there had been fights or 'major troubles in paradise' but they simply felt it was time they went their separate ways.

"We were working on our second album, which was almost done so you might see us on a couple of shows that we are already booked on, but as soon as that is done, we will officially no more be a music trio, just friends," Makhabane said.

The new album will, however, be available for free downloads on the group's Facebook page. The former Blaque Creations signees have created hits through the years; the likes of *Ntfombi sibili*, *Siyahlanya*, *Siyabangena* featuring Diba Diba NR as well as *Free* featuring KfTC.

The group started making music together



IT'S OVER: Prodigal Sonz.

er after high school. They are friends that met in high school at Evelyn Baring.

The two members of the prodigal Sonz were Khayelihle 'Suicide' Shabangu and Smanga 'Mas' Magagula.

Their friendship base gave Makhabane that they would never be bitter towards each other because of this split but would be brought close as music is not the reason they clicked from the start.

"We are still best friends, after all music is not the only thing that brought us together, hence people might still see us together, but we will not be doing music anymore," he explained.

Together they have set a number of notable stages alight, including: The Bushfire Festival, Ama 20 20, Hipnotik, Trade Fair and Fireworks.

The group has also what they called an honour to share stage with SA's Teargas, Shota, HHP, Big Nuz, AKA, Zola and the late Mandoza. In their decade together, they also scored an international collaboration with Nigerian star Olly's So fresh. Makhabane thanked fans and loyal supporters of their music as he said "we would like to thank our fans, friends, parents and the media for the unrelenting support since day one," he concluded.

SA'S ALEXANDER JAMES FOR 'SHOTS FIRED'

Date moved to June 29

By Phumelele Mkhonta

SOUTH Africa's respected vocalist Alexander James has been added on the line-up to entertain attendees on 'Shots Fired', a one man show by comedian Bonginkhosi 'Dr Shakes' Dlamini.

The show has been moved from June 23 to 29th according to Khulekani 'DJ Karly B' Mamba, who is the show's spokesman.

The venue remains the classy Royal Swazi Sun Gigi's Resturant.

Mamba revealed that James will be serenading the crowd with his soulful and RnB set.

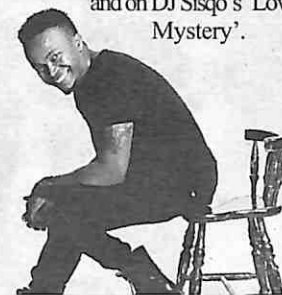
"We moved the dates to June 29 so to accommodate Alexander's guest appearance. We have been working together for a while and this opening compelled us to stretch the date," said Mamba.

He appreciated all those who have already bought tickets to the show.

"Their loyalty to local is very much recognised. We also love to

appreciate the sponsors thus far, who are Ekhaya Kusekhaya and Royal Swazi," said Mamba, adding that tickets are still available at Sdeez (Mbabane and Manzini) and Movie Zone at E100.

More on Alexander James. James is a singer, producer and songwriter who once collaborated with South Africa's top artists, including Zwai Bala, Guffy, Loyiso Bala, Lebo Mathosa, Sis N Jones and Bantu Soul amongst others. He was also featured on Black Coffee's SAMA's winning Best Dance Album 'Africa Rising' on the hit song 'Masquerade' and on DJ Sisqo's 'Love Mystery'.



COMING: Alexander James.

Mandy, Shakes added to Dale's show

By Phumelele Mkhonta

AS an interesting addition to Dale Abraham's comedy show slated for tomorrow at the Swaziland Theatre Club, the country's finest comedians Mandy and Dr Shakes have been added.

The Swazi born yet South African based actor and comedian, who made it to big screens, has decided to add the two, Mandy Ginindza and Bonginkhosi 'Dr Shakes' Dlamini into the line-up, for his show dubbed 'It's About Time'.

'It's About Time' is Abrahams' tour which started early this year in Pretoria and Johannesburg.

"I thought it wise to bring 'It's About Time' back home," said Abrahams. He added by saying Mandy and Shakes were budding

comedians who are headed for big things. "I heard that these two were part of the best comedians in Swaziland so I roped them in, in preparation of their great future. Also, I cannot eradicate that they are a great crowd puller and I am sure they will do just that," he said, adding he is all about uplifting Swazi comedy. Shakes promised keen attendees the best of him.

"As you know, I have been practicing for my one man show and I hope what I have learnt will impress those who will come," said Shakes.

Mandy, on the other hand, said she hopes this show will prove her resilience from her cyber bullying hoo-ha. "I promise not to bully anyone," she said. Other entertainers will be Jose and Trombone who will be rendering live music. Entrance fee stands at E100, which includes a two course meal.



FUNNY PEOPLE: Comedians Shakes, Mandy and Dale Abrahams in our offices yesterday. (Pic: Phumelele Mkhonta)

JOYOUS CELEBRATION ROADSHOW SETS MANZINI 'ABUZZ'

By Lindokuhle Lukhele

MTN Joyous Celebration 21 live in Swaziland organising team took to Manzini to market the upcoming show.

The mini road show was at the Riverstone Mall next to the MTN Service Centre.

The place was already abuzz with activity from as early as 9:30am. The team highly visible in JC21 T-shirts (The Joyous 21 Merchandise) was assisting VIP ticket buyers on how to buy online.

They were also selling the merchandise and the show's general tick-

ets.

Carson Motors later joined the road show as they also set up their banners and Gazebos.

Prizes

Carson Motors's Mazda and Ford is the official transport sponsor for Joyous Celebration 21 as they will be driving some key members of Joyous Celebration and crew during the show.

It was a gallop of prizes as #MTNJC21 fans won themselves lots of prizes. These included MTN Swaziland T-shirts, 500MB's per person.

PRO Pam would from time to time give out information about the show and then ask questions with some winning and some walking away

empty handed.

Mazda Swaziland also did the same and gave away caps, water bottles and more. The road show ended at 1pm.



THERE YOU GO: Joyous Celebration PRO Pamela Zwane handing over merchandise at the Riverstone Mall in Manzini this past Saturday. (Courtesy pics)

MTN Joyous Celebration tickets selling fast

Stories by Ayanda Dlamini

THIS year's tickets for VIP at MTN Joyous Celebration are being sold strictly online to manage the process better and already over 150 have been sold.

In an interview with the PRO of the show Pamela Zwane, she said they have engaged a reputable company from South Africa to assist with the process.

"Online a person can reserve seats as well as pay for them. We have also added about 225 General tickets online for those who will not be able to get to our outlets," she said.

Zwane said they have been working on ensuring that the VIP experience is much better than in previous years and had even consulted MTN Joyous on how to improve.

"We have had a number of meetings to

ensure such.

We also have been on site to ensure that the spacing is done well this time. We have added security internally so that there is no congestion in the VIP area so we are hopeful the will be a difference this year," she said.

In terms of the tickets she said they were mostly being bought by companies buying in packs of 10 or 20 so far.

She said individuals were also assisted with the online process at Destiny stores.

"As per each year we would like to advise people to buy tickets early, since this year the system is online once tickets are sold out for VIP there is no way we can add seats for anyone so please buy your ticket early," she said.

The event is brought by MTN Swaziland and Destiny Group and was launched in style with the group members two weeks ago at Ezulwini.

The shows in South Africa have so far had sold out audiences.

'ZAMO' in thrilling rendition of 'Ngena Nawe'

SA gospel ensemble Joyous Celebration has raised the Swazi flag high through 'Ngena Nawe'; a SiSwati song lead by Nomzamo 'Zamo' Dlamini in Joyous Celebration 21; Heal Our Land.

It is a first of its kind for Joyous Celebration to perform a SiSwati song in fluent SiSwati lyrics.

Besides being a Swati song, the song itself is one of the best songs from the whole album as most fans have been tweeting and sharing on social media platforms about the song and written by Khayelihle Maziya who is not only a song writer but a singer and a stylist as well.

Nomzamo told this publication that she was honoured to deliver the written piece by a local good song writer. "It was a great feeling and I must say it is an honour to deliver this piece written by one the greatest song writers I have ever met

Khayelihle Maziya from my Sword and Spirit Ministries family.

God has been so awesome that the response has been overwhelming," the Joyous Celebration lead singer said.

SWAZI
PRIDE:
Nomzamo 'Zamo'
Dlamini.

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What is the name of the main group that will be performing.....

Name 4 SA Artist that will be performing at the show.....

NAME:.....CELL:.....



FATHERS DAY CELEBRATION



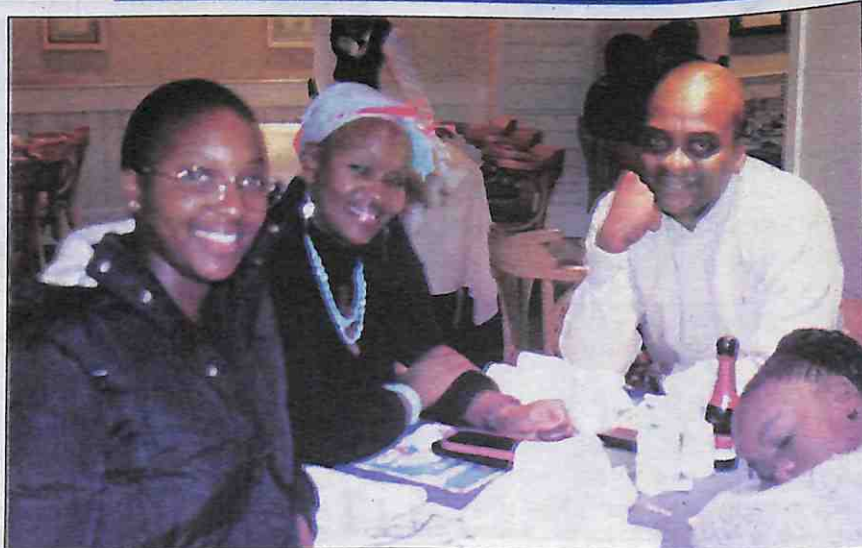
CELEBRATION: Families came in numbers for lunch on Sunday to celebrate father's day at Lugogo Sun, Ezulwini. (Pics: Ayanda Dlamini)



PERFECT MOMENT: Barrey's wife and children had the best time during a dinner on Sunday at Lugogo Sun.



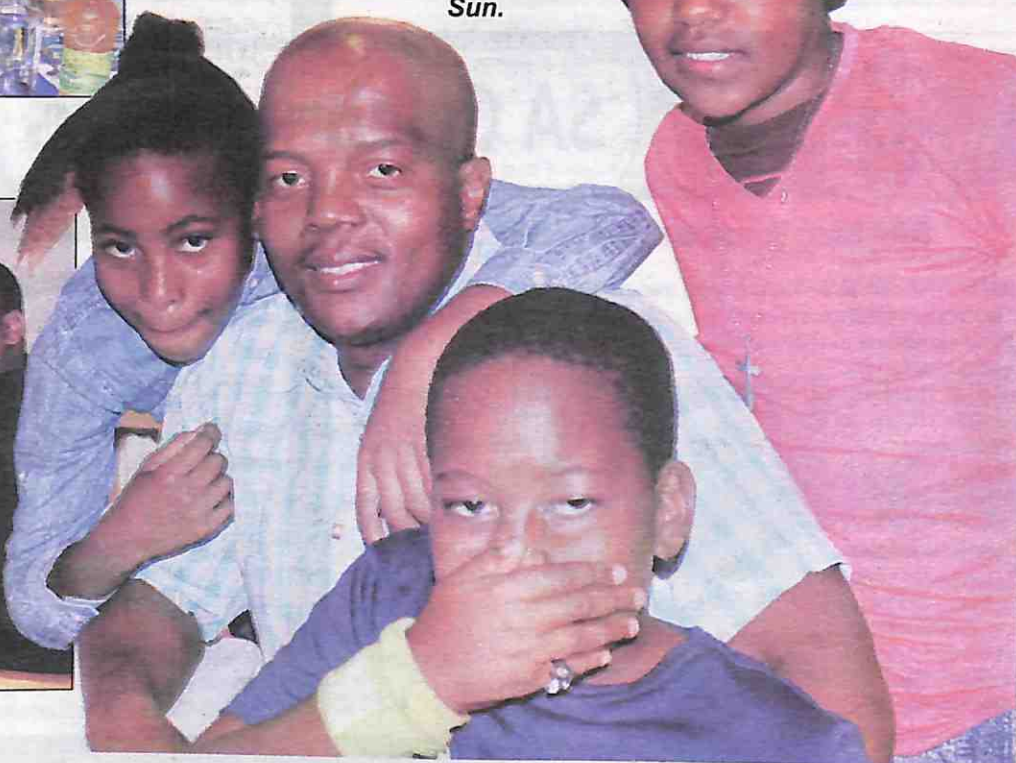
FAMILY AFFAIR: The Mavuso and Dlamini family came all out to celebrate fathers day with their children.



ALL SMILES: Cyril with his family Helen, Kerry-ann and Zoey Moyo out for lunch.



BEST FATHER: Captian Isaac Dlamini and his wife Teselane had a blast at Lugogo Sun.



TOXIK ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS



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NAKAI SOULJAH MAJOR KOOLKAT

POWERED BY



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TOXIK | ICY-COOL | BISTO | 2.0 | STITCH | LOLO

24.06.17
ESIBAYENI LODGE

TICKETS OUTLET
E150 E300
E200 E350

SHOWTIME 7pm



1. Name the entertainment stable that is hosting the event?

2. Name one outlet where The Epic Gig tickets are available?

3. Name one artist that will performing at the gig?

NAME:

CONTACT:

ID NO:

International
Celebrity News

Beyonce twins kept in hospital due to 'minor issue'

LOS ANGELES - Beyonce has reportedly given birth to a boy and girl but they have been kept in hospital due to a "minor issue"

According to TMZ the twins were born yesterday in Los Angeles hospital and despite the "minor issue" the babies are expected to make a full recovery.



STILL HOSPITALISED:
Beyonce.

A source told the website: "We're told a 'minor issue' surfaced, and as a result ... doctors do not feel comfortable releasing them. We do not know the nature of the issue. One source told us Beyonce also remains at the hospital, but as far as we know she's okay. The babies are expected to be okay as well. *Mirror*

Cheryl Cole pays tribute to Liam Payne

LOS ANGELES - Cheryl Cole took to Instagram Sunday to wish a happy first Father's Day to her beau Liam Payne.

She gave birth to her and the fellow pop star's first child, son Bear, in March.

"Happy first Father's Day Liam." Cole wrote, alongside a black and white photo of Payne.

"You are the most amazing daddy and the best example for

our son. The way he looks at you says it all. Your relationship melts my heart. You are the centre of his world & We adore you."

Cole and Payne had announced the birth of their child days after he was born and a day before the UK's Mother's Day 2017, during which he wrote, "I'm completely in awe of his incredible mother and how she has been the whole way through this, she's really made my dreams come true." *TMZ*



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY: Cheryl Cole and Liam Payne.

'American Idol' wants Lionel Richie to judge

LOS ANGELES - American Idol has its sights set on judge mother two for the reboot ... and we're told it's Lionel Richie.

'AI' sources claim producers think Richie's legendary music career makes him a perfect pick ... credibility and a knack for honing in on what will become popular. Richie is also extremely outgoing, which makes

for good TV. We don't know if the 'AI' folks have formally reached out to Richie. We contacted Richie's people, but so far they're mum.

The question ... how much can producers afford to pay Richie, or for that matter any judge who fills the vacant seats? They paid a queen's ransom to Katy Perry -- \$25 million - which essentially blew their intended judge's budget. *MTO*



WANTED: Lionel Richie.

Rob Kardashian reunites with Blac Chyna

DISNEY - Rob Kardashian reunited with Blac Chyna and daughter Dream Kardashian for his very first Father's Day as a dad at Disneyland.

The trio were all smiles in the House of Mouse on Sunday. Rob posted a slew of snaps on his Snapchat and a photo on his

Instagram, which featured a photo of his little lady in a polka dot pink top and Minnie Mouse hat.

The sweet photo had the caption, "Thank You @disneyland for the best first Father's Day trip with my baby."

Looks like someone had a blast, and that someone is definitely Rob! *Eonline*



UNITE: Rob Kardashian reunites with Blac Chyna and daughter Dream Kardashian.

SA Celebrity News

Boity, Basse, Nomzamo Mbatha party in style

JOHANNESBURG - The crème de la crème of Mzansi showbiz rubbed shoulders at the world's biggest champagne party at the Four Seasons Hotel, in Johannesburg.

Hosted by Moët & Chandon, the lavish day-to-night soirée saw 80 countries globally joining in on the fun: from 12:00pm in New Zealand to the end of the night in Mexico. With DJ Zinhle on the decks



CUT A RUG: Nomzamo Mbatha dancing up a storm.

and dropping an eclectic mix of club-bangers ranging from current radio tunes such as AKA's The World is Yours to Kwesta's classic hip-hop hit Ngud', the dance floor was quite grand.

Isibaya leading lady Nomzamo Mbatha, in her sweeping yellow and fuchsia body-con gown, won the dance floor swinging her sexy hips. *Sowetan*

BET blame glitch for Nasty C 'winning' award

NEW YORK - A week before the BET awards are set to be held in LA, the organiser's website "leaked" a number of award winners, including Nasty C. The rapper's inbox was no doubt flooded with congratulatory messages over the weekend after the BET website announced the Hell Nasty C. The announcement was

quickly removed from the website after the "leak" was discovered. BET later released a statement blaming the fiasco on a glitch that chose random nominees as winners of the awards. "An unforeseen technical issue on BET.com's BET AWARDS show page resulted in several categories revealing randomly selected nominees as winners."



INCLUDED:
Nasty C.

TshisaLive

Robert Marawa facing chop from SABC

JOHANNESBURG - Metro FM sports presenter Robert Marawa is facing the axe from the SABC after he abstained from work last week.

Marawa dumped his work in solidarity with his producer Beverly Maphangwa who was suspended by the SABC, allegedly for playing SuperSport content on the Metro FM sports show despite instructions from management advising her not to do so. As a result, Maphangwa was allegedly ordered by SABC management to provide



MY FAULT: Robert Marawa.

reasons why she should not be suspended last Thursday.

Marawa refused to work with a producer who was appointed by management to run the show while Maphangwa was on suspension.

He took his fight to social media and tweeted: "My producer Beverly Maphangwa has been suspended for 'non compliance/contravention of contract'. The crime? We played audio by Sizwe Mabena. "I told management that I removed myself from the show because I am the one that actually caused this crime. *SundayWorld*

Inside Vusi, Sizwe's 'fight'

JOHANNESBURG - After last Thursday's taxi strike media per-

my entire thread as his thoughts," Sizwe said of Vusi's Facebook Live broadcast after his tweets.



CLASH: Vusi Thembekayo and Sizwe Dloomo.

Vusi didn't take it lying down and it led to the two men having a Twitter showdown. As always Twitter users didn't waste time to come up with some hilarious comebacks to the spat. *Drum*

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA

TODAY

Mpiyakhe makes an excuse to leave Kwa' Manzini, for reasons only known to him. Sihle has new hopes for her future as Khanyi's suspicions lead her to launch a private investigation.



EXUSES:
Mpiyakhe.

ISIDINGO

TODAY

Will Barker succeed in extinguishing the fires Rajesh set in motion during the press conference? Gabriel shocks Nikiwe with his theory about why she hasn't been feeling well. Nkadameng insists Kamogelo has a checkup and ultrasound, but is in for an unpleasant surprise.



HER FEELINGS:
Nikiwe.

Muvhango

TODAY

Sthembiso makes a move on his crush. Mfungelwa tells Thandaza what he really wants. Azwindini gets an unwelcome visitor.

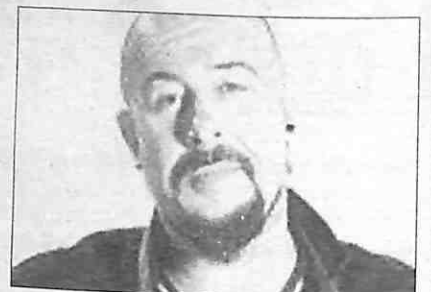


MAKES A MOVE: Sthembiso.

RHYTHM CITY

TODAY

Cuba sets her sights on Kop. David reconsiders using his daughter as bait. After a close call, will Lerato and Lungile be able to end their affair?



RECONSIDERS: David.

When you're so broke that you even thinking of selling your Matric Certificate to Cassper Nyovest



TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn

December 22 – January 19

This is a time when you could make some wrong choices, in particular as they could change your work situation. You might feel that you are unable to make good decisions today. This will pass soon enough and any feelings that are negative could be noted for later consideration. Criticism for yourself or another is a dangerous spark just now—careful. You may be in the mood for deep and penetrating conversations with your friends this afternoon.



Aquarius

January 20 – February 18

This could be a frustrating time both at home and at work. This could mean interruptions or it could mean some need to correct mechanical difficulties. There may be a tendency to make your decisions too quickly. Be sure to take your allocated breaks and if it is possible, follow a written list of today's duties so that you know you have covered all the bases. At home this afternoon, keep yourself or others busy.



Pisces

February 19 – March 20

You may receive some recognition or special attention regarding your particular skills and abilities today. Generally, this could be a productive and potentially satisfying day. Your timing is right for introducing your ideas to higher-ups. You will see positive results if you pace yourself and not try to accomplish too many changes at once. Ambition and achievement are qualities you hold in special regard. This is a time for getting ahead and enjoying your career. This evening you may enjoy being out-of-doors with neighbours, young people or a loved one. You are keen on education and may provide quite a lot of encouragement for someone considering taking some classes.



Aries

March 21 – April 19

You will find that you are appreciated because you seem to quickly know just when to jump in where others stumble and work through a job. You are valued for your natural leadership abilities. You are able to handle whatever problems come across your path and you do not stop to dwell over mistakes. The attitude is onward and upward toward better things. Everything you do points to your unique capabilities. The satisfaction of a job well done is one of your greatest incentives and this is a great time to work with others. This evening you have a feeling of being at peace and stable on the emotional level. Stability satisfies a deep emotional need.



Gemini

May 21 – June 21

Your tendency to arrive early to work rewards you with other early to work co-worker friends to visit with before work begins. You and some other co-workers may plan to team up together and enjoy some group entertainment away from work. Horses, trains, extreme sports, gaming or some other activity sets up the reason to plan the next big gathering.



Cancer

June 22 – July 22

You may be put in charge of some special project. With you in charge, others feel safe and they know the work will be successful. You are very skilled at working with psychology and the hidden recesses of the mind. There are few secrets when you are involved in the work, so progress is positive. You are good at managing people or flowing within the team projects.



Leo

July 23 – August 22

You may be asked to do a job outside of your comfort zone. You will be rewarded for your ability to stretch and use the opportunity to learn and grow. You take an active interest in psychology, different cultures and history. You can find support from all sides when it comes to any sort of mental activity: writing, speaking and all forms of communication. These may be the things that interest you most today. You could come up with new solutions or inventions that will help a handicapped person. You would make a superb decorator of homes, landscapes and all kinds of environments.



Virgo

August 23 – September 22

Your ability to discriminate real breakthroughs and to spot new trends makes you able to work in areas at the very fringe of technology. You love all that is new and different and are most willing to share your insight with others. You have an inner drive to find out the complete truth or whole story. You can portray the picture needed for others to understand most difficult situations. Electronics, computers, communications and everything electrical are right up your alley.



Libra

September 23 – October 23

You could experience problems with home life today—especially any discord with parents or children. Additional responsibilities may be placed on you in the context of the home setting. You should open up to relatives, since it is a good time to receive help! Your interest in progressing in your profession is great and you may feel the need to put in for lots of overtime or perhaps a little volunteer time.



Scorpio

October 24 – November 21

Outer circumstances and the flow of events make it easy for you to make clear decisions, see the road ahead and move forward. Things seem to fall in place and progress is easy. You could have difficulty getting outer recognition for your efforts or accomplishment, but you will receive recognition in due time. This means you should throw your efforts into work or ventures you really love doing.



Sagittarius

November 22 – December 21

Quick answers, great wit and a surplus of insights and solutions are at the ready today. This is a good time to write and communicate with real originality. Inventions and breakthroughs are possible. You are apt to spend a great deal of time communicating with people apart from work as well as your co-workers today. Your financial affairs may be in a bit of a mess but if you use this afternoon to gather your questions in list form and have a financial counsellor help you, you will be pleased with the outcome.



BABY BLUES



BUCKLES



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



PUZZLE CHOICE

US CAPITALS

There are 45 US state capitals hidden in the box. Can you find them and work out the five that are missing?

Solution

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

ALBANY, ANNAPOLIS, ATLANTA, AUGUSTA, AUSTIN, BATON ROUGE, BISMARCK, BOISE, BOSTON, CARSON CITY, CHARLESTON, CHEYENNE, COLUMBIA, COLUMBUS, CONCORD, DENVER, DES MOINES, DOVER, FRANKFORT, HARRISBURG, HARTFORD, HELENA, HONOLULU,

INDIANAPOLIS, JACKSON, JEFFERSON CITY, JUNEAU, LANSING, LINCOLN, LITTLE ROCK, MADISON, MONTGOMERY, NASHVILLE, OLYMPIA, PHOENIX, PIERRE, PROVIDENCE, RALEIGH, RICHMOND, SACRAMENTO, SALEM, SANTA FE, SPRINGFIELD, ST PAUL, TOPEKA.

GOLF IN SAND



A blonde golfer goes into the pro shop and looks around frowning. Finally the pro asks her what she wants.

"I can't find any green golf balls," the blonde golfer complains. The pro looks all over the shop, and through all the catalogs, and finally calls the manufacturers and

determines that sure enough, there are no green golf balls. As the blonde golfer walks out the door in disgust, the pro asks her, "Before you go, could you tell me why you want green golf balls?" "Well obviously, because they would be so much easier to find in the sand traps!"

USELESS FACTS

1. The epitaph on Emily Dickinson's gravestone in Amherst, Massachusetts, composed by the poet herself, features just two words: 'called back'.
2. The rule prohibiting the ending of a sentence with a preposition was invented by 17th-century poet John Dryden. Most grammarians ignore him.

3. 'Rhapsodomancy' is divining the future by picking a passage of poetry at random.
4. The three biggest-selling poets in the world are Shakespeare, Lao-Tzu, and Khalil Gibran.
5. GK Chesterton wrote a poem called 'Plakkopytrophylispermambulantio batrix'.

BRAINTEASERS QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

YESTERDAY'S BRAINTEASERS'

1. What kind of tree can you carry in your hand?

Answer: A palm!

2. You draw a line. Without touching it, how do you make the line longer?

Answer: You draw a short-

er line next to it, and it becomes the longer line.

TODAY'S BRAINTEASERS

1. What has one eye but cannot see?

2. A man leaves home and turns left three times, only to return home facing two men wearing masks. Who are those two men?



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NEWS



HIGHLIGHTS

BARE NECESSITY

Tonight 21:00 | Fashion One (178)

An introspect of lingerie and their relation to the way we dress, revealing the hottest lingerie designs and giving attention to how these often-overlooked garments evoke refined sensuality.



THE NEXT GREAT MAGICIAN

Tonight 20:10 | Discovery Family (136)

The world's best magicians compete against each other for the ultimate accolade of The Next Great Magician. Hosted by Stephen Mulhern and 'The Saturdays' Rochelle Humes, the series sees the best of the world's magicians perform their very best tricks and illusions. Both in front of a studio audience and out on location, the magicians astound and delight the public and celebrities with their mindblowing tricks. Six incredible acts compete in each episode, and there's a twist: the magicians must judge each other to determine the winner of the episode. Each episode's winning act goes through to the grand finale where they will perform a brandnew illusion in the quest to be crowned The Next Great Magician!



DEAR MANDELA

Thursday 21:00 | BET (129)

When their shantytowns are threatened with mass eviction, three 'young lions' of South Africa's new generation rise from the shacks and take their government to the highest court in the land, putting the promises of democracy to the test.



QI

Friday 17:58 | BBC Brit (120)

S15/E1 - Naming Names". New 'QI' host Sandi Toksvig kicks off the N Series by naming names with Cariad Lloyd, Romesh Ranganathan, Phill Jupitus and Alan Davies.



DStv BRINGS YOU THE BET AWARDS

● CHRIS BROWN, LIL WAYNE, DJ KHALED, BIG SEAN AND TREVOR NOAH ADDED TO STAR-STUDED LIST OF PERFORMERS AND PRESENTERS AT THE 2017 "BET AWARDS"

...across Africa on the June 27

BET Africa announced that music heavyweights Chris Brown, Lil Wayne, DJ Khaled, Big Sean, Post Malone, Roman Gian Arthur and Jessie Reyez will perform at the 2017 "BET Awards" as well as Lifetime Achievement Award recipients New Edition. The iconic annual show will also have performances from previously announced hit makers including Bruno Mars, Future, Migos, Trey Songz and Tamar Braxton. The 2017 "BET Awards" has set the standard for one of the most intently unconventional, news-provoking broadcasts. Hosted by stand-up comedian Leslie Jones, the 2017 "BET Awards" is sure to include unforgettable moments, appearances and performances you won't want to miss!

The 2017 "BET Awards" will air across Africa on



**BET★
WARDS
17**

inated for four awards and who is up against sister Beyoncé for 'Best Female R&B/Pop Artist.' Chance the Rapper and Migos receive four nominations as well, with Chance the Rapper nominated for 'Best Male Hip-Hop Artist' and 'Best New Artist' and Migos for 'Best Group' and 'Best Collaboration' for their Number one hit "Bad and Boujee" with Lil Uzi Vert. A full list of the 2017 "BET Awards" nominees is available here.

BET Networks recognises artists, entertainers, and athletes across over 19 categories with the 2017 "BET Awards" nominations.

The nominations are selected by BET's Voting Academy, which is comprised of fans and an esteemed group of entertainment professionals in the fields of television, film, music,

social media, digital marketing, sports journalism, public relations and the creative arts.

BET
(DStv

channel 129) 27 June at 20:00 CAT.

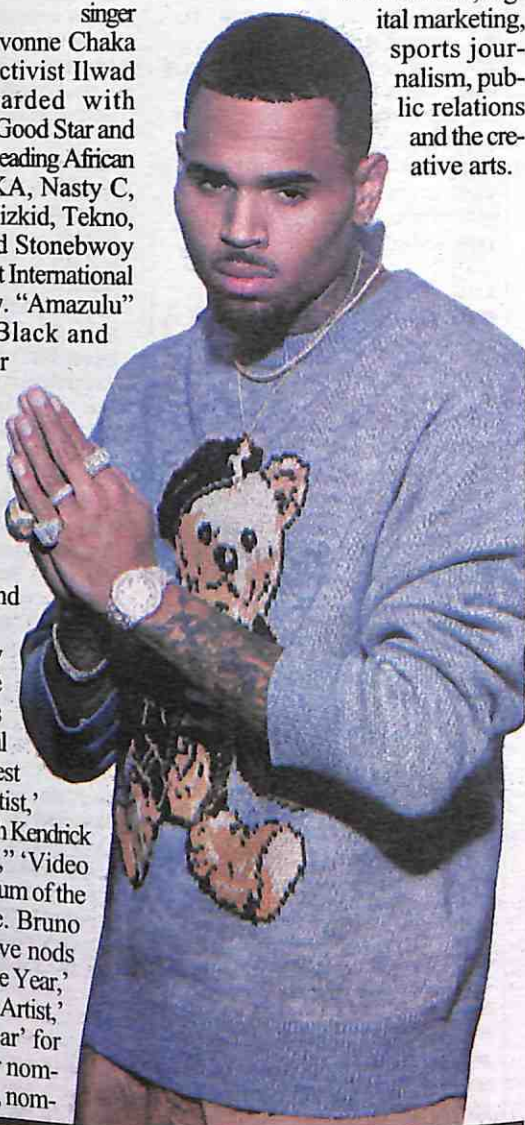
In addition, leading entertainers across television, film, sports, comedy and music join as presenters at the 2017 "BET Awards" including Trevor Noah, Yara Shahidi, Cardi B, Issa Rae, Jamie Foxx, La La Anthony, the cast of Universal Pictures' "Girls Trip" (Regina Hall, Tiffany Haddish, with Jada Pinkett Smith and Queen Latifah), Robin Thede, Cari Champion and Demetrius Shipp Jr.. These names represent some of the most accomplished talent and rising stars in the industry today.

Commented Alex Okosi, Executive Vice President and Managing Director of Viacom International Media Networks (VIMN) Africa: "The rich performance line-up certainly lives up to the prestigious nature of the annual ceremony and Africa is undoubtedly well represented with 12 African personalities being honoured across three different categories. It is also exciting that Africa's own Trevor Noah, an acclaimed international star, will be presenting an award."

Africa will be greatly represented at the prestigious event with

singer and humanitarian Yvonne Chaka Chaka and social activist Ilwad Elman being awarded with International Global Good Star and Power Awards. Eight leading African artists including AKA, Nasty C, Babes Wodumo, Wizkid, Tekno, MrEazi, Davido and Stonebwoy will all vie for the Best International Act: Africa category. "Amazulu" crooner Amanda Black and Tanzanian performer Ray Vanny are nominated for Viewer's Choice Award "Best International Act", in conjunction with performers from the UK, South Korea, Canada, Australia and Jamaica.

As previously announced, Beyoncé dominates this year's nominations with a total of seven including 'Best Female R&B/Pop Artist,' 'Best Collaboration' with Kendrick Lamar for "Freedom," 'Video of the Year,' and 'Album of the Year' for Lemonade. Bruno Mars follows with five nods including 'Album of the Year,' 'Best Male R&B/Pop Artist,' and 'Video of the Year' for "24K Magic." Other nominees include Solange, nom-



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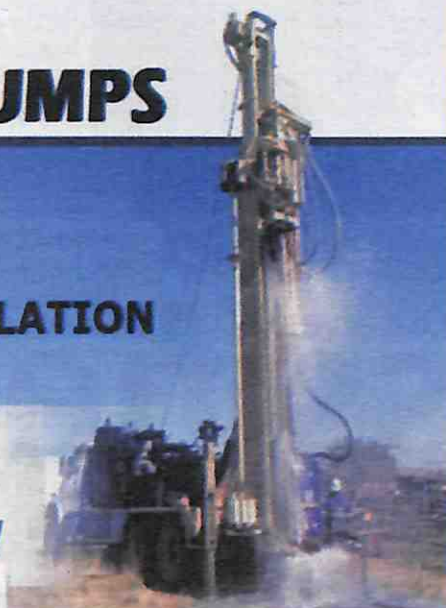
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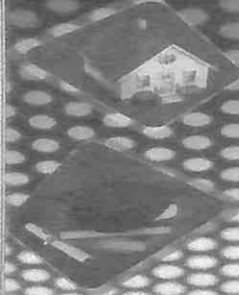
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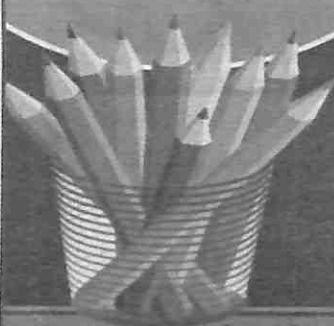
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Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal (L) with Real Madrid President Florentino Perez (C) and Gareth Bale (R) after receiving The Best Player UEFA 2015/16 Award.

Perez to remain as Real Madrid president until 2021

MADRID - Florentino Pérez will remain as president of Real Madrid until 2021 after no other candidates ran against him, the Spanish champions announced yesterday.

"As no other candidature was put forward to the board ... it is proclaimed that Florentino Pérez Rodríguez is President of Real Madrid," the club said in a statement.

It will be the third term for the 70-year-old construction magnate who has spent 15 years at the helm of Europe's most successful club -- 2000-2006 and since 2009.

However his opponents criticised reforms in the club statutes which have toughened criteria

for aspiring candidates.

Candidates must now have been a member of Real for over 20 years, compared to the old requirement of 10 years, and have a personal fortune of over 75 million euros (R1.07 billion). Under Perez, Real Madrid have won three Champions League titles in four seasons. The club -- which also won La Liga last season -- lead the way in the elite European competition with 12 trophies.

Among the issues Perez will have to deal with is Portuguese superstar Cristiano Ronaldo who is threatening to leave Spain after running into problems with Spanish tax authorities. **AFP**

Celtic to face Linfield or San Marino's La Fiorita in the Champions League

GLASGOW - Celtic could be set for an intense mid-July trip to Belfast to take on Northern Irish champions Linfield.

Yesterday morning's Champions League second-round qualifying draw paired the Scottish champions against the winner of Linfield's first-round match with San Marino minnows La Fiorita.

Should the Irish Premiership champions progress as expected, the first leg with Celtic is scheduled to be played in Belfast on July 11 or 12 with the return match in Glasgow on July 18 or 19.

Their opponents will become clear in the first week of July after Linfield and La Fiorita have played each other in the first

qualifying round.

Celtic's only previous meeting with Northern Irish opposition came when they beat Cliftonville 5-0 over two legs in 2013.

Brendan Rodgers' side reached the group stage of the competition last season, facing Barcelona, Manchester City and Borussia Monchengladbach.

Elsewhere in the draw, made at the headquarters of European governing body UEFA in Nyon, Dundalk were handed a tie against Rosenborg of Norway. Like Linfield, Welsh side The New Saints must also enter at the first qualifying round stage. They will play Europa of Gibraltar and will then face HNK Rijeka of Croatia if they get through.

Meanwhile, Rangers will face opposition from Luxembourg as European football returns to Ibrox for the first time in six years.

Daily Mail

MUNICH BRAND RONALDO LINK 'HOAX OF THE DAY'

MUNICH - Cristiano Ronaldo might be leaving Real Madrid this summer but he certainly won't be turning up at Bayern Munich.

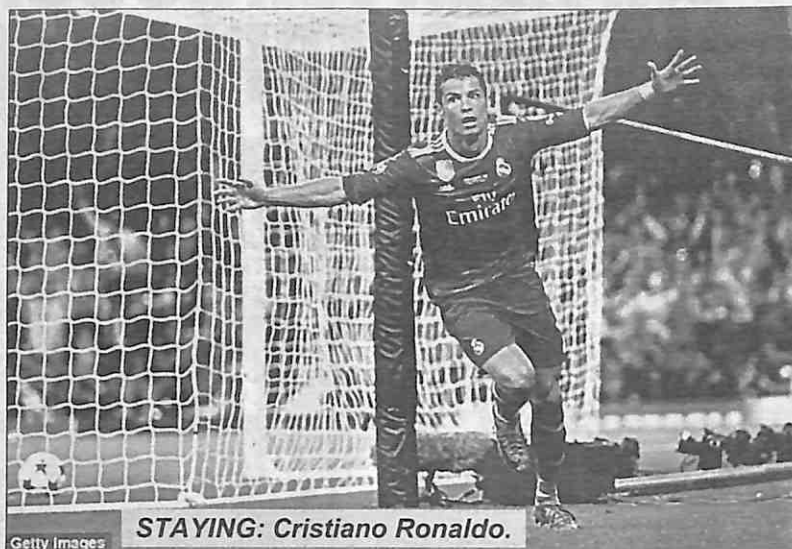
The Bundesliga champions emphatically rubbished reports linking the Portuguese with a move to the Allianz Arena yesterday.

On their website, Bayern billed the suggestions the 'hoax of the day', as they issued a categorical denial of interest in the 32-year-old.

Ronaldo has grown unhappy in Spain after being accused of hiding money, earned through the sale of his image rights, from the taxman.

Manchester United and Paris Saint-Germain have both been mentioned as potential destinations in the event of the superstar leaving Madrid, while the Italian newspaper Gazzetta dello Sport said Bayern were in the mix.

But Chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge has broken protocol to nonsense the



STAYING: Cristiano Ronaldo.

speculation. "We're used to being the subject of intense transfer speculation during transfer windows," he said in a statement. "Normally we don't comment on rumours, but in this case, we

would like to make our position on Cristiano Ronaldo absolutely clear: This rumour is completely unfounded and must be consigned to the realms of fantasy." **Daily Mail**

OSCAR SPARKS MASS BRAWL IN CHINESE LEAGUE

SHANGHAI - Brazilian international Oscar triggered a mass brawl in the Chinese Super League as players and staff from his Shanghai SIPG side and opponents Guangzhou R&F scrapped on the pitch.

After the former Chelsea midfielder appeared to fire the ball deliberately twice at Guangzhou players, he was rushed by several opponents, fell to the ground and a melee broke out.

One player from each side was sent off as the opening of the CSL transfer window was marked in ram-bunctious style.

The fight erupted just before half-time of this past Sunday's CSL clash at Guangzhou R&F, where Andre Villas-Boas's SIPG were attempting to keep up the pressure on league leaders Guangzhou Evergrande.

Oscar, who cost SIPG a whopping 60 million euros (\$67-million) in the last transfer window to become the biggest transfer in Asian football history, sparked the confrontation when



SCRAPPED: Brazilian international Oscar triggering a mass brawl in the Chinese Super League as players and staff from his Shanghai SIPG side and opponents Guangzhou R&F scrape on the pitch.

he deliberately lashed the ball twice at R&F players. The home side's Chen Zhizhao retaliated, pushing the 25-year-old Brazilian to the floor, then players, coaching staff and substitutes poured off the benches and waded in as Oscar lay face down on the pitch. When order was restored after push-

ing and shoving, R&F's Li Tixiang and Shanghai's Fu Huan were dismissed and three others were booked.

Oscar was unhurt and the fiery encounter finished 1-1 to leave SIPG four points behind reigning champions Guangzhou Evergrande.

AFP

Junior Bok Augustus named World U-20 Player of the Tournament

TBILISI - Junior Springbok number eight Juarno Augustus was named the World Rugby Under-20 Championship Player of the Tournament this past Sunday as the curtain came down on the three-week tournament at a function in Tbilisi, Georgia.

Augustus, fondly known as "Trokkie" by his team-mates, crossed the try-line in each of the team's five matches in the international spectacle to finish the tournament with a grand total of seven tries. This marked the most tries by a player in the 2017 tournament.

Augustus touched down twice against France in their opening match of the tournament, with his second try being the vital try to draw the match, while he scored once against Georgia and Argentina, twice in the semifinal



THE BEST: Juarno Augustus of the Stormers during the 2017 Super Rugby pre-season game between the Stormers and the Lions at Newlands Rugby Stadium.

against England and added another in the bronze playoff against France this past Sunday. He went up against England captain Zach Mercer and his team-mate Gabriel Ibiotye, and New

Zealand's Tiaan Falcon and Will Jordan for the prestigious award.

"It is a surreal feeling to win this award," Augustus said.

African News Agency



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SIR ALEX FERGUSON REVEALS HIS MASTERPLAN FOR UNITED

MANCHESTER - Sir Alex Ferguson believes Manchester United's pre-season schedule will serve as the ultimate test of their Premier League title credentials.

Jose Mourinho's side will face Real Madrid twice as well as Manchester City and Barcelona during the summer.

And with United expected to mount a title charge in the Portuguese manager's second season, Ferguson believes the next few months will define the following 12.

United are touring the USA as they take part in the International Champions Cup before a Super Cup final against Real on August 8.

And Ferguson believes it is how his former club fare against the big teams that will gauge their progress, ahead of the new campaign.

Speaking to the United website he said: "The great thing about United is you've got to accept the challenge of beating the best."

"The expectation is always there and the matches we'll face in the ICC are all big ones."

"It's very good for the younger players to come into this type of compe-



MASTERPLAN: Former Manchester United Manager Sir Alex Ferguson has revealed his plan for United's upcoming season. (AP)

tion in terms of preparing to be a Manchester United player.

"The more intense the challenge they can get, the better prepared they will be when facing Manchester City in an important league match or Real Madrid or Barcelona in Europe."

Mourinho will hope his side's pre-season runs more smoothly than last year's as the scheduled game against

City in China was cancelled due to a poor pitch unable to handle torrential rain.

Conditions and logistics are anticipated to be far more amenable in the USA and the jam-packed fixture list against top level opposition should offer a strong foundation for the campaign ahead.

Daily Mail

Liverpool yet to agree fee for Mohamed Salah

LIVERPOOL - Liverpool fans may have to wait for the arrival of Mohamed Salah from Roma, as reports indicate that a fee has yet to be agreed.

This is not the first time the Merseyside team has taken an interest in the player, as they opened talks back in 2013 but had a bid rejected, before Salah opted to join the Blues instead.

After his brief spell in England with champions Chelsea in 2014, the now AS Roma player seems Anfield-bound, amid reports of a possible £35m move.

The Egyptian winger has had a fine season with the Giallorossi,

scoring 15 goals in 29 Serie A appearances while contributing 11 assists.

If the deal were to go through, defences in the Premier League would have to watch their backs with a Liverpool attack featuring Sadio Mane, Philippe Coutinho, Roberto Firmino and Salah.

Team talk Media

WANTED:
Roma mid-fielder
Mohamed Salah.



Tottenham squad will struggle in the Champions League - Gallas

LONDON - Tottenham are facing another season of disappointment in the Champions League because their squad is too young and inexperienced for the rigours of top-level football, says William Gallas.

Spurs will go straight into the group phase after their second-place finish in the Premier League with Harry Kane and Dele Alli hoping to make a big impact in Europe's premiere competition.

They will be looking for a significant

improvement on their performance last season in which they crashed back into the familiar surroundings of Europa League football after disappointing results against Bayer Leverkusen and Monaco.

But while Mauricio Pochettino's men would have learnt plenty from that unpleasant campaign, Gallas suggested the youthful squad is heading for the same fate in the upcoming campaign.

"It was a big shame what happened to them last season, but this Tottenham

squad is a little too young for the Champions League," he said in quotes reported by the Daily Star.

"Against Monaco and Bayer Leverkusen in the group games, it showed that they needed more experience."

"The Champions League is different to the Premier League. You need experience, you need to be more clever and stay focused. If you compare our squad back then with now, we had many older and more experienced players."

Daily Mail

'Cahill is one of the worst defenders'

LONDON - Former Stoke left back Mike Pejic has launched an astonishing attack on Chelsea and England defender Gary Cahill.

The 31-year-old was widely criticised after an under-par performance in England's 3-2 friendly defeat by France in Paris on Tuesday night.

But Pejic has delivered a damning assessment of the Premier League winner.

Writing in the Stoke Sentinel, Pejic admitted he felt sorry for goalkeeper

er Jack Butland having to play behind him. "The one big positive for us was the re-appearance of Jack Butland for his country after more than a year away through injury."

"But I felt sorry for him after he came on for the second half of that 3-2 defeat (against 10 men!) in Paris on Tuesday evening."

"I felt sorry for him having to play behind a player like Gary Cahill, one of the worst defenders I've seen in one-on-one situations." *Daily Mail*

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'Chelsea should target Lukaku, Sanchez or Aguero'

LONDON - Joe Cole believes Chelsea should sign their former player Romelu Lukaku this summer because he is the perfect replacement for Diego Costa.

Everton striker Lukaku has told his representatives that he wants a move away from Goodison Park as he attempts to seal a return to Chelsea.

Chelsea, meanwhile, look set to lose Diego Costa after manager Antonio Conte informed the forward he was not in his plans for next season. And Cole thinks Lukaku, along with Alexis Sanchez and Sergio Aguero, would be suitable signings to fill the void left by

Costa.

"Lukaku, there's a market for him, and you are competing for players."

I like Lukaku. I'd take Lukaku, he is like for like with Costa, but they only need one or two players and just keep the continuity going," Cole told Goal.

"I don't know his character so it is hard to say [whether returning to Stamford Bridge would affect him], but I would say that the pressure is different when you play for Chelsea, rather than Everton. He is younger [than Costa], that's in his favour."

Daily Mail





REST IN PEACE: A banner stating that the late midfielder 'will always be in our hearts' (Daily Mail)

By James Dutton For Mailonline

ABIDJAN - Former Ivory Coast team-mates of Cheick Tiote attended his funeral service in the country's capital of Abidjan.

The former Newcastle United midfielder passed away earlier this month after suffering a heart attack during a training session with his Chinese club Beijing Enterprise.

Members of the Ivory Coast squad were present, including Tiote's former international colleagues Kolo Toure, Wilfried Bony and Salomon Kalou.

Tiote left Newcastle in February after nearly seven years at St James' Park, during which time he made 156 appearances and scored one goal.

After a memorial service was held in Beijing earlier this week his body was flown back to Ivory Coast ahead of Sunday's funeral.

Wilfried Bony was among the pallbearers as his coffin arrived last Thursday.

Ex-Newcastle team-mate Papiss Cisse, who plays for Shandong Luneng, paid tribute to Tiote during the memorial in China.

'I lived some extraordinary moments with this man and today he's gone,' said Cisse at the service as he fought back tears.

Beijing Enterprises players were also present at that service as they paid their respects to Tiote.

Sportsmail revealed earlier this week that Beijing Enterprises had no emergency cardiac equipment at their training base which which to treat him.

And Manchester United legend Andy Cole questioned whether more can be done to protect players who suffer from heart problems.

'If someone is only 30 and they pass away, the question that is naturally going to be asked is "Why? What's gone on there? Why has he passed away so early?", Cole said to BBC Radio Five Live.

'It's a strange one. Cheick Tiote hadn't been in China that long - a few months - so he must have had a medical to complete the transfer. Was nothing picked up in that medical?

'Is anything actually being done? Is it being looked into? We need to nail it down and get to the bottom of why and what it is.

'Because it seems to be happening to more and more professional footballers - fit, strong men.'

Daily Mail

CHEICK TIOTE LAID TO REST

...funeral attended by Kolo Toure and Ivory Coast squad as former team-mates say goodbye to tragic former midfielder



FAREWELL: Funeral of former Newcastle and Ivory Coast midfielder Cheick Tiote.



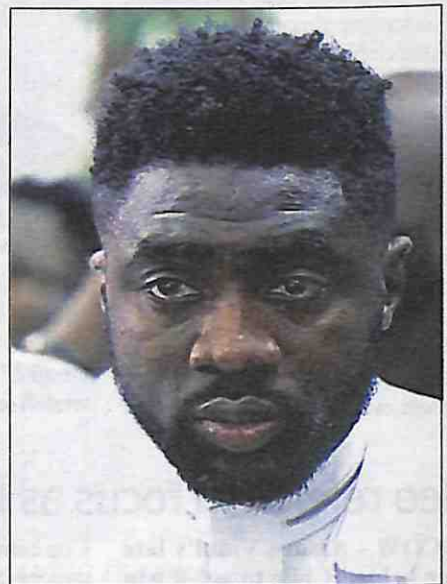
RESPECT: The ex-Liverpool defender was joined by members of the Ivory Coast squad.



FINAL RESTING PLACE: The coffin with the body of Ivorian soccer player Cheick Tiote at Riviera Mosque in Abidjan.



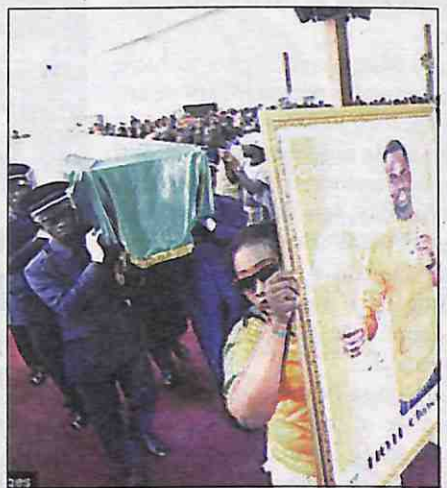
SOLDIER DOWN: The coffin of Tiote in the middle of a square ahead of his funeral service.



IN TEARS: Former team-mate Kolo Toure was among those who attended the service.



HEART-BROKEN: Goalkeeper Boubacar Barry pays tribute to the late Tiote as he walks past his coffin



TO BE REMEMBERED: Pallbearers carry Tiote's coffin while a portrait of him is held aloft in front.

KAIZER MOTAUNG UNHAPPY WITH KAIZER CHIEFS DEFENCE

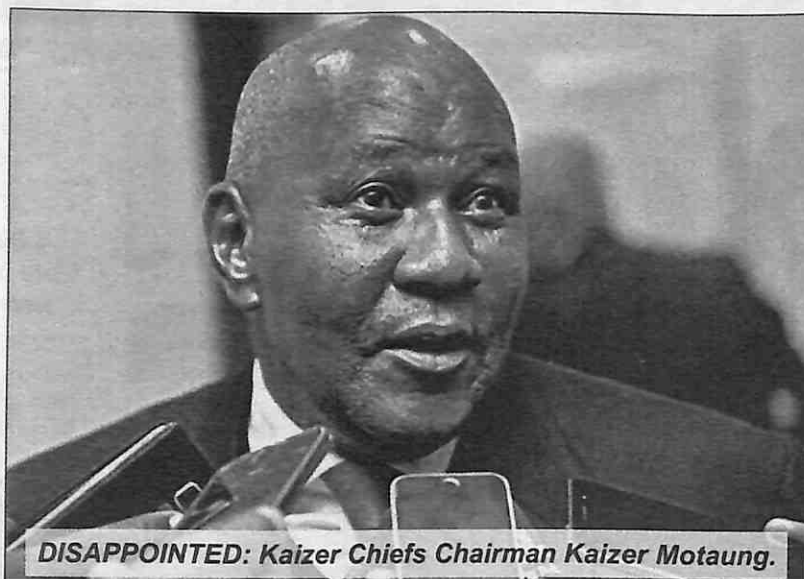
JOHANNESBURG -Kaizer Chiefs Chairman Kaizer Motaung feels the team's defence let them down this season, and hinted at bringing in new faces to reinforce the backline ahead of the 2017/18 campaign.

Amakhosi conceded 28 goals in 30 games in the 2016/17 ABSA Premiership season under coach Steve Komphela, as the Soweto giants finished a disappointing fourth at the end of the season.

And conceding almost a goal a game has left the club's chairman concerned. "Our defence has not done us any good in terms of performance this season. They've actually dropped a bit," Motaung said.

"We might be [getting new players in defence], as to be honest, with some of our players, you can see the legs are gone. So we can't wait until reality kicks in."

After turning 23 in April, Lorenzo Gordinho was the youngest defender for Chiefs, with the rest of the defen-



sive players all over the age of 25.

Ramahlwe Mphahlele, Erick Mathoho, Sibusiso Khumalo and Kgotso Moleko are all 27, Daniel Cardoso is turning 29 while Tsepo Masilela is the oldest back-

line player at 32. Siyanda Xulu is 25, but did not feature much for the Glamour Boys over the campaign, and was named among the seven players that were released by the club last week. **Kickoff**

Video referee in focus as late strikes see Chile past Cameroon

MOSCOW - Arturo Vidal's late header helped Chile to a 2-0 win over Cameroon in their Confederations Cup Group B opener in Moscow on Sunday, as the video assistant referee played a prominent role.

Chile dominated an entertaining, but goalless, first half as Eduardo Vargas saw his strike ruled out by the video assistant.

The Copa America champions had to wait until the 81st minute though to find a breakthrough, which was provided by a flying header from Bayern Munich midfielder Vidal.

Vargas, who missed a host of earlier chances, added a second in added time after another video review.

The victory gave Chile a perfect start to their maiden Confederations

Cup campaign after they qualified by successfully defending their Copa America title last year.

Reigning World Cup-winners Germany and Australia make up Group B, went head-to-head yesterday.

The South Americans made a blistering start and almost took the lead inside the first minute, but striker Vargas' shot crashed back off the post before Jose Fuenzalida saw his low effort well saved by Cameroon keeper Fabrice Ondoa just seconds later.

The Africa Cup of Nations holders did look a threat on the counter-attack and Vincent Aboubakar was denied by the legs of Johnny Herrera, who was in the Chile goal ahead of usual captain Claudio Bravo.

Ondoa was the busier of the two keepers in the first half though and

he had to be alert to keep out Edson Puch's long-range strike.

The best chance of the opening 45 minutes fell to Vargas after he was played through by Vidal's pass, but he blazed over. Controversy reigned on the stroke of half-time at the Otkrytiye Arena as Vargas saw his stoppage-time goal ruled out. The 27-year-old clipped the ball home, but over a minute after the ball had hit the net, the video assistant adjudged the Tigres forward to have been marginally offside. Alexis Sanchez, who had been struggling with an ankle injury before the game, was introduced by coach Juan Antonio Pizzi 12 minutes after the interval as he looked for the 38th international goal that would make him Chile's outright record scorer. **AFP**

REAL MADRID BOSS PEREZ TACKLES RONALDO PROBLEM

Madrid - Florentino Pérez's first task after being re-elected unopposed as Real Madrid President yesterday will be to appease superstar Cristiano Ronaldo amid speculation the four-time world player of the year wants to leave.

"As no other candidature was put forward to the board ... it is proclaimed that Florentino Pérez Rodríguez is President of Real Madrid," the Spanish and European champions said in a statement. The 70-year-old construction magnate's third term in charge of Europe's most successful club spanning 15 years - 2000-2006 and since 2009 - was rubber stamped at a ceremony at the Santiago-Bernabéu Stadium yesterday.

And among the first issues he will have to deal with is superstar Ronaldo - who he bought in 2009 from Manchester United for a record 94 million euros (\$105.3 million).

Ronaldo is threatening to leave Spain after running into problems with tax authorities.

The frenzy of speculation began soon after Ronaldo was accused last week of a 14.7 million euro tax evasion through offshore companies.

The Portuguese international is currently in Russia competing for the European champions in the Confederations Cup.

And according to Spanish sports daily Marca, Ronaldo has told his teammates: "I'm leaving Real. I have made a decision. There is no turning back."

Portuguese sports daily A Bola also claimed that Perez had already been informed of the 32-year-old's decision.

There has been speculation that Ronaldo is trying to put pressure on Real so that they will bear some of the burden of an eventual fine as Barcelona did for Lionel Messi.

Among the clubs reported to be interested in Ronaldo is former club Manchester United for a fee which could hit 200 million euros, with a possible get-out clause of one billion euros. **AFP**



LINING UP: Michael Morton, Thabo Mnyamane, Clayton Daniels and Tefu Mashamaite of Supersport United during the 2017 CAF Confederation Cup match against CF Mounana in Gabon.

'Taxing' double challenge for SuperSport

PRETORIA - SuperSport United could field separate teams under different coaches this week when they play two major matches within five days.

Today, the Pretoria outfit tackle title-holders TP Mazembe of the Democratic Republic of Congo in a CAF Confederation Cup matchday 4 clash. Four days later SuperSport meet Orlando Pirates in a South African FA Cup final being staged during the domestic close season because of fixture congestion.

"It is taxing to play Mazembe and Pirates within five days," admitted Confederation Cup leading scorer, seven-goal Jeremy Brockie.

"But facing a strong team like Mazembe before the cup final is good for us," added the 29-year-old former New Zealand striker.

SuperSport could field the same side in Pretoria today and

in Durban Saturday, and risk injuries and weariness affecting their chances of retaining the FA Cup.

When previously faced with South African and African fixtures within a few days, SuperSport have fielded a virtual reserve team in the CAF matches.

They have also split coaching duties with head coach Stuart Baxter guiding the "domestic" team and assistant Kaitano Tembo the "CAF" side.

England-born Baxter officially leaves SuperSport after the final to coach South Africa having masterminded a shock Africa Cup of Nations qualifying win in Nigeria when in temporary charge.

A SuperSport side lacking many first choices came from two goals behind to hold Mazembe 2-2 in Lubumbashi this month with Teboho Mokoena nodding the equaliser. **AFP**

Luvo Manyonga's injury scare 'not serious'

JOHANNESBURG -The long jumper won again in Europe at the weekend but ended in the meet in Stockholm in obvious discomfort.

Luvo Manyonga seems to have sidestepped a major injury scare after the long jump sensation picked up an ankle niggle at the Diamond League meeting in Stockholm this past Sunday, less than two months ahead of the World Championships.

"Although he is in slight pain I am confident that it is nothing serious," his agent, Lee-Roy Newton, said yesterday.

Manyonga lined up as the firm favourite in the Swedish capital, after leaping beyond 8.60m in his previous four straight competitive appearances.

Though he was well short of his 8.65m world lead, the Olympic silver medallist produced a wind-aided



INJURED: Luvo Manyonga ended his performance in Stockholm in some discomfort.

jump of 8.36m, landing seven centimetres clear of second-placed compatriot Ruswahl Samaai to remain unbeaten this season. Following his final attempt, which brought the long jump contest to a close, Manyonga lay in the pit and clutched

his left leg in obvious discomfort. As a precaution, his management team confirmed he would go for a scan at the Tuks/HPC later this week, after returning home from a successful European tour.

Citizen

CHIEFS RESPOND TO BVUMA R5 000 WAGE CLAIMS

JOHANNESBURG - Kaizer Chiefs have responded to the reports that their goalkeeper, Bruce Bvuma, is earning just R5 000 per month, although stated that the terms of his contract are 'confidential'.

The Sunday World reported over the weekend that the 21-year-old is earning what has been described as a 'slave wage', with the South African Football Players' Union having recently voiced their concern about some of the wages in the Premier Soccer League.

While Chiefs haven't denied the figure being quoted, they did speak about a 'graded structure' at the club.

A statement read:

"The club would like to place on record that Bvuma has been part of the Kaizer Chiefs development structures since 2013/14.

It was not anticipated that the player would be involved with the senior squad this season. However, after both first-team goalkeepers, Itumeleng Khune and Brilliant Khuzwayo, were sidelined through injury in March 2017, the club faced an emergency situation and, fol-



PAID PEANUTS: Kaizer Chiefs goalkeeper Bruce Bvuma.

lowing a full assessment of the options available, elected to draft Bvuma into the senior squad after showing tremendous form in the MDC league.

Kaizer Chiefs operates within a graded structure that provides the framework for contracts with players at development, reserve team and first team level. In so far as the details of players' contracts are concerned, the terms and

conditions of such agreements are confidential between the club, the player and their representative/parents.

As such, the salaries are subject to negotiations between the club, the players and their representatives/parents, and all contracts are finalised through the mutual agreement of all parties concerned."

soccerladuma

Patrick Viera says he is not ready to replace Wenger

LONDON - Arsenal legend and MLS coach Patrick Viera believes that Arsene Wenger is still the right man for the Gunners job, and says he's not yet ready to step into his shoes. Despite the Gunners' regular FA Cup successes and, with the exception of last season, consistent Champions League qualification, long-time manager Arsene Wenger has come under increasing criticism from fans and pundits who believe the club should be challenging for more trophies.

Speaking to ESPN FC about the Arsenal board's decision to extend Wenger's

contract for two years in spite of calls for his sacking, Viera, now manager of MLS outfit New York City FC, urged fans to consider the benefits of having a manager who is so entrenched in the club.

"He shouldn't (leave Arsenal) because I don't think at the moment Arsenal can find a better manager than Arsene, honestly," the former midfielder said.

"He has been at the club for so long and I think that is something that you have to prepare.

"Because when you look at other clubs around, when you look at managers

who stayed at the club for years and years... it is not easy at all.

I think that it is something that you have to prepare because when you have stayed for 20 years in a club, it is not like two years.

"To replace Arsene will be tough, it will be really difficult, and I think that is something that you have to plan."

When asked whether he could see himself taking the mantle from his countryman, should he decide to vacate the job, Viera laughed and said: "Not for the next two years, no."

Teamtalk media

'Facing Pirates is not easy'

PRETORIA - SuperSport United midfielder Mandla Masango says playing in the CAF Confederation Cup is a bonus for them as they'll be fit and ready to face Orlando Pirates in the final of the Nedbank Cup.

"It's going to be a tough encounter. It's not easy to play Orlando Pirates," Masango tells KickOff.com.

"Pirates are a big team, but on the day if we're up to the task, we can beat anyone. So, we are looking forward to the challenge. We will be ready for them when the time comes." United will face TP Mazembe of Congo in the

CAF Confederation Cup at the Lucas Moripe Stadium today at 20h00 before facing 'Amabhakabhaka' in the Nedbank Cup final on Saturday. "The good part about us is that we're still playing, we're still active with the CAF games. So, that's a plus for us," concluded Masango.

The majestic Moses Mabhida Stadium in Durban, Kwa-Zulu Natal, will host this year's special edition of the 2017 Nedbank Cup final between Pirates and United. The game will be played this weekend and will kick-off at 20h15.

kickoff



Angry Shenhua fans turn on Tevez

CHINA - Carlos Tevez faced growing calls yesterday to be shipped out as angry Shanghai Shenhua fans turned on the Argentine forward and under-pressure manager Gus Poyet.

Shenhua fans are fast losing patience with Tevez, who only moved to the Chinese club at the start of the year from Boca Juniors on a reported 38-million-euro salary that makes him one of the highest-rewarded footballers on the planet.

In April Tevez, 33, came under fire from supporters after being spotted at Disneyland Shanghai on the same day he missed an important match due to injury.

With big-spending Shenhua in the lower half of the Chinese Super League (CSL) following a home 2-2 draw with Chongqing Lifan, some have had enough.

Argentine media quoted Tevez as saying he could leave Chinese football at the end of the season and Poyet apologised after Saturday's stalemate, telling state

media: "We did well in attack today, but made two big mistakes in defence and conceded two goals." Tevez, whose itinerant career has seen him take in Manchester City, United and Juventus, has failed to fire because of injury and inconsistent form.

He has scored only once this season, although he did grab an assist in the 2-2 draw, and last month called Chinese players "clumsy" and "very naive".

Tevez has a history of falling out with clubs and managers and one infuriated fan wrote on China's Twitter-like Weibo website after his latest underwhelming showing: "Tevez's attitude is the worst in the team's history."

Another fed-up fan wrote: "Tevez should leave Shenhua. Compared to other players running on the field, Tevez is scared to close down and is afraid to get hurt... Tevez's deal is really not worth it".

One using the name RONALDO7wbfp wrote: "He is here for the high salary and the Disney membership."

"If you really can't bear it and is disappointed with the team, then do something to lead the team through the rough times instead of taking strolls on the pitch like a master."

Chinese football fans on social media speculated that the Uruguayan Poyet, a former Chelsea and Tottenham Hotspur midfielder, could be the latest CSL

coach to get the chop after a run of six games without a win.

CSL clubs are not afraid to wield the axe and six coaches were shown the door in the space of just one month recently.

"I ask the players to fight hard and show strong desire for victory. But as the coach I am responsible for the result," the Shanghai Daily quoted the 49-year-old Poyet as saying.

AFP



HAVING IT TOUGH: Carlos Tevez.

Teko asks Sundowns to excuse him from Tunisian trip

JOHANNESBURG - Sundowns are yet to exercise their one-year option on Modise's contract set to expire next week Friday.

Teko Modise's agent, Jazzman Mahlakane, has explained why the veteran midfielder opted not to travel with the Mamelodi Sundowns squad to Tunisia to face Esperance in the Caf Champions League.

According to Mahlakane, Modise feels his contract situation with Sundowns is still unclear.

Modise's contract with the club is set to expire at the end of June.

"Teko trained with the team and has been reporting for work as usual," Mahlakane told the Sowetan.

"But he asked not to be taken to Tunisia because his contract situation is still unclear. Let's say

he gets injured there; who would take responsibility for him when his contract is up in two weeks?"

"We are engaging Sundowns, and we should conclude the matter soon."

"Teko's contract says Sundowns must tell us if they activate their one-year option before the end of June, so we are still within the deadline. It's just that, with so much uncertainty, it would be unfair to expect him

to play [in the Champions League]," he was quoted as saying.

Meanwhile, as reported earlier, rumours of Modise returning to Orlando Pirates are spreading like wildfire and a Phakaaathi source has revealed it might be true.

citizen



JOMA CUP 2017 **TOURNAMENT** ACTION



CELEBRATIONS: Joma Cup 2017 champions TUT in jubilation after their crowning during the JOMA CUP 2017 Tournament played over the weekend.



SOCCER BABES: Umhlambanyatsi fans, Deli, Philile and Thabsile following the action.



RUN: TUT and Manzini Sundowns Legend player vying for the ball.



FROM BEHIND: Mbombela's Timothy Mathebula winning the ball from TUT's William Makikla.



GUCA NGAMADOLO: TUT followers celebrating the victory.

THAT'S YOURS: Coach of the tournament Elliot of TUT accepting his trophy from The George Hotel Front Office Manager Jabu Lukhele while General Manager Jobie Motsa and Joma Director Mpho Mngomezulu look on.



WE WERE THERE: Manzini Sundowns Legends among the social teams that participated in the tournament.



RUNNERS-UP: Mbombela Masters posing before their clash against TUT in the finals.



PUSHING: Mbombela Masters and Gree players battling for the ball.



MZANSI FO SHO: TUT supporters singing and dancing after their side won the tournament.



COME: The George Hotel Front Office Manager Jabu Lukhele presenting a medal to John 'Shisa Junior' Mdluli.



COPA *Coca-Cola* TOURNAMENT LAUNCH



SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE: Swaziland Beverages Marketing Manager Coca-Cola Nqobile Simelane speaking during the sponsorship launch of E420 000 for this year's Swaziland Schools Sports Association (SSSA) COPA Coca-Cola tournament at the company's premises yesterday. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



HERE: Simelane showing SSSA President Celucolo 'Dino' Dlamini how the system works.



NUMBER ONE: SSSA Secretary Felicity Dlamini and Treasurer Lucky Dlamini getting ready for the draw.



WE THANK YOU: SSSA President Celucolo 'Dino' Dlamini making his remarks.



LET ME SEE: One of the sports teachers conducting a draw.



APPRECIATION: Andile Khumalo of Lusoti High School speaking on behalf of the pupils.



LIVE ON THE COKE SIDE OF LIFE: Manzini and Shiselweni sports teachers clad in Coca-Cola merchandise.



GAME ON: The final draw of the competition.



ALL IN: Mntshali and Simelane also pose with sports teachers of Hhohho and Manzini participating schools.



LET THE GAMES BEGIN: Hhohho and Manzini schools representatives posing with Swaziland Beverages Marketing Manager Coca-Cola Nqobile Simelane and Sales Manager Bhokisisa Mntshali after receiving their kits. The games start tomorrow.

football talk

all your latest world football news

● Chelsea are hopeful of finalising deals for Everton's Belgium forward Romelu Lukaku, 24, and 22-year-old Monaco and France midfielder Tiemoué Bayaoko 'soon', while the arrival of Argentine goalkeeper Willy Caballero, 35, is expected to be confirmed on 1 July.

(London Evening Standard)

● Everton will move for Celtic's 20-year-old France Under-21 striker Moussa Dembele should Lukaku complete a move to Chelsea.

(Daily Post)

● West Ham United will target Arsenal and France forward Olivier Giroud, 30, if the Gunners sign any new strikers.

(Daily Telegraph)

● Arsenal and Everton target Carlos Bacca, 30, is also interesting French side Marseille as the race for the Colombia striker's signature intensifies.

(Talksport)

● Liverpool remain in talks with Roma over winger Mohamed Salah, 25, but will not pay more than £35m for the Egypt international, which falls short of the Serie A club's valuation.

(Sky Sports)

● Real Madrid and Portugal forward Cristiano Ronaldo, 32, has told his agent Jorge Mendes to seal a dream return to Manchester United.

(Sun)

● But Manchester United Manager Jose Mourinho does not want his compatriot as he feels he is a player in decline.

(Diario Gol via Daily Star)

● Serie A side AC Milan could make a move for Manchester City's 30-year-old keeper Joe Hart, who was on loan at fellow Serie A side Torino last season, if Donnarumma leaves them.

(Daily Express)

● Manchester United forward Wayne Rooney is attracting interest from clubs in Italy, Spain, Turkey and the United States as well as China, but the 31-year-old England captain could still stay at the Old Trafford club.

(Times)

● Chelsea are to increase their efforts to sign Juventus' Brazil left-back Alex Sandro, 26, and Monaco and France midfielder Tiemoué Bayaoko, 22.

(Guardian)



...with Mphikeleli Msibi

THE STRIKER PUNCH POW!

[STRIKING, STRAIGHT AND STRENGTHENED]

ALL THE BEST FOR SWALLOWS

LOCAL CAF envoys Mbabane Swallows will tonight take on MC Alger in a must win match if they are to make it to the quarterfinals of the CAF Confederation Cup.

This is after they drew 0-0 against the Algerian side at Somhlolo National Stadium.

Quite frankly, Swallows must win this match if they want to enhance their chances of making it through to the knockout stage of the tournament. They are currently occupying the third spot on group B standings, separated by two points from Tunisia's CS Sfaxien at the summit.

Race

Triumph in today's game will temporarily put them at the top of the group with seven points and depending on the result between CS Sfaxien and Platinum Stars tomorrow; the local champions could remain at the summit and the race for top two will still be wide open.

For now, Swallows are still very much in it and can even finish as leaders of this group if they win all their remaining games.

This in essence means the red and white glamour giants still have a great chance of qualifying for the quarterfinals of the tournament and even winning the group. The first two top teams in the group will proceed to the quarterfinals.

We all know Umkhonto-Ka-Shaka have not reached this stage of the competition by fluke, no. They have assembled a good team that is capa-



ble of going all the way in this tournament.

Key Players

Swallows have been victims of poor officiating by the referees but this comes with playing in such tournaments. They cannot afford to be cry babies but have to soldier on and represent the country well.

The 'Beautiful Birds' will be without the services of key players in Papy Tshitshimbi and Sifiso Mabila due to injuries but for a fact the other players who will be given a chance will grab the opportunity with both hands and do the job inside the field of play. We all know this will not be an easy match for Swallows.

They failed to play their normal game in the first leg at Somhlolo Stadium against the Algerian side and we can only expect a better show-

ing away which will entail putting in extra effort.

There is no room for mediocrity for the red and white ensemble but they have to collect maximum points and the possibility of that lies in planning effectively for the match.

They know how the opposition play and will have to craft a perfect game plan to come out victorious.

They really have to execute their ruthless approach and do everything not to lose this match.

We know what the team is made of and we trust they will represent us well as they have been doing in this tournament.

They need the nation's support to accomplish this mission.

It is no longer about Swallows but the country now and they deserve everyone's support. Let us all rally

behind the boys.

The other match between Platinum Stars and Sfaxien will be played tomorrow and a draw will come as a favour for Swallows.

After this match, they will play against Sfaxien here at home before their last match of the group stages against Platinum Stars in South Africa.

All the best Mbabane Swallows.

Congratulations to young 'Kappa Boys'

THIS past Sunday, Manzini Sundowns were crowned champions of the 2017/17 PLS reserve League.

The Penuel Malinga led-charges marched on to claim the title with a 1-0 victory over police side Royal leopard - the very side that beat them in the finals of the SwaziBank Cup Under-20.

Congratulations to you young men, you have reached your target for the season, which was to re-claim this title. They boldly stated during the beginning of the games that their main intention this year was to re-claim the throne and they definitely did, in style even. But all in all, it's good to have these development tournaments because the main intention is to groom talent and produce future stars. One thing is definite; Sundowns have a lot of talent and potential in their team.

Talent

The boys have played along side for quite some time as some have been team mates since they were in the Under-13 team.

It is a great spirit from Sundowns, and one that is in line with the PLS' dream of unearthing new talent.

One will hope that teams will use this platform presented to them to nurture these boys and groom them to be senior teams' players. It would be great to even see some of them in the senior teams' next season.

On that same note, one will also hope that more companies will join the likes of Esibayeni Lodge and SwaziBank in bankrolling the development competitions. Let's all make sure we take care of these boys because they are our future, and without them, the future of Swazi football is as good as non-existent.

The cat will come out of the bag at Highlanders

THE tree of liberty grows well when it is watered by the blood of the martyr.

This is the case for the thousands of Mbabane Highlanders supporters, who are currently fighting for the ownership of their beloved team through their brave National Supporters Committee (NSC).

The final straw was last Friday when the current regime led by Zweli Jele called off the sponsorship launch of a deal involving the team and MTN Swaziland at the eleventh hour.

Supporters

The move left the supporters stunned as they expressed their disappointment over the mysterious decision that dashed what could have been a turning point for the once mighty 'Bull'. Now that the supporters committee wants to see the deal with MTN materialising and with the team's directors opting for another 'underground' deal, a conflict is certainly on between the two structures.

The supporters have even expressed their readiness to go to the National First Division than to compromise their choices including the proposed deal with the mobile network company. They really want the MTN sponsorship.

They even stated that the proposed 14-teams format cannot make them lose their pride as they

are ready to start life in the second tier, something they have done before.

One wonders what led to the directors to cancel the sponsorship launch at the very last minute.

Ownership

It's not that clear for now but one thing for sure the truth will come out. This I say because we all know the truth has its funny way of revealing itself. Let the Highlanders people do what they want with their team because the directors, who are sometimes mentioned as the team's Patrons have no legal ownership of the team. The last time I checked, the team was governed by the patrons led by former Senator Isaac Shabangu and the National Supporters Committee which is elected every after three years.

My friendly advice to the directors is to work for the

betterment of the team instead of compromising for the sake of self-gains by striking deals that will only suit them.

They should stop greed because they failed to save the team from relegation after replacing former Managing Director Bheki 'Rubber' Simelane, who was fired under unclear circumstances.

Family

They promised to buy quality players but instead signed youngsters, who failed to sustain the pressure of playing in the Premier League. Taking nothing away from the players, they tried but only that the going was tough. What difference are they going to make this time around? Even if they can be given E2 million cash, I doubt they can take Highlanders to its rightful place. Well that's just me thinking to myself. Were they not around when the team was relegated in 2012?

They have done it again and to me it seems they find pleasure in letting the team down. I can only advise them to allow the Highlanders family to do their will with their team and hear from them what they want. But I still say *sitayicela ivutsiwe* with the proposed sponsorship deal saga.



WANDERERS NOW PREFER LOCAL PLAYERS

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER - MANZINI Wanderers say they will sign more local players than foreigners in the upcoming 2017/18 season.

The maroon and white ensemble, through their General Manager Patrick Gamedze, said their squad would comprise mainly of home-grown players.

He said this during an interview with this publication about their plans of the new season.

"We will now be signing more locals than foreigners. We want to assemble a strong team as we want to compete for top honours. We will only go for outstanding foreigners after evaluations and consultations with the technical bench."

Gamedze said most of their players in the new season would be locals following the decision taken by the team.

He further stated they would do everything in their power to retain the services of their trusted Nigerian frontman Kola Aladeon, who is currently



LOCAL: Manzini Wanderers General Manager Patrick Gamedze.

out of contract with the team.

"We are hoping to have Kola in the next season since he has been one of the outstanding players and we hope negotiations will be concluded very soon. A decision shall be taken over the future of Tawana Chikore and our

supporters will be informed in due course," he further said.

The hub giants will be under the guidance of former Sihlangu assistant coach Nyanga 'Crooks' Hlophe, who joined the side mid-last season on a three-year contract.

Duze, Hillside fail to make top 16

By Sabelo Majola

THE TOP 16 SCHOOLS FIXTURE

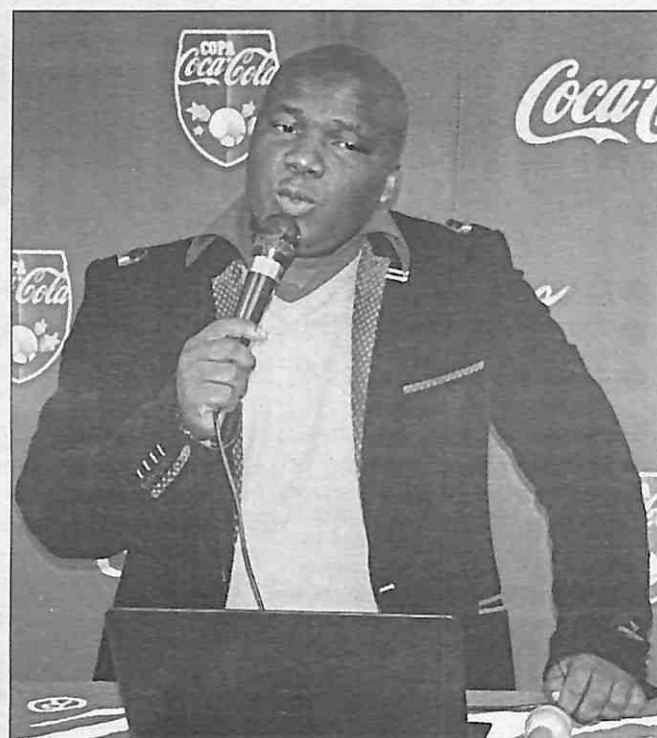
SOCCER - LAST year's finalists Duze and Hillside High failed to make it to the top 16 schools, thus are not in the COPA Coca-Cola tournament.

Making his remarks during the launch of the tournament, SSSA President Celucolo 'Dino' Dlamini said the level of competence among the schools was growing with every year, hence the two failed to make the cut.

"As an association, we would like to forward our sincere gratitude to Coca-Cola for the continued support. There are multiples associations in the country who don't have sponsors in their activities but the company chose us and we appreciate it. We would strive as teachers to have a violence free tournament and we invite the ministry of sports, head teachers and everybody to come and support the

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----|-------------------|------|
| Manzini region | | | |
| Tomorrow at Manzini Club | | | |
| Ngwane High | vs | Ekuphakameni High | 9am |
| Mvimbeko High | vs | Mliba High | 11am |
| Winner 1 | vs | Winner 2 | 2pm |
| Hhohho region | | | |
| Tomorrow at Mhlume Stadium | | | |
| Ka-Schiele High | vs | Timphisini High | 9am |
| Mbabane Central | vs | Madlangemphisi | 11am |
| Winner 1 | vs | Winner 2 | 2pm |
| Lubombo region | | | |
| Tomorrow at Nsukuwansuku Stadium | | | |
| Ntshanini High | vs | Matsela High | 9am |
| Lusoti High | vs | Phonjwane | 11am |
| Winner 1 | vs | Winner 2 | 2pm |
| Shiselweni region | | | |
| Tomorrow at King Sobhuza II Stadium | | | |
| Salem High | vs | Ngwane Central | 9am |
| Eric Rosenberg | vs | Ezindwendweni | 11am |
| Winner 1 | vs | Winner 2 | 2pm |

pupils during the games," he said. Dlamini went on to congratulate the association's PRO, who is also Matsapha United acting CEO Victor 'Mavikane' Dlamini for winning the Best PRO award in the National First Division league.



REMARKS: Swaziland Schools Sports Association (SSSA) President Celucolo 'Dino' Dlamini making his remarks.

Ex-Downs coach joins Zimbabwe national Under-23

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER - FORMER Manzini Sundowns head coach Godfrey Tamerepi has joined the Zimbabwe national Under-23 side.

Tamerepi, who is also attached at his native country's outfit Triangle FC, is among the names released by the Zimbabwe Football Association (ZIFA) new technical set-up.

He was announced together with Kisido Matsika, who is the squad manager and he is still going to appoint his assistants.

Tamerepi is expected to lead his country in the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games to be hosted by Japan.

The soft-spoken mentor joined the 'Kappa Boys' at the beginning of

the past season where he eventually parted ways with the side six-months after his appointment.

Co-coaches Penuel Malinga and Musa Manyatsi replaced him but both relinquished the position to Mlamuli 'Sputla' Zwane, who finished the past season in charge of the Manzini based side.

Efforts to get Tamerepi's comment proved futile after his cell phone was out of the network when contacted yesterday.

Worth noting is that Zimbabwean coach Saul Chaminuka of Matsapha United has not been retained in the new set up after being part of the 'Warriors' technical bench.

Chaminuka was the right hand man to former head coach Calisto Pasuwa during the 2017 AFCON finals held in Gabon.



NEW HOME: Godfrey Tamerepi.

Soccer legend Siza Dlamini for Castle Best Brew League

By Sibusiso Dlamini

SOCCER - CASTLE, in keeping with the Castle COSAFA Cup to take place this month in Rustenburg, South Africa, has announced former Jomo Cosmos striker Siza 'King Pele' Dlamini as the local legend responsible for the next generation of football talents in the country.

In a statement released by Swaziland Beverages Beer Brand Manager Mcolisi Dlamini, he said they launched the Best Brew League, a 5-A-Side football tournament to be played by friends, who will also be afforded that once in a lifetime chance of playing in the finals of the Castle COSAFA Cup in 2017, representing Swaziland. "As Castle Lager, we have assembled all these legends to be respon-

sible for the next generation of football talents in Southern Africa. To accomplish this, we have introduced Siza Dlamini for Swaziland. He will take the nation into its Castle COSAFA journey this year, with the consumers of Castle Lager and the general lovers of the beautiful game.

The Best Brew league then represents a platform where friends work

ACTIVATIONS SCHEDULE

Friday, June 23 - Matsapha Police College (Manzini teams)
Saturday, June 24 - T-Junction, Nhlanguano (Shiselweni teams)

Friday, June 30 - Hhohho matches
Saturday, July 1, Lubombo matches (includes live match viewing of Sihlangu's 1st game at 7pm)

Sunday, July 2, national finals - Manzini venue (All regional winners and runners-up)

together to achieve more than they would individually - that once in a lifetime chance of playing in the finals of the Castle COSAFA Cup in 2017, representing Swaziland.

"The Best Brew League is a 5-A-Side football tournament played by real friends in a very

social and friendly spirit. It will signify the different milestones the friendship has been tested through and how actual team work delivers impressive

results." To participate, teams need to purchase a six-pack of 500mls before match day and register their team. The registered teams will then be contacted for participation in the next matches of the Best Brew League.

"It is imperative to highlight that these 5-a-side Matches are for persons above 18 years old and we will need identification of every player before confirmation of teams playing on the day."

Dlamini also added that there would be interesting disruptions to regular football rules throughout the tournament, including the introduction of Siza Dlamini and any Castle Lager team member into any side on the pitch as an unexpected substitution. "The day will end with regional winners and runners-up on standby to play the national finals to be held in a week's time."

The Castle COSAFA tournament is one that prides itself with unleashing would-be legends of the game for



LEGEND: Siza 'King Pele' Dlamini.

the Southern African region who have gone on to play their best football in the richly sponsored South African PSL, the DRC and overseas countries.

RUSSIA 2017 CONFED CUP RESULTS

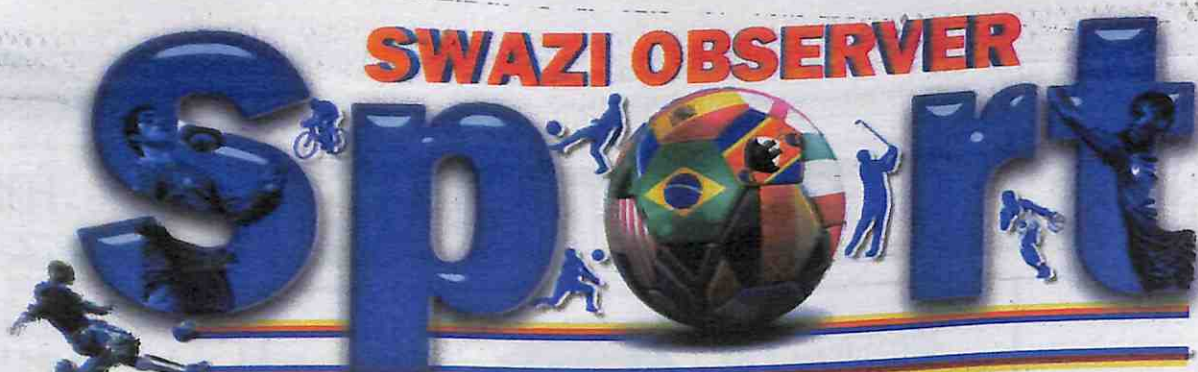
Yesterday
Australia 2-3 Germany

RUSSIA 2017 CONFED CUP FIXTURE

17:00 Russia vs Portugal
20:00 Mexico vs New Zealand

CAF CONFED CUP FIXTURE

TODAY
23:00 MC Alger vs Mbabane Swallows
TOMORROW
19:00 Platinum Stars vs CS Sfaxien



IF SPORTS IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE'RE YOUR CHURCH

Tuesday June 20, 2017



CAF CONFEDERATION CUP MATCH;

LOSING IS **NOT** AN OPTION - 'TT'

- Captain says injury to Papy, Mabila won't hinder their chances of winning the match
- Coach 'Koki' says they have done all preparations
- Swallows take on MC Alger tonight

By Sabelo Majola

SOCCER - THEY have the whole nation on their shoulders and the only option they have is to conquer, or at least get a draw, something that Mbabane Swallows skipper Tony 'TT' Tsabedze assured the nation of.

The local champions will take on Algeria side MC Alger in an away CAF Confederation Cup clash at 10pm today. CAF website quoted the Mbabane

Swallows captain saying losing is not an option for them despite the absence of injured duo in DR Congo-born industrious midfielder Pay Tshitshimbi and defender Sifiso Mabila.

The captain said they were ready for the match and would be going for all three points.

"We are used to playing without some of our players due to injuries and suspension, but we can still snatch the maximum points in tonight's match. We cannot afford to lose this match

but we know it will be tough, so a draw will still be a valuable away point," said Tsabedze, who missed the first leg at Somhlolo two weeks ago due to the yellow card rule.

Clash

The red and white ensemble left the country this past Sunday to Algeria for the must-win clash that will see them temporarily move up the summit of group B if they accumulate maximum points. 'TT' said the players were ready for the encounter and would give it

their all inside the field of play.

Meanwhile, Swallows mentor Thabo 'Koki' Vilakati was quoted as saying he is looking forward to any result other than a defeat to boost his side's chances of reaching the knockout stage of the second-tier continental championship.

"We have done all preparations. The boys are ready physically and mentally. One thing I can say is we're going there for two results; a win or draw. Anything other than that will just be unfortunate but we have done all we have to do for

| LOG | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|----------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Group B | | | | | | | | | |
| Pos | Team | P | W | D | L | GF | GA | GD | Pts |
| 1. | CS Sfaxien | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 6 |
| 2. | MC Alger | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 5 |
| 3. | Mb. Swallows | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 4. | Platinum Stars | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 8 | -5 | 1 |

this match," said Vilakati. Mbabane Swallows are occupying the third spot in Group B with four points, having lost the first match against Tunisia's CS Sfaxien, beat South Africa's Platinum Stars and a barren draw against today's opponents in the first leg. Dikwena, as Platinum Stars is affectionately known, will host CS Sfaxien in the other Group B match in Rustenburg tomorrow.

SPOT THE BALL AND WIN E150 WEEKLY



The Swazi Observer Sports department is happy to announce the return of the famous spot the ball competition. In this competition readers are expected to pick the alphabet they think represents the ball from the three available. One of the alphabets is placed on where the ball is. There will be weekly draws where the lucky winner will pocket E150 for spotting the ball. The pictures used in this competition were once published in this newspaper. Participants in the competition are advised to include their contact details.

HOW TO PLAY: Cross the alphabet, tear the entry form and post it to Spot the Ball P.O. Box A385 Swazi Plaza Mbabane or drop it at any of our offices in Siteki, Piggs Peak, Nhlanguano, Manzini or at the main office in Mbabane. Diala sibone. Goodluck Sports Editor.

NAME: _____ CELLPHONE: _____

E420 000 for SSSA COPA Coca-Cola tournament

By Sabelo Majola

SPORTS - SWAZILAND Beverages has forked out a total of E420 000 for this year's Swaziland Schools Sports Association (SSSA) COPA Coca-Cola tournament.

Announcing the sponsorship was Coca-Cola Marketing Manager Nqobile Simelane during the launch of the tournament at the company's premises in Matsapha yesterday.

The sponsorship saw an increment of E20 000 from last year's E400 000 total package.

"Last year's winners Duze High were awarded E30 000 which they utilised for a professional football field while runners-up Hillside were awarded E20 000 and are currently building a basketball court. Third and fourth prize went to Salem High School and Mpofu High School, who got E10 000 and E5 000, respectively."

"Salem bought quality soccer boots



GREAT FEELING: SSSA President Celucolo 'Dino' Dlamini with Coca-Cola Marketing Manager Nqobile Simelane.

while Mpofu purchased sports equipment but we would like to insist to the winners this year is that the prize money should be utilised for developing all soccer-related activity," she said.

Prize

The first and second prize will remain unchanged while the third prize will increase from 10 000 to E12 000 and

the fourth prize from E5 000 to E8 000. The games will kick-off tomorrow in all four regions of the country, where the top 16 schools will be competing to qualify for the semi-finals.

Quarterfinals

Hhohho schools will be playing at Mhlume, Lubombo at Simunye, Manzini region at Manzini Club Stadium and Shiselweni at King Sobhuza II Memorial Stadium. The first games will kick-off at 9am, with the second clashes slated for 11pm and the quarterfinals games at 2pm.

The semi-finals will be hosted at Manzini Club from 10am while the finals will be on June 30 at a venue yet to be announced.

Coca-Cola believes in the capabilities of Swazi teenage pupils on and off the football field. Beyond football a good education plays a key role in moulding their character, expanding their knowledge base and preparing them for a meaningful life outside of football.