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## BIG CAKE FOR SOUL BROTHERS TRIO

**BIRTHDAY BOYS:** Moses Ngwenya, Eric Mnguni and July Mhlabane who are all born in July were presented with a cake in celebration of their birthdays. They were born on different dates in July. The cake was sponsored by Isolations Dry Wall and Ceilings, a Matsapha based company. The trio were presented during their performance at the Biggest Braai show on Saturday night. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)



## PILE-UP KOMBI DRIVER FINED FOR DD

PAGE 5

## UMGIJIMI GETS 15 YEARS FOR RAPE

PAGE 3

# 'DON'T GIVE THE DEVIL A CHANCE'

● King says nation should give itself to God

STORY ON PAGE 3

## SUPER SPECIALS

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## COMMENT

## The future is about to change

**THIS week should be an exciting week—it is the week that the liberalisation of the mobile telecommunications comes to reality.**

The anticipated launch of the second mobile operator, Swazi Mobile at the end of this week should bring to an end a monopoly enjoyed by Swazi MTN while also bringing relief to customers who have been desperate for a competitive mobile com-

munications industry.

When the market opens up later this month, it will herald a whole new era for consumers, who have waited 10 years for this industry to open up.

Finally there will be competition between the mobile networks; tariffs will be cheaper and affordable; and generally, the telecommunications industry will finally come to life.

This will boost a lot of other areas, such as business; the ease and cheaper communication should ensure that businesses are not paying too much for communication, while many will probably access other opportunities to boost the economy. This should have happened a long time ago, of course, but it is also about the now and the future we will concern ourselves with. The industry needs the vibrancy of competition, for a monopoly is never good for the growth of a nation. This move therefore is a welcome relief to everyone, and should allow Swazi MTN to stake its claim as the biggest

network provider in the kingdom.

Admittedly, the competition comes in the form of a local company as opposed to an international brand, the likes that the nation was hoping for before the process of awarding the operating licence was official launched.

However, Swazi Mobile might be a local company, but they have already indicated that they will be no pushovers. The company has recruited well; it has so far demonstrated its capability to deliver on the services. It has thus far whet the appetite of the public through its promotions—the sponsoring of the inter-

national matches at Somhlolo. Swazi Mobile has announced that it is here to play big, not small, and this should be music to the ears of everyone who has a cellphone—or two. Generally, the future is in the ICT. The competition in the mobile networks is a good tonic for our poor economy, and definitely what the public needs to keep the cost of communication low. Hopefully, the data fees will fall.

The public is therefore waiting for Swazi Mobile, with bated breath. The public cannot wait for the games to begin. From what we have seen so far, *kusetoba mnandzi!*

# PRINCESS SEEKS TO REPORT CJ OVER LAND ISSUE

Stories by Starsky Mkhonta

Nhlangano

**PRINCESS Ngebeti made her sixth trip to the Mbangweni Umphakatsi on Saturday, and once again, it was another exercise in futility.**

The princess, accompanied by her first born son Makhosemvelo Mnisi, left the *umphakatsi* feeling dejected after failing to reach conclusion over the ownership over a piece of land that Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala also claims ownership of.

She and her son have now resolved to take the matter to the highest authority.

“*Sale sivunyelwa siyobika CJ kulabafanele kutsi ujame emhlabeni waketfu ngenkhani*,” concluded Mnisi at the end of their meeting with the elders. When loosely translated, this means they now wish to escalate the matter to authorities of the land and report Maphalala for refusing to bring back the land.

Princess Ngebeti is the widow of former foreign affairs minister Mhambi Mnisi. She made another trip on Saturday to request the *umphakatsi* to advise Maphalala to move out of her land.

Makhosemvelo Mnisi is reportedly the only person Maphalala had said he would be willing to engage with on the matter. He was in no compromising mood when meeting the *Umphakatsi* headman as he made it clear that as much as Mhambi Mnisi was his father, the fact that he had married a member of the royal family, the land in question automatically was owned by royalty.

He explained that it was a known arrangement that anyone marrying a princess, the household is then referred to as ‘*Kamntfwanenkosi*’. He said it was what happened when his late father and the princess built the homestead at Ngwabi.

“She is demanding what is rightfully hers. For the whole judge to contest something which he knows he does not own, I think it unfortunate. Why is my mother being frustrated when she is not even supposed to beg that this person should vacate that land? Why is it taking ages for elders of this *umphakatsi* to act? Do they want to see the princess frustrated? Let us be allowed to seek audience elsewhere if *umphakatsi* does not have a solution,” said Mnisi.

He further questioned the decision of the elders of *umphakatsi* to visit the CJ at his workplace instead of summoning him to the *umphakatsi*. He said it should be known that Maphalala was only a CJ when doing his office work but on issues such as this one he remained an ordinary resident or citizen of the land. He said it was unfair to see the *umphakatsi* authorities driving all the way to Mbabane to meet the CJ over a



**DEJECTED:** Princess Ngebeti with her son Makhosemvelo Mnisi.

matter at community level.

“It’s not different that *umphakatsi* decided to pay a courtesy call for on a suspect. They should have summoned him here at *umphakatsi*. They seemed to be worshipping him while on the other hand the Princess is given a raw deal. It’s her sixth trip today but still *umphakatsi* seems to be not bothered. The excuse they are giving today is that Maphalala cannot come and here and they don’t care about the frustration the princess is going through. It’s her land and she now wants it without conditions,” he complained.

## Allowed

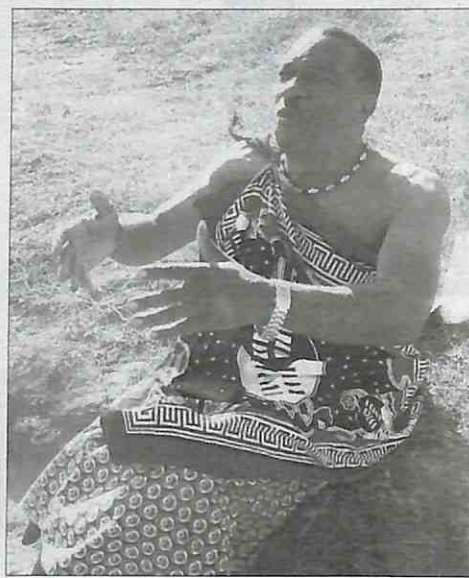
He further added that it was not going to happen that Maphalala would be allowed to remain on the land as whatever agreement he had with the late Mnisi was not known to the family, in particular the princess.

“That he can be allowed to grab that land just for a cow he claimed to have forwarded, that is not going to happen. We are talking of over five hectares of land and for someone to have it for one cow, it’s unbelievable. He should just move out peacefully before he gets embarrassed,” he continued.

Mnisi also raised a concern on why those advocating for rights of widows and other victims where land was grabbed anyhow were quiet on this matter involving the princess.

“Where are the women who should be sympathising with the princess? Does it mean she does not deserve the sympathy which is at times given to others who find themselves in such situations?”

It’s a widow we are talking about having what she sweated for grabbed by a man who should be exemplary in society given the position he is holding,” said Mnisi.



He then wondered why the leadership in the Judiciary was not advising the CJ of the embarrassment this could end up causing to him if he keeps clinging on what he knew deep down his heart that it does not belong to him. “There is need that he is advised to leave the land in peace.

## Bodies

The Judicial Service Commission is quiet, Parliament is quiet and even the bodies or organisations which are vocal on such matters touching widows all are silent,” said Makhosemvelo.

Meanwhile, Mbangweni *Umphakatsi* Indvuna Peter Mamba, who had a hectic time as he was grilled by Mnisi, said he had communicated to the family that it was not going to be possible to have the issue deliberated on Saturday. He said he had called the family to alert them that they should not bother to come as the CJ was not going to make it.

“On top of that, today (Saturday) we had an important event where the Shiselweni Forestry Company (SFC) had come to educate the community about forest fires and other things. It was not going to be possible to have the matter discussed when on the other hand we were also involved in the event,” said Mamba.

Princess Ngebeti is expected to return to the *umphakatsi* this coming Saturday as per agreement of all parties. It’s going to be the princess seventh trip to Mbangweni to seek help from the authorities to seek their help in kicking out the CJ from her land.

Once again efforts to contact the chief justice failed as his phone rang unanswered. The last attempt was made yesterday with his number eventually not available on the network.

## BENNETT FEELS NGEBETI IS UNFAIRLY TREATED

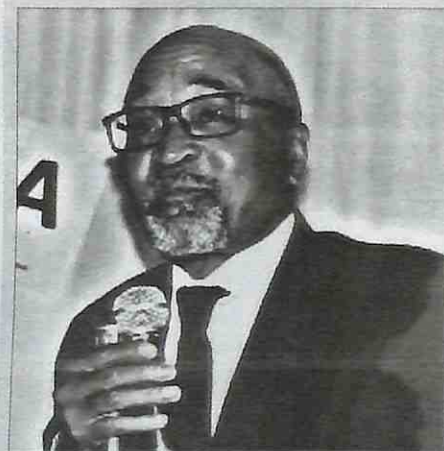
**“THERE is no way land can be allocated to two people and if there is anything like that, there is something amiss.”**

This is the view of Walter Bennett regarding the dispute between the CJ and Princess Ngebeti.

## Worrying

Bennett said it was also worrying as to why the CJ preferred to have the princess son Makhosemvelo to be the one he wanted to talk to when the owner of the land was the princess.

“As to why the CJ wants to talk to the princess son when she is still alive, that also raises questions,” said Bennett, when his views were sought by the newspaper. Umngani we-Makhosi Timothy Velabo Mtetwa on the other hand, did not want to say anything, stating that such a matter has still not been reported to him.



**UNFAIR TREATMENT:** Walter Bennett.

## CORRECTION

**In our Friday publication, in the story titled ‘Nedbank to close some branches on Monday’, we erroneously said Nedbank clients will only get services in three of its branches.**

It has been brought to our attention that this is not true. The Notice published by Nedbank clearly states that only three branches – Allister Miller branch, Riverstone branch and Tshaneni branch – will be temporarily closed on Monday and for the duration of the strike action by staff in the bargaining unit. All other branches of the bank countrywide will be opened and offering full banking services to clients. We would like to apologise to Nedbank (Swaziland) Limited and its clients for the inconvenience this may have caused the bank.







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## SOMHLOLO FESTIVAL OF



**IN PRAYER:** King's representative Prince Simelane joined by DPM Paul Dlamini, Prince Masitsela, Reverend Mandla Dlamini and Minister Moses Vilakati during the Somhlolo Festival of Praise service at the National Church in Lobamba yesterday. **RIGHT - THE WORD:** Reverend Dickson Mukunda was also among the pastors who shared the Word of God. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

**PRESENT:** A section of the congregants from different denominations who were at the service.



## SERA Column

READ THE OBSERVER EVERY FORTNIGHT, ON MONDAYS FOR UPDATES ON SERA

Interact with the on  
info@sera.org.sz or 2404 8425  
WITH Sikhumbuzo Nkambule  
Manager Consumer and Stakeholder Management



## Using the right light bulbs can be your first step in your efforts to save electricity

Do you know lighting accounts for 10%-30% of a typical household's electricity bill in India? So, this is right time to make change, and go for highly efficient lighting LED bulbs (Light Emitting Diode) and save money, energy and also our environment. There are many types of LED bulbs available in the market today. So choice is difficult and people generally wonder, how to choose the right LED bulb? We will solve your confusion, as we try to compare an LED bulb against the other common light bulbs that we are familiar with; Incandescent and CFLs (Compact Fluorescent Lamps).

## Performance of LED bulbs vs. Incandescent bulbs vs. CFLs:

First important thing to consider in comparison is performance. LED light bulbs use only 2-17 watts of electricity that is about 1/6th to a regular incandescent bulb and 1/2 to CFLs. Traditional incandescent bulbs use a lot of energy to produce light however 90% of this energy is given off as heat. Here lost energy is money we are throwing away. On other side, using LED bulbs, you can save 85% in energy costs.

Low power consumption means far lower energy bills. Generally, lighting accounts for roughly 25% of the utility bill. So this is really a big

deal, not only for individuals but also for larger properties like warehouses & factories, public schools, hospitals, local governing bodies, etc. which can hoard huge monthly bills. LED offers really big savings for their electricity use.

## Comparison based on other important benefits that LED offers

- **Life span:** Another big advantage of using LED is that it lasts longer. The Glow-UP LED bulbs last for an average of 50,000 hrs, around 15 years (at 9 hours/ a day) under normal household use. This is roughly 30 times longer when compared to incandescent bulbs as well as 5 times longer than CFLs.
- **Big saving of energy and money:** LEDs are initially expensive, but the cost is recovered quickly in electricity and replacement savings in the long term. It offers considerable ongoing savings for many years to come, as LED bulbs last for an average of 50,000 hrs means no hassle of replacing bulbs. On considering its low-power usage and long life, it helps you save a lot than incandescent bulbs and CFLs.
- **Highly durable:** LEDs are extremely durable; as they do not have a filament means they can work even if dropped or fell down like incandescent bulb. Being solid with aluminum body, they also hold up well to jarring and bumping.
- **Less heat:** LEDs don't get hot, even after being on all night. They just feel warm to the touch while Incandescent and CFLs get really hot to work by their very nature. LED lights do not cause heat build-up. They come with metal heatsinks to draw the heat away from the LED chip itself. That means it's safer to operate as well as it can cut energy costs along with cut air conditioning costs in the home,

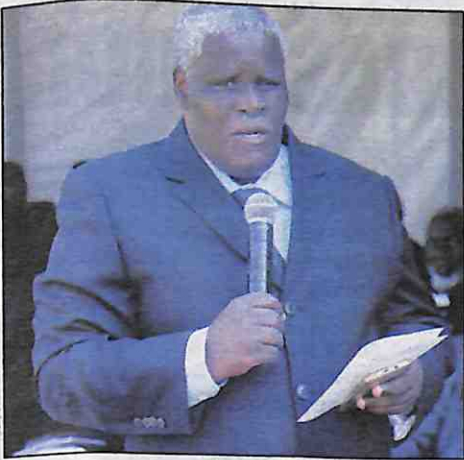
preventing heat build-up. But if the heat sink is not perfect in size, poorly connected or of a poor design, the LED will be overheated and burning out. Here thermal management is the single most important factor in the successful performance of an LED product over its lifetime, as higher the temperature at which the LEDs are operated, the more quickly the light will fail and the shorter the useful life.

- **Eco-friendly:** LEDs notably reduce carbon emissions, so praised as the best eco-friendly lighting option. Every year, power plants using incandescent bulbs emit 80 million tons of CO2 into the atmosphere for generating electricity to light US homes. Now replacing all those bulbs to LED, carbon emissions is reduced to only 12 million tons comparable of taking 2,500,000 cars off the road. Even LED bulbs don't contain harmful mercury like CFLs. Mercury is a toxic heavy metal that damages the environment as well as becomes poisonous when breathed in by humans. As LEDs use low power, there would be lesser demand for electricity that resulted in less power plants means less pollution.
- **Suitable to decorate any corner:** LED bulbs would be nice lighting choice for effect and decorative purposes. As LEDs lights are directional, they are excellent for lights under cabinetry, in the kitchen over your workspaces and over the home office desk.
- **Quick light:** LEDs are instant on like incandescent while CFLs take a minute to warm up on turning on.
- **Dimming Capability:** The main difference between CFL and led bulbs is that, CFL lamps cannot be dimmed. With dimmable LED bulbs, you can not only save money but also increase life span of bulb.





# PRAISE SERVICE



**OUTLINE:** Reverend Mandla Dlamini, Chairmam of the organising committee sharing about the service theme. **RIGHT - PREACH IT:** Reverend Victor Dlamini ministering the Word of God at the service.



**LET'S PRAY:** Reverend Nkambule leading the congregation in prayer.



**FOR THE LOVE OF GOD:** Balondolozis and princesses also attended the service.



**AMEN!** Congregants gesturing as they listened to the Word of God.

## PILE-UP KOMBI DRIVER FINED FOR DRINK-DRIVING

By Nozipho Sibiya  
and Sifiso Nhlabatsi  
Mbabane

**THE** driver of the kombi who was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol during the seven-car pile up at KaKhoza, has been fined E3 000 for his troubles.

The driver, who has been identified as Samkelo Mkhathshwa (31) of Madonsa was charged with two offences, one being drink-driving and driving an un-roadworthy vehicle.

He appeared at the Manzini Magistrate's Court yesterday. Mkhathshwa was arrested by the police for being found driving under the influence of alcohol on Saturday while at KaKhoza public road.

Acting Chief Police Information and Communications Officer, Assistant Superintendent Vilakati confirmed the matter.

"Police arrested one driver for reckless driving as he was driving under the influence of alcohol," she said.

Vilakati mentioned that the suspect appeared at Manzini Magistrate Court yesterday. The seven-car pile-up at KaKhoza caused major delays for people rushing to attend the country's fast growing commemoration of Somhlolo Day and the



**NASTY:** The cars that collided at KaKhoza.

Biggest Braai.

In our sister newspaper the Sunday Observer, it was reported that accident occurred after 11am when a Honda SUV rammed into a stationary Nissan March sedan.

### Pile-up

Thereafter, there was more pandemonium as five more vehicles, one after the other, rear-ended one after the other, resulting in the pile-up.

It is alleged the cars were travelling at high speed on the fast lane and they failed to brake on time.

Most of the cars got involved in the accident as they tried to avoid the two cars that caused the accident.

"It is difficult to apply emergency brakes when on the fast

lane, which is why in most cases cars that collide on the fast lane, usually cause fatal accidents," said the eyewitness.

There were no serious injuries reported, according to police officers who attended to the scene.

Another witness who was shocked said he was overtaken by the last vehicle in the pile-up, a Chevrolet at Mhlaleni, only to meet up with it on the scene.

One of the victims said he did not see it coming, hence he could not brake on time as he was on the fast lane, which is meant for moving cars. The victim said he was not expecting to find cars that have collided which were the main cause of the accident.

## NOTICE OF DISCONNECTION

The Swaziland Posts & Telecommunications Corporation (SPTC) wishes to inform its valued customers that the organization is undergoing an exercise of disconnection and suspension for overdue service accounts. This exercise will commence on the 25th July 2017. Customers are kindly requested to settle their outstanding bills to avoid suspension of service.

SPTC has the following convenient options of payment available to customers:

- Cash or bank guaranteed cheques:** These can be made at any SwaziPost outlets or SwaziTelecom Telecentres countrywide.
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Customers are kindly requested to ensure that they send through their proof of payments to: [masondob@sptc.co.sz](mailto:masondob@sptc.co.sz)

Customers are also informed that ignoring disconnected accounts will result in SPTC taking legal action against them.



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## US EMBASSY ISSUES E6.5 MILLION TENDER TO LOCAL CONTRACTORS

By Sicelo Maziya  
Siteki

**THE Embassy of the United States of America (USA) has issued a tender worth up to E6.5 million to local contractors for the construction and rehabilitation of the Siteki Public Health Unit.**

The tender is estimated between USD \$250000- \$500000. The tender is offered to works and construction services including furnishing all labour, material, equipment and services required to complete the interior and exterior rehabilitation of the Siteki Public Health Unit.

The commercial advert which has been advertised in local daily newspapers was issued by the Embassy of the United States of America. It was being declared as from the American Consulate General, Frankfurt and labelled "Pre-Solicitation Notice", its solicitation number being SGE500-17-R-0113.

The commercial advert stated that "The regional procurement support office in Frankfurt, Germany, intends to issue a firm fixed price construction type contract during the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2017." The offer shall provide complete construction services, contract coordination

and supervising, including but not limited to the management and construction necessary to meet the required of the contract within the established timeframe.

Sister-in-charge Sibongile Simelane of the Siteki Public Health Unit could not hold her excitement when she was shown the advert on enquiry of the challenges being faced by the clinic. Simelane was quick to refer this reporter to the regional health office for any comment concerning regional health issues.

### Rehabilitation

However, she failed to conceal her excitement thanking God when shown the advert, saying, "I'm so excited you have made my day; I thank God that finally we will see the rehabilitation of our clinic to meet its demand for services".

The Siteki Public Health Unit is surrounded by major construction of the project of institutional housing and. The new development for funding available will surely change the face of the Clinic. The clinic still has old asbestos roofing.

The clinic has increased its services given the government health policy of integration of services, which has forced the clinic to use makeshift mobile unit.

There have been additional mobile unit structures for the



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Strictly No telegraphic, electronic or mail proposals will be accepted.

## NOTHANDO HLOPHE APPOINTED MAZDA BRAND AMBASSADOR

By Ayanda Dlamini  
Mbabane

**GOSPEL artist and MTN SWAMA nominee Nothando Hlophe's future looks bright as she has been endorsed by Mazda Swaziland as their brand ambassador.**

An elated Hlophe revealed the news on social media through her Facebook page.

The singer, who made her breakthrough in the Women in Praise Live in Swaziland competition in 2015, said Mazda will be her official transport partner in relation to her music career.

Hlophe is excited with this endorsement as she believes it means growth for her music career. "I'm very thankful for what Mazda has done for me, I'm honoured. I'm looking forward to this beautiful journey," Hlophe said during a telephonic interview with this publication yesterday.

Carson Mazda confirmed the partnership.

"Mazda Swaziland and Leserato Events



### FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT: Nothando Hlophe.

have been in partnership for some time now which saw Mazda, which is a division of Carson Group, sponsoring a couple of Leserato Events. In our engagement, we had dreamt of how best we could promote local artists and add value to their respective brands.

We are pleased to announce that

Nothando Hlophe will be our first brand ambassador as Mazda Swaziland from Leserato Events," Sales Manager of Mazda Swaziland Andile Hlophe confirmed.

"There is no doubt that she deserves all the support that she gets through as a result of the hard work and good spirit she has displayed in her career as an artist.

We are passionate about our brand and quite certain that we share the passion to serve the Swazi nation in our zoom zoom spirit of making the impossible possible with whoever is in touch with our Mazda brand. More details are to follow where we will unpack about our partnership," Hlophe added.

The singer's management corporation; Leserato Events is looking forward to work with the giant company; Carson Mazda.

"We are thankful to Mazda Swaziland for this gesture. This shows their commitment to growing Swazi artists. We are looking forward to a fruitful working relationship," said Leserato Events Manager Sijabulile Vilakati.

## STAWU SIGNS 41% PAY RISE FOR EMPLOYEES

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi  
Manzini

**EMPLOYEES of Hurlingham Estate will be smiling all the way to the bank as the Swaziland Transport and Allied Workers Union (STAWU) has secured a one year collective bargaining agreement (CBA) with the company that will see employees receiving a 41.6 per cent pay rise and two months back pay.**

The maiden CBA agreement was signed by STAWU National Coordinator Sticks Nkambule early this month.

According to a statement released by Nkambule, STAWU engaged and subsequently signed a one year collective bargaining agreement (CBA) on July 12 with Hurlingham Estate (HE).

Nkambule stated that the said agreement granted the lowest earning worker a 41.6 per cent pay rise and a highest earning worker got 15.6 per cent pay rise in respect of basic monthly earnings. Among other material terms of the agreement, the national coordinator stated that the parties agreed to conduct a scientific job grading process which shall formulate and recommend application of an equitable pay structure by May 2018.

### Provision

He said the CBA became effective from May 1, 2017 which invariably makes provision for two months back pay. Hurlingham Estate is an entity that grows, harvest and transport cane in the sugar-belt with its operation base being Mhlume in Swaziland.

Nkambule added that Hurlingham

Estate employees form a newly established branch of STAWU whose relationship and recognition agreement has been concluded and signed by STAWU and HE. "To this end, we find it worth mentioning that this maiden collective bargaining agreement has been negotiated and signed in two sittings," Nkambule stated. Nkambule, who facilitated the negotiations of both agreements, further commented; "We congratulate HE for demonstrating an uncommon ability to listen to its workers. Such conduct is a desirous bedrock feature we need in such a relationship." Swaziland Transport and Allied Workers Union (STAWU) is a trade union formation affiliated to Trade Union Congress of Swaziland (TUCOSWA) locally and globally affiliated to the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF).

## Man crushed to death by truck door

By Starsky Mkhonta  
Nhlanguano

**A young aspiring mechanic died painfully when he was crushed by a back-tail door of a tipper truck at popular Nhlanguano businessman Jika Ndlangamandla's workshop.**

Mqgedisi Mkhonta, aged 24, was died on Saturday morning.

Ndlangamandla is a popular figure in the transport industry and owns a fleet of Jika Majika buses and trucks. Jika Majika's Workshop is at the Nhlanguano Industrial Site.

Jika is the Chairperson of the bus and truck association in the Shiselweni region.

The young man, who was on an attachment as he was still waiting to return to a college where he had enrolled for a mechanic qualification, was with other employees when the back-tail door fell

on his head, killing him instantly.

According to reports the truck was offloading when the back tail door somehow accidentally loosened and upon realising the danger others managed to retreat but for Mkhonta it was too late. He was caught even before he could take any step. It was a sad experience for everyone as others openly wept.

### Occurred

Jika Ndlangamandla, who was also present when the tragedy occurred, said he was still in pain over incident. He said the young man was among many others who he assisted each time they wanted to gain experience while waiting to return to their training institutions.

"I always allow some of these students to gain experience and if I am not mistaken the deceased arrived here almost two or three weeks ago to be an intern. I am struggling to come to terms regarding still this tragedy.

There were at least eight of us who were assisting in offloading the truck and it was while we were doing this when the door loosened; we noticed this and alerted everyone the deceased was unfortunately not made aware in time and it crushed him. It's a sad thing and we are still unable to cope with what has taken place," said Ndlangamandla, in an interview yesterday at his workshop.

He said what befell him was something he would never forget and was also worried as to why such an incident happened at his place of business.

The businessman said he was also devastated to learn that he was related to the deceased. "That's something I only got to know today. His mother's surname is Ndlangamandla, I was told we share close ties with his mother's family," said Ndlangamandla.

Acting Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Assistant Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed the tragedy, saying police were still conducting their investigations.



# 109 DRINK-DRIVERS ARRESTED

By Nozipho Sibiyi  
Mbabane

**THERE** were 109 cases of drink-driving reported over the past weekend.

Acting Chief Information and

Communications Officer Assistant Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed this figure yesterday.

Some of the offenders have appeared in courts for the offence while others will appear today in various courts of in the country.

"There were 109 drink-driving cases

reported over the past weekend while the previous one we registered 96 cases," said Vilakati.

Though Vilakati could not be drawn to comment on the reason for the increase in cases past weekend, it is suspected that it has to do with the weekend being the first one after some

people received their salaries.

The past weekend also saw interesting events being held in the country including the Biggest Braai held in Manzini which saw a number of people in attendance.

Vilakati urged the public to drink responsibly and not to get behind the

wheel after drinking any alcoholic beverage. Driving whilst under the influence not only poses a danger to the driver but to other motorists on the road. "Many of the accidents on our roads are caused by drink driving. We therefore advice people to use taxis or get a sober drive when driving home after a drinking spree."

Furthermore, she advised the public not to drink excessively and forget to obey the laws of the country as the Royal Swaziland Police will arrest them.

## Drunk offender drives crying child to mom

Stories by Mbono Mdluli  
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

**A drink-driving offender did not only risk his life by driving under the influence of alcohol, but also that of his child.**

Sibusiso Gamedze was nabbed by police driving in the company of his child whilst under the influence of alcohol yesterday at Nkoyoyo, Mbabane.

Gamedze appeared before Mbabane Principal Magistrate Fikile Nhlabatsi yesterday to answer for his offence. The alcohol in his body was recorded 0.58 milligrams per litre.

The offender's rights to representation were explained to him and he opted to conduct his own defence. When the charge was read to him he said he understood it.

Gamedze was eventually found guilty of driving under the influence of alcohol.

"I encountered a situation whereby I was left with a toddler by my wife. She had gone to a funeral at a place not far from where I stay. After she left I started drinking yet I was left with the toddler and other children of mine. The toddler started crying non-stop," Gamedze said, when asked to mitigate.

Gamedze stated that the way the toddler was

crying made him think it needed the mother's attention, hence he decided to drive the toddler to the mother, even though he was drunk. Nhlabatsi could hear none of such.

She did not view it as a genuine excuse, which could guarantee the court's lenience towards Gamedze. She told Gamedze his utterances were not making the situation any better because he was not only risking himself, but the life of the child also.

She asked him to state another reason why the court should be lenient to him. He told the court that he was committing the offence for the first time.

He went on to say he was a family man, who needed to take care of his children, so he was asking for leniency from the court. Nhlabatsi sentenced Gamedze to a period of 15 months in the correctional institution or pay a fine of E1 500. Meanwhile, Sicelo Nkosingiphile Motsa was also found guilty of driving under the influence of alcohol. The alcohol in his body was 0.48 milligrams per litre. He was nabbed by Lobamba police on Saturday at Satellite in Ezulwini. He asked for leniency from the court because he was committing the offence for the first time. Nhlabatsi sentenced him to pay a fine of E1 400 or spend 14 months in a correctional institution.

## Two girls jaywalk on highway at Ngwenya

**MBABANE** Principal Magistrate Fikile Nhlabatsi yesterday rebuked two young girls for attempting suicide.

Nosimilo Nkambule and Nokwethu Matsenjwa appeared before Principal Magistrate Fikile Nhlabatsi for jaywalking at Ngwenya. They were apprehended by Mbabane police officer trying to cross the Mbabane-Ngwenya free-way, in a way that could cause accidents to themselves and other road users.

They were tried separately. Nosimilo Nkambule crossed the road while under the influence of alcohol. The alcohol content in her body was 1.11mg/l.

Nkambule was found guilty of committing the offence. She asked for leniency from the court as she did this by mistake. Magistrates Nhlabatsi said she was going to hand her the maximum sentence because what she did was no different from a suicide attempt.

She sentenced her to pay a fine of E800 or face spending a period of eight months in a

correctional institution.

Matsenjwa also asked the court to be lenient to her and she promised not to commit the same offence again.

The principal magistrate sentenced Matsenjwa to pay a fine of E500 or face spending five months in a correctional institution.

Another female was also sentenced to pay a fine of E800 or face spending a period of six months at a correctional institution. Phumzile Nkambule was charged for causing an accident at Mvubu, along the Malagwane hill. This happened almost two weeks ago, on July 11.

Nkambule is said to have caused an accident because she was speeding. She was accused of failing to apply brakes on time and therefore failing to prevent the accident from happening. She asked for leniency from the court as this was happening for the first time in her life. She promised to be very cautious to prevent such from happening in the future.

**DON'T  
DRINK  
AND  
DRIVE**

## DD offender doubts his signature

**A drink-driving offender yesterday doubted his signature when he was asked if he was the one that signed.**

Vusi Mncina was nabbed by Mbabane police on Saturday at Hilltop in Mbabane. At the time of his arrest Mncina was driving a Mercedes-Benz and the content of alcohol in his body was recorded at 0.81mg/l.

Mncina asked to confirm if a breathalyser test was conducted on him. He responded to the affirmative confirmed that it was conducted.

### Confirm

He was then asked to confirm if the content of alcohol in his body was shown to him. Normally, traffic police officers require a drink-driving offender to sign to confirm that a test was actually taken. Mncina was shown the piece of paper where the test results were recorded. There was a signature on the piece of paper.

Mncina was asked to confirm if the signature was his.

Mncina said he could not confirm but the signature resembled his signature.

Mbabane Principal Magistrate Fikile Nhlabatsi, who was hearing the case, told Mncina that she was asking because she only wanted to find out if he was confirming that the test was done.

Mncina continued doubting his signature. He asked the principal magistrate to continue with the case.

He was eventually found guilty of drink-driving.

He asked for leniency from the court, promising never to do it again. He also asked to be allowed to pay the E1 800 fine on Friday.

Nhlabatsi refused, saying if he failed to pay the fine, he would face spending 18 months at a correctional institution.



SWAZILAND ENERGY REGULATORY AUTHORITY

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

#### CONSULTANCY TO CONDUCT A COST OF SERVICE STUDY FOR THE SWAZILAND ELECTRICITY SUPPLY INDUSTRY

The Swaziland Energy Regulatory Authority (SERA) is an organization established under the Energy Regulatory Act 2007. The mandate of SERA is the administration and implementation of the Electricity Act 2007.

The Regulator hereby invites expressions of interest (EOI) from suitably qualified consultancy firms to supply the following service:

#### TENDER NUMBER SERA\_02/2017: CONSULTANCY TO CONDUCT A COST OF SERVICE STUDY FOR THE SWAZILAND ELECTRICITY SUPPLY INDUSTRY

The consultant must demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the energy industry locally, regionally and internationally and must have the skills and expertise to determine a through cost of service for an electricity supply industry, conduct customer profitability analysis and suggest methods of updating and aligning cost-reflective tariffs with any given revenue requirement. The consultant must further provide a track record of similar completed assignments either by the firm or members of the proposed team.

#### PLEASE NOTE

It is compulsory to attach a trading license, VAT registration number, certificate of incorporation and tax clearance and EOI must comply with the Swaziland Public Procurement Regulations available at the Swaziland Public Procurement Regulatory Agency (SPPRA) or [www.sppra.co.sz](http://www.sppra.co.sz).

Only shortlisted consultancy firms will be invited to further submit Requests for Proposals (RFP). The Swaziland Energy Regulatory Authority reserves the right to accept/ reject any EOI or stop the process of approval at any stage, at its sole discretion without assigning any reason and shall bear no liability whatsoever consequent upon such decision.

Interested parties may submit EOI demonstrating their understanding and capability statements, including company profiles in sealed envelopes (clearly marked with the work for which the EOI is submitted) through registered post or hand delivered to reach the address not later than 11AM, Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> August 2017.

For further information regarding this tender, please contact the Project Manager, Mr Sabelo Dube- General Manager Finance and Administration, on the below contact details.

Swaziland Energy Regulatory Authority  
1st Floor RHUS Office Park, (former MTN Offices- Mbabane)  
Karl Grant Street,  
Mbabane, H100  
Swaziland

P.O. Box 7137, Mbabane, H100, Swaziland  
Tel: +268 2404 2103; +268 2404 1439; +268 2404 8425

Email: [info@sera.org.sz](mailto:info@sera.org.sz)  
Website: [www.sera.org.sz](http://www.sera.org.sz)

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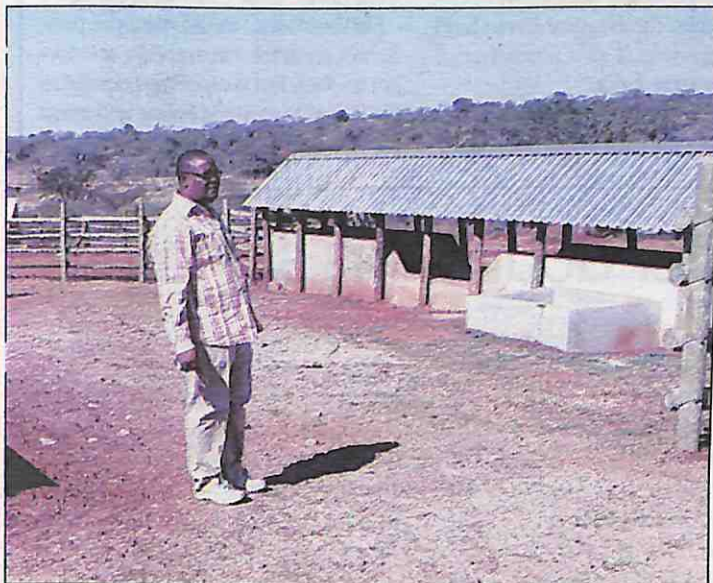


# MPs REPORT CARD



MP ERIC MATSEBULA

MAYIWANE MP



**WELL DONE:** The newly constructed Gongodlwane Dip Tank.



**LET'S SEE:** MP Matsebula inspects the fence erected around Baleni Primary School.

## MP HAILED FOR 'LIGHTING UP' THOUSANDS HOMESTEADS

### ELECTRICITY is a basic need.

Without electricity life, nowadays, has become a huge challenge both in urban and rural places. One of the key priorities that was set by His Majesty the king in his dream to have the country attain a first world status in 2022 is that all habitants of this country at least have easy access to electricity, health and education.

One of the members of Parliament that had been pushing so hard for his constituency is Eric Matsebula. Matsebula, who is serving his second term as Mayiwane MP, has according to him, managed to bring electricity to thousands of homesteads within his constituency.

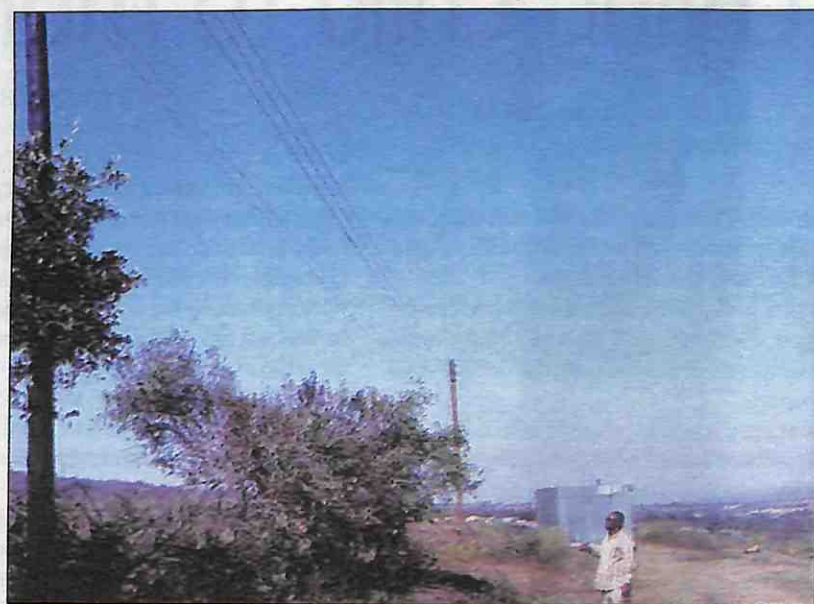
Working hand in hand with the constituency council, the workaholic legislator has successfully implemented several electricity schemes in communities including Mcuba, Ntabezimpisi, Mazulwini, Fontotje and Jujwa. The implementation of these schemes has resulted to at least over 800 homesteads that were previously in the dark having electricity.

To cement his determination to develop the constituency, the lawmaker has facilitated the construction of two bridges worth E1.6 million. The two bridges have been named Kamafolo and Mkhize respectively.

As if this was not enough the MP successfully implemented the fencing of a grazing land at Jutjwa and further constructed the Gongodlwane Dip Tank.

MP Matsebula said government cash-flow has been a hindering factor towards

- constructs two bridges, fences two schools
- facilitates construction of new staff houses at Mkhuzweni Health Centre



**GRATEFUL:** MP Eric Matsebula viewing one of the electricity lines that have been erected at Mcuba community where over 150 homesteads now have electricity.

implementing some of the pending projects.

"If we have not been faced with the current government cash-flow we would have been able to implement more projects that we had targeted when we resumed office in 2013.

"However, we are grateful to government for assisting us MPs to serve the people that entrusted us to represent them in Parliament. I hope that by the

time I leave office I would have implemented more projects that will bring development in my constituency," he said.

The MP said he believed that Mayiwane *Inkhundla* has done best when it comes to the implementation of electricity schemes.

"We are grateful that at least 85 percent of electricity schemes have been covered," he said.

## Inkhundla assists in construction of Mkhuzweni Health Centre staff house

**THE Mkhuzweni Health Centre Maternal Ward will soon be operational as the construction of staff houses for nurses is taking shape.**

The construction of the staff houses is one of the projects that have seen the intensified involvement of the Mayiwane *inkhundla*. Though the maternal ward was constructed last year it could not start operating following the shortage of staff houses to accommodate nurses that will be deployed at Mkhuzweni.

The clinic recently benefited from the Health, HIV and TB project that were implemented by the European Union and the World Bank. A maternity ward that includes two delivery theatres and a maternal waiting home to accommodate women

from the remotes areas under Mayiwane has also been constructed recently. The health facility which has the state of the art medical equipment and furniture, a surgery room for caesarian section and a laboratory has not been operational as government is currently facilitating the construction of staff houses.

The health facility which has the state of the art medical equipment and furniture, a surgery room for caesarian section and a laboratory has not been operational as government is currently facilitating the construction of staff houses

Last week, MP Eric Matsebula toured the staff houses.

An engineer found at the scene explained that the flats consist of 16

units. He explained that the contractor (ERG/Image) on site has promised to finish construction by December.

"This is one of the projects that we are overseeing as *inkhundla*," said MP Matsebula.



**MEN AT WORK:** Construction of staff houses at Mkhuzweni Health Centre is underway.





VIEWING: The newly constructed Mcuba bridge.



OUR JOB: The Mayiwane MP pointing at the semi-detached houses that were constructed at Gija High School.

## Mkhize bridge a sigh of relief

**THE construction of a bridge connecting Mcuba and Mkhuzweni has brought a sigh of relief to residents.**

After years of frustration suffered by residents from Mcuba as they could not easily access the Mkhuzweni Health Centre, government, through projects implemented by MP Eric Matsebula and his council, has constructed Mkhize bridge worth E1.2 million.

Residents have argued that prior the

construction of the bridge they had to walk longer distances before accessing Mkhuzweni Health Centre.

### Deaths

So frustrating was the distances they walked such that some could not make it to the health institution on time. This resulting in unnecessary deaths.

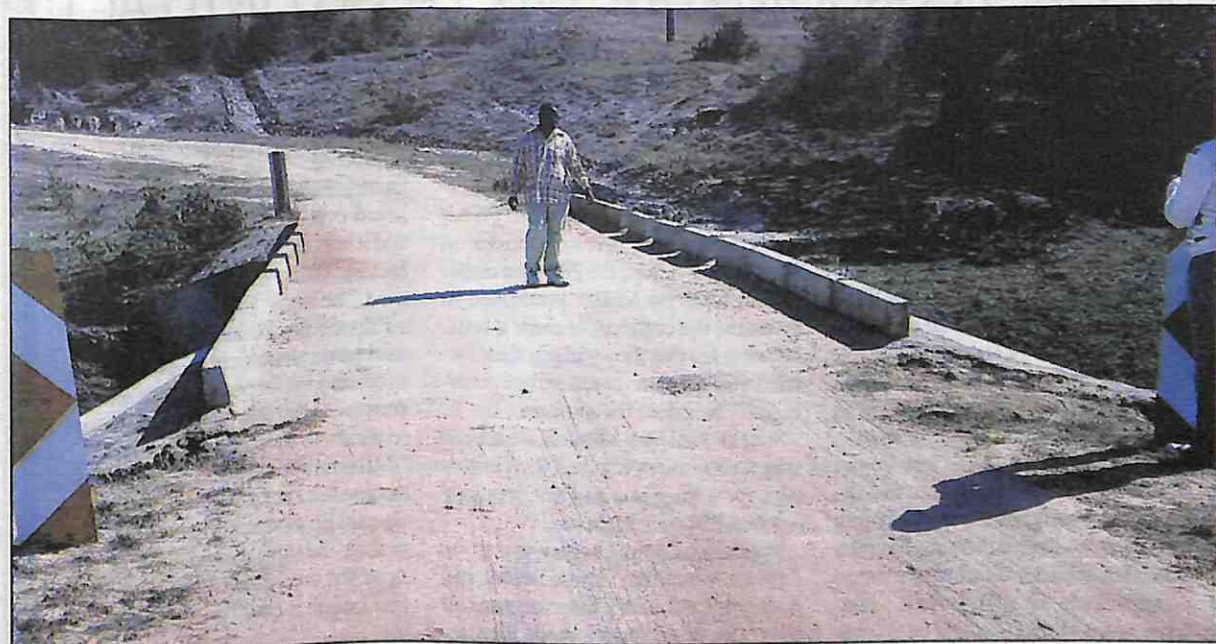
MP Matsebula said the situation was so dire such that some health practitioners who leave at Mcuba were affect-

ed by the unavailability of the bridge. This was because when they were on call or in cases of emergencies they could not make it on time to the clinic.

### Frustration

"It is after we noted the frustration that we implemented the construction of the bridge.

"Since its construction we have received positive comments from beneficiaries," he said.

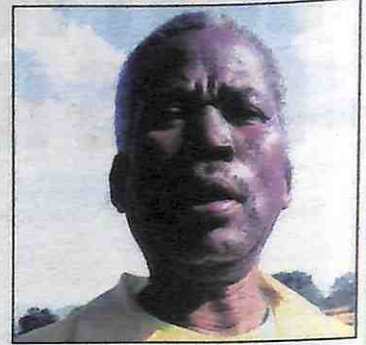


RELIEF: The Mkhize bridge that has cost government E1.2 million to put up.

### WHAT THE PEOPLE HAD TO SAY

#### ■ Galela Dlamini

We are blessed to have an MP who is servicing his constituency well. In a nutshell *waMatsebula usisebentele*. I can attest that most of the homesteads now have electricity. Again, today we are launching a water project which we believe will sort out the water crisis that had been a challenge in the constituency.



#### ■ Solomon Dlamini

Our MP has worked so hard and we are grateful to what he has done to bring development in the constituency. Most homesteads now have electricity because he together with the council was able to implement most of the electricity schemes.



#### ■ Girly Vilane

We are very grateful to what our MP has done for the constituency. We have seen the implementation of various projects that has brought development at Mayiwane. Many homesteads have been connected with electricity as we speak due to the implementation of various schemes.



#### ■ Siphwe Vilane

Our MP has implemented several projects including the construction of bridges and fencing of some schools. The bridges played a crucial role in helping residents from Mcuba access the clinic.



### PROJECTS IMPLIMENTED BY MP ERIC MATSEBULA

#### ■ Electricity schemes

- Mcuba	E 700 000	150 beneficiaries
- Ntabenezimpisi	E 900 000	300 beneficiaries
- Mazulwini	E 300 000	56 beneficiaries
- Fontotje	E1 200 000	86 beneficiaries
- Jutjwa	E 800 000	67 beneficiaries

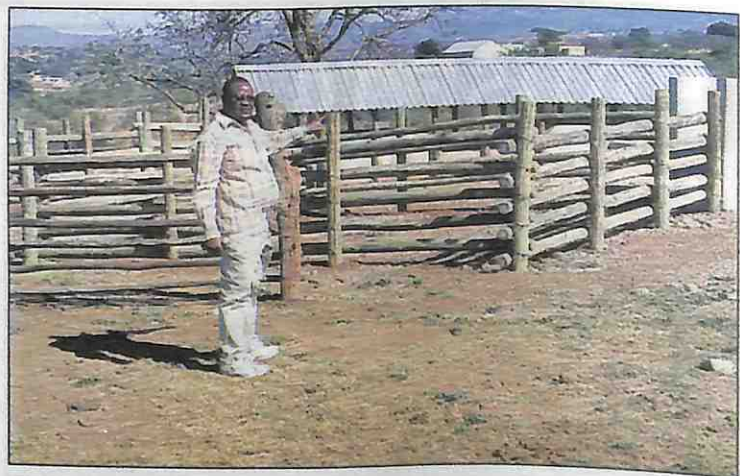
#### ■ Fencing of the Jutjwa grazing land

#### ■ Construction of Godlwane Dip Tank

#### ■ Construction of two bridges: Kamafolo and Mkhize bridges

#### ■ Fencing of Baleni Primary School

#### ■ Construction of Semi-detached houses at Gija High School



THIS IS WHAT I'VE DONE: Another section of Godlwane Dip Tank.

**Swazi  
OBSERVER**

NB: These write-ups are a product of Bongindlela Media Consultancy.

This newspaper only provides the platform for them to be published. The writer is not in any way an employee of the Swazi Observer as this is strictly an agreement between him and that particular MP. - EDITOR



# GOVT WANTS NEW TRAFFIC FINES IMPLEMENTED SOON

Stories by Lungelo Nkambule  
Senate

**THE proposed new traffic fines as contained in the Road Traffic Regulations 2017 are in line with the times hence they must be implemented as soon as possible.**

This was disclosed by Minister of Public Works and Transport Lindiwe Dlamini in Parliament last Thursday, where she was responding to questions posed by senators, following a motion by Senator Ndumiso Mdluli that the regulations be debated.

Minister Dlamini, when responding, said the new traffic regulations were long overdue. She said for a long time, government didn't have enough money to do a feasibility study and draft the regulations, hence the delay. She said



COMESA had come to government's rescue, which is why the country now had the new regulations.

"Considering that the road regulations we are currently using were implemented in 1976 and at that time E60, which is common road fine in the country, was equivalent to a person's salary," the minister said.

Dlamini, further justifying the need for steeper traffic fines, said in the last five years 860 deaths on the roads had been reported. She said the traffic fines were made steep because they were a mechanism to make people follow traffic laws and also curb accidents on the roads.

The minister pointed out that most

accidents on the road were caused by negligence and that was something they were trying to fight with the steep traffic fines.

"People don't have a problem paying E60 anymore and after doing so, they take to the road and do the very thing they were fined for because the fine no longer serves as a deterrent," she said. The minister said some people even budgeted for traffic fines because they had no problem paying them.

The senators, who were in support of the regulations, questioned why they were made so steep because the people were not the ones who had put them on hold for 41 years. Senator Meninjeni Mahlalela said much as the hike was justified, the fines were a bit too high and from where he was standing, government was now punishing motorists and that was unjustifiable.

"The fines are rather too steep, something that shouldn't be so, they should have been increasing gradually over the years not this moving them from E60 to E2 000; that is a problem," he said. He said that is why people were viewing the fines as punishment rather

than a necessary instrument to fight negligence on the roads.

Senator Chief Ngome Ndlangamandla concurred with Mahlalela. He said much as the regulations were of national standard, they mustn't come across as punishment for road users.

"The regulations are of international standard, something we very much appreciate but they must be increased gradually not in this manner," he said.

Princess Phumelele was of the view that the fines must not be standard. She said the fines must vary with the offences and not all fines should be increased as there were some offences that were not serious.

"The fines must vary, there are things like cracked windscreen whose fines shouldn't be increased, because they are not really a danger and half the time, windscreens are cracked by other cars," she said. She said there were those that needed huge fines, like speeding. She further called for the protection of pedestrians from motorists.

She said motorists who knocked down pedestrians must be handed hefty fines that they will pay all their lives, something the minister agreed with.

## SADC licences failure a disgrace - Senators

**IT is a disgrace that the country had the Southern Africa Development (SADC) chairpersonship but driver's licences are still not compatible with regional dictates on same.**

Senators, debating the Road Traffic Regulations Notice, 2017 said the country had an obligation to harmonise its licences with that of the region, especially now that His Majesty King Mswati III was SADC Chairperson.

Leading the debate, mover of the motion Senator Ndumiso Mdluli said it was always an embarrassment when one drove outside the country and had to explain what their driver's licence was because traffic police in other countries didn't recognise the local licences.

"We are always explaining what we are carrying and why are the licences not at par with those of the region. It is an embarrassment that needs to be rectified as soon as possible," he said.

He then asked when the ministry

was planning on implementing this, especially because the country was moving towards achieving first world status. He also wanted to know what would happen to driving schools when the SADC licences came to force.

### Retested

"What will they have to do to be compatible with SADC standards? Will inspectors be retested and re-educated, so that they are of that standard? We need clarity on these things," he said.

Senator Chief Ngome Ndlangamandla said it was a disgrace that the world had respected and honoured the country by giving it the SADC chairpersonship but Swaziland was failing to comply with set rules of the region like that of regional driver's licences.

He said the ministry of works and transport needed to make sure that Swaziland was complaint as soon as possible. "We are the laughing stock of the region," he said.

## 20-YEAR TAX HOLIDAY TOO MUCH - SENATORS

**MINISTER of Commerce, Industry and Trade Jabulani Mabuza has explained that government was giving investors coming into the country to operate in the Special Economic Zones a 20-year tax holiday so as to create jobs and attract more foreign investors.**

Mabuza revealed this when moving for the adoption of the Special Economic Zones Bill last Thursday.

He stated that Swaziland was competing with other countries to attract the investors, hence they had to put up incentives that would make the investors opt for the country.

He said it was important that senators and the society understood that the country was disadvantaged in that it was landlocked, hence it had to step up and provide other incentives like tax holidays in order to be an ideal destination for investors.

Mabuza further pleaded with the senators to look beyond the fact that the country would not be getting tax but that people would be employed.

"This is more about job creation than it is about bringing in revenue into the country. We will also make sure that peo-

ple employed in these businesses fall within the taxable bracket, which is how the country will make revenue," he said.

He said government was well aware that not much revenue would be made from the people's tax but the objective was to get more Swazis employed.

He said since the objective was to get more Swazis employed, part of the agreements they would get into with the investors would be that 90% of their employers would be Swazis while the 10% would be left to them.

He further said companies that would be allowed to ply their trade in these zones would be business that had a cash injection amounting to E70 million while Swazi investors wanting to open shop in the zones needed at E30 million in their accounts to be allowed space.

Even with all his explanations, the senators said the 20 years was too much. Each senator that made submissions on the day said the initiative was okay just that the 20 years was a bit too much.

Senator Mike Temple said government had chosen that as an incentive because it was the quickest and easiest option.



**EXPLAINED: MINISTER of Commerce, Industry and Trade Jabulani Mabuza.**

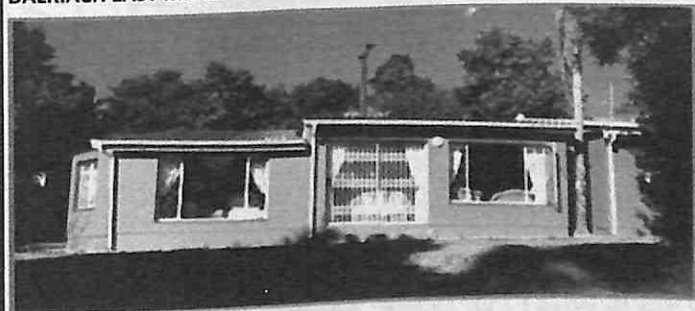
"There are many incentive options that can be considered, you just chose this one because it is the easiest," he said.

Senator Meninjeni Mahlalela said much as they wanted job opportunities for the people, 20 years was too much "We want jobs but we can't sell our land in the process," he said.

Senator Themba Ginindza concurred with Mahlalela.

## HOUSE TO RENT

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## SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE BILL PASSED INTO ACT

**SENATORS passed the Special Economic Zone Bill 2017 into an Act, with reservations.**

The Bill, which was brought to Senate by Minister of Commerce, Industry and Trade Jabulani Mabuza, was passed by senators after a lengthy debate.

The senators, during the debate, each said much as the country needed foreign investors, the 20-year-tax holiday was still too much and some even said they were scared the country was going back to the times when foreign investors were given a five-year tax holiday as they could leave on the fourth year.

The senators wanted to know how government would make sure that the investors would not leave just before the 20 years elapsed. Senator Themba Ginindza, who appeared very worried when making his submissions, wanted to know if there would be a com-

mitment fee or a penalty in place for investors who would leave just before the 20-year tax free period elapsed.

### Investor

Ginindza said government had to put an instrument in place to protect herself in the event an investor left. "What happens when an investor decides on the year just before the 20 years elapses that he is no longer interested in investing the country? Is there a commitment fee that they will pay then forfeit if they decide to just leave or a penalty fee?" he asked the minister.

Senator Moi Moi Masilela wondered why the ministers who had been in politics for a longtime had not properly advised Minister Mabuza.

Masilela said the country had gone through something similar before and now it was left with white elephants all over with huge factory shells for sup-

posed foreign investors who would leave on the year their tax free period elapsed. "Why didn't the seasoned ministers correctly advise you?" he wondered. "Your very ministry built factory shells that are now empty. I have heard everything you are saying now and it was said by the minister who built factory shells, which are now unoccupied," he said.

Prince Kusa, making his submission, said government had a responsibility to create jobs for people but he was not convinced that this was the rightful way to go about it.

"Government must create jobs for people but I am not convinced that the Special Economic Zones are an answer to that," he said. He said there was still need for the ministry to fine tune the Bill before it could be passed by Senate.



# SD, ZAMBIA DISCUSS BIO-FUEL, SOLAR ENERGY

By Gugu Simelane  
Mbabane

**HIS Majesty King Mswati III has observed that energy is key to the industrialisation agenda and has expressed the country's desire to learn from Zambia's experience in developing other sources of energy such as coal, bio-fuel and solar.**

This is contained in the communiqué that was published after Zambia President Edgar Lungu's two-day visit to the kingdom last week.

The communiqué states that the king has observed that there is need for Swaziland to learn from Zambia's experience in developing other sources of energy such as coal, bio-fuel and solar, as energy is the key to the industrialisation agenda.

The communiqué also states that there is need for the Swaziland and Zambia to explore areas of cooperation and the potential for trade as well as share information, exchange expe-

riences, best practices and visits, and acknowledged that there are many Zambians in the country contributing to the development of the kingdom. It further states that His Majesty the king stated that the Kingdom of Swaziland is making progress following on the AU Agenda 2063 and SADC programme under its vision 2022 to become a First World Nation by 2022.

"His Majesty the king has also called for African countries to stand together and manage their resources emphasising the need to find African solutions to African challenges.

The king stated that climate change and fall army worms had affected the SADC region in particular, the kingdom of Swaziland and expressed the Kingdom's desire to learn how Zambia manages to successfully fight the fall army worms. He identified trade opportunities for the Kingdom to import maize grain from Zambia given that Zambia has a surplus and the Kingdom

of Swaziland having a deficit," reads the communiqué.

The communiqué also states that during his visit President Lungu recalled the Swaziland's steadfast support to the Frontline States efforts during the liberation struggle in Southern Africa by allowing freedom fighters passage through its territory.

"The president noted that Zambia and Swaziland signed cooperation Agreements in the past that need to be reviewed.

In this regard, the president called for the revival of the Joint Permanent Commission of Cooperation and to strengthen bilateral ties between the two countries, which would also serve as a vehicle to accelerate regional integration.

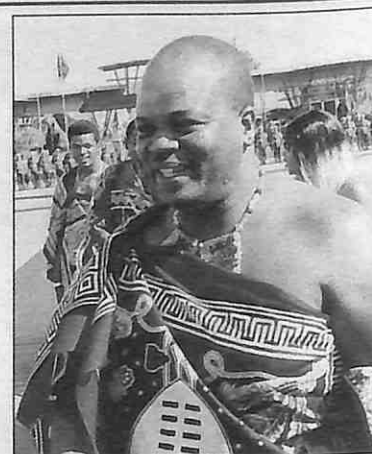
The President expressed Zambia's desire to emulate Swaziland's emphasis on culture as a way of life noting that the two nations have shared deep-rooted traditional similarities in particular those from the Eastern and

Western parts of Zambia, therefore he expressed a desire for the two countries to cooperate in that area including the management of traditional structures," states the communiqué.

It further states that both leaders emphasised the need for African countries to speak in one voice on the reform of the United Nations Security Council during the forthcoming UN General Assembly in September, 2017, in New York.

In conclusion, the two leaders reaffirmed the need to enhance bilateral cooperation for the mutual benefit of the two countries and the region as a whole.

"During the official talks, held at the Lozitha Palace, both heads of state, accompanied by their respective delegations reviewed a wide range of bilateral, regional and international issues wherein they expressed satisfaction at the excellent bilateral relations existing between the two countries, founded on long standing his-



His Majesty King Mswati III.

torical, political, economic and cultural ties," states the communiqué.

The communiqué further states that King Mswati III commended Zambia's development efforts based on a people centred approach and the commitment by His Excellency Edgar Chagwa Lungu to lead the people of Zambia to prosperity.

His Majesty King Mswati III particularly noted the impressive infrastructure development programmes taking place in Zambia.

## E5m set aside for security forces fund

Stoies by Mbono Mdluli  
Lobamba

**GOVERNMENT has set aside E5 million for a fund to compensate members of security forces if they die or get injured in line of duty.**

This is contained in a report of the ministry of finance portfolio committee on the legal notice for the Security Forces and Services Compensation Special Fund Regulations, 2017.

Government, according to the report, has already set aside E5 million in the current financial year, to be deposited to the security services special fund. The report was tabled by Lobamba Lomdzala MP Marwick Khumalo, in his capacity as chairperson of

the portfolio committee.

The regulations include Umbutfo Swaziland Defence Force (USDF), Royal Swaziland Police Service (RSPS), His Majesty's Correctional Services (HMCS) and Swaziland National Fire and Emergency Services (SNFES).

### Budget

Government has set aside this amount based on claims submitted by members of the security forces, which date back to 1975 and have been used by government to budget for the fund. The money will be paid by government annually, as appropriated by Parliament. There is also a provision for other organisations to donate to the fund from time to time.

The fund is expected to be administered by a committee

appointed by the minister of finance. The committee will have the responsibility of considering claims submitted, approving or disapproving claims, and advising the minister on any aspect related to the fund.

The committee will be composed of representatives from each of the security forces, ministry of labour and social security, ministry of health and ministry of finance. The representative from the ministry of finance shall be the chairperson of the fund.

### Compensation

A claim under the fund shall be 50 per cent of the total amount of compensation paid in respect of the same claim under the Workmen's Compensation Act of 1983 or its successor. Any

claim for compensation under the fund will be based on the assessment made under the workmen's compensation Act of 1983 or its successor. This shall be a once-off payment.

The fund, according to the report, should be in existence because government has seen the need to compensate members of security

services and forces for casualties on duty.

### Risk

Security forces and services, because of the nature of their work, are more exposed to risk of death or injury on duty. The deaths and injuries have become more frequent, hence the need for such a fund.

Dependents of members of these organisations who have died on duty are also expected to be covered by the fund.

The report is yet to be adopted by the House of Assembly, before the regulations can be passed.

## SRIC sidelined from the fund

**THE administration of the fund should have been outsourced to SRIC, but such could not happen because of high premiums.**

This is contained in the report of the ministry of finance portfolio committee on the legal notice for The Security Forces and Services Compensation Special Fund Regulations, 2017. The Swaziland Royal Insurance Corporation (SRIC) was sidelined because it has high premiums of E8 million per annum.

If the fund was outsourced to the SRIC, officers of the security forces and services would be covered for 24 hours. Officers who would have suffered injury or death in the line of duty would be paid a maximum compensation of E300 000.

It should be noted that the same claim will depend on the gravity of the injury.

Annual premiums to cover all officers will be E8 million

and claims would be processed within 24 hours. The policy will only cover injury and death in line of duty, not sickness.

The insurance company claimed to have an infrastructure already in place and security officers who had a policy with the organisation wherein the confidentiality component would be highly prioritised.

The MPs, who are members of the portfolio committee, recommended that the ministry of finance should seriously consider engaging SRIC. This, according to the MPs, would be a good decision because the company has an IT system already in place to easily capture and store the data of each members of the security forces and services.

Government, according to the legislators, failed to demonstrate that it would be able to come up with a system or software that will match what SRIC

already has.

The fund is supposed to be funded from the consolidated fund, which experiences financial bottlenecks from time to time. The MPs were of the view that such would not be good for the fund because it could experience financial difficulties.

In short, the MPs recommended to the House that the fund, in its current form, be halted. It should be temporarily handed over to the SRIC.

In the meantime, the fund should consider creating a fund similar to that of Sincephetelo Motor Vehicle Accident Fund (SMVAF). The SMVAF is funded by vehicles in the country.

Owners of vehicles pay a certain percentage of the money they spend every time they fill up their vehicles with fuel.



Swaziland Dairy Board

## DAIRY CATTLE FARMING COURSE

Dairy Cattle owners, keepers and aspiring individuals are kindly invited to attend a dairy farming training course to be held at the Board's Conference Room at Enguleni House, Manzini. The course will commence on the 1 August 2017 and run for eight (8) weeks. Selected days for training are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays of each week starting at 5:30pm till 7:00pm.

The training is set out to cover the following topics:

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

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

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

Mr. Bandile Mdluli (Course Coordinator) 7662 4422

OR CALL THE OFFICE @ 25058262/3  
ARRANGED BY MANAGEMENT



# MORE ON BIGGEST BRAAI



**IN NUMBERS:** A view of the arena at Mavuso Trade Centre where thousands gathered for the 2017 Biggest Braai held on Saturday. The event was a fundraising initiative for Philani Maswati Charity organisation (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



**GOING RED:** Lucky Star Fish staffers were attractive with their red outfits and umbrellas.



**TEAM BREMA:** Management and staff of the host city, Manzini City Council, joined by Minister Owen Nxumalo as they pose for a photo.



**SHISA NYAMA:** Members of the Ubutfo Swaziland Defence Force braaing meat.



**WE ARE ONE:** His Majesty's Correctional Services Commissioner General Isaiah Mzuthini Ntshangase and his officers were also on the ground to support Her Majesty's initiative.



**YES SIR:** Officers from the Royal Swaziland Police could not miss out on the action.



**THE RED TEAM:** Swazi Mills management and staff excited at the prospect of contributing to the charity work initiated by Her Majesty.



**National Emergency  
Response Council On HIV/AIDS**

## RE- ADVERTISEMENT INVITATION TO TENDER

The National Emergency Response Council on HIV/AIDS (NERCHA) invites bids from eligible and qualifying bidders for the supply and delivery of the following supplies:

- Transportation of Biological Patient Samples: PP/CONS/2/2017

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents during office hours 08.30 to 16.30 at the address given below.

A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested eligible bidders from the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at the address below, and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of E300.00. The method of payment will be Cash or Bank certified cheque.

Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 10.00 am on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the bidders' designated representatives and anyone who choose to attend at the address below at 10.05 am 18<sup>th</sup> August 2017 in the NERCHA Training Room.

All bids must be accompanied by all stipulated documents and information as indicated in the Tender document.

The address referred to above is;

**The Tender Board**  
NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE COUNCIL ON HIV & AIDS (NERCHA)  
PLOT 738 OF FARM 2  
EMJIKA ROAD  
MBABANE  
Telephone: (268) 2406 5000  
FAX: (268) 2406 5004

Further information can be obtained from:

Thini Fakudze or Nothando Dlamini  
Telephone: +268 2406 5000  
Fax: +268 2406 5004



# MORE ON BIGGEST BRAAI



**THEM GIRLS:** STTP staff members Cynthia Moyo, Ntsiki Kunene and Nomsa Tsela could not miss out.



**BRAAI:** Regent Business School employees were also part of the activity.



**FREE RIDE:** MP Jan Sithole taken on a somewhat scary ride on a rickshaw.



**SUPPORT:** MP Gideon Dlamini with Turkish businessmen based in South Africa who are supporters of Philani Maswati.



**PRESENT:** SCCOM CEO and staff members posing for a photo.



**BIKER:** Businessman Nkanyeti Ngwenya was among the many bikers who were at the event.

## World Vision®

### INVITATION TO TENDER

#### TENDER No. WVS-STH-017-MAKW-002

Tenders are invited from suitably qualified registered civil contractors wishing to tender for the construction of Makwekweti Potable Water Supply Scheme Phase 2. Only firms that hold a valid Construction Industry Council (CIC) certificate and which at least 60% of the controlling shares are Swazi citizens will be considered. The qualification process will include compliance with the tender document, Technical capacity and financial standing.

Signed and completed tenders should be accompanied by the following:

- A complete set of tender document ( Original + 2 copy)
- Certified copy of a valid CIC certificate for general Building Contractors, C2& C3 only,
- Tenderers valid tax clearance certificate (certified copy)
- Original General Receipt
- Certified copy of original Trading license
- E20 000.00 (Twenty Thousand Emalangeni Only) in a form of Bank guaranteed cheque
- Certified copy of a valid labour Compliance Certificate from the Ministry of Labour
- VAT Registration Certificate (certified copy)
- Submission of current form J, stamped by the registrar of Companies(certified copy) , and
- Submission of current form C, stamped by the register of Companies(certified copy)
- Certified copies of identity documents for shareholders listed in form C
- Construction Programme accompanied by a concise method statement
- Companies tendering as joint ventures, should submit a properly drawn and notarized joint venture. The leading partner should be stated in the joint venture as all dealings will be done with them.
- Current Audited financial statement from recognised auditors.
- Current bank statement which should not be older than 3 days from day of tender submission.

Tender documents will be on sale from the World Vision Swaziland Head Office (Ning Group Office Park, Somholo Road, Mbabane), Admin. Department, from Monday 24 July 2017 up to Thursday 27 July 2017, between 09:30hrs and 15:00hrs, at E200.00 per copy. There shall be limited number of copies

There will be a compulsory site clarification meeting on Tuesday 01 August 2017. Tenderers are advised to assemble at Siphofaneni Inkhundla, World Vision Offices at 10:00hrs.

- > Deadline & Place for Tender Submission: Wednesday 9 August 2017 - World Vision Head Office
- > Time : 1200hrs
- > Tender Opening : 1215hrs

Completed tenders should be delivered in a sealed envelope to World Vision Head office and the envelope should only show the project name, project number and addressed to:

The Tender Committee  
World Vision Swaziland  
P.O. Box 2870  
Mbabane

Any action or tendencies that will be interpreted as an attempt to interfere with or influence the tendering process will result in an immediate disqualification of the tenderer. World Vision Swaziland does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

DOC:13698



## LIBERTY

### RISK AND COMPLIANCE OFFICER & COMPANY SECRETARY

#### Job Purpose

- Responsible for implementing regulatory risk practices.
- Responsible for the formulation, implementation and maintenance of the compliance function and liaison person with the regulators.
- Ensure compliance with statutory, legislation and regulatory requirements as well as Best International Practices on Corporate Governance.
- To provide competent and professional legal advisory support to Business as well as company secretarial services

#### Qualifications & Experience

- Relevant tertiary qualification (degree or better)
- Strong Risk Management background
- Qualification in Compliance Management an added advantage

#### Key responsibilities

- Facilitate the convening of board meetings as well as shareholder meetings and regular management Committee meetings.
- Preparing statutory returns to the regulators and resolutions for the company.
- Compiling and maintaining a register of the status of impending legislation which may impact the business and, together with support from Liberty Africa Insurance Compliance, advising the business on pragmatic solutions to meet proposed and potential legislative requirements.
- Responsibility for other corporate meetings
- Attend to shareholder queries and act as liaison officer between the shareholders and Transfer Secretaries
- Formation and take-on of all new companies following acquisitions
- Attend to the deregistration of companies following any disposals
- Compliance Officer for the company and be overall responsible for the formulation, implementation and maintenance of the compliance function and liaison person with the regulators.
- Liaising with Liberty Africa Insurance - Compliance on the implementation of Liberty Insurance compliance requirements and the reporting of compliance breaches.
- Compiling compliance reports for the company in co-operation with Liberty Africa Insurance Compliance.
- Be responsible for Risk Management within the company. This includes the following:
  - Pragmatic implementation of LAIRM frameworks and policies.
  - Compiling risk reports and risk dashboards. Engaging with LAIRM on the progress in respect of action plans to address risk issues.
  - Co-ordinate the compiling of BCM requirements for the company

#### Knowledge

- Detailed knowledge to apply relevant legislation and regulatory requirements e.g. Companies Act, Insurance Act, Retirement Funds Act, Financial Institutions Act, Money Laundering Act etc.
- Governance practices and procedures - best practice
- Knowledge of Company structure, articles of association for respective entities, delegation of authority and meeting procedures in terms of the board charter and terms of reference for the various board sub-committees
- Shareholder administration and communicating with Transfer Secretaries
- Basic knowledge of Compliance and Risk management would be advantageous.

#### Competencies

- Leading/Deciding/Initiating action
- Supporting and Cooperating
- Adhering to principles and values
- Relating & Networking
- Persuading & Influencing
- Analysing & Interpreting
- Writing and Reporting
- Planning/Organising/Executing
- Stress Tolerant

Interested candidates who qualify should send their application to [recruitmentswz@stanbic.com](mailto:recruitmentswz@stanbic.com)  
Closing date for applications is Monday, 24th July 2017.

Please note: should you not receive feedback within 2 weeks of the closing date, please consider your application as unsuccessful



## SHISELWENI NEWS

...With

Starsky Mkhonta

Nhlangano office

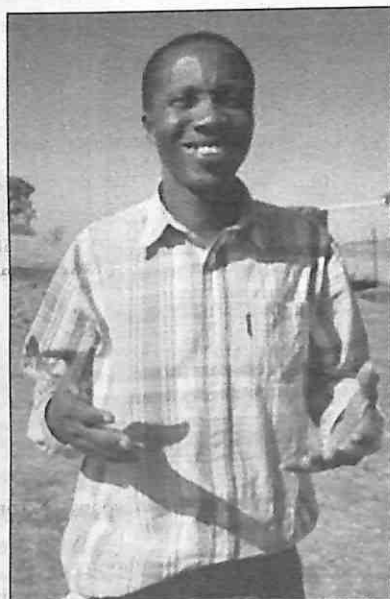
Tobacco Complex, Cnr King George Masengule Streets  
Opposite SEDCO PremisesTel: 2207 5159 Cell: 7621 5081  
Email: Starsky@realnet.co.szSHISELWENI FORESTRY COMPANY  
REACHES OUT TO COMMUNITIES

**"WE all have a responsibility in protecting forests against any danger as by so doing we also help in protecting jobs for those employed in the plantations as well as ensuring the growth of the country's economy."**

Shiselweni Forestry Company (SFC) Silviculture Manager Sabelo Khoza said it was not just the duty of forest plantations to protect their farms but every community too.

He said the outreach programmes such as assisting needy communities as well as sponsoring some projects in schools, were indications by the company that it wanted the people to partner with it when it comes to protecting the products and other properties for the company.

When making his remarks during the forest fires and timber theft education at Mbangweni Umphakatsi on Saturday, Khoza said it was important to see everyone coming on board in ensuring that all forest farms were protected as well as any other vegetation.



**REMARKS: Shiselweni Forestry Company Silviculture Manager Sabelo Khoza.**

SFC has embarked on an exercise of educating communities about the consequences of forest fires and timber theft, all which if left unchecked

could lead to job losses or retrenchments.

"It's not just for the benefit of SFC as the forest fires are also a threat to human lives. As a company, we have decided to take it upon ourselves to go around educating the communities on the need to partner with us and this should not be taken lightly," said Khoza.

Khoza said 'honey hunters' were also supposed to consider not invading forest plantations as this has also proved to be the cause of disasters experienced in other areas.

"It's something we frown upon and we advise all those doing this to stop. As a company, we encourage honey hunters to approach the company using the right procedures. The company has its public relations manager and should there be someone interested in something, be it honey or firewood, there are channels to be followed," said Khoza.

Khoza said it was important that even schools were educated about the importance of protecting forests.

Umphakatsi feels anyone causing  
damage to forest is an enemy

**THOSE that destroy forests in any form deserve a harsh punishment.**

Mbangweni Umphakatsi Headman Peter Mamba stressed the importance of supporting companies who are in the forest plantation industry such as Shiselweni Forestry Company (SFC).

He said such companies were also the backbone of the country's economy.

"Let it be known that those who are destroying forests through fire, are the country's enemies. We know how important such a company is to the country's economy.

It is everyone's duty to see all forests protected and should there be anyone crossing the line regarding this, there should be a heavy penalty.

Culprits should be harshly dealt with as we know this company has created jobs for our brothers and sisters," said Mamba.

**Species**

Mamba said it should also be taken into consideration that even human beings or any species rely on vegetation when it comes to breathing.

Back at school, we were told that we inhale oxygen and exhale carbon dioxide.

It should be known that human beings cannot survive without oxygen. It is important to have some of these vegetations as they help us even when we inhale and exhale," said Mamba.

Mamba said fire was useful but there should be precautions when used.

He said using fire anyhow should be discouraged.



## 'Programme meant to create bond between company, communities'

**SFC Public Relations Manager Sibongile Sylvia Kunene says visiting communities to educate them about the dangers of forest fires and timber theft is meant to strengthen their relationship with them.**

She said visiting the communities was an idea meant to improve the partnership. "It's not a talk show but an important exercise meant to strengthen the partnership. We are trying to come closer to the people who we consider as important stakeholders. These

communities need us and vice-versa. It is therefore a good thing to be there for each other.

Through the support we get from the communities, we are also able to assist in projects that are of benefit to them. It cannot be possible to see the company pumping money in projects when on the other hand, it does not enjoy any support of the communities," said Kunene.

Kunene said the company would be going around conducting the exercise

with the purpose of making the communities feel that they are part of the company. "Just like the company also wants to be part of these communities. There is no way one can just watch when something he owns is destroyed or stolen. We are saying let's rebuke all those that want to weaken the relationship we have," said Kunene.

Kunene said she was pleased with the attendance and also thanked the elders of Mbangweni Umphakatsi for being part of the event.

## SFC encourages community members to join bee association

**BEE associations have a good working relationship with the Shiselweni Forestry Company (SFC).**

Members of the association have no problem in accessing the company's forest farms. It has been, however, explained that no one should abuse such a privilege.

Sabelo Khoza, one of the senior SFC managers in charge of silviculture, said the company fully recognised bee associations and each time they needed anything in the forests, they were allowed access without any hassles.

He said it was important for community members to join these associations in order not to have challenges each time they need to harvest honey.

"We recognise bee associations and encourage community members to join these.

**Embarking**

They are our partners and if they feel the pinch we also feel it.

They are also our important stakeholders," said Khoza.

Khoza said as SFC, their wish was that everyone should be a partner to

the company. He told the gathering that the exercise they were embarking on was one way of trying to create the bond and also making it strong.

"Be our whistleblower and by so doing you will be saving the country's economy.

**Anomalies**

The members of the community should alert us in case they notice anomalies in our forests. We have been enjoying good working relationship with a number of communities but there is still room for improvement.

We need to be alerted of everything, no matter how trivial it may be. Be it a spark of fire, I mean one spark, call us. Be it a smoke, even if it is of a cigarette, call us as that will assist in having it put out before causing disaster," said Khoza.

Khoza thanked the authorities of Mbangweni Umphakatsi for allowing the company to conduct the exercise there, saying it was an indication that even traditional leaders supported the company's activities.

"Having said that, our wish is that all what we highlighted should be

put into practice by everyone," said Khoza.

Khoza said the company would soon be announcing their next stop after Mbangweni Umphakatsi and mentioned that they were planning to cover almost all the communities surrounded by the company's properties.

Among other top brass who were representing the company included Sibongile Sylvia Kunene who is the company's Public Relations Manager, Patrick Dlamini who is one of the block foresters and Khosi Dlamini, who is working under the public relations department.



# Man fined E2 500 for defying RA

By Starsky Mkhonta  
Nhlengano

**A man has been sentenced to two years for failure to appear before Shiselweni Regional Administrator Themba Masuku.**

Sibusiso Baraba Simelane of Engwanyameni area appeared before the Nhlengano Swazi National Court for defying a court order to see the RA where he would be advised on con-

sequences of tempering with farm property whose owner had lodged a complaint with the RA office.

He was supposed to see the RA last Monday.

There is reportedly bad blood between farm owners with community members in areas around Engwanyameni near Zombodze Emuva and such an issue has been referred to the RA's office with the purpose of creating harmony between the two parties.

Simelane happened to be among the other community members whose

homesteads are close to the farms.

For defying the RA, he appeared before Court President Chief Makhosikhosi.

## Disrespect

It is said police arrived at Simelane's home where they served him with the document which was advising him to report at the RA's offices.

He is said to have refused to listen anything he was told to do, including signing the document which was advising him to appear before the RA.

"On July 17, 2017 accused failed to appear before the Shiselweni Regional Administrator while duly warned by members of the Royal Swaziland Police," the charge sheet partly reads. When the court wanted to know as to why Simelane had decided to disrespect the overseer of the region, he said he was acting on instruction of the legal team representing them as residents on the matter.

## Consent

"I did not intend defying the RA, but when the police arrived with the document which they asked me to sign, I recalled what our lawyer said as he instructed us that we should not sign

anything without his consent said Simelane, who looked for remorseful. Court President Chief Makhosikhosi said Simelane should know the consequences of failing to heed orders issued by courts.

"It is also important to respect the rule of law and the police who were doing their duty and look now where this has landed you," said Chief Makhosikhosi. In mitigation, Simelane appealed for leniency, saying he was sorry for acting the way he did.

He was then sentenced to two years in jail or an option of E2 500 fine. Simelane paid the fine and gained his freedom.

# Step 30 International donates to Ekupheleni NCP

By Njabulo Dlamini  
Ekupheleni

**LAST** Wednesday, Step 30 International Ministries NGO from Taiwan continued its act of benevolence by donating warm clothing and shoes to the Neighbourhood Care Point (NCP) of Ekupheleni area, located west of Mbabane city.

The Ekupheleni NCP looks after close to 30 children. Making the handover to the facility in the presence of women who look after the children on daily basis was Step 30 International Ministries Project Manager Paulette Hoare, who expressed their gratitude at being able to lend a helping hand to the needy.

"As an NGO looking after the interests of the neediest of communities, mainly children, it was once again humbling to us to make such a donation at Ekupheleni where the situation was dire.

"We were motivated as well by the unrivalled dedication of the women who run the NCP as they ensure the children are provided with a nutritious meal daily. Such sacrifice should be applauded by all," Hoare said.

## Excitement

The children were given new shoes, inclusive of quality sneaker brands and jackets. Hoare said the excitement on the children's faces made them realise the impact of their donation to the community.

She said they were almost overcome by emotions when they saw some of the children barefooted in this biting winter cold whilst others were wearing worn out clothes.

More communities are yet to benefit from the NGO's generosity. Step 30 International Ministries NGO has its roots in the Republic of China on Taiwan and its Director is Michelle. Locally it has its offices at Ezulwini.

The NGO's objectives are to lend a helping hand to children of the kingdom without discriminating against race, colour or religion.

Also it aims to assist churches, schools and communities in fighting poverty in the areas where they are located.

Before the Ekupheleni NCP donation last week, the NGO extended a helping hand to Manyonyaneni Primary in Matata by donating clothing, books and now are presently waiting for no less than 20 computers to be shipped from abroad in Taiwan.



**TOGETHER AS ONE:** Step 30 International Ministries Project Manager Paulette Hoare poses with the children who received the donation and women who look after them. (Courtesy pics)



**CHEERFUL:** Excited faces of the young ones after they were presented with shoes and clothing by the Taiwan NGO.

These computers will also be distributed to the same school.

These lucky pupils will see a computer laboratory set up for them and a solar system to avoid a heavy reliance on electricity.

The benefiting children in these communities where the NGO has so far reached out were identified by Step 30 International whilst others were brought by teachers and authorities of the areas concerned.

# 'Selling shisanyama in PPK remains illegal'

By Sizwe Dlamini  
Pigg's Peak

**PIGG'S** Peak Town Council Chief Executive Officer Mzwandile Ndzinisa has said selling of shisanyama using braai stands remains illegal in the town.

He said such dated back to 1969.

Ndzinisa was speaking to this newspaper last Wednesday after five shisanyama braai stands were confiscated by the town Council last week.

In his official response, Ndzinisa confirmed that the Pigg's Peak Town Council apprehended and confiscated the braai stands after a meeting was conducted with the braai operators.

"The Pigg's Peak Town Council confiscated the braai stands, but this was done following a meeting that was convened with the affected operators late last year. During this meeting, the operators were advised on proper ways of conducting business within the small town of Pigg's Peak," he said.

The sale of shisanyama using braai stands remains illegal in Pigg's Peak, as it is a contravention of the following legislation: Public Health (food hygiene) regulations of 1970 that prohibits the sale of unhealthy or unwholesome food to the public the Urban Government Act of 1969 Section 49 that states that no person shall make or cause a fire that has the potential of endangering the safety of the public or building. The Urban Government Act of 1969



**CONFIRMED:** Pigg's Peak Town Council CEO Mzwandile Ndzinisa.

Section 28 prohibits the sale of any goods in a public place or street without a permit from Council but as the Pigg's Peak Town Council, we support small and medium enterprises to operate in town, but we do not encourage them to contravene the law," he said.

Meanwhile, one of the shisanyama operators Nkosinathi Dlamini said it was not fair to be enslaved by a 48-year-old law.

"We are not stealing anything, but just trying to earn a living with this business.

It is not fair that the law has not been changed in over 48 years so we will now leave our braai stands at home and continue selling our product to the public in takeaway packs," he said.



**AFFECTED:** Pigg's Peak shisanyama operator Nkosinathi Dlamini.



## 16 NATIONAL NEWS

**UNITY:** Community members of Gangakhulu community digging up trenches for water pipes. (Courtesy pics)



# EKUVINJELWENI FOLK KICK START OWN WATER PROJECTS

By Sizwe Dlamini  
Ekuvinjelweni

ABOUT 100 homesteads have benefited from the Kuhlaha water scheme and a further 20 from the Gangakhulu one.

The communities are all located at Ekuvinjelweni, which is in the Northern Hhohho.

Komati Basin Water Authority (KBWA) Public Relations Officer 'Iphiwe Shongwe said the community members committed themselves to ensuring that water reaches various homesteads.

"The community members are committed to getting water flowing straight into their homesteads, hence the trenches where the water pipes are fitted were dug by the



**WATER IS LIFE:** Two 5 000 litre tanks for the Kuhlaha water scheme.

community members themselves. The water schemes have so many benefits for everybody involved.

Now residents no longer need to travel long distances to collect water and without the centralisation of a

singular water source. Members are not exposed to contaminated or polluted water that can cause all types of diseases and infections, especially on little children," Shongwe said.

The water scheme included installation of tanks, pipes and fittings. Shongwe said they were happy to see such development.

"We know that the community members will take care of the equipment, as they have been involved in the whole process from start to finish.

"The project has been ongoing for the last few months and we are already seeing positive results. We hope that this development will help the community to improve," she said.

## PI Doctor pulls another stunt

By Starsky Mkhonta  
Nhlangano

**DOCTOR Myeni, the Private Investigator who claimed that he will travel to Matola to fetch missing Matsapha businessman Almor Oliveira, has pulled another stunt.**

Myeni now claimed he had to abandon the trip while he was already at the border gate, Mhlumeni, on Wednesday.

He said he got calls from certain church elders who advised him not to proceed with the trip before they had a meeting with him.

When he insisted that he should be allowed to proceed to Matola, the pastors advised him of the danger he was putting himself into.

Myeni claimed he was fellowshiping at the Evangelical Church and he used to go to the Matsapha branch to join other members of this church.

He said elders of the church, whom he did not name, were the ones who stopped him from proceeding with the trip to Matola.

"The trip did not materialise and this was after the elders advised me against."

### Article

"First, the pastors wanted to know where I was and this was after they had probably seen the article that I was on my way to Matola. They then requested to talk to me about the pending trip.

"I tried to convince them that they should not worry about me as I was ready for any eventualities, but they insisted that I should not go there," said Myeni.

Myeni said he was in the company of other people whom he also refused to name.

"I decided to heed the advice of my elders. It should be known that they did not stop me from going there but only insisted that they wanted to meet me. They were taken aback upon learning that I was leaving for that assignment without first seeking blessings.

"They made me realise my mistake hence I was left with no alternative but to call off the trip.

"What should be known is that it does not mean I am no longer going there," he said.

Myeni said from now henceforth, he would keep his business dealings out of the public eye.



**DEAD END:** Private Investigator Doctor Myeni.

“

I tried to convince them that they should not worry about me as I was ready for any eventualities, but they insisted that I should not go there

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# FEATURES & OPINION

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The Global Business  
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Platform

## GBR SWAZILAND HOSTS ECONOMIC SYMPOSIUM

● "We believe God will use organisations like the GBR- Global Business Roundtable to ensure that His people take over and control the economies of the world."

**FACT:** One of the challenges facing modern business and private sectors globally is the fact that the current financial and economic systems and organisations, unless inspired by God and led by the Holy Spirit, will not prevail in solving the deepening economic problems of the world.

THE local chapter of the Global Business Roundtable will host its second Annual Economic Symposium in a Breakfast setup on August 7. This event, which will take place at the Royal Swazi Convention Centre, is themed: 'Identifying and Using the Country's Key Competitive Advantages to Achieve Sustainable Prosperity'.

The vision of the National Development Strategy for Swaziland entails achieving being in the top 10 per cent of medium human development group of countries founded on sustainable economic development, social justice and political stability.

The key macro strategic areas to fulfilling this vision are listed as:

● **Sound Economic Management:** Entailing the creation of an attractive macroeconomic environment to increase investor confidence which will enable the achievement of social objectives being job creation, poverty reduction, economic empowerment of locals and environmental management.

● **Economic Empowerment:** Yielding to the raising of the capability of various national groupings to widen their choice horizons. This includes active promotion of local entrepreneurs to start own business-

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Time  
7:30 AM - 11 AM

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Dr. Global Business  
ROUNDTABLE

es or grow their existing businesses or enter into the mainstream business operations through share purchases on a willing - buyer willing - seller basis, orderly promotion of informal sector activities, rural development, assisting disadvantaged groups, and mainstreaming of gender relations in project formulation.

● **Human Resource Development** which entails appropriate education and training (including a reorientation away from the presently academic orientation to technical and vocational orientation), adequate incentives extended to businesses and house-

holds to encourage the full development of human capital, appropriate youth programmes, special attention to members of society with disabilities, and all other areas impacting on the quality of human capital.

● **Agriculture development** for food security and commercialisation of agriculture on Swazi Nation Land.

● **Industrialisation** entailing diversification into industry and services, as well as from narrow range of non-agricultural activities into a broader spectrum. Such diversification will reduce overall economic risk, raise

the degree of resilience in the economy and raise the capability of the economy to sustain its operations. Hence the importance to identify feasible areas for industry development.

### WHY GRB SYMPOSIUM

It is in consideration of the common mandate of GBR and the National Development Strategy vision, that GBR Swaziland is hosting the second Inaugural Economic Symposium. More to be continued next week.

Local and international delegates expected to attend this event.

### A NEW THING PREVIEW-SEASON 2 ON TV

THE role of GBR TV and GBR Radio is basically to educate, transform, impact and empower God's people Holistically in all sectors of society.. Season two, currently showing in most electronic mediums addresses issues including: cancers, diabetes, depression, poverty, drug abuse, career choices, fatherhood, manhood, marriage - choice of a life partner, business and funding opportunities for young entrepreneurs, kingdom women & their roles in society, ministers of the gospel - their roles, yesterday, today and in the future, why pray and intercede, gbr global prayer network, the role of the trade and investment summit, role of trade and investment companies within gbr, the role mandate and objectives of the strategic partnership - globally, nationally and locally for gbr and many others.

Remember to tune in to GBR's exciting programme, 'A New Thing', every Saturday at 5pm, on TBN (Channel 343) and on RTM every Monday at 8pm and 6pm on Saturdays.

On Swazi TV its tonight at 9pm with a repeat on Sundays, 5pm. One Gospel on Tuesdays 9-10pm and a repeat on Wednesdays 8-9.

### GBR/GFFJ WEEKLY MEETINGS

● Local GBR sessions take place every Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, from the different regions of the country. Everyone is free to attend these sessions and become a member, at no cost.

● Every after the session, we network... a powerful session where business deals are clinched and sealed over a meal. Our evening sessions start promptly at 6pm-8pm and the venues and days are as follows:

● In Mbabane - City Court-last Tuesday of the month.

● At Ezulwini - Bethel Court-first Tuesday of every month.

● At Matsapha - S&B Restaurant-first Thursday of the month.

● At Simunye - Simunye Club-second Tuesday of the month.

● Manzini- third Tuesday of the month, at The George Hotel.

● Mpaka - Malindza Primary School, third Thursday of every month.

● At Nhlangano - Ngwane Teachers Training College-every last Thursday of the month.

● Steki - second Thursday of the month, new building next to Baceth Hardware.

● Ngculwini - at Mhubhe High School, second Saturday of the month 11:00-1:00pm.

● For more information log in to the GBR and GFFJ websites: [www.globalbusinessroundtable.com/](http://www.globalbusinessroundtable.com/) [www.globalfundforjesus.com/](http://www.globalfundforjesus.com/) or send an SMS to: +268 78722063 for questions and clarifications.

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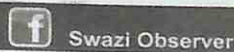
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## ON THIS DAY

...JULY 24

1847 - Mormon leader Brigham Young and his followers arrived in the valley of the Great Salt Lake in present-day Utah.

1847 - Richard M. Hoe patented the rotary-type printing press.

1849 - Georgetown University in Washington, DC, presented its first Doctor of Music Degree. It was given to Professor Henry Dielman.

1866 - Tennessee became the first state to be readmitted to the Union after the US Civil War.

1923 - The Treaty of Lausanne, which settled the boundaries of modern Turkey, was concluded in Switzerland.

1929 - US President Hoover proclaimed the Kellogg-Briand Pact, which renounced war as an instrument of foreign policy.

1933 - The first broadcast of "The Romance of Helen Trent" was heard on radio. 7 222 episodes were aired.

1933 - US President Franklin D Roosevelt gave his fourth "Fireside Chat."

1948 - Soviet occupation forces in Germany blockaded West Berlin. The US-British airlift began the following day.

1956 - Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis ended their team. They ended the partnership a decade after it began on July 25, 1946.

1969 - The Apollo 11 astronauts splashed down safely in the Pacific Ocean.

1974 - The US Supreme Court unanimously ruled that President Nixon had to turn over subpoenaed White House tape recordings to the Watergate special prosecutor.

1978 - Billy Martin was fired for the first of three times as the manager of the New York Yankees baseball team.

1985 - Walt Disney released their 25th full-length cartoon. The work was "The Black Cauldron." Disney movies, music and books.

1987 - Hulda Crooks, at 91 years of age, climbed Mt. Fuji. Hulda became the oldest person to climb Japan's highest peak.

1998 - Roy O Disney received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



**Jennifer Lopez**  
(pop singer) - JULY 24, 1969 (48 years old)



**Jimmy Bellinger**  
(tv actor) - JULY 24, 1990 (27 years old)

## BE HUMAN



BY: THAMIE MAKHANYA

**I've sure lived my life. I've sure made a mark and validated self. Having suffered for quite a long time it took courage to rebuild my strength and find a place I finally called home and that was when I tapped into to my spiritual person. Living a fast paced life where all seemed to be moving non-stop I finally realised that I had to make time to ponder upon my soul.**

Crying till you could feel your skin tearing apart and losing touch with my soul had become a norm. Waking up in the middle of the night wondering what tomorrow holds or rather the few hours left had for me was a despicable story I lived mostly. It was sure a nauseating walk where the rugs I crossed over prickled my delicate feet. Gone are the days when I'd wallow in self-pity wondering what the future holds. Gone are those days of being astray and completely consumed by the darkness and the dusty smell of the desolate streets I've been through.

How did I find myself walking in light? They sure say the light in me shines brighter than a diamond and it is white as snow. Well, I've sure acknowledged all my shortcomings and still working on some underlying issues and I am in no rush as I certainly do not want to miss out on this journey.

The light that penetrated my blinds in my cocoon found me covered all up in my hygienic sheets yet those hygienic sheets covered a miserable soul. Flipped my thoughts wanting to quench my thirst I turned over those sheet's,

more like unveiling the bride. I had finally accepted that I am just human.

I was ready to bring forth my fair share of the story made up of all the English components our teachers taught us at elementary school. I couldn't see before; I wasn't literally blind. Hope became my main breakfast, faith became my coat that protected me from the chilly weather in my capital city and my spiritual being became the greatest armor amongst all that carried me throughout the heavy storm that shut off the power and set everything that couldn't see in that midst of darkness to their cocoon and that's when I was brave enough to take a walk on the streets; it was sure a peaceful and soul searching walk.

**Well, I've sure acknowledged all my shortcomings and still working on some underlying issues and I am in no rush as I certainly do not want to miss out on this journey.**

They watched from the tiniest holes of their dwelling places as I illuminated the path I took. I wasn't operating in fear then; I was fully present; I was in the moment.

The strongest winds announced in the media scared the birds of our beloved Kingdom and they vacated that space to a place of safety. I stayed behind. They were so sure that I've gone nuts but I believed that those strong winds came to test that which I vocalised

and in my humble respect I passed. That was a lesson I had to document hopefully sometime in the near future I'll share it. I've sure grown from zero to a greater infinity and yet to grow to an additional infinity and pour out my story to those who want to listen and above that get the lesson inscribed in it. Well, I've learnt that no matter how difficult the journey can be, it is not difficult in true nature because everything happens for a reason.

Made for a greater purpose bigger that what we see today, I am ready and I take each day as it comes and pay heed to the finer details in each day and open up to the lessons. This is how we lose

it, by having the mind - set that we know it all. Can that clause become extinct in your language!

You sure have your own story. Write it up the way you want to and not let anyone tell you what you can and cannot do and in that process kindly stop comparing your chapter five to some else's chapter eight. I have coarse hair, he has silky hair, I am skinny, he is chubby and with this comparison be informed that we are different in realisation that we are all humans on a physical journey to render a different service.

By the time you reach up the stars, I want you to smile while you cry. The tears you'll be pouring will hit the ground running, bringing forth light to those seeking out peace. You crumble upon the earth, bleed dry the love carved in your bones and fear not for that time shall be a layer of memories in the chambers of your heart. Bon voyage super soul.

May the light in me kindly find the light in you. Much Love and lots of hugs!

Namaste!

(Comments: FB: Thamie Makhanya, thamiethulezi888@gmail.com, thamiemky.wordpress.com)

**JOHANNESBURG - Four years since the fledgling party was founded, its founder and leader reflects on its past and, more importantly, its future.**

Three years ago, I got a call at 23:45 on a Friday from an annoyed Julius Malema. He said that I was being "extremely unfair" for not giving the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) enough time to respond to questions regarding staff members who were dragging the party to the Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration (CCMA).

It was a difficult time for the then one-year-old party. A few months before the CCMA controversy, the party had expelled three members of Parliament who had soured relations following its first elective con-

## Newsmaker: 'The EFF will rule in

ference where all three turned down nominations for top six positions. A sense of paranoia gripped the party as wave after wave of negative publicity rocked it.

For a moment, it looked as if the fighters would take the same route as the Congress of the People (COPE) - imploding before anyone got a chance to get drunk and nurse a hang-over.

"We knew when we were forming a party that all these types of things could happen. I was sitting in a strategic committee that destabilised COPE. So, I know what they [the ANC] do," Malema said this week,

rocking back and forth quite comfortably in a chair at the EFF's headquarters.

According to Malema, that committee unearthed proof that North West Premier Super Mahumapelo - a loyal ally to President Jacob Zuma - was part of COPE, participating in strategy meetings with the then newly formed party.

The commander-in-chief said that information was passed on to Zuma, who did not take any action against Mahumapelo.

"I am just saying this to demonstrate to you that I was involved in those things, I know how I should

respond when certain things happen in the EFF," he quipped.

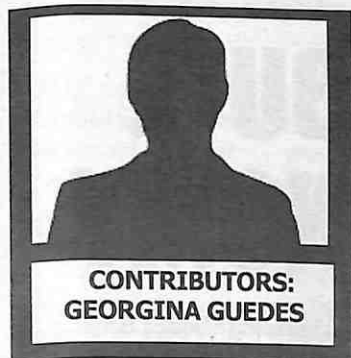
Since that midnight call, the party has successfully led a campaign to have Zuma pay back money for non-security upgrades at his Nkandla homestead and managed to become the kingmaker in three major metros where the ANC was unceremoniously removed from power.

He recalled how his younger brother was furious after the 2014 elections where - as a party agent - he observed their grandmother's friends voting for the ANC in Seshogo instead of the EFF.

"I told him that no one was going



# HOW TO DEAL WITH SUICIDAL THOUGHTS OR INTENTIONS



CONTRIBUTORS:  
GEORGINA GUEDES

PEOPLE around the world have reeled at the news of Linkin Park frontman Chester Bennington's death by suicide. For many, his music was the soundtrack to their generation, and his loss is devastating.

But this is not an obituary for Chester – I was not much of a fan and I don't know too much about him. What I do know is that whenever a high-profile person commits suicide, there is a great deal of commentary on social media about society's response to this ultimate expression of mental illness.

My friends who suffer from mental illness talk about the importance of ending the stigma, and making it easier for people who live with this debilitating condition (or collection of conditions) to come forward and ask for the help they need.

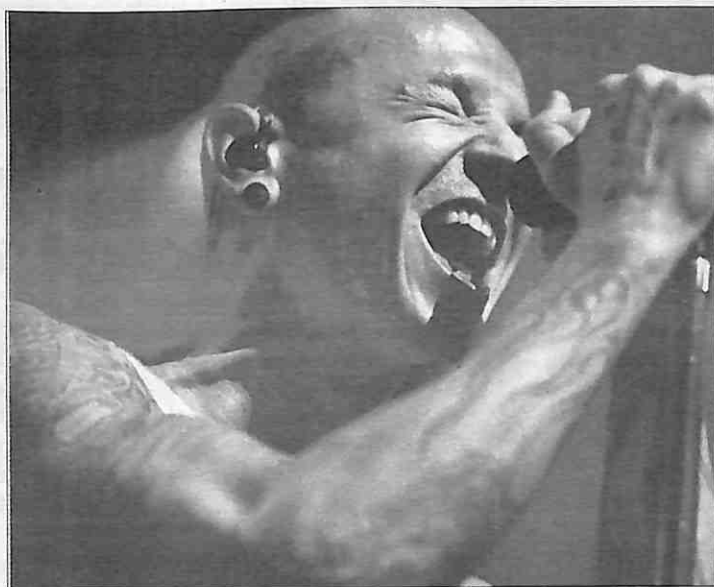
And then there are the people who say that some organisations suggest that protocol should be to never mention the method of death when someone commits suicide, so as not to give anyone any ideas.

Right, so we're supposed to end the stigma and talk about it while at the same time not mentioning it.

There are also those who implore their mentally ill friends to come forward. They share Facebook statuses encouraging others to share to show that at any time, someone is listening.

And then there are those who say that really, when a person is at the point of considering suicide, they can't ask for help. The very thing that's driving them to suicide is the thing that prevents them from reaching out to those who love them.

So, honestly, with so many people who are experts by dint of actually



**END THE STIGMA:** Singer Chester Bennington performing on stage during the iHeartRadio album release party with Linkin Park presented by Clear Channel at the iHeart Radio Theater on June 18, 2014 in Burbank, California.

having a form of mental illness, and so many who work in the health or youth media or mental health care giving contradictory messages, there's little wonder that no one really knows what to do.

**This being the case, what do we do or say when we suspect someone might be suicidal or are confronted with a person who is. First, it's a good idea to know the risk factors (all the following points are taken from the National Institute of Mental Health in the US):**

- Depression, other mental disorders, or substance abuse disorder.
- Certain medical conditions.
- Chronic pain.
- A prior suicide attempt.
- Family history of a mental disorder or substance abuse.
- Family history of suicide.
- Family violence, including physical or sexual abuse.
- Having guns or other firearms in the home.
- Having recently been released from prison or jail.
- Being exposed to others' suicidal behaviour, such as that of family members, peers, or celebrities.

**Then it's a good idea to know the**

**signs of suicidal tendencies:**

- Talking about wanting to die or wanting to kill themselves.
- Talking about feeling empty, hopeless, or having no reason to live.
- Making a plan or looking for a way to kill themselves, such as searching online, stockpiling pills, or buying a gun.
- Talking about great guilt or shame.
- Talking about feeling trapped or feeling that there are no solutions.
- Feeling unbearable pain (emotional pain or physical pain)
- Talking about being a burden to others.
- Using alcohol or drugs more often
- Acting anxious or agitated.
- Withdrawing from family and friends.
- Changing eating and/or sleeping habits.
- Showing rage or talking about seeking revenge.
- Taking great risks that could lead to death, such as driving extremely fast.
- Talking or thinking about death often.
- Displaying extreme mood swings, suddenly changing from very sad to very calm or happy.
- Giving away important possessions.

sions.

- Saying goodbye to friends and family.
- Putting affairs in order, making a will.

**And finally, if you think someone is in fact suicidal, these are the steps to helping:**

**1. Ask:** "Are you thinking about killing yourself?" It's not an easy question but studies show that asking at-risk individuals if they are suicidal does not increase suicides or suicidal thoughts.

**2. Keep them safe:** Reducing a suicidal person's access to highly lethal items or places is an important part of suicide prevention. While this is not always easy, asking if the at-risk person has a plan and removing or disabling the lethal means can make a difference.

**3. Be there:** Listen carefully and learn what the individual is thinking and feeling. Findings suggest acknowledging and talking about suicide may in fact reduce rather than increase suicidal thoughts.

**4. Help them connect:** In South Africa, the best organisations to contact for help are either the South African Depression and Anxiety Group (SADAG) at [www.sadag.org](http://www.sadag.org) or 080 021 2223 or Lifeline at [lifeline-sa.co.za](http://lifeline-sa.co.za) or 011 715 2000.

**5. You can also help make a connection with a trusted individual like a family member, friend, spiritual advisor, or mental health professional.**

**6. Stay Connected:** Staying in touch after a crisis or after being discharged from care can make a difference. Studies have shown the number of suicide deaths goes down when someone follows up with the at-risk person.

Speaking as someone who has lost two loved ones to suicide, I can understand the desperate need that we all feel to prevent something like this from happening to the suicide victim themselves, but also to their friends and families. I speak with absolute authority when I say that no matter what a suicidal person might think, their families are not better off without them. Please don't think twice about getting help. *eNCA*

## Wit and Wisdom

● "Sometimes love means letting go when you want to hold on tighter."  
*Melissa Marr, Ink Exchange*

● "Do not be afraid; our fate Cannot be taken from us; it is a gift."  
*Dante Alighieri, Inferno*

● "You could say sorry," suggested Harry bluntly. "What, and get attacked by another flock of canaries?" muttered Ron. "What did you have to imitate her for?" "She laughed at my mustache!" "So did I, it was the stupidest thing I've ever seen." *J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*

● "The trouble is not that I am single and likely to stay single, but that I am lonely and likely to stay lonely." *Charlotte Brontë*

● "Adults are always asking little kids what they want to be when they grow up 'cause they're looking for ideas."  
*Paula Poundstone*

● "Dreams are always crushing when they don't come true. But it's the simple dreams that are often the most painful because they seem so personal, so reasonable, so attainable. You're always close enough to touch, but never quite close enough to hold and it's enough to break your heart." *Nicholas Sparks, Three Weeks With My Brother*

● "The brick walls are there for a reason. The brick walls are not there to keep us out. The brick walls are there to give us a chance to show how badly we want something. Because the brick walls are there to stop the people who don't want it badly enough. They're there to stop the other people." *Randy Pausch, The Last Lecture*

● "You can only be young once. But you can always be immature." *Pat Monahan*

● "And then something invisible snapped inside her, and that which had come together commenced to fall apart."  
*John Green, Looking for Alaska*

● "I am looking for friends. What does that mean -- tame?"

● "It is an act too often neglected," said the fox. "It means to establish ties."

● "To establish ties?"

● "Just that," said the fox. "To me, you are still nothing more than a little boy who is just like a hundred thousand other little boys. And I have no need of you. And you, on your part, have no need of me. To you I am nothing more than a fox like a hundred thousand other foxes. But if you tame me, then we shall need each other. To me, you will be unique in all the world. To you, I shall be unique in all the world...." *Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, The Little Prince*

● "Be glad. Be good. Be brave."  
— *Eleanor H. Porter*

● "The snake which cannot cast its skin has to die. As well the minds which are prevented from changing their opinions; they cease to be mind." *Friedrich Nietzsche*

## 2019' - Julius Malema

to trust a new idea, we are paying for the sins of the UDM [United Democratic Movement] and COPE and other parties that came before us. These people want to see if we will do things differently."

Malema said that his brother now called him with updates on the very same people who were sceptical of the EFF and were now living in party regalia, "refusing to take it off".

"One of the statements I used to utter in the beginning was, 'I don't preside over failed projects.'"

A challenge for the party – particularly during big campaign periods – was the "Malema effect", which continued to draw crowds in their thousands. The party constantly had to deny that there would be no EFF without Malema. "I think we have gone beyond the Julius Malema phenomenon. The leadership of the EFF gets to be recognised as leaders in their own right," he insisted again this week, saying that he had stepped back from the running of projects and day-to-day operational activities.

"The organisation has assumed

a life of its own and it is now running without me," he said.

Still, he has found a way of keeping his finger on the pulse by requesting reports of all activities and ensuring that "this movement of the people is not going to be embarrassed".

He takes on a more authoritative tone when speaking about the reports. In the run-up to last year's elections, the party held a mini rally in Mpumalanga.

As it began, the crowd trickled in more slowly than the organisers had expected. Nervous looks betrayed some ground forces who were clearly anxious about the turnout ahead of Malema's arrival. *News24*





# BUSINESS UPDATE

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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 21 JULY 2017

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	12.9884	13.0384
British Pound/SZL	16.8673	16.9323
Japanese Yen/SZL	8.5709	8.6031
Swiss France/SZL	13.6676	13.7188
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.2703	1.2869
Australian Dollar/SZL	10.2703	10.3133
Canadian Dollar/SZL	10.3221	10.3611
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	5.5211	5.5942
Euro/SZL	15.1249	15.1832
Gold	1,246.3100	
Oil	48.1300	

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Standard Bank

## SWAZI RALLY TO CONTRIBUTE E15 MILLION TO THE ECONOMY

By Majaha Nkonyane

**THE annual bikers event, Swazi Rally, is expected to help different industries cash in at least E15 million.**

This was disclosed by Swazi Rally founder Carlos Paiva during the launch of the event where they have partnered with Wesbank.

Wesbank, a division of the First National Bank, pumped over E190 000 for this year's Rally to be held from August 25 to 27 at the Rider's Ranch at Sidvokodvo.

"The event, through the tourists that come to the country, will bring at least E15 million which is spread across different sectors of the economy. This is because the significant numbers of tourists that come into the country spend their money on different goods and services, which undoubtedly boosts the country's economy," he said. He said last year they recorded very impres-



**FOLLOWING: Stakeholders following the launch of the 24th annual Bikers Swazi Rally to be held from August 25 to 27 at the Riders Ranch at Sidvokodvo. (Pic: Majaha Nkonyane)**

sive numbers of clubs attending.

"Last year we had about 30 clubs camping, while this year over 100 clubshave booked to camp here," said one of the event organisers Sonia Paiva.

Carlos Paiva said the bikers contribute approximately E20 000 to the Swaziland Revenue Authority (SRA) though the border, depending on the number of bikers in that

particular year.

"The bikers further contribute to road tax; they buy fuel as they move around the country.

### Establishments

Apart from that the bikers fill up accommodation establishments as over the years accommodation is scarce during the Swazi Rally," she said.

Swaziland Tourism Authority

(STA) Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini said they were happy once again that one of the country's biggest events was back and they were looking forward to hosting the guests and further give them a true Swazi experience.

"We are at the moment working on creating a kraal at the venue which is meant to give our tourists a true Swazi experience through entertainment," he said.

In this initiative they would be working hand in hand with the ministries of works and home affairs.

"We are planning on having adequate signage, and speed humps for the safety of our tourists," he said. Wesbank's Phumlani Nkambule said they would also ensure that digital platforms will be available throughout the event.

"This is to further ensure that our guests get convenience, we will have adequate speed points, ATM and activation stands for any queries," he said.

## CBS LEAVES BANK RATE UNCHANGED FOR 3RD TIME

By Manqoba Makhubu

**FOR the third time in a row this year, the Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS), together with the Monetary Policy Consultative Committee (MPCC), has decided to leave the bank rate unchanged at 7.25 per cent.**

The South African Reserve Bank (SARB) lowered its benchmark repo rate by 25 basis points to 6.75 per cent, its first cut since 2012 last Thursday.

The CBS and the MPCC held their meeting last Friday to consider the appropriate monetary policy path for the bank for the upcoming two months.

To arrive at the appropriate path of monetary policy, the bank has to consider recent international, regional and domestic economic conditions, and especially how such affects the achievement of the bank's mandate of ensuring both price and financial stability.

In his statement, CBS Governor Majazi Sithole noted that inflation eased slightly to 6.9 per cent in June, down from 7.1 per cent in May.

This slowdown was a result of the continuous moderation in food inflation which remained in single digits for the third consecutive month.

The governor said in June, food inflation came in at 8.5 per cent against a higher level of 9.4 per cent in May.

"The bank expects inflation to average above seven per cent for 2017. This is mainly on account of upward revisions in prices of electricity, water and other administered items. Inflation expectations are softened by better harvest which will help further reduce food inflation over the remainder of the year. The general expectation that inflation will remain high for 2017 swayed the bank to leave interest rates unchanged," he said.

Over the period March to May 2017, the bank also observed that credit extended to the private sector had been growing at a steady rate.

### Extension

Compared to May 2016, Sithole said private sector credit extension grew by 6.5 per cent at the end of May, slightly lower than the 7.0 per cent growth recorded in March, when compared to March 2016.

He said growth in credit to the business and household sectors slowed whilst credit to 'other sectors' (mainly other financial corporations and local government) improved marginally. "Compared to March and May 2016, credit extended to the business sector main-

tained double-digit growth, but declined from 14.2 per cent in March, to reach 13.4 per cent at the end of May. Growth in credit extended to the household sector also came down from 4.7 per cent in March 2017 to 3.8 per cent at the end of May," he said.

The governor said the bank would continue to monitor developments that will influence the movements of inflation and reassured members of the public that it would act appropriately if there were significant changes to the inflation outlook.

"Further, the bank reassures the public that the bank's monetary policy stance shall remain supportive to economic growth and employment," he said.

The CBS monetary policy stance comes at a time when some analysts believe that monetary policy easing can be justified.

During a presentation early this month, Standard Bank Head-African Research Phumelele Mbiyo said monetary policy easing can be justified, especially because the country's economic growth had been pretty much depressed.

Answering why it would be consistent for monetary policy to be eased, Mbiyo said part of the pressure that had led to inflation being exceptionally high, was because of food inflation pressure.



**NOTED: CBS Governor Majazi Sithole.**

"In fact in Southern Africa, what we saw during the course of 2016 was that headline inflation was elevated, but it was mostly because of food inflation pressure and not so much from any underlining inflationary pressures that were evident in these economies," he said.

Mbiyo said the same dynamics were observed in the country.

However, he said in their view, food inflation would come off and therefore headline inflation would also come off.

"Given the view that inflation is coming down and the fact that economic growth has been depressed for quite a while, if monetary policy can be eased, it would not be inconsistent with maintaining overall macroeconomic stability," he said.



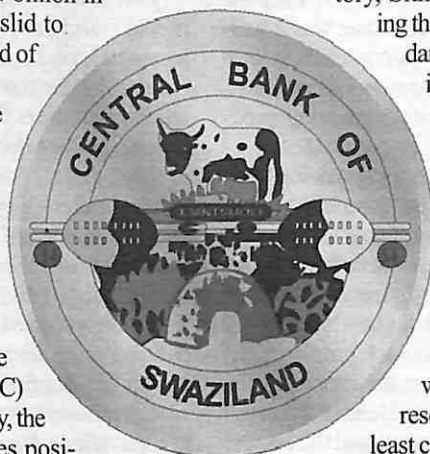
# SACU QUARTERLY INFLOW BOOSTS RESERVES BY E1.5BN

By Manqoba Makhubu

**THE Southern African Customs Union (SACU) quarterly inflow has increased the country gross official reserves by E1.5 billion, from E6.9 billion to settle at E8.4 billion as at July 14.**

The country's reserves opened at E8.2 billion in January backed by the SACU quarterly inflow. They decreased to E7.6 billion in February, further decreased to E7.3 billion in March, increased again to E8.2 billion in April backed by the SACU quarterly inflow again, then decreased to E7.4 billion in May and finally slid to E6.9 billion by end of June.

According to the Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) Governor's recent Monetary Policy statement, following the CBS and the Monetary Policy Consultative Committee (MPCC) meeting last Friday, the country's reserves position was improving, but remained under pressure because of the challenging financial situation faced by the



government.

"As at July 14, gross official reserves increased by 21.3 per cent to settle at E8.4 billion, up from the E6.9 billion observed at the end of June. The increase in the level of reserves was mainly due to the quarterly Southern African Customs Union (SACU) revenue inflows," he said.

At this value the reserves could cover an estimated 3.9 months of imports of goods and services.

Speaking to this publication prior to the MPCC meeting, the governor said the reserves were mainly depleted by government's obligations.

Despite the significant swing trajectory, Sithole said considering the international standards of three months import cover, the country had so far managed to sit at least above the three months threshold.

He said though the volatility trend was common, they would have wanted to have reserves that could at least cover six months of imports.

"This is the target of the Southern African Development Community

*"As at July 14, gross official reserves increased by 21.3 per cent to settle at E8.4 billion, up from the E6.9 billion observed at the end of June. The increase in the level of reserves was mainly due to the quarterly Southern African Customs Union (SACU) revenue inflows," he said.*

(SADC), otherwise should our reserves edged below the stipulated three months of import cover; we would then have to tread cautiously. What is important though is to ensure that the country has enough funds available to pay for its external obligations. For us, what is most critical is that we are within the Common Monetary Area (CMA) as most of the things that we purchase are priced in rands," he said.

The governor said they were currently looking at measures to increase the country's reserves.

"We are not comfortable being just around three months of import cover. We need to increase our reserves. But, we also understand there will be challenges with the existing economic hurdles. Existing reserves cannot be only that of government, hence we are exploring other ways to increase our reserves," he said.

## Expedia.com strengthens relationship with hospitality association

By Majaha Nkonyane

**LEADING online travel booking agency Expedia.com, were in the country last week where they made a pitch of their bolstered services to the Hospitality and Tourism Association of Swaziland (HOTAS) in a bid to strengthen existing relations.**

HOTAS Chairman Mark Ward Jr. said Expedia.com was vital in the tourism industry because of their established presence on the internet and their efficiency in capturing tourists in their large numbers to visit destinations.

"In today's world, if you are in tourism, you simply cannot ignore Expedia.com. They are a major part of any tourist business going into the future. In fact, they are one of the largest online-based travel booking systems," he said.

"Expedia managed to book 40 000 beds in Las Vegas this year alone, while we booked more than 3 000 beds in Swaziland between January and July. Expedia.com encouraged the local tourism industry to take charge of the international market by using their platform," he said.

Adding, Ward said the members of HOTAS present during the Expedia pitch showed a very positive response and they would be taking up the partnership in order to increase their international customers," he said.

"We are very excited to announce that they now offer shuttling services and events booking in about any continent and any country – even Swaziland he said addressing local tourism players who are members of HOTAS.

"We have been working with the local industry for the past eight years and the fruitful relationship has managed to improve the country's tourism industry quite significantly. We would like to remind the local industry stakeholders of their continued presence and the influence they have amassed over the years on the travel market," he said.

Swaziland Tourism Authority (STA) lauded members of HOTAS for being receptive to internationally-renowned booking systems as Expedia.com. STA Marketing Manager Bongani Dlamini said "the role technology plays in the tourism sector cannot be ignored given the new digital dispensation we live in." He implored the local industry to work with Expedia.com and all other reputable travel booking sites like Trivago.com, Hotel.com, TripAdvisor.com, among others, saying that would surely increase inbound travel into the country.

Expedia.com is an American travel company that owns and operates several international global online travel brands, primarily travel fare aggregator websites and travel meta-search engines.

## MICRO-FINANCE INDUSTRY TO GET A KNOCK FROM ECONOMIC HURDLES

By Manqoba Makhubu

**THE micro-finance industry will surely get a knock as a result of growth challenges currently facing the local economy.**

Households have been grappling with price increase in basic commodities and foodstuffs which depletes household incomes resulting in reduced capacity to borrow. While food inflation has come off, the general expectation is that inflation will remain high for 2017.

Also growth is projected to remain low, less than one per cent for this year. Letshego Financial Services Swaziland Chief Executive Officer Charles Hlatshwayo said it was beyond doubt the minimal economic activity will affect the industry.

"But, it then gets back to you as an entity to have an understanding of how you see the numbers working out for your business and how you are going to boost that," he said.

According to the group's annual report, 2016 the local subsidiary of the company has been a success story in the past year due to a strong sales performance by the Letshego Swaziland team.

The report said the local subsidiary was the first to complete the Improving Life Campaign and this combined with the sales team effectiveness, generated momentum that led to the advances

book closing 58 per cent higher than in 2015.

"We may be focusing on a particular line of business today and because of the economic challenges that we are going through, maybe our growth is going to be impacted. But this is a listed company with shareholders and they want a return. So we need to look at what else we can do to try and supplement the lost income, if there would be any," he said.

Hlatshwayo said they would also need to work smarter.

"We need to find strategies to tackle the market. Otherwise it is beyond doubt that the economic challenges will have an effect on the industry as a whole," he said.

As part of their interventions, Hlatshwayo said this year; they have further opened up their service and diversified their core deduction at source service even to non-government customers, targeting the low end of the market.

The report said over 70 per cent of the company's customers were classified as low to middle income earners in the previous year and the CEO said they have been pushing and would continue advocating for responsible lending. He further encouraged members of the public to engage in productive lending and avoid being heavily indebted due to irresponsible lending.

## 'COUNTRY STILL HAS HEALTHY RELATIONS WITH UK'

By Majaha Nkonyane

**MINISTER of Commerce Industry and Trade Jabulani Mabuza has assured businesses that the country still has a healthy trading relationship with the United Kingdom (UK).**

This comes after the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) welcomed the UK's intention of preventing disruption of trade relations with other countries as it leaves the European Union (EU).

This was affirmed in a joint statement issued by the SACU and the UK following discussions between trade ministers from the two parties in Johannesburg last week Wednesday.

"As a country we had to act swift in ensuring that our healthy relationship with the United Kingdom is sustained. We are happy that everything is in order and as a country we will continue to trade with the United Kingdom," Mabuza said.

"The meeting was to further strengthen trading relations with UK as they are planning to exit the European Union (EU). We intend to maintain our duty free and quota free agreement," he added.

Mabuza said the two sides agreed to continue discussions to explore ways to ensure that the existing trade arrangement between the UK and SACU currently governed by the EU-SADC EPA will not be disrupted by the UK's departure from the EU, and



**ASSURED: Minister of Commerce Industry and Trade Jabulani Mabuza.**

to ensure continuity of the effects of the EU-SADC EPA.

According to South African publication Business Report, UK Minister Lord Price confirmed that the trade relationship between the UK and the Southern African Customs Union countries (SACU) would not be disrupted due to the Brexit process. Last year SADC countries - Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Mozambique, South Africa, and Swaziland - signed an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the EU. The UK reaffirmed its commitment to the trade agreement under the current deal and said it would maintain duty-free quota-free market access. "It is important that we ensure that there are no disruptions with the trading relationship with South Africa as well as with other SADC countries. We have to

make sure that nobody suffers because of a gap between us leaving the EU and striving for new deals," said Price.

The discussions between UK and SADC (SACU) countries are focused on steps to agree on a deal that replicates the effects of the EPA once the UK has left the EU. "We have come to a very practical solution that we will maintain what we have today and make sure that it is enforced in April 2018," he said. The UK is scheduled to leave on EU next March - but it can be extended if all 28 EU members agree. South African Minister of Trade and Industry Rob Davies stated that they all agreed that it would be essential to roll-over the EPA when the UK leaves the EU. "We are essentially looking out for some elements of continuity from the first instance," said Davies.



## Positive response for SD's first co-working space, hot desking

By Majaha Nkonyane

**THERE** has been a positive response towards the country's very first co-working space or hot desking solution.

The ingenious office solution was introduced by The Hive, a company established by Velekhaya Investments which won the 2008/2009 Entrepreneur of the Year Award (EYA).

Founder and owner of The Hive Gcinekile Motsa said it was about time the business world keeps up with first world status as the country works towards reaching 2022.

The company offers affordable and first world offices at an hourly, daily, monthly short and long term rate in the capital city.

"We felt that meeting in restaurants around Johannesburg wasn't private enough hence coming up with this platform," she said.

The virtual office, situated at the New Mall, offers businesses long and short term fully serviced offices, boardroom facilities, and incubation.

"We established the company late in 2016 after travelling to South Africa on several investment opportunities seeking missions and empowerment workshops. Other services that are offered by the business include fast



**ALL SMILES:** Founder and owner of The Hive Gcinekile Motsa sharing a light moment in one of the office spaces they rent out at The Hive.

internet, photocopiers and scanners, telephone line, service kitchen and lounge for casual meetings," she said.

"We also offer virtual office space, hot desking (shared space), casual pass. Boardroom space, all of these services are available at different prices and can accommodate up to 30 people depending on the space that is needed," she said.

Motsa said more services included facilitation of company and trading

licence registration as well as application for work permits for expatriates in the country.

The company believes that vision 2022 is therefore fulfilled through such concepts. "It helps to minimise the start-up capital challenges and also assist businesses to test their ideas in the market. It also allows most businesses to benefit from the open-plan set up for networking and exchange of ideas," she said.

## FNB economists welcome interest rates cut

**JOHANNESBURG** - Economists cast Friday welcomed the decreased interest rates, saying that it would have a positive impact on many sectors of the economy, including agriculture, investment and franchising.

This comes after the South African Reserve Bank (SARB) announced on cast Thursday, that the Monetary Policy Committee had decided to reduce the repurchase rate by 25 basis points, to 6.75 per cent, due to the improved inflation outlook and the deteriorated growth outlook.

### Pressure

The prime lending rate, the figure charged by banks to customers, will now decline to 10.25 per cent.

Paul Makube, Senior Agricultural Economist at FNB, said the decreased interest rate was a welcome breather as it would help ease pressure on farmers and agribusinesses, further improving profitability.

"The reduced costs of doing business will eventually benefit the consumer in terms of lower food prices," Makube said. "It will further improve the feasibility of delayed or stalled investment projects which have a potential to unlock employment opportunities in the sector."

Chantal Marx, Head of Research at FNB Securities, said the cut and persistence of the governor's dovish

tone highlighted that now may be a good time to consider increasing exposure to interest rate sensitive stocks locally.

"Usually when the reserve bank cuts rates, consumers receive some relief in terms of debt repayments and may have a little more to spend on discretionary goods, this will be boosted by lower inflation as well. Interest rate sensitive stock include clothing, furniture, and car retail and travel and leisure stocks," Marx said.

### Assist

Riaan Fouché, Head of FNB Franchising International Development, said the decreased interest rate would assist with lower debt service costs for franchisees and more cash flow.

"This enables expansion strategies of Franchisors which will have a positive impact in creating employment within the country. It will also allow franchisees the opportunity to settle existing debt a little quicker than before," Fouché said.

Reserve Bank Governor Lesetja Kganyago warned though that a number of risks to the inflation outlook persisted and that the rand remained vulnerable to heightened political uncertainty, global monetary policy developments and possible further credit ratings downgrades. *African News Agency*

## Zim economy to grow 3.7% in 2017: finance minister

**HARARE** - Zimbabwe's economy will grow by 3.7 per cent in 2017, according to Finance Minister Patrick Chinamasa, despite a public sector wage bill devouring much of the government's expenditure.

Chinamasa said that growth would be boosted by the farming sector, which is forecast to grow by 21.3 per cent this year, along with mining, which will grow by 5.1 per cent.

He said tax revenues were expected to total \$3.7-billion (R47.8-billion) for the year, but warned that the soaring public sector jobs bill left little for capital expenditure. "The overall employment costs for 2016 remained unsustainably high at \$3.21-billion, accounting for 91.7 percent of total revenue," he said. "The level of the wage bill continues to present challenges related to cash flows."

Under long-time President Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe has suffered mass unemployment, a collapse of many public services and banknote shortages as foreign investors have fled.

Zimbabwe's economic output has halved since 2000 and unemployment stands at over 90 per cent with the government the country's only reliable employer.

Chinamasa also revealed that Zimbabwe's debt pile currently stands at \$11.3 billion — \$4 billion of which is held by domestic creditors with the rest in foreign hands. To contend with crippling cash shortages, Zimbabwe last year introduced a new local currency called "bond notes" which were initially pegged to the US dollar but have lost value against the greenback on the black market. *iNet Bridge*



**GROWTH EXPECTED:** Zimbabwean Finance Minister Patrick Chinamasa, who delivered his budget review and outlook to Parliament

## How to make SA an Innovation & Startup nation

**JOHANNESBURG** - According to the Global Innovation Index on Innovation, South Africa is ranked No 97 in innovation.

The index measures the innovation performance of 127 economies.

There are couple of contributing factors to the state of innovation in South Africa and one of them is related to the nature of education and the lack of innovation culture across the board.

Although South Africa spends the largest percentage of its budget on education the return on investment is not the same. To improve innovation, there's a need to pay over zealous attention to the nature of education and support for innovation culture. The view that South Africa is the toughest place to be an innovator has led some to wonder, what can be done to make it an innovation nation.

### Innovation

There are numerous interventions required to make South Africa a tech innovation and start-up nation. Education is one such intervention and another is the creation of a tech-innovation special economic zone.

A matriculant in South Africa spends 12 years or more at school, but walks out of school with no form of skills or ability to earn a living. The same is true for university graduates, who in some instances spend five years in an academic institution and walk out with no form of practical experience to be useful in the economy. Academics would argue that academic institutions are not designed to enable people to be economically active. This is the reason why South Africa is not yet an innovation nation. Education institutions are not designed

to develop innovative and economically active citizens. There's a need to create a training institution for start-ups where candidates walk in with a business idea and walk out with an operational business. Such a school can develop entrepreneurs at a young age (school going age). Instead of granting bursaries, such an institution would have to fund its graduates to start businesses. Educators in such an institution would have to be drawn from entrepreneurs and experienced business people. With valuable insights they can be more useful in preparing young entrepreneurs to run their own businesses.

### Mentorship

Entrepreneurs and venture capitalists can be the first group of investors into graduate businesses instead of traditional financial institutions. Each year the start-up school can develop 100 or more entrepreneurs with new businesses that can also form part of mentorship programme to future students.

Once graduated these start-ups need to be located in what I would call innovation-free economic zones. In the start-up world it's a known fact that in the first three years a start-up is likely to die due to challenges associated with starting a business in South Africa.

To protect great innovations from disappearing due to government red tape and start-up challenges a dedicated safe environment is required. Technology-free economic zones can become such environments where innovators' products and services can be allowed to flourish, where regulation such as licences and taxes can be relaxed until the start-up is ready to enter the real economy.



These zones would be like special economic zones, geographically designated areas of a country set aside for specifically targeted economic activities, supported through special arrangements and systems that are often different from those that apply in the rest of the country.

### Economic zone

This approach could be applied to a company like Uber by locating it initially in a free economic zone and allowing it to operate, without requiring it to follow similar processes for taxi operators. Once its economical impact had been demonstrated and the concept proved it would then enter the broader economy and be subject to taxation and legislation.

Many innovations have died due to tough hurdles that innovators have had to overcome in order to be acceptable. One comes to mind by the founder of Iyeza Express, a medicine delivery (by bicycle in townships) concept by Sizwe Nzima. He was prevented from running the business because he was not licensed to deliver medicine. Where is Iyeza Express today? The Infonomist will work towards documenting these innovators to ensure that they do not die because they are too advanced for current rules.

In South Africa we face abnormally high unemployment rates. Such a challenge calls for a different approach. Current methods are not working. *IOL*





## 'I'll jump for joy (if my legs hold out)': Ageing Mugabe acknowledges frailty

**LUPANE** - In a rare acknowledgement of his frailty, President Robert Mugabe has said he will jump for joy at the loyalty and love shown by his party's youth wing, but if he can't jump physically, he'll use his heart.

"I am happy, I jump about. If I can't do it with my legs I'll do it with my heart," the 93-year-old president told a youth rally in western Zimbabwe on Friday.

He commended the youths for showing "no desire at the moment to be successors when the president is still there".

As he grows ever more frail, so the jockeying for positions by senior officials within the ruling ZANU-PF party becomes more intense.

But Mugabe said that wasn't the case with the youths. "My heart is overwhelmed by your love and confidence in me... I am happy," he said in comments broadcast on state ZBC TV. Since June, Mugabe has held four youth "interface rallies". The one in Lupane on Friday had to be postponed by a week after the president made an unexpected visit to Singapore for a medical check-up. Officials insist he only goes there for specialised eye treatment. Mugabe is counting on youths to shore up support for his re-election bid next year. Support from his former die-hard loyalists, the war veterans, appears to be on the wane. The president said senior party officials needed to emulate the unity shown by the youths. *News24*

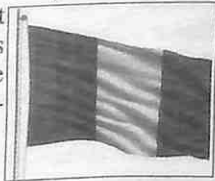
## Nigeria's ex-oil minister battles slew of graft cases

**LAGOS** - Nigeria's former oil minister faces charges only at home but her name crops up in a growing number of international cases that lift the lid on the scale of alleged corruption in the country's oil sector.

Since leaving office in 2015, Diezani Alison-Madueke has been implicated in bribery, fraud, misuse of public funds, and money laundering cases in Nigeria, Britain, Italy and the United States. The first female president of the global oil cartel OPEC - who was one of Africa's most prominent politicians - has always denied the allegations, which involve billions of dollars syphoned from oil deals and state coffers.

But former US State Department Nigeria specialist Matthew Page suggested that a US civil forfeiture case to seize \$144 million of assets from allegedly ill-gotten crude contracts may just be the start of Alison-Madueke's legal troubles. "Although this is the first attempt by US law enforcement to go after assets allegedly stolen by Diezani and her henchmen, it almost certainly will not be the last," he told AFP. Nigeria's President Muhammadu Buhari, elected in 2015 on a promise to eliminate graft, has said that "mind-boggling" sums of public money were stolen by previous administrations.

*News 24*



# DRC opposition unveil plans to force Kabila out

**KINSHASA** - The Congolese opposition on Saturday unveiled a rolling programme of strikes and civil disobedience aimed at forcing President Joseph Kabila from power.

The announcement was made after two days of opposition talks in Kinshasa, amid concerns that Kabila, in power since 2001, is seeking to remain in place in defiance of constitutional limits.

Elections in the Democratic Republic of Congo are due this year under a transitional deal aimed at avoiding fresh political violence in the sprawling country of 71 million people after Kabila failed to step down when his second mandate ended in December 2016.

Under the deal, Kabila is allowed to remain in office pending the elections, in late 2017, ruling in tandem with a



**WANTED OUT:**  
President Joseph Kabila.

transitional watchdog and a new premier, chosen from within opposition ranks. Under its newly unveiled plan of action, a two-day general strike will be held throughout the country from August 8 "as a warning," said Francois Muamba,

rapporteur of the opposition conclave. Then on August 20, the opposition plans simultaneous rallies in the capital Kinshasa and 25 provinces.

If Kabila does not by the end of September set an election date he will "no longer be recognised as president of the republic on October 1," said Muamba, speaking at the headquarters of the main opposition Union for Democracy and Social Progress (UDPS) in Kinshasa.

From that date, the opposition will invite the people to stop paying taxes to the state or paying their bills to the water and electricity monopolies.

On New Year's Eve, pro-government and opposition groups agreed to a deal brokered by the influential Roman Catholic Church that sought to avert a full-fledged crisis in the country. *News24*



**DEADLY GAME:** They probably thought it would be a spot of harmless monkey business - but it ended with an undignified tumble for one of these playful young Chacma baboons. As the pair embarked on some unusual gymnastics - one swinging joyfully on the other's tail - student Juan van den Heever was there to capture it with his camera. And he also snapped the moment when it all went wrong - with one of the two crashing to earth back-first in South Africa's Kruger National Park. (*Daily Mail*)

## Zambia's opposition leader marks 100 days in jail

**LUSAKA** - **Zambian opposition leader Hakainde Hichilema** has expressed concern over what he described as "inhuman prison conditions," as he marked 100 days in prison since being incarcerated.

Writing on his Facebook page on Thursday, the wealthy businessman, who was also the leader of the United Party for National Development (UPND), said he

harboured no hate against anyone, adding that his love for his country had not changed.

Hichilema said despite the crimes that the inmates had committed, they deserved to be treated humanely, "in accordance with local and international conventions regarding the treatment of people and respect for human rights".

He said that it was even worse for those who were still look-

ing for answers as to what crimes they had committed but were "already being punished under these inhuman conditions".

Hichilema was recently charged with treason.

Authorities alleged that he blocked President Edgar Lungu's motorcade with his own convoy of vehicles during a traditional ceremony in the country's western province in April. *news24*

## BRIEFS

### Egypt kills 2 Islamist militants

**CAIRO** - Egyptian forces shot dead two militants from the Hasam group, the government said on Friday, after the Islamist group claimed to have carried a deadly attack on police. The militants were killed in a shootout in Fayoum province, about 50km south of Cairo, as the security forces tried to arrest them at a hideout, the interior ministry said in a statement. Hasam, an extremist movement the government accuses of links to the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood, said it targeted a police convoy in the province on Thursday, killing one officer and wounding three others. *News24*

### MP held for calling on Kenyans to take land

**NAIROBI** - Kenyan police on Saturday arrested a lawmaker already accused of inciting violence after he urged people to take land away from white farmers, senior officers said. Opposition deputy Mathew Lempurkel was in custody, an officer at the Naromoru station in central Kenya, told AFP by phone. "He is being questioned because of remarks he made recently asking locals to take away their land from white settlers," he added. Kenya's police chief Joseph Boinnet also confirmed in comments to Capital FM radio that Lempurkel had been arrested for "inflammatory remarks calculated to stir up racist and ethnic hatred". *News24*

### Bombed refugee wasn't marked properly

**ABUJA** - Nigeria's military says the air force mistakenly launched an airstrike on a refugee camp in January because the camp was not appropriately marked as a humanitarian base in the military's operational maps. Defence forces said in a statement that when it noticed mass movement through aerial satellite observation on Jan. 17, it was mistaken for Boko Haram activity. It called for all humanitarian activities to be marked on military ground and aerial maps, and a mandatory exchange of information to avoid future mistakes. A Borno state government official had said more than 230 people were killed when Nigeria's air force bombed multiple times the camp in Rann that was housing Boko Haram refugees. *News24*



### Zim deploys 150 rangers, police

**HWANGE** - Zimbabwe has deployed 150 parks rangers, police officers and environmental clean-up personnel in the wake of the latest suspected poisoning incident in Hwange National Park, a parks spokesperson says. The deployment comes after two elephant carcasses were found by an anti-poaching patrol inside the park on Monday. "Currently we have deployed at least 150 personnel including parks, police and (members of the) Environmental Management Agency," said Tinashe Farawo, spokesperson for the state parks and wildlife management authority (Zimparks). *News24*

### Do the right thing, EFF tells Zambia's President Lungu

**CAPE TOWN** - The Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) has expressed concern over political developments in Zambia under the leadership of President Edgar Lungu. In a statement, the EFF said it noted with "grave concern" the "growing dictatorship and political intolerance" in the southern African country. "...Political intolerance often reflects political parties that are terrified of political contestation... the EFF had confidence in President Lungu when he had made progressive and admirable decisions to work with members of opposition party when elected in office to transform social circumstances and economic emancipation of people of Zambia." *News24*



# Focus on SA scene

## YES, I WAS WRONG ABOUT ZUMA - BLADE NZIMANDE

**JOHANNESBURG** - It took SA Communist Party (SACP) General Secretary Blade Nzimande years to painstakingly admit and regret the political decisions that enabled a questionable character being elected president.

In the lead-up to the ANC's 2007 Polokwane conference, the SACP and COSATU led a campaign for President Jacob Zuma to topple former president Thabo Mbeki.

"Had we known certain things we know now, we would have acted differently.

That's what I'm prepared to say. I don't want to talk as if I'm speak-

ing in parables, but had we known that our revolution and our struggle were going to be handed over to a immigrant Indian family going by the name of Gupta, we would have behaved differently.

**Right**

"We would not have thought that Zuma was the right person to lead the ANC and to lead the alliance or the country, for that matter," he said.

Nzimande, now completely isolated from Zuma's inner circle, told City Press that he felt betrayed by Zuma's links with the Gupta family. He was disgusted at "their

expectation to be handed over our SOEs [state-owned entities] and take our money to Dubai".

"Out of all families Zuma could choose," lamented Nzimande, listing a plethora of prominent families who contributed to the fight against oppression, "why associate with the Guptas?"

However, Nzimande admitted that hindsight was not an exact science. "You make choices in politics and you make mistakes along the way... The most important thing is, if you have made a mistake, identify it and be prepared to correct it," he said. He said that wrong



**ADMITS: SACP General Secretary Blade Nzimande.**

political decisions, which he was party to, had been made over the last 15 years or so, but that there were certain decisions he still stood by. *News24*

## Zuma should have done the right thing, resigned - ANC veteran

**DURBAN** - President Jacob Zuma's reaction to the Nkandla debacle kick - started "the current national crisis," said ANC veteran Mavuso Msimang.

Msimang was speaking at the official launch of the Active Citizens' Movement (ACM) in Durban on Saturday.

The ANC veteran said that civil organisations have a major role to play in ensuring the country gets back on track. The Active Citizens' Movement made headlines earlier this year when it clashed with the ANC Youth League at an ACM-hosted Ahmed Kathrada memorial event. But the ACM has been mobilising since then, increasing its membership and building branches across Durban.

"ACM's mission is to actually entrench democracy. We're concerned about the fact that people have been marginalised in the new dispensation now and the fact that public officials are not accounting for positions they hold and so on. So with that in mind, it's very much democracy, a grass roots based kind of movement," said organiser of the ACM, Yousuf Vawda. Msimang told guests he and other party stalwarts had tried to advise Zuma but to no avail. "Maybe resignation is something that only white monopoly capitalists do... He would have saved this country a lot if he did the right thing and moved away."

The ANC veteran was asked about those who are vying to take over from Zuma as ANC leader in December. "Some want to be the first female president. You ask them if they've ever visited an NGO that deals with communities and with women's issues? No one... I think I would make a much better women's president than some of the people," he said. *eNCA*

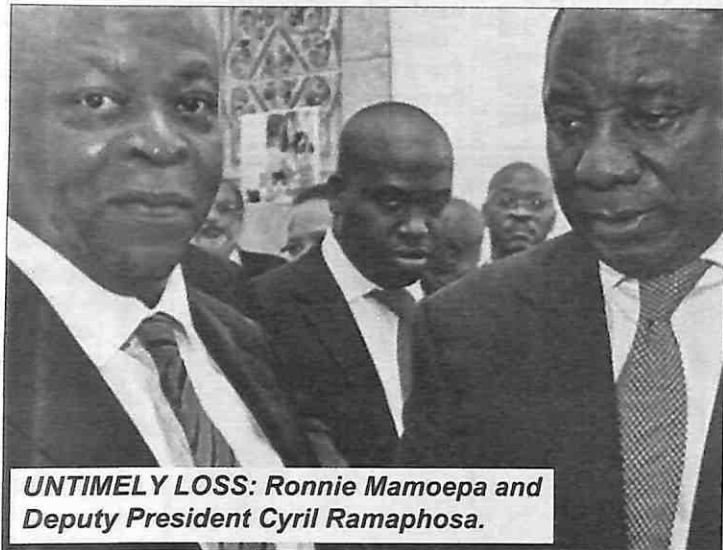
## UNITE IN PRAYER FOR RONNIE, SAYS FAMILY

**JOHANNESBURG** - The family of the late Ronnie Mamoepa yesterday called on South Africans to come together in commemoration of the struggle activist and government spokesman.

"The Mamoepa family are asking the people of South Africa to join them in prayer as they come to terms with the untimely loss of Ronnie," said family spokesperson Groovin Nchabeleng in a statement.

"Ronnie Mamoepa is an icon of the country's liberation struggle having served five years of his youth in incarceration at the infamous Robben Island prison in Cape Town," he added.

Mamoepa, Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa's spokesperson, died on Saturday night at the age of 56, following complications from a stroke he suffered last month.



**UNTIMELY LOSS: Ronnie Mamoepa and Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa.**

The family said Mamoepa had received the "highest medical care" and thanked Unitas hospital for their assistance over the last five

weeks. "The Mamoepa family also appreciates the close interest taken in Ronnie's wellbeing by the management and staff of The Presidency

as well as the Minister and Deputy Minister of Health, Drs Aaron Motsoaledi and Gwen Ramakgopa."

The family also expressed appreciation for all support received from extended family, friends, colleagues and associates.

Funeral arrangements would be released shortly, said Nchabeleng.

Earlier, Ramaphosa paid tribute to Mamoepa in a statement declaring that "this is a great loss to me personally, to The Presidency and government at large," while extending his condolences to Mamoepa's wife, children and siblings.

Mamoepa, who joined government in 1994, had served in various communication roles, including as spokesman for the then Foreign Affairs Department and also home affairs.

*News24*

## Inquest into death of Ahmed Timol resumes today

**JOHANNESBURG** - The re-opened inquest into the death of Ahmed Timol will get under way at the North Gauteng High Court today.

After Timol died, the police claimed his death was guided by a Communist Party document that encouraged activists to commit suicide rather than betray their comrades.

**Died**

He died in police custody 45 years ago.

The anti-apartheid activist was a young teacher from Roodepoort and a member of the communist party. The official report

states that Timol committed suicide by jumping from the 10th floor of John Vorster Square.

But, his family launched its own investigation which uncovered new evidence.

**Comrades**

His family, comrades and friends believe he was either pushed out the window or thrown out after being tortured to death.

The re-opened inquest heard five days of evidence in Johannesburg last month.

Among the witnesses was Dr Essop and renowned activist and lawyer George Bizos.

*eNCA*

## 'Kathrada's call for Zuma to resign was out of concern for ANC and SA'

**SCHWEIZER RENEKE** - Struggle veteran Ahmed Kathrada's call on President Jacob Zuma to resign was not made out of anger or conceit, but out of a sincere concern for the state of the African National Congress and South Africa, Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa said on Saturday.

Ramaphosa told an event to pay tribute to Kathrada in Schweizer-Reneke in the North West, where he was born on August 21, 1929.

This required not only that he challenge with all his being the iniquities of the colonial legacy and the apartheid reality. It also meant, at times, that he confront his own comrades. He could be critical without being abrasive. He could disagree without being confrontational, Ramaphosa said.

"But he felt compelled to speak out,

and to act, in defence of the values and the conduct of the movement in which he grew up and to which he dedicated his life. He never took this responsibility lightly. In a life full of difficult choices, we know that his decision to publicly call on President Jacob Zuma to resign his office was one of the most difficult and painful he had had to make.

"He made the call not out of anger, nor of conceit. He made the call out of a sincere concern for the state of the movement and the needs of the country. He made the call because, as a loyal and disciplined member of the African National Congress, he understood that he was a custodian of the values and practices of the movement to which he had dedicated 75 years of his life," Ramaphosa said. *African News Agency*

## R2m to guard SACP bosses

**JOHANNESBURG** - The SA Communist Party (SACP) has, over the past five years, spent seven times more on security for its leaders across the country.

The party's financial report, which City Press has seen, shows that just less than R2m was spent on protecting the party's top brass in the year that ended in December. This compared with its last elective conference in 2012, when the party spent only R270 000 protecting its leaders.

The figure is astounding, given that the SACP has, over the course of time, found itself in financial distress and living off donations from sympathetic affiliates of labour federation COSATU. While its membership has grown over the past five years, the report shows that it is still failing to attract professionals to its ranks and that current members are not contributing to the party's coffers.

In the recent past, the party's bosses have come under fire, with some having even received death threats, as part of existing tensions with its alliance partners, the ANC and COSATU. This has forced the SACP to repeatedly beef up security for its senior leaders, including its vocal first Deputy General Secretary Solly Mapaila, who has survived hijackings and being shot at.

*News24*



# 'A 100 000-ton message to the world'

US - President Donald Trump helped commission the USS Gerald R. Ford on Saturday and declared that the most advanced aircraft carrier to join the Navy will cause America's enemies to 'shake with fear' whenever they see its form cutting across the horizon.

"I hereby place United States Ship Gerald R Ford in commission," Trump said after delivering a speech in which he praised the US military and the American labour that went into building the 100 000 ton, \$12.9 billion warship.

"May God bless and guide this warship and all who shall sail in her," Trump said.

He was followed shortly by Susan Ford Bales, the ship's sponsor and daughter of the 38th president, whom the ship honours.

"There is no one, absolutely no one, who would be prouder of the commissioning of this mighty ship than the president of the United States, Gerald R Ford" she said. "I am honoured to give the command, 'officers and crew of the United States Gerald R Ford, man our ship and bring her to life.'"

And with those few words, the ship was brought to life. 'Anchors Aweigh' played and sailors who stood in formation in their crisp, white uniforms began filing off to their stations.

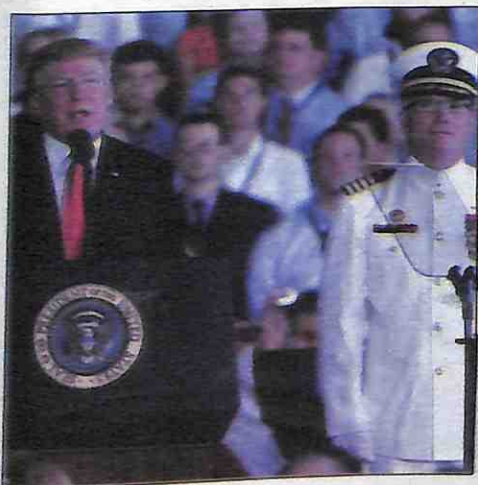
Within minutes, the captain was informed that 'the ship is manned and ready and report for duty to the fleet.'

Trump arrived aboard the carrier's steamy flight deck by the Marine One presidential helicopter and was greeted by Defence Secretary Jim Mattis and other officials.

Trump, who visited the carrier in March to promote his plans for a military buildup, told Time magazine this year that the Navy should revert to using steam catapults to launch fighter jets because some of the state-of-the-art systems and technology aboard the USS Ford 'costs hundreds of millions of dollars more money and it's no good.'

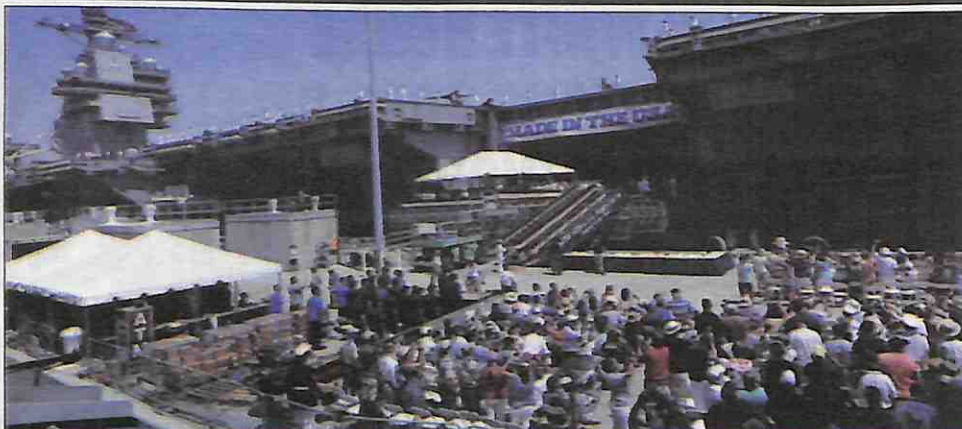
The USS Gerald R Ford is a state-of-the-art naval aircraft carrier successfully commissioned this past Saturday and is expected to take on its first mission in 2020.

It is 1 100 feet long, the length of three football fields. It is one of three naval carriers with the same design commissioned by the US Navy, including the USS John F. Kennedy (CVN 79), and the future USS Enterprise (CVN 80) costing approximately \$42 billion total. It's specialised electromagnetic systems will reportedly allow planes to take off and land more quickly. *Daily Mail*

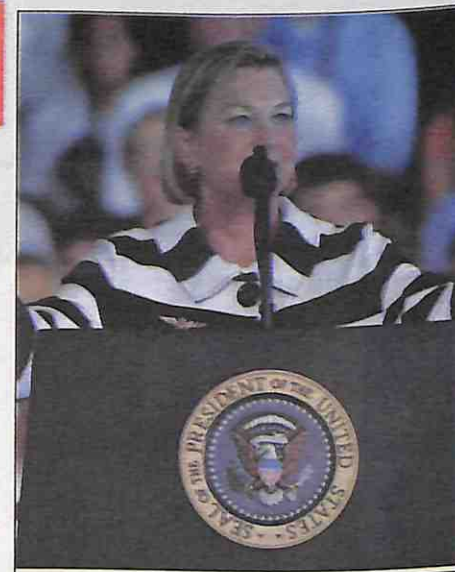


**GOD BLESS:** President Donald Trump, left, putting the USS Gerald Ford into commission as Ships Commander Capt. Richard McCormack, front right, listens aboard the nuclear aircraft carrier USS Gerald R.

**...Trump hails \$12.9 billion warship as 'the newest, largest and most advanced aircraft carrier in the history of this world' that can operate for 20 YEARS without refueling**



**BUSINESS AREA:** The Ford was built at Newport News Shipbuilding, the giant Navy contractor in Virginia.



**HONOURED:** Daughter of former President Gerald Ford, Susan Ford-Bales, gives the command for the ship to come alive aboard the nuclear aircraft carrier USS Gerald R Ford. (Daily Mail)



## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Temporary Disruption of Traffic along MR8 at Phuzumoya CONTRACT NO. 213 OF 2016/2017: UPGRADING OF THE STRATEGIC OIL RESERVE ACCESS ROAD AT PHUZUMOYA

The Ministry of Public Works & Transport (MoPWT) is currently undertaking construction works for the upgrading of the existing Strategic Oil Reserve Access Road at Phuzumoya. As well, this project includes improvements at the junction with Main Road MR8 in order to optimize the level of service and enhance road safety. This project shall be completed early October 2017.

During this construction period, heavy plant and machinery shall be utilizing the space, inadvertently causing disruptions to the daily traffic flow. Inyatsi Construction Ltd, who is the Contractor on site, has in place a robust Traffic Management Plan which the general public is urged to abide by (refer to the attached layout).

Thanking you in advance for your patience and understanding during this busy period.



**S.M. MDAWE  
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY**



## BRIEFS

## US attorney discussed Trump campaign

WASHINGTON - Embattled US Attorney General Jeff Sessions discussed campaign-related issues with the Russian ambassador to Washington during the presidential race - something Sessions had insisted he did not do. The Washington Post reported. The paper quoted current and former administration officials who cited US intelligence intercepts of Ambassador Sergey Kislyak's accounts to his bosses in Moscow of two encounters he had with Sessions, then an adviser to Trump, during the campaign. The report is certain to add more pressure on Sessions, whose job security is seen as being in jeopardy after President Donald Trump criticised him in scathing terms in an interview this week with The New York Times, saying he was sorry he had hired him. **AFP**

## 70 villagers kidnapped in Afghanistan

KANDAHAR - 70 Afghans were abducted Friday from their village along the main highway in the south of the country, and at least seven were killed, police said, accusing the Taliban of the kidnappings. Around 30 villagers have been released but at least 30 others are still missing, Abdul Raziq, the head of Kandahar provincial police told **AFP**. "The Taliban abducted 70 people from their house in a village along the Kandahar-Tarinkot highway, on Friday. They killed seven of them today," Raziq said. "Their bodies were found by villagers this morning." **AFP**

## UN Security Council to meet today

UNITED NATIONS - The United Nations Security Council will meet today to discuss the bloodiest spate of Israeli-Palestinian violence for years. Sweden, Egypt and France requested the meeting to "urgently discuss how calls for de-escalation in Jerusalem can be supported," Sweden's Deputy UN Ambassador, Carl Skau, posted on Twitter. Israel sent extra troops into the occupied West Bank on Saturday and raided the home of the Palestinian attacker who stabbed to death three Israelis on Friday, the military said. Hours before the three Israelis were stabbed, three Palestinians were killed in violence prompted by Israel's installation of metal detectors at entry points to the Noble Sanctuary-Temple Mount compound in Jerusalem's walled Old City. **Reuters**

## Polish govt presses on with court overhaul

WARSAW - Poland's ruling party on Saturday dismissed growing concern from key allies including the EU and United States and protests at home by approving an overhaul of the Supreme Court that critics say will undermine judicial independence. As mass demonstrations continued in Polish cities, senators of the right-wing Law and Justice (PiS) party agreed in the early hours of Saturday to a Bill that would remove all Supreme Court judges, except those hand-picked by the justice minister. **Reuters**

## Crane collapse kills 7, injures 2 in Chinese

BEIJING - A crane leaned and collapsed on a construction site of a major infrastructure company in southern China, killing seven people and injuring two, authorities said yesterday. The collapse occurred late Saturday at the construction site for the southern headquarters of the state-owned China Communications Construction Co. Ltd. in the city of Guangzhou, said the city's Haizhu district. Investigators were looking into how it happened, the district said in an online statement. The company could not be reached for comment yesterday. The district said the two injured were in stable condition. **AP**

## World News

## NEW WHITE HOUSE COMMUNICATIONS BOSS DELETES TWEETS TRUMP WOULD NOT LOVE

WASHINGTON, United States - Donald Trump's new communications chief has deleted tweets in which he shared views contrary to the US president's own, saying they were a distraction.

The day after he started his new job Friday, Anthony Scaramucci, a New York financier, cleared up his Twitter trail of remarks in which he differs from Trump on illegal immigration, climate change, Islam and even gun control.

"Full transparency: I'm deleting old tweets. Past views evolved and shouldn't be a distraction. I serve @POTUS agenda and that's all that matters," the new man on the White House job announced on Twitter.

A bit later, Scaramucci followed up with "the politics of 'gotcha' are over. I have thick skin and we're moving



**NEW BROOM:** Anthony Scaramucci, named Donald Trump's new White House Communications Director speaks during a press briefing at the White House in Washington, DC last Friday.

on to @POTUS agenda serving the American people."

In a 2012 comment he tweeted, he appeared to back many causes long championed by Democrats, describing himself as "for gay marriage, against the death penalty, and pro choice."

White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer abruptly

resigned Friday in protest at Scaramucci's hiring.

In a written statement, Trump said he was "grateful" for Spicer's work and praised his "great television ratings" — a reference to Spicer's keenly watched, combative and often-satirised news briefings. **AFP**

## Trump asserts all agree he has 'complete power' to pardon

WASHINGTON - President Donald Trump said on Saturday that he has "complete power" to issue pardons, an assertion that comes amid investigations into Russian interference in last year's presidential election. It was one of many topics that appeared to occupy the president's mind as the day broke.

On a day when most people are ready to forget about the issues that nagged them during the week, Trump revved up. In an early morning flurry of 10 tweets, he commented about pardons, former presidential rival Hillary Clinton, son Don Jr., health care, the USS Gerald Ford, the attorney general and other issues.

Trump said in one of his 10 messages: "While all agree the U. S. President has the complete power to pardon, why think of that when only crime so far is LEAKS against us. FAKE NEWS."

The Washington Post recently reported that Trump has inquired about the authority he has as president to pardon aides, relatives or even himself in connection with the widening investigation into Russian interference in the election and whether any Trump associates were involved.

The president has long criticised leaks of information about the investigation, and has urged authorities to prosecute leakers. **AP**

## Popularity tumbles for France's Macron - poll

PARIS - A poll out yesterday shows the popularity rating of France's new President Emmanuel Macron has slumped 10 points to hit 54 per cent over the past month.

While Macron has made a strong start on the world stage and won a solid majority in Parliament, his first three months in power have not been completely trouble-free.

He was widely criticised by opponents and the press as heavy-handed after a row over budget cuts that ended with the resignation of a highly-regarded military chief.

The 39-year-old leader has also backed a controversial Bill to toughen France's security laws that includes measures some rights groups have branded as draconian.

## Draw

His majority in Parliament has drawn concern, with opponents and several newspapers expressing concern over the concentration of power in the presidency.

According to an Ifop poll carried out for Journal du Dimanche newspaper, the number of French people satisfied with his performance fell 10 points from 64 per cent in June.

Macron's Prime Minister Edouard Philippe marked an eight point drop to hit 56 per cent of French people happy with him, said the poll of 1 947 adults carried out last week.

France's youngest-ever president, who has sought to project an image of authority since taking office in May, made clear during the row with the military boss that he would brook no insubordination as commander-in-chief.

The leftist Liberation newspaper said Macron's "little authoritarian fit" could be a sign he was drunk on power and said it was time for him "to grow up a bit". **AFP**



**UNDER GROUND:** Researchers discover a great tunnel under Liverpool built by a Victorian tycoon so he could survive an armageddon.

## US TO BAN AMERICANS FROM TRAVELLING TO NORTH KOREA

WASHINGTON - The Trump administration will ban American citizens from travelling to North Korea, US officials said on Friday, following the death of university student Otto Warmbier who died in June after falling into a coma in a North Korean prison.

Secretary of State Rex Tillerson had decided to impose "geographical travel restriction" for North Korea, the officials said, which would make

it illegal to use US passports to enter the country. They said the restriction would be published in the Federal Register next week and will take effect 30 days after that.

The officials were not authorised to publicly discuss the decision before it is announced and spoke on condition of anonymity. Two tour operators that organise group trips to North Korea said they had already been informed of the decision.

It wasn't clear how many Americans the move will affect, as figures about how many Americans go to North Korea are difficult for even the US government to obtain. The US strongly warns Americans against travelling to North Korea, but has not until now prohibited it despite other sanctions targeting the country.

Americans who venture there typically travel from China, where several tour groups market trips to adven-

ture-seekers.

Barring Americans from stepping foot in North Korea marks the latest US step to isolate the furtive, nuclear-armed nation, and protect US citizens who may be allured by the prospect of travelling there. Nearly all Americans who have gone to North Korea have left without incident. But some have been seized and given draconian sentences for seemingly minor offences. **AP**





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# SOUL BROTHERS TAKE LOCALS ON A FOUR HOUR SPLENDOR

Stories by Simon Shabangu

IT seems the spirit of the late co-founder of South African *mbhaqanga* legends Soul Brothers, David Masondo still lives on, if the performance rendered by the group at the Biggest Braai at Mavuso on Saturday night is anything to go by.

The group seems to have gained more strength and courage as they rendered a splendid performance before the strong crowd of about 10 000 people who waited till late to see them perform. Even though the group performed late, fans of the multi award winning and globe-trotting ensemble were not deterred as they patiently waited for the group to take the stage.

Upon the group taking the stage they rendered a non-stop four-hour performance which included some of their oldest songs. Now led by



**THRILLED:** Thokozani Hadebe leading the Soul Brothers during their performance at the Biggest Braai.

Thokozani Hadebe on vocals, the void left by the late co-founder, David Masondo seems to be slowly fading away as his son Siphandla completes the puzzle and comple-

ment Hadebe with his dancing skills that match that of his late father.

Fans of the group, young and old watched their performance to finish as they enjoyed all the songs

rendered during the four-hour long performance. Black Moses who leads the group on the keys was at his usual best leading the group from one song to another.



**SOMETHING CHILLY:** Pelepele dancing up a storm during the performance.



**SHONA PHANSI:** Nonhle Mthethwa and her younger sisters were also equal to the task.

## Locals thrill on the night....

Also lined up to share the stage on the night were local artists who performed after the legendary Soul Brothers.

They included Mshikishi Mndzebele, Kangaroo, Phachanga, Pelepele, Flameboy and Quad Elements among others. The locals also proved that

they have come of age as they delivered lively performances which thrilled the audience although some of the people left after Soul Brothers performances.

Those present enjoyed the energetic performances rendered by the S'thobela Band which plays *mbhaqanga*.

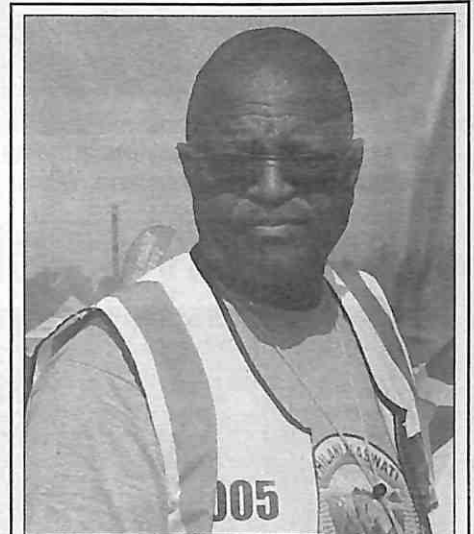
## Soul Brothers trio presented with giant cake...

THREE members of mighty Soul Brothers July Mhlabane, saxophonist, Eric Mnguni 'Sxakaxaka' who plays percussions together with Moses Ngwenya aka Black Moses were treated to a surprise birthday gift by the Directors of Isolations Dry Wall and Ceilings Specialists, Bongani Mtsetfwa and Collin Du Toit who presented them with a giant cake written their names.

The fans sang them a birthday song as they received the cake presented to them by the directors, both long time fans of the group. It was a joyful moment for the trio when their fans led by Donatus Zwane aka Nkonotja, another long time supporter of the group.

All three members were born in the month of July in different dates and years.

It was for that reason that the directors of the company saw it befitting to present them with the giant cake which was pleasantly received by the trio.



**URGED SUPPORT:** Philani Maswati executive member Lutfo Dlamini.

## SUPPORT OUR OWN....LUTFO

PHILANI Maswati Chairman and SWAMA President Lutfo Ephraem Dlamini has urged Swazis to support local artists, especially by voting for them in the upcoming MTN SWAMA Awards.

He said artists were doing well lately and all they need is support from the people.

He stated that well supported, locals have a great potential of making it internationally.

He thanked Soul Brothers for honouring the invitation to perform at the event, noting that the group is a great supporter of Philani Maswati.

He thanked business people who sponsored Philani by buying the group tickets stating that if it were not for their support the event would not have been the success that it was.

He thanked the nation for supporting the fundraising initiative by Philani Maswati.

## DAVID MASONDO'S SON DIES....BURIED LAST WEEKEND

DAVID Masondo's son Collin who is a former member of the South African *mbhaqanga* music legends, the Soul Brothers has died.

His brother Siphamandla was in the country with the South African *mbhaqanga* legends who were performing at the Biggest Braai at Mavuso Exhibition and Trade Centre on Saturday night.

Colin succumbed to death sometime last week after a short illness.

### Bereaved

Despite that Siphamandla was bereaved, he managed to come through and perform with the band which gave a sterling performance. He was one of the many children left behind by the world known artist who co-founded the globe-trotting Soul Brothers with Black Moses.

According to sources he was laid to rest last weekend which was about a week before the group's arrival in the country where they thrilled thousands of their fans.



# FEMALE BASSIST WOWS 'EM AT BIGGEST BRAAI

Stories by Samukelisiwe Ginindza

CLAD in a head wrap, a skirt and a not so fitting black and white striped shirt, she occasionally smiles shyly, one look at her one would not have the slightest idea how magnificent she is.

Sithobela Band's lead bass guitarist Sibongile Dlamini won many hearts during the Biggest Braai and left most wearing never to judge a book by its cover.

The moment she lays her hand on the bass guitar, the 26-years-old springs back to life, her eyes light up and she

is caught in a world where only her and the guitar in her hands exists and they jell.

The 10 minutes the band spent on stage seemed less for most as they wanted to see more of the 'pink moon' and when she left descended it, most wanted to touch those 'magic hands'.

"I only started playing the guitar in 2013 where I was taught by Bheki Zikalala and Clinton Gina, and own a guitar as well," she said.

The mother of three added that her children are also avid dancers while her husband plays the piano in the same band.

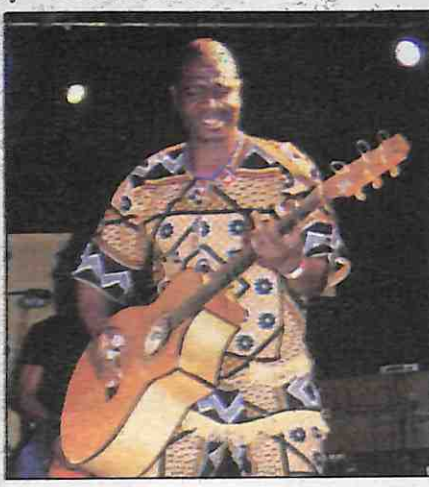
"I love my guitar and I always feel at home when I am playing one. I am shy

but I want to travel the world and earn a living doing what I enjoy the most and I am glad that my husband will be by my side as he also plays the piano," she said.

Local well known advocate Sicelo Simelane applauded her for her magnificent skills soon after her band's performance.

"There are a few female bass guitarists and you are by far the first local woman who plays it so well to actually keep one glued to the stage and follow the music.

I hope to see you going to places, flying the country's flag high and mostly making a good name for yourself," Simelane said.



**BEST OF THE BEST:** Sibongile Dlamini of Sithobela Band stole the show during the Biggest Braai with her bass guitar playing skills. This was on Saturday at Mavuso Trade Centre. Fanaza Tsabedze on stage. (Pics: Samukelisiwe Ginindza)

## ...Magaya spits fire, causes a scene



**WAR:** Magaya Music managers trying to resolve the impasse between Magaya Music and radio man Siphesihle Nxumalo.



**TAKEN:** Spectators having the time of their lives.

LOCAL kwaito artist Lwazi Magaya of Magaya Music almost reduced the event to a chaotic affair (thanks to the loud music) when he vented his anger on local radio man Siphesihle 'Sihlabani sebenguni' Nxumalo.

It was a true Goliath and David scene for most of those who witnessed as the tall Magaya dwarfed the pint sized radio man.

Magaya music was full of anger and viciousness; his eyes were glittering like hot coal in the dark by the main stage after he was allegedly cut abruptly during his performance.

"You cannot drag me off the stage, who do you think you are," retorted the artist.

If it was not for his manager and the stage manager, the two would have exchanged blows.

Other journalists attempted to cool down the fuming pint sized radio man in vain as he kept pointing fingers at the artist, who also refused to back down.

After a few minutes, the two were dragged away from each other and the artist's manager and stage manager resolved their differences amicably.

When our crew attempted to interview the artist, he seemed dazed and enraged, as he walked away 'to look for his cell-phone'.

Clad in an all grey ensemble, the tall and usually calm artist walked away with his back-up dancer and friend by his side.



**IT'S FUN HERE:** The young and old came in their numbers for the event.

## ...Biggest Braai runs out of meat

The well literally ran dry at this year's third annual Biggest Braai as they ran shot of meat, as it was only intended for 2 000 people, yet the total number of people that attended was 5 000.

The show, which began as early as 8am, was so well attended even the organisers Philani Maswati Charity Organisation, was surprised.

"About 2 000 people were expected to show up, yet we got the shock of our lives as more came, it was fun for both the young and old as the games and activities catered for everyone and our local artists gave their very best on stage," Lutfo Dlamini, Chairman of Philani Maswati, said.

At around 14:30, the day's Master of Ceremony Swazi TV's

Siphesihle Nkwanyana announced that meat had run out.

### Sale

"We would like to invite butchery owners to come forth as we have run out of meat, please to the people here, also tell those who are not to spread the word," she said on stage.

However, the well running dry did not stop the fun as the smoke continued filling the air, smiles remained on almost every one's faces and families had the time of their lives.

Umbuluzi Chicken announced, however, that they still had boerwors on sale.

"However, Umbuluzi Chicken still has boerwors retailing at E5 and for that amount you will get something to quench all your cravings and hunger pangs," Nkwanyana added.



**THORN AMONG ROSES:** Interior Solutions' Cheese flanked by Noncedo and Nombuso.



**ON TOP OF THEIR VOICES:** Spectators enjoying the performances rendered on stage.



**DANCING:** Fanaza back-up dancers sweating it out on stage.



# 'CHRISTMAS IN JULY' AT DEJA VU

By Ayanda Dlamini

**THE** lights and candle couldn't agree more with the 'Christmas in July' themed affair at Déjà vu Cocktail lounge on Saturday during the inaugural annual high fashion affair.

Patrons braved the cold to attend the event as well as a few personalities and SwaziBoy Entertainment spinners and artists who came in suited up. Some came clad in semi-casual wear and ladies came dressed to the nines, braving the cold, supporting 'Fashion has no weather' statement. A red carpet was placed from the entrance to where patrons were ushered in with a welcome drink. The waitresses were well dressed for the function as they wore all white matching outfits.

The event was a

basically a social gathering, where various personalities and Déjà vu Cocktail Lounge patrons were socialising, sipping their drinks and listening to the music rendered by the spinners.

Resident spinners rendered good music; from old school to latest hip hop tunes. Spinner Lungster of SwaziBoy Entertainment thrilled the patrons when he switched from house music to hip hop set effortlessly.

Revellers could not control themselves but sang along to every song he rendered. Around 2am, fun lovers were flocking in, dancing to the music rendered.

The music played received thumbs up from the revellers who were chilling with their friends and acquaintances, sipping on red wine which perfectly matched with the theme.

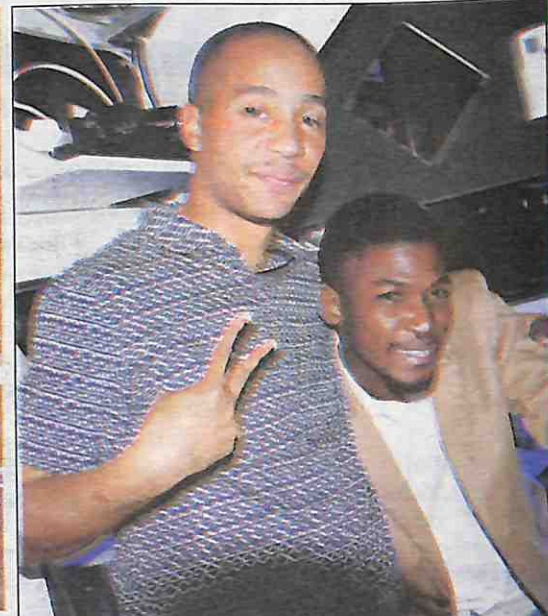
"Even though the turn up was not as we thought it would be, but I just loved the idea. Hopefully next year, it will be much bigger and more people will come prepared. However the music is on point," Ngeti Simelane said.



**CHILLED VIBES:** Patrons socialising and enjoying the music rendered by SwaziBoy Entertainment spinners during the first annual 'Christmas in July' affair on Saturday at Déjà vu Cocktail Lounge. (Pics: Ayanda Dlamini)



**ON POINT:** Spinner Lungelo well-suited up as he rendered good music for the patrons.



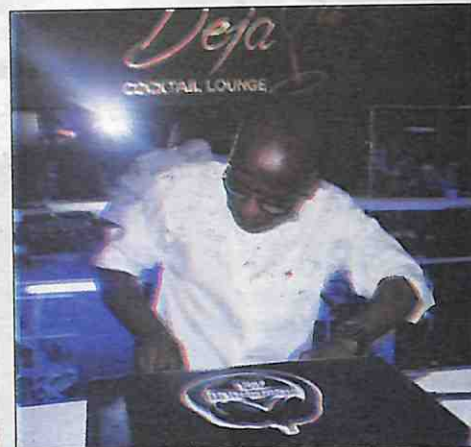
**POSE:** Spinners Paris and DJ Mist Soul were also there enjoying themselves.



**LOOKING GOOD:** Socialite Stix and Ur Gal Zee looked glamorous at the affair.



**FILL-UP:** SwaziBoy Entertainment artists Lyrical Busta and Ncwiki pose with Illa Pen Boy as they were well dressed for the event.



**FEELING IT:** DJ Spice dancing to his music as he rendered 'Colours' by DJ Zinhle.



**KODAK MOMENT:** Fun lovers having a selfie moment.



**SEXY:** Former Miss Tourism Princess Nokubusiswa looking sexy in her black number.



International  
Celebrity News

## Behold Bella, Bella, Nattie and more WWE Superstars'

**LOS ANGELES** - These WWE Superstars are getting their own dolls!

E! News is getting a first look at Mattel's new line of action figures,

which are modelled after Brie Bella, Nikki Bella, Natalya, Naomi and other fierce women of the WWE. The product line celebrates the

WWE Superstars' athleticism as entertainers as well as their fashion styles outside the ring.

The fashion doll line features Total Divas stars the Bella Twins, Nattie, Naomi, Eva Marie and Alicia Fox, as well as Sasha Banks, Charlotte

Flair, Becky Lynch and Bayley in two looks, one from the ring and one in everyday life. There's also an action figure line of dolls that are modelled

after Nikki, Brie and Charlotte Flair in their signature ring gear.

And yes, the dolls are fully equipped to move and act

out the stars' show-stopping wrestling moves. Completing Mattel's new line is the Ultimate Fan Pack, which comes

with a 6-inch action figure, a role play item and a DVD with exclusive content. It includes Bayley and Sasha Banks.

(Entertainment)



## Beckham, Beer step out in Los Angeles hot spots

**HOLLYWOOD** - There's a new young Hollywood couple in town!

Brooklyn Beckham and Madison Beer are certainly wasting no time when it comes to getting to know one another. The duo has been spotted at some of Los Angeles' most happening hot spots over the last several days and they seem to show no sign of slowing things down any time soon.

Just last night, the two were seen grabbing a bite to eat at West Hollywood

cattery Catch LA. According to a source, Beer and Beckham arrived to the celeb

haunt hand in hand were snapping selfies before joining none other than Victoria Beckham as she was dining with a pal.

So it looks like Beer already has her new man's mother's stamp of approval!

Then, earlier yesterday, the new couple enjoyed some

retail therapy during a trip to Barneys New York. While they managed to keep their PDA to a minimum, it's clear that these two are enjoying spending

ample time together. (Entertainment)



**DATING: Brooklyn Beckham and Madison Beer.**

## Catfish's Nev Schulman marries Laura Perlongo

**LONDON** - Catfish star Nev Schulman married his girlfriend Laura Perlongo in a romantic ceremony in the backyard

of his father's home in the Hamptons last Saturday. The couple's baby daughter, Cleo James, served as the flower girl and YouTuber Casey Neistat officiated the ceremony, People reported

"I never imagined I could be this happy," Schulman, 32, told the magazine. "Marrying the woman of my dreams and having our beautiful

daughter there with us! I'm a very lucky man."

Perlongo, 31, wore a lace gown by Israeli designer Inbal Raviv and jewelry by Edgar Mosa, according to People. Schulman and Perlongo first announced that they were engaged to wed back in May of last year, just five months before the now husband and wife welcomed their first child into the world. (Entertainment)



**HITCHED: Catfish star Nev Schulman married his girlfriend Laura Perlongo.**

## Burke, Lawrence adorable on caribbean vacation

**ST GEORGE** - Cheryl Burke and Matthew Lawrence are the cutest!

The two lovebirds are on a tropical Caribbean island vacation in St George's, Grenada and have been sharing adorable photos from their trip on social media. Matthew, 37, posted a sweet selfie of him and Cheryl, 33, standing on the beach near their resort, Sandals LaSource Grenada. Cheryl posted a photo of the two standing on a pier, with her wearing a pink satin gown. She also shared a photo of her relaxing in a private pool on the balcony of their hotel room. The Dancing with the Stars pro and



**LOVEBIRDS: Cheryl Burke and Matthew Lawrence.**

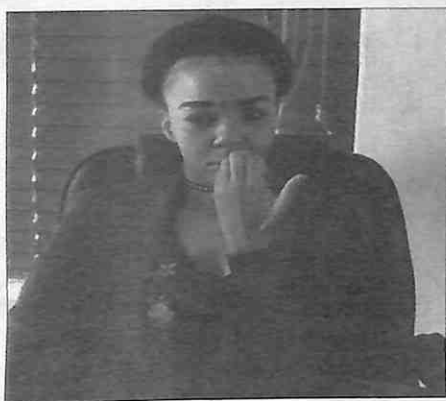
the actor, who may or may not have been your '90s crush, are dating again following a 2008 split. (Entertainment)

## SA Celebrity News

## 'Strangled, dragged on hard surface' - singer Cici

**JOHANNESBURG** - Award-winning R&B chanteuse Cici may not be able to make babies after she was allegedly strangled and dragged on a hard surface by her ex-boyfriend Arthur Mafokate in two separate domestic violence incidents. In the first incident, Cici, born Busisiwe Twala, allegedly bled from her vagina, and broke her pelvic bones in the second and latest assault.

(Sunday World)



**ABUSED: Cici.**

## Nelson Mandela's family 'aggrieved' over surgeon's book

**JOHANNESBURG** - Former President Nelson Mandela's grandson, Nkosi Zwelivelile Mandela, has confirmed the family's "unequivocal support" of former first lady Graca Machel's threats to take legal action over a new book detailing the stateman's final years. In



**VIOLATED: Former President Nelson Mandela.**

a statement issued on Saturday, Mandela agreed with Machel's sentiments that former Surgeon-General Dr Vijay Ramlakan's book 'Mandela's Last Years' constituted an "ethical breach and certainly violates the doctor-patient confidentiality principle". In a scathing statement, Mandela accuses Ramlakan of violating Mandela's privacy. (Entertainment)

## Soapie's raunchy scenes too hot for viewers

**JOHANNESBURG** - The Legacy's own Fifty Shades of Grey episodes have been removed from air following complaints from the soapie's viewers.

The SABC announced on Friday that it would pull the soapie's omnibus for this week's episodes which were scheduled to air on Saturday. "This is due to the viewer complaints the channel has received about the alleged explicit content shown during this week's episodes of the popular soapie. "The channel will replace this week's episodes by airing the first five episodes of Generations: The Legacy that first went to air in December



2014. "We would like to assure our viewers that we take their feedback seriously and would like to apologise for any inconvenience or discomfort this week's episodes may have caused," reads a statement issued by SABC1. (Entertainment)

## Zahara to become taxi boss, money lender

**JOHANNESBURG** - Not content with taking over the charts, award-winning musician Zahara will soon be extending her business ventures into the money lending and taxi businesses.

Zahara has started a business with her sister Bandezwa, called BeeZee, which will in the next few months open a butchery in East London, a car wash in Johannesburg, a taxi service operating in both cities, and a money lending service providing loans across the country. Speaking to TshisaLIVE Zahara said

that she came up with the ventures after hearing countless complaints



**NEW VENTURE: Zahara.**

about the way money lenders and taxi drivers conduct their businesses.

"Loan sharks are doing the wrong thing. They are providing loans and then demanding money back at

(a huge interest rate). I want to change the way people lend money. (Entertainment)

## WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA

TODAY

Ntandane gets a nasty surprise with his bar bill. Sihle and the Ndlovus have a fallout.

Meanwhile, Sihle concocts a plan of her own. **FALLOUT: Sihle.**



ISIDINGO

TODAY

Lerato's attempts to help her man gets her into deep trouble with Sechaba. Morongwa has to defend a complete stranger from school security officials. Thabang is tired of being kept a secret by Gatanga.

**GUILTY: Lincoln.**

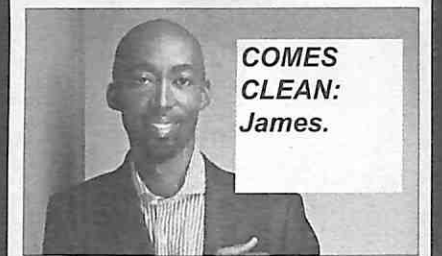


Muvhango

TODAY

James is about to make a very important investment. Thandaza is disturbed to find that there is money missing at her company. Imani tries to guilt-trip Ranthomeng into giving her the corporate affairs' position.

**COMES CLEAN: James.**



RHYTHM CITY

TODAY

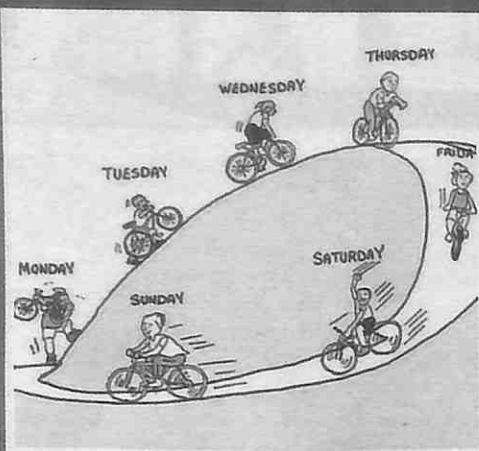
Lungile buys hallucinogenic drugs from an old friend called Mawewe. Mampho and Reneilwe have a spat. Reneilwe lures Sifiso closer to boost her ego.

**HAVE A SPAT: Mampho.**





## PICTURE OF THE DAY



## TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

## Capricorn

December 22 – January 19

The Moon is a bit disconnected from your sign. Take your time and move through the day with glee. You have joy in your life. Give yourself this time to open up to someone. You are possibly open to new love or a different way of thinking at this time!



## Aquarius

January 20 – February 18

The Moon is opposite your own sign today asking you to open up your heart to new possibilities and connections. You might need to help out a friend and be involved in a group project! If you work in any field involving the public you might get recognised. Orange is your power colour at this time!



## Pisces

February 19 – March 20

There is an incredible resemblance of the past moving through your own life at this time! You are much stronger at this time, and have a great chance for healing. You are growing stronger by the day! Navy Blue is your power colours.



## Aries

March 21 – April 19

You are in a very good position today as the Moon moves through your sister sign of Leo! Lots of fire burning out there in the stars! Passion and pleasure are at their peak right now! You might be involved in a project that brings you great success! Speak your truth at this time!



## Taurus

April 20 – May 20

This is a great day to power through and test your limits! You might have a million things to accomplish all at once! Success is in your ability to bull ahead! Let your heart be your guide at this time! Self-respect goes quite far! Purple is your power colour today.



## Gemini

May 21 – June 21

This is a great day to feel all the feels and express your desires. Let your heart speak and be open! Your heart's path is open and this is not short-lived affair. This might not be something you are totally used to, but it is a learning experience!



## Cancer

June 22 – July 22

You might be dealing with someone who has a similar personality to your own. This is in any realm of your own life. This could be on the career front! You have a great deal of energy either flowing into your life or trying to open you up to a new possibility! Remember your heart and soul!



## Leo

July 23 – August 22

Everybody wants you! Doesn't it seem that way at this time! You are at the peak of success in the zodiac at this time. Your conversations are moving forward and opening up your passion and desires. This is everything that books are written about! Lilacs are your power flower today!



## Virgo

August 23 – September 22

Spirituality and religious activities might be opening up for you at this time. You are a genuine heart, and a creative speaker. Your intelligence is the key to your success, and might not follow the same path as the mainstream. This is a time to work on a project with a longer space than you would normally give yourself. It's about allowing and accepting at this time. Aqua and Teal are your power colours!



## Libra

September 23 – October 23

You might enjoy the simple space you find in your day. This is a great time to socialise and network in a brand new way. Allow your dreams to come true and seek out success through your love! You are a brand new baby in many ways. Celebrate your day with complete joy and love! Blue is your power colour today!



## Scorpio

October 24 – November 21

You are incredible! See how much you've done and accomplished. Your sign is beating the odds! Do not let anything bring you down, even if you are feeling twinges of jealousy at this time. Remember everything works and moves on a cycle.



## Sagittarius

November 22 – December 21

You might feel a bit backwards at this time. It's all about baby steps. If something creative seemed as though it was a go, and gets changed around this is due to Saturn's retrograde in your own sign. Structures are in need of a revamp.



## BABY BLUES

BABY BLUES



## BUCKLES

BUCKLES



## HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



## PUZZLE CHOICE

Can you find the fifty words in the list below containing the letter Z? They may be horizontal, vertical, diagonal, forwards or backwards.

NYEZEEUQSHZAPOTZRYO  
OIZSREZE EEWTPWPRZZZV  
ZIIIZEALDZEBRAIMUAZA  
IZENITHBSBEEBEZBNIC  
RADZADKDXILHZOZAYFR  
OFEEELLEZAGAMONIRVA  
HSRMNGMSBDIBZNOAEDZ  
TDPEAIVURLIEIENNNSY  
EMRRNIZAZESLLEVBSZB  
AZZAIZZEAEIZZPIZZA  
DCNTZZYENPLIZVZOVR  
RIGOIZEEPKTEYZRIEZZ  
AVALRRUERIEKPELGROZ  
ZBBRBBZBCTDAZZLEDDZ  
ALKODRELZZEBMEEGOII  
HAHZEVELSSRJDP RMZAP  
AZOAVNWEPLAZAAAP ECP  
TEPRZLVEZISRZZATNPE  
KREHGYSNEEZEEAZATAR

BLAZE, BLAZER, BLIZZARD, BONANZA, BREEZE, BRONZE, BUZZ, BUZZARD, CITIZEN, CRAZY, DAZZLED, DENIZEN, DIZZY, DOZEN, DRIZZLE, EMBEZZLER, FIZZY, FRENZY, GAZELLE, GRAZE, HAZARD, HAZY, HORIZON, JAZZ, MAIZE,

MAZE, MUZZLE, PIZZA, PLAZA, PRIZE, RAZOR, SEIZE, SIZE, SIZZLE, SNEEZE, SNOOZE, SQUEEZE, TOPAZ, TWEEZERS, WIZARD, ZANY, ZEAL, ZEBRA, ZENITH, ZEPPELIN, ZERO, ZEST, ZIPPER, ZODIAC, ZOMBIE.

## Office things



Colleagues have been writing names on the food in the office fridge - I'm currently eating a yoghurt called Susan. How cute, and then my boss told

me that there is no such thing as problems, only opportunities. I said, "That's great. Well I have a serious drinking opportunity."

## USELESS FACTS

1. Men own basketball teams. Every year cheerleaders' outfits get tighter and briefer, and players' shorts get looser, baggier and longer.
2. No man is charming all of the time. Even Cary Grant is on record saying he wished he could be Cary Grant.
3. If a man says "I'll call you," and he doesn't, he didn't FORGET... he didn't LOSE

- your number... he didn't DIE! He just didn't want to call you.
4. Men hate to lose. I once beat my husband at tennis. I asked him, "Are we going to have sex again?" He said, "Yes. But not with each other."
  5. Men who can eat anything they want and not gain weight should do it out of the sight of women.

BRAinteasers  
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

## Friday's Brainteasers

Answer: The truth.

1. It's not a baby though you hold in the arms close to your bosom. It's not an Indian man though it has long beard. It's not a monkey though its tail is bent. It's not a bird though it has beautiful voice. What am I?

Answer: A harp.

1. Everyone asks for me but yet everyone hates to face me, for someone I am agony for others I am relief! Who am I?

## Today's brainteasers

1. What eight letter word can have a letter taken away and it still makes a word. Take another letter away and it still makes a word. Keep on doing that until you have one letter left. What is the word?
2. What has a head, a tail, is brown, and has no legs?





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**DStv**

### HIGHLIGHT

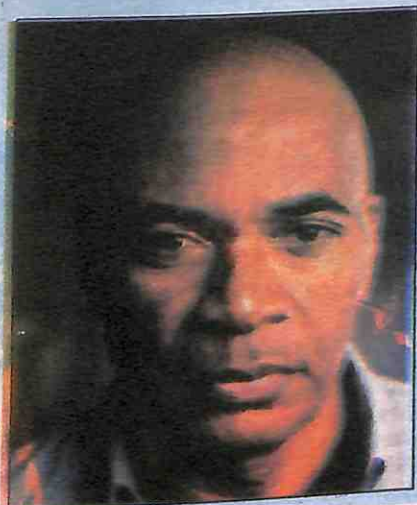
#### Scene Of The Crime With Tony Harris

**Tonight, 21:00 | Discovery IDx (171)**

Crime comes in many forms – crimes of passion, crimes of betrayal, crimes of rage, and crimes of greed. But crimes don't happen in a vacuum and each one reveals a unique set of circumstances, people and places that gives birth to the crime. In this immersive and investigative series, Emmy Award-winning journalist Tony Harris reveals the different faces and places behind the

crimes and the worlds that surround them.

He investigates how the brutal murder of 11-year-old Jodie Parrack in Constantine, Michigan, turned neighbour against neighbour in this small community. And, in Harker, Texas, he unravels a sordid family drama that lands two brothers in prison for a crime they swear they didn't commit. This compelling six-episode series explores the secret world of family betrayals, conspiracy theorists and violent crimes.



#### MTV Shuga Presents: 16 & Pregnant

**Friday, 13:35 | MTV (130)**

Fanele, Thato and Nhlanhla's lives are about to change forever as they share their challenges and triumphs preparing to become teenage mothers in and around Johannesburg,



South Africa.

#### The Queen

**July 31, 21:00 | Mzansi Magic (161)**

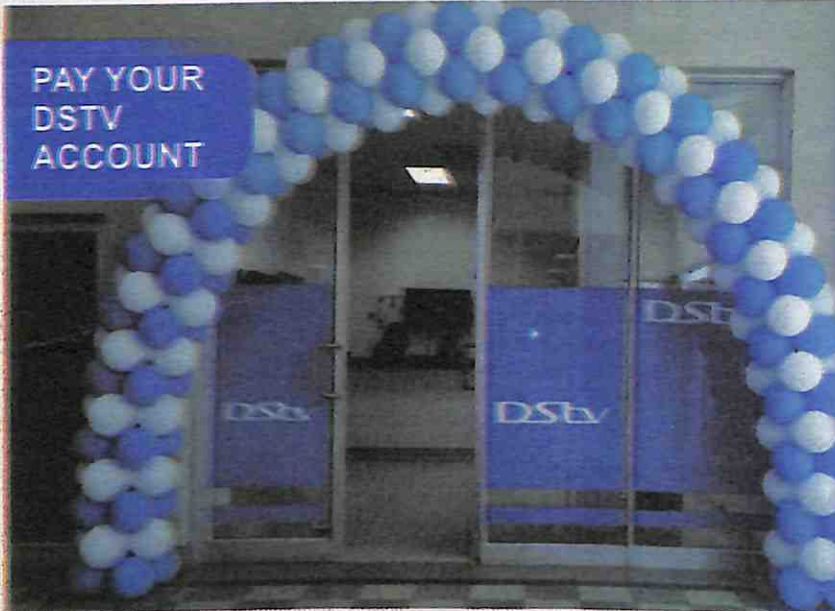
Mzansi Magic (DStv Channel 161) has extended broadcast for 'The Queen' to a Monday to Friday telenovela, favouring fans with an extra dose of suspense, intrigue, spice and comic relief. From July 31, viewers will be able to enjoy more of the Khoza family antics and the shenanigans of their friends and foes.

The Brutus and Kgositsile meme hall of fame is about to be blessed with more of these beloved characters' quirky tongue in cheek humour and facial expressions when 'The Queen' becomes a five-days-a-week show.

In this episode: Harriet is out in the cold, as the Khozas turn against her. A Mabuza is out for revenge.



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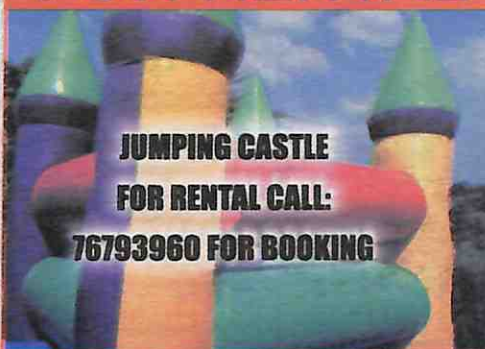
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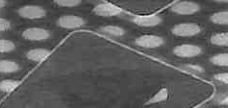
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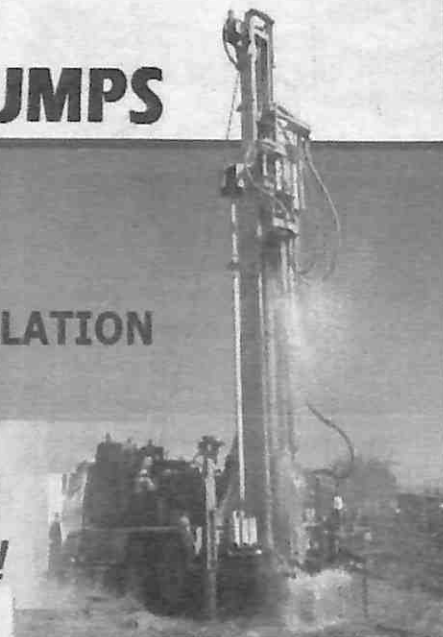
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# BARCA TRIO WANTS NEYMAR TO STAY

**BARCELONA** - Barcelona have brought out their biggest guns in the battle to keep Neymar with Lionel Messi, Luis Suarez and Gerard Pique all launching attempts to convince him to reject Paris Saint-Germain.

The Ligue 1 outfit have told Neymar they are willing to meet his €222million (£196m) release clause and have offered him a staggering wage worth over £500 000 per week after tax.

Barcelona president Josep Bartomeu has already tried and failed to convince Neymar to stay but, according to Mundo Deportivo, his attacking team-mates Messi and Suarez are trying to do the same.

The Spanish newspaper claims Messi and Suarez have already addressed the reports with Neymar at their pre-season training camp in New Jersey while it also says Pique had a particularly 'intense' exchange with the wantaway forward.

It comes as Bartomeu told reporters that Barcelona were staying 'calm' over reports that they could lose their second biggest star this summer.

Indeed, Marca state that PSG may have got ahead of themselves with



**Lionel Messi (right) and Luis Suarez (centre) have discussed Neymar's proposed move to PSG.**

regards to Neymar, suggesting they will struggle to overcome Financial Fair Play regulations if they sign him.

To activate the clause, PSG must pay the entire transfer fee up front and are believed to be seeking sponsorship from Qatar to make sure the figures stack up, but it is far from a simple process.

On Saturday, Neymar reminded the Nou Camp executives of exactly what

they would be losing if the deal did go through as he scored twice in a glamorous friendly tie against Juventus to win the game 2-1.

Barcelona are also attempting to sign Liverpool star Philippe Coutinho in an £72m deal, hoping that the arrival of one of Neymar's closest friends will convince him to remain at the club.

*Daily Mail*

## Women's tennis in the doldrums

**JOHANNESBURG** - Serena Williams' pregnancy has left the sport in a fragile state, with no clear leader ready to step up and fill the berth.

Eighteen-time Grand Slam winner Chris Evert summed it up succinctly when she recently told ESPN: "I think at the top of the game, it's very chaotic right now. I think there's a lot of fragility."

This is the result of former world No 1 Serena Williams taking time away from the sport to have a baby.

Since she bowed out after winning the Australian Open when she was five weeks pregnant in January, women's tennis has had a topsy-turvy ride, with different players winning titles and changing the top position.

Since then, world No 6 Ukrainian Elina Svitolina has won four titles, and Russian world No 17 Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova has bagged two.

The pair are the only players who have managed multiple titles since Williams' temporary exit.

The other winners have become one-hit wonders, failing to keep their momentum.

Three of the titles won by Svitolina are not ranked in the top-three category of international tournaments.

Out of the four, only the Italian Open is ranked as one of the five premier events on the 2017 Women's Tennis Association (WTA) tour.

Pavlyuchenkova's titles – the Morocco Open and the Monterrey Open – are ranked far below the Grand Slams.

The second Grand Slam of the year, the French Open, was won by unseeded Jelena Ostapenko of Latvia.

The Wimbledon title was taken by Spaniard Garbiñe Muguruza, which

### Women tennis title winners since Serena Williams went on maternity leave

<p><b>Elina Svitolina</b> (Indian Wells Open)</p> <p>Country: Russia Date of birth: August 1 1996 Age: 30 Place of birth: L'viv, Ukraine SSR, Soviet Union Height: 1.76m Plays: Right-handed (two-handed backhand) Highest ranking: Number 13 (March 20 2017) Current ranking: Number 19 (July 17 2017) Olympics: Winner (2016) Grand Slam mixed doubles results: Wimbledon Winner (2017)</p>	<p><b>Johanna Konta</b> (Miami Open)</p> <p>Country: Great Britain Date of birth: May 17 1991 Age: 26 Place of birth: Sydney, Australia Height: 1.80m Plays: Left-handed (two-handed backhand) Highest ranking: Number six (May 8 2017) Current ranking: Number four (July 17 2017)</p>	<p><b>Daria Kasatkina</b> (Charleston Open)</p> <p>Country: Russia Date of birth: May 7 1997 Age: 20 Place of birth: Tol'yatti, Russia Height: 1.70m Plays: Right-handed (two-handed backhand) Current ranking: Number 31 (July 17 2017)</p>	<p><b>Laura Siegemund</b> (Stuttgart Open)</p> <p>Country: Germany Date of birth: March 4 1988 Age: 29 Place of birth: Filderstadt, West Germany Height: 1.69m Plays: Right-handed (two-handed backhand) Highest ranking: Number 27 (May 8 2017) Current ranking: Number 38 (July 17 2017)</p>	<p><b>Simona Halep</b> (Madrid Open)</p> <p>Country: Romania Date of birth: September 27 1991 Age: 27 Place of birth: Constanta, Romania Height: 1.68m Plays: Right-handed (two-handed backhand) Current ranking: Number two (June 12 2017) Grand Slam single results: French Open Final 2017</p>
<p><b>Elina Mykhaylyna Svitolina</b> (Italian Open)</p> <p>Country: Ukraine Date of birth: September 12 1994 Age: 22 Place of birth: Odessa, Ukraine Height: 1.74m Plays: Right-handed (two-handed backhand) Highest ranking: Number six (July 12 2017) Current ranking: Number six (July 2017)</p>	<p><b>Jelena Ostapenko</b> (French Open)</p> <p>Country: Latvia Date of birth: June 8 1997 Age: 20 Place of birth: Riga, Latvia Height: 1.77m Plays: Right-handed (two-handed backhand) Highest ranking: Number 12 (June 12 2017) Current ranking: Number 12 (July 17 2017)</p>	<p><b>Petra Kvitová</b> (Birmingham Classic)</p> <p>Country: Czech Republic Date of birth: March 21 1992 Age: 25 Place of birth: Blatná, Czech Republic Height: 1.83m Plays: Left-handed (two-handed backhand) Current ranking: Number 14 (July 17 2017)</p>	<p><b>Karolína Pišková</b> (Eastbourne International)</p> <p>Country: Czech Republic Date of birth: March 21 1992 Age: 25 Place of birth: Louňky, Czech Republic Height: 1.86m Plays: Right-handed (two-handed backhand) Highest ranking: Number one (July 17 2017) Current ranking: Number one (July 17 2017)</p>	<p><b>Garbiñe Muguruza Blanco</b> (Wimbledon)</p> <p>Country: Spain Date of birth: October 8 1993 Age: 23 Place of birth: Caracas, Venezuela Height: 1.82m Plays: Right-handed (two-handed backhand) Current ranking: Number five (July 17 2017) Grand Slam titles: Wimbledon winner 2017</p>

adds to her 2016 French Open win.

"I think the players who have been at the top have not lived up to their billing. I feel terrible saying that," said Evert.

"But everyone who's reached num-

ber one, they haven't carried on the momentum, and they haven't stepped up and embraced that position of leadership on and off the court."

*sport24*

Kevin-Prince Boateng

@KPBoateng

Following

I've decided to wear this shirt all season under my playing shirt!! To show my support and Because I pray for you #abdelhakNouri #prince7



### Boateng to wear Ajax star Abdelhak Nouri's shirt

**AMSTERDAM** - Kevin-Prince Boateng will wear Ajax star Abdelhak Nouri's shirt in a mark of respect to the midfielder who collapsed on the pitch earlier this month.

Nouri suffered 'serious and permanent brain damage' after collapsing during his side's pre-season friendly with Werder Bremen.

The 20-year-old received CPR on the pitch and was airlifted to hospital in Austria after falling to the ground in the 73rd minute of the game.

Ajax have since confirmed that Nouri's diagnosis is career-ending.

Boateng posted a picture of himself on Twitter on Saturday holding up Nouri's shirt before committing to wearing it for the new season with Las Palmas.

"I've decided to wear this shirt all season under my playing shirt. To show my support and because I pray for you #abdelhaknouri #prince7," he wrote on Twitter.

Boateng joins a number of

footballers to show their support to the midfielder.

Manchester United defender Timothy Fosu-Mensah said he was praying for his former Ajax team-mate.

"I spoke to his brother Mohamed, and it's very difficult," Fosu-Mensah said. "I pray for him every day and I'm positive that he will be well."

"His brother goes to the hospital and checks him out but his brother was like when I have the time I have to visit him and that's what I'm going to do."

"It's difficult times for the family but also for me."

"I played with him since the age of eight. I know him in and out so it is very strange that this happens to someone who is so close to you."

"It's not easy for me but I'm here [on Manchester United's preseason tour] and I have to focus and every time when I can I have contact with his brother or with my teammates who I played with at Ajax."

*Daily Mail*

## SA swimmers struggle at FINA World Champs

**CAPE TOWN** - It was a bad day at the office for the SA swim team at the FINA World Championship in Budapest on Sunday with not one swimmer managing to progress through the heat stages.

In the 100m breaststroke, Brazil Olympics silver medal winner, Cameron van der Burgh did not start his heat. England's Adam Peaty set the best time over the distance, winning in 58.21.

In the 400m freestyle, Brent Szurdoki could only manage the 33rd best time overall (3:54.34) with Canada's Jeremy Bagshaw the fastest swimmer in the heats

with 3:48.82.

Douglas Erasmus finished 10th in his 50m butterfly heat with Andrii Govorov of Ukraine stopping the clock in 22.92 for the fast time of the morning.

In the women's 400m freestyle, Kate Beavon, swimming in heat two, managed 8th place with a time of 4:20.82. The heat was won by Diana Duares of Portugal in 4:10.07.

Finally, the women's 4x100 Freestyle relay time finished last in their heat in a time of 3:57.83. Australia won the heat, clocking 3:35.18.

*sport24*





BARCLAYS

## ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



## Man City to step up Mbappe interest if Alexis joins PSG

The Blues had dreamed of signing both at the start of the summer but with PSG making a huge effort to get the Chilean they will focus on the teenager.

**MANCHESTER** - Manchester City will step up their pursuit of Monaco's Kylian Mbappe if they cannot ward off Paris Saint-Germain's rival interest in Alexis Sanchez, Goal understands.

City had made Alexis one of their priority targets this summer and had been convinced he would sign, but are now increasingly concerned they will be gazumped by PSG for the second time this summer.

The French club snatched Dani Alves at the 11th hour despite the Brazilian having agreed a contract with City and meeting Pep Guardiola in person.

Alexis has also agreed terms with City and spoken to Guardiola on several occasions, but Goal has reported he was in Paris on Friday to discuss a big-money move.

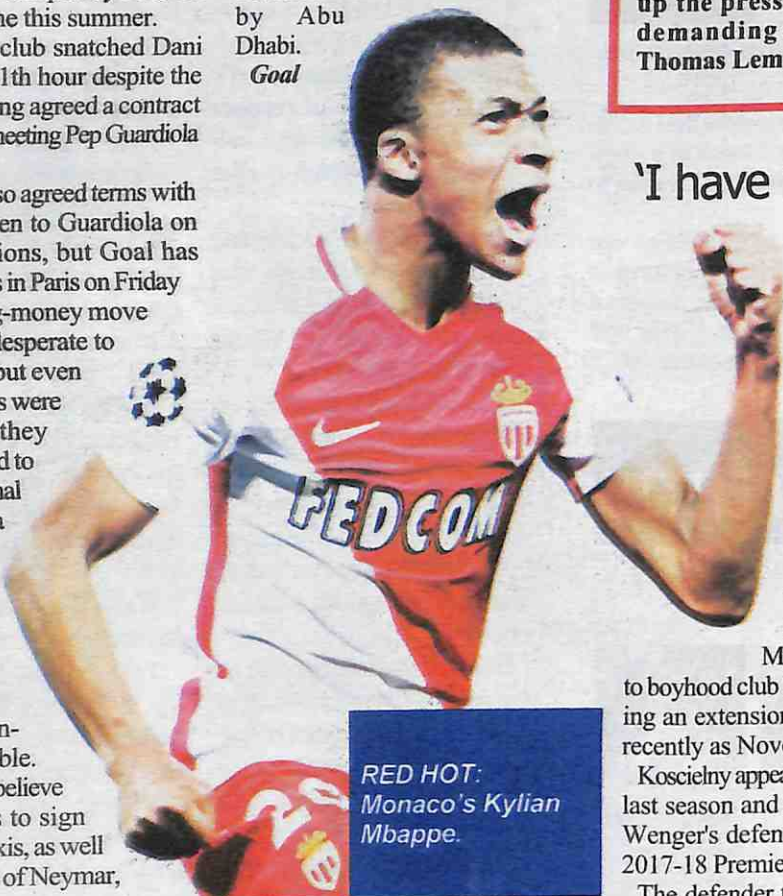
Guardiola is desperate to land Sanchez but even if his employers were to deny PSG they would still need to convince Arsenal to sell to a Premier League rival, which they have always believed would be difficult but eventually achievable.

City insiders believe PSG's efforts to sign Alves and Alexis, as well as their pursuit of Neymar,

have been born out of the diplomatic crisis in Qatar.

Several countries, including Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, cut off diplomatic relations with Qatar in June over alleged support for terrorism. City believe PSG's Qatari owners have moved for some of the Blues' targets as an act of retaliation, given the Premier League side are backed by Abu Dhabi.

Goal



RED HOT: Monaco's Kylian Mbappe.



**LONDON**-Monaco have ramped up the pressure on Arsenal by demanding £55m for winger Thomas Lemar.

But we now understand that the French club will sell - but only if Arsenal meet their revised valuation. Otherwise, the Champions

League semi-finalists say Lemar, 21, will be made to stay.

That would be a major blow to Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger, who has made the France international one of his top targets.

Wenger originally thought he could land Lemar for £25m.

But Monaco have taken their lead from Manchester City signing Tottenham right back Kyle Walker, 27, for a fee which could rise to £54m.

They now value left back Benjamin Mendy, 23 - another City target - at that figure and want a similar amount for Lemar.

Arsenal were still eyeing a deal at £45m, so even a compromise would see the Gunners now having to pay £50m.

Dailstar

## 'I have no reason to leave Arsenal or inspirational Wenger'

**LONDON** - Laurent Koscielny insists he has no plans to leave Arsenal this summer, claiming he is happy in London and that his loyalties lie with Arsene Wenger.

The France international has been linked with a move to German champions Bayern Munich, as well as a return to boyhood club Marseille, despite signing an extension with the Gunners as recently as November of last year.

Koscielny appeared 50 times for Arsenal last season and remains a key part of Wenger's defensive unit ahead of the 2017-18 Premier League campaign.

The defender turns 32 at the start of

the upcoming season and it was suggested he may push for one big-money move before his career began to slow, with recent interviews with French publications putting no end to the matter.

And, though speculation of an exit continues, the defender can't see why he'd leave the Emirates. "When I first got here, I didn't think about how long I would stay at this club - but now I am starting my eighth season so I am very happy with this," Koscielny is quoted by the Standard.

"I am happy in my life every day, not just the football but my life with my wife and kids in London. "We enjoy it, that's why I have stayed for a long

time here.

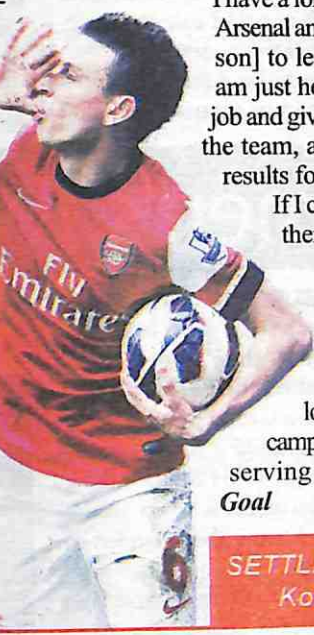
"I have a long contract with Arsenal and I have [no reason] to leave the club. I am just here to enjoy my job and give everything for the team, and get the best results for the club.

If I can do all of that, then I am happy."

Koscielny has also shared his admiration for Arsenal boss Wenger following a turbulent campaign for the long-serving Gunners boss.

Goal

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## Newcastle United swoop for Atletico's Manquillo

**NEWCASTLE** - Newcastle United have made their second signing this week after completing the capture of Spanish defender Javier Manquillo, the club confirmed last Friday.

Manquillo put pen to paper on a three-year deal at the newly-promoted Premier League club, who snapped up the right-back for an undisclosed fee.

The 23-year-old makes an immediate return to the Premier League having spent last season on loan at the Magpies' fierce rivals Sunderland, while Liverpool first brought Manquillo to English football in 2014 on a two-year loan deal, which was cut short after only 19 appearances.

"I'm very happy to be here. From the first moment that Rafa Benitez called me, I just knew that I had to come here, to such a big club," said Manquillo.

"I've come here to work hard and give everything on and off the pitch. Hopefully then everything will go in the right direction."

Manquillo, who made 22 appearances for Sunderland last season as the Black Cats were relegated to the Championship, hasn't enjoyed the best of times in the English top flight, but



SNAPPED UP: Javier Manquillo

Magpies boss Rafael Benitez wants him to seize his chance.

"He can play both sides of the defence and he has a lot of motivation because he knows he has a point to prove," said Benitez.

Manquillo is Newcastle's fourth summer signing following the arrivals of Christian Atsu, Florian Lejeune and Jacob Murphy, who joined for 12 million from Norwich City on last Wednesday. AFP





## Mahlambi to begin three-week trial with Guimaraes

**JOHANNESBURG** - Bidvest Wits and South African attacker Phakamani Mahlambi has arrived in Europe to begin his three-week trial in Portugal.

Mahlambi suffered a career threatening injury in 2016, but he came back stronger to eventually win the PSL Young Player of the Season award last term.

Mahlambi's coach at Wits, Gavin Hunt, confirmed two weeks ago that the speedy player would be going to Portugal to try his luck, but at the time he refused to name the club.

It has now been confirmed that Mahlambi will be assessed at Vitoria Guimaraes as he looks to seal a potential move abroad.

He will begin his trial today following his arrival in Guimaraes on Saturday.

Mahlambi will have his teammate at Bafana Bafana, Bongani Zungu to keep him company during his time at Guimaraes.

There are two other South Africans at the club in the form of Haashim Domingo and Thibang Phete, and Mahlambi may find it easy to adapt to his surroundings.

goal

## GOLDEN ARROWS SIGN ANDILE FIKIZOLO

**JOHANNESBURG** - Golden Arrows have signed winger Andile Fikizolo on a permanent basis after his contract with SuperSport United was not renewed at the end of last season.

Fikizolo joined Matsatsantsa at the start of the 2014/15 season on a three-year deal from Thanda Royal Zulu, but his stay was shortlived following the departure of coach Cavin Johnson as he was sent on loan to Arrows in January 2015.

The 23-year-old then helped 'Abafana Bes'thende' to PSL

promotion and subsequently rejoined the club on loan for the following two seasons.

With his deal having ended with the Tshwane side, Arrows coach Clinton Larsen has confirmed that Fikizolo has made his stay in Durban permanent.

"He [Fikizolo] is an Arrows player now.

We have signed him on an outright deal so he is not here on loan anymore," Larsen told media at the ongoing KZN Premier's Cup.

kickoff



## Jayiya needs time, patience to shine at Kaizer Chiefs

**JOHANNESBURG** - Cape Town City winger Aubrey Ngoma has tipped Bhongolethu Jayiya to be a hit at Kaizer Chiefs.

Jayiya made a surprise move to the Glamour club following the expiry of his contract with the Citizens in June.

The duo played a pivotal role as the Citizens defied the odds on their debut season in the PSL, winning the Telkom Knockout last season and fin-

ishing third on the log.

"I played with him for three seasons and know that he is a very quality player. Given time and patience, he will be one of the big-name players at Chiefs," Ngoma told Goal.

"I think he has improved since his days at (Bidvest) Wits, Maritzburg United, Mpumalanga Black Aces and Cape Town City. He knows that the pressure of playing for the big teams is not the same at the so-called

'smaller teams'. I think that will help him to step up and be one of the good signings for Kaizer Chiefs," Ngoma said.

After a pretty much pleasing campaign, Jayiya failed to agree terms on a new deal with City, and he was forced to look elsewhere. "In football, a lot of things change. We don't know why he decided not to stay. Maybe it might be the fact that he wanted to go back to Gauteng," Ngoma said. Goal

## Lucky Nguzana joins Baroka FC on two-year deal

**JOHANNESBURG** - KickOff.com has had it confirmed that Baroka FC have completed the signing of former Mamelodi Sundowns striker Lucky Nguzana.

Nguzana last year joined Turkish second division side Umraniyespor on a two-year deal from FC Cape Town, however, his stay was cut short as he returned to the Cape-based side in January. Bakgaga CEO Morgan Mammila has now confirmed that the 26-year-old journeyman has penned a two-year deal with the Limpopo-based outfit. "We

have signed Lucky Nguzana for two years," Mammila tells this website. "He is quality, with a football brain. I hope for the best for him." Nguzana came through the Sundowns youth ranks and won promotion to the first team in 2010. However, he was sent out on a number of loan spells before joining Golden Arrows in 2013.

That move did not last long though, as he then joined AmaZulu, Platinum Stars and FC Cape Town all in three consecutive years, before his failed move to Europe.

kickoff



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# MANCHESTER CITY CONFIRM FIFTH SUMMER SIGNING

as right back Danilo joins from Real Madrid in £27m deal

**MANCHESTER** - Manchester City have completed a £27million deal for Real Madrid's Danilo, with the Brazil right-back claiming it has always been his ambition to work under manager Pep Guardiola.

The 26-year-old has signed a five-year deal at the Etihad Stadium and will now join his new team-mates on the club's pre-season tour of America.

It means City have spent £133m on three full backs this month and £221.7m so far this summer in total as Guardiola looks to overhaul his squad.

The deal for Danilo, who can play on the left as well as competing with new £54m signing Kyle Walker on the right, is expected to be followed by the arrival of Benjamin Mendy after Monaco accepted a £52m bid.

Danilo told the club's official website: "I am very, very happy to be joining Manchester City."

"There has been strong interest from other clubs, but it has always been my ambition to play for Pep Guardiola. As soon as I heard of his interest, I knew immediately I wanted to be a City player."



**DONE DEAL:** Manchester City have completed the signing of Brazil full-back Danilo (c) in a deal worth £27m.

er. "I can't wait to get started and I'm looking forward to getting to know my new team-mates over the coming weeks."

"It's a big day and a pleasure to be part of this team. I hope to meet the expectations, I'm really looking forward to the challenge. I would love to win the Champions League with Manchester City."

City's Director of Football, Txiki Begiristain, says he is delighted to have landed the Brazilian.

"Danilo is a fine player who offers great versatility to our squad," he said.

"He can operate in several different roles in both defence and midfield, increasing Pep's options, ahead of the new season." *Daily Mail*

## Mourinho issues '100% guarantee that Gea will not be sold'

**MANCHESTER** - Jose Mourinho has given a '100 per cent guarantee' that David De Gea will stay at Manchester United next season after revealing that Real Madrid have cooled their interest in the Spain goalkeeper.

Mourinho confirmed that talks have taken place between the two clubs and he did not want to keep De Gea against his wishes.

But the United boss indicated that Madrid walked away from a potential £60million deal, leaving De Gea unhappy at the Spanish giants and determined to focus on his career at Old Trafford. Speaking ahead of the International Champions Cup game between the two clubs in Santa Clara late yesterday night, Mourinho said: "I can guarantee that he's not going this season, that

I can.

"My feeling is it will be very difficult for him to go. Because he's a very

honest boy, very straight.

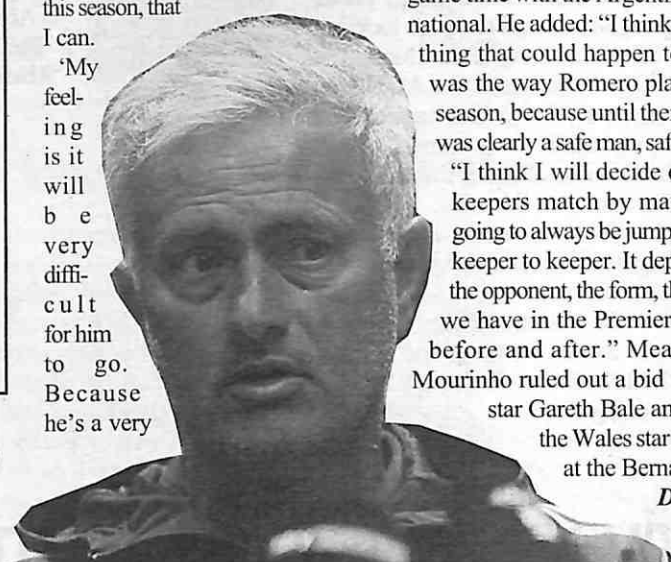
"He was contacted for a long time. The club was closed, then we open because I always have this feeling of when a player has a desire to go I don't like to stop players to go because in the end you don't get what you expect from them if they want to move and they don't."

"So we open it and then they decided to close and I don't think the feeling from him (towards Real) is very good. I see him very happy and focused and working better than ever, so for me 100 per cent he stays with us."

Mourinho also warned De Gea that he faces increased competition from his No. 2 Sergio Romero, who signed a new four-year-deal at United last week, and will have to share more game time with the Argentina international. He added: "I think the best thing that could happen to David was the way Romero played last season, because until then David was clearly a safe man, safe choice."

"I think I will decide on goalkeepers match by match. I'm going to always be jumping from keeper to keeper. It depends on the opponent, the form, the match we have in the Premier League before and after." Meanwhile, Mourinho ruled out a bid for Real star Gareth Bale and insists the Wales star is happy at the Bernabeu.

*Daily Mail*



**CONFIDENT-** Jose Mourinho.

## Jelušić vows to add rare Serbian touch to PSL

**JOHANNESBURG** - There is a new Serb in the league and he has promised to deliver where his countrymen have fallen short.

Veselin Jelušić is the latest addition to the growing list of coaches from the eastern European country to try their luck in the PSL.

With more than 20 years of experience on the continent, Jelušić feels he can make a name for himself in the league after joining Bloemfontein Celtic with a two-year deal.

He says that, after getting positive feedback from former Orlando Pirates coach and countryman Milutin Sredojevic, he is sure he has made the right choice.

"I had offers on the table from other countries, but after what Milutin told me about the potential here, I had no doubt," said Jelušić.

Now that he has the opportunity to experience the league first-hand, he wants to make his mark.

However, he suffers no illusions about the tough challenge awaiting him.

Following last season's below-par performance in front of goal, Jelušić's top priority will be to improve the striking department. Celtic scored the lowest number of goals last season - 16 - and finished 12th on the table, just a point above the play-offs spot.

This week, Celtic acquired the services of former Platinum Stars striker Ndimiso Mabena in an effort to bolster their attack.

*Sport24*



## Chiefs' strikers in Top 5 for goal returns

**JOHANNESBURG** - Among the teams that finished in the 2016/17 Absa Premiership's top five, Kaizer Chiefs' strikers had the worst goal return.

The Glamour Boys registered seven strikers for the 2016/17 season and their cumulative tally for goal returns was just 10 goals throughout the league campaign.

### Strikers

However, three of those strikers, Emmanuel Letlotlo, Edward Mangle and Lewis Macha, failed to find the net over the course of the entire campaign, while Bernard Parker (five), Michelle Katsvairo (two), Gustavo Paez (two) and Ryan Moon (one) were the men that took responsibility for putting the finishing touches on Amakhosi's attacking movements.

Their cumulative tally of 10 goals out of the team total of 39 was the worst return out of any team that finished in the top five of the Absa

Premiership standings.

Meanwhile, the return of Bidvest Wits' strike force painted a completely different picture, with all of their registered strikers boasting a return of two goals or more.

### Scored

Gabadiño Mhango (nine), Phakamani Mahlambi (six), Cuthbert Malajila (four), Eleazar Rodgers (three), Mogakolodi Ngele (three) and James Keene (two) all made up for 27 out of their club's 47 goals scored last season.

Elsewhere, Cape Town City's strike force returned with a tally of 14 of the final team's tally of 47 goals.

SuperSport United's four frontmen, on the other hand, were responsible for only 12 of the club's 42 goals and, finally, Mamelodi Sundowns' four strikers made up for 19 of the club's league-topping 52 goals. *soccerladuma*

## VERRATTI OPEN TO MAN UTD MOVE

**PARIS** - Wantaway Paris Saint-Germain Marco Verratti has named Barcelona as his first-choice destination, but is open to a summer transfer to Manchester United, according to the Express.

The Italy international midfielder is said to be looking to force his way out of Paris, hav-

ing spent five seasons in the French capital.

Jose Mourinho is determined to add a central midfielder to his squad before the start of the 2017-18 Premier League season but will have to spend a substantial amount for the €100 million-Barca target.

*Goal*

## From Serbia with love

**JOHANNESBURG** - A number of Serbian coaches have made a mark in South African football.

Some arrived as unknowns and left empty-handed, while others left a lasting legacy. Kosta Papić and Vladimir Vermezovic share the distinction of having coached Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates.

Papić was the first to grace our shores - back in 2004 when he joined Orlando Pirates. Despite not winning anything, the Buccaneers played an entertaining brand of football under 'Bill Clinton' - so named for his resemblance to the former US president - and the team was called the 'Happy People'.

### Winning

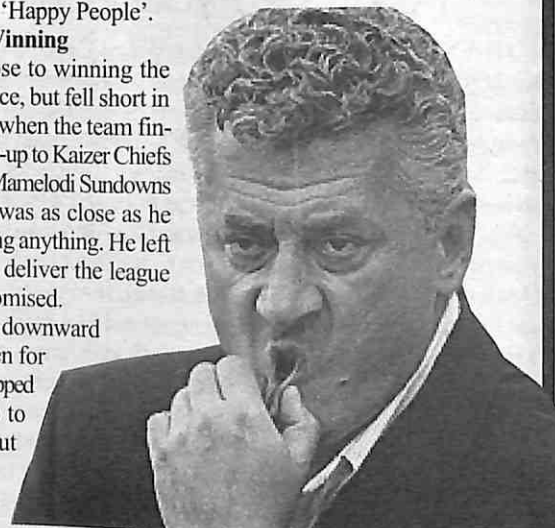
He came close to winning the league title twice, but fell short in the last hurdle when the team finished as runners-up to Kaizer Chiefs in 2005 and to Mamelodi Sundowns in 2006. That was as close as he came to winning anything. He left after failing to deliver the league title he had promised.

It has been a downward spiral since then for Papić; he has hopped from one club to another without success.

He was replaced at Pirates by his

compatriot Milutin Sredojevic in 2006.

The Serb, then 36, enjoyed relative success in continental competitions after guiding Pirates to the semi-finals of the CAF Champions League in 2006. But he was fired the next year after a string of poor results. Vermezovic was next to arrive in 2009. He enjoyed a successful stint at Chiefs. Better known as 'VV', he won two Telkom Knockout titles, in 2010 and 2011. He later joined Pirates, but underachieved and was sent packing in 2014 after delivering only the Nedbank Cup. *Sport24*



**UNDER ACHIEVER:** Kosta Papić.



# LUKAKU CAN TURN MAN UNITED DRAWS INTO WINS

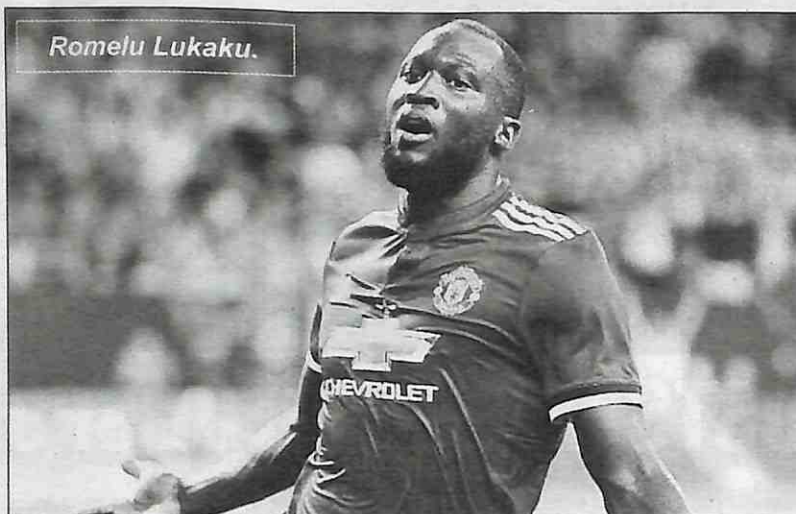
**MANCHESTER** - Romelu Lukaku will come under intense scrutiny and face a lot of pressure in his first season at Manchester United but his new team-mates must also shoulder some of the responsibility, claims Ryan Giggs.

Jose Mourinho forked out £75million to sign the striker from Everton this summer with the soul intention of bringing goals-galore back to Old Trafford. Indeed, they managed to find the back of the net just 26 times at home last season, two fewer than the relegated Hull City. But while Lukaku will come under immediate pressure to start repaying his huge transfer fee, Giggs says that the ultimate responsibility for scoring more goals rests with the team and called on others players to 'step up' to help their new team-mate.

He told the Telegraph: 'The main reason Jose bought Lukaku is for goals and to turn all those draws at Old Trafford into wins.'

'There will be a lot of pressure and scrutiny on him but those around him also need to step up and score more.'

Juan Mata did his fair share, but



Romelu Lukaku.

[Anthony] Martial, Marcus [Rashford] and [Henrikh] Mkhitaryan have got to get double figures. So although the most pressure will be on Lukaku, the onus is on the whole team.'

Lukaku has started life under Mourinho well, scoring twice in two friendlies including a strike against their Premier League rivals City in a 2-0 win, but he will be one of the first to be scrutinised if the team fail to challenge for the Premier League title.

While Mourinho's team won the League Cup and Europa League last season, there was concern from fans that the style of football was not in-keeping with tradition as they drew 10 of their 19 Premier League home games.

Having lost top scorer Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Lukaku will be tasked with repeating the feats both he and the Swede achieved last year - both registered over 25 goals in all competitions for their respective clubs. *Daily Mail*

## MPHAHLELE WANTS FANS TO BACK NEW SIGNINGS

**DURBAN** - Kaizer Chiefs defender Ramahlwe Mphahlele has urged Amakhosi fans to give their new signings an opportunity to settle in before they start judging them.

Chiefs have already signed Bhongolwethu Jayiya from Cape Town City, as well as former Maritzburg United defender Philani Zulu plus Teenage Hadebe.

The trio came to Chiefs for free as they were all free agents.

And even before the season starts, there have been murmurs of disapproval among some Chiefs fans who are questioning the quality of their club's new acquisitions.

But Mphahlele, who joined Chiefs from Mamelodi Sundowns last season and also experienced being similarly doubted, has appealed for patience.

'The fans will always complain, but what if they come and do well?' he asked. 'They deserve to be given a chance. The fans need to realise that at the end of the day it is not about one player. We have to do well as a team.'

The new acquisitions are no doubt part of Chiefs' attempt to avoid what would be an embarrassing

third season without a trophy.

Like everyone at the club, Mphahlele was disappointed by the barren spell, his splendid individual performance notwithstanding.

'I gave my best but unfortunately we didn't win anything as a team. We will try again this season. It is always about the next opportunity. We have to keep on trying.'

'What happened last season was a lesson for us. We learned the hard way. We have to plan for the next season and hope for the best,' Mphahlele explained.

He looks back at his nomination for defender of the season as something to build on going forward in the hope that his good showing is of benefit to the entire team.

'My teammates were there for me and we all gave our best and it is so unfortunate that it wasn't to be for us. We will go again this season and I believe we will get something.'

Many have said his decision to join Chiefs last season was folly, Mphahlele having left championship-winning Mamelodi Sundowns - whom he captained - to being just another player at Chiefs.

*Sunday Independent*

## COUTINHO BID A WASTE OF TIME, KLOPP TELLS BARCA

**LIVERPOOL** - Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp has told Barcelona they are wasting their time trying to sign Brazilian playmaker Philippe Coutinho - no matter the offer.

Klopp has already rejected a \$93 million bid for Coutinho, who scored a superb winner in Liverpool's 2-1 Premier League Asia Trophy victory over Leicester City in Hong Kong on Saturday.

Barca are set to test Liverpool's resolve with an improved offer but Klopp has told the Catalan giants not to bother.

'If I say he is not for selling, he is not for selling,' the German told British media.

'There is nothing else to say. It's a club decision, it's my decision. That's how it is.'

Liverpool sold Luis Suarez to Barca and Raheem Sterling to Manchester City in recent years but Klopp bristled when asked if he had received assurances from the board that Coutinho would not be next.

'I can say 20 times, he is not for sale,' said Klopp, who has been frustrated so far in his attempts to sign Leipzig midfielder Naby Keita and Southampton

defender Virgil van Dijk during the transfer window.

'If you ask the other question the other way and I say, 'there has been no assurance', you make the story the other way.'

'With Suarez I was far away,' added the former Borussia Dortmund coach, who joined Liverpool in 2015.

'When the club sold Sterling I was maybe the last to know about it. Those situations have nothing to do with this one.'

'We are



PLAY MAKER: Philippe Coutinho.

## FAF was the difference for Proteas - Chappell

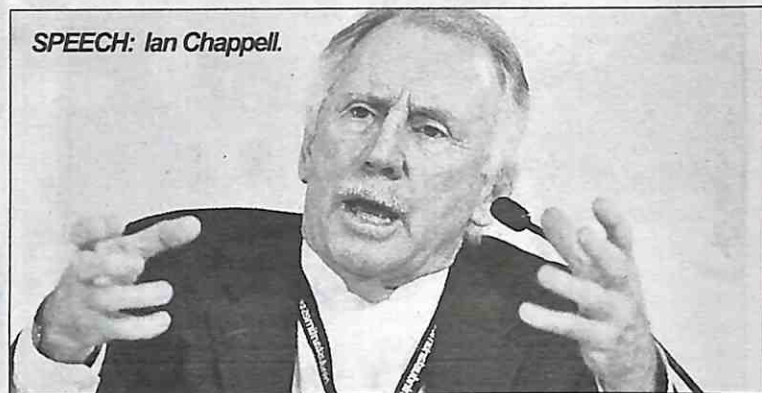
**CAPE TOWN** - Former Australia captain Ian Chappell says the leadership of Faf du Plessis was the major difference between South Africa and England in the second Test at Trent Bridge last week.

The Proteas trashed the hosts by 340 runs inside four days to level the four-match series at one-all with two games to play.

Du Plessis missed the first Test at Lord's due to the birth of his first child with opening Dean Elgar leading the side to a 211-run defeat at the Home of Cricket.

Chappell said in a column for Cricinfo: 'One big difference between the first and second Tests was the presence of Faf du Plessis at the helm of the South

**SPEECH:** Ian Chappell.



African side.

'It's no coincidence that that resulted in a much-improved performance from the team.'

'Du Plessis is a hard-grafting cricketer, but a natural captain. He impressed

with his leadership in South Africa's series win in Australia, and his firm hand was again evident at Trent Bridge.'

'Good captaincy is hard to define, but you know it when you see it.'

*Sport24*

## Moon gives Chiefs coach something to think about

**JOHANNESBURG** - The opponents might have been lightweight but Ryan Moon showed that he is ready to battle with the heavyweights if given a regular starting berth at Kaizer Chiefs.

The 20-year-old forward helped Bafana Bafana breeze into the last stage of the African Nations Championship qualifiers with a 3-0 win over Botswana on aggregate.

Bafana will take on Zambia next month with a ticket to Kenya next year up for grabs.

Moon, who was robbed of the opportunity to have his family and the country see his goal on debut in national team colours in Botswana last week due to a TV blackout, made up for that by scor-

ing at Moruleng Stadium.

This goal and the one he scored in the 2-0 win in the first leg should give Moon confidence in his bid to lead Chiefs' attack in the 2017/18 season with strong competition from Gustavo Paez and Bernard Parker.

The lad from Pietermaritzburg only started in one of the six matches he featured on in the last campaign.

He opened his scoring account against Golden Arrows in May. Chiefs' coach Steve Komphela used him sparingly, protecting him from the pressure that the club was in as Amakhosi looked for a saviour in a miserable campaign.

Bafana coach Stuart Baxter, on the other hand, threw Moon into the deep-end in the qualifiers of the tournament

for local-based players.

Moon flourished instead of drowning, making clever runs to make the most of Siphelele Ntshangase's brilliant play-making abilities.

The two formed a lethal combination in a match where Bafana were hardly tested.

Even at pedestrian pace they were still too strong for Botswana who they were meeting for a third time in a short space of time.

Bafana won all three matches to continue their dominance over the Zebras. But despite that dominance, no player did enough to prove that they deserve a place in the real Bafana.

*TimesLIVE*





## MONTIGNY USUTU HOSTS SUCCESSFUL SPORTS SHOW

By Sibusiso Dlamini

**SOCCKER- MONTIGNY** Usutu successfully hosted a sports tournament aimed at creating awareness on illegal fires and crime.

The tournament, held at Mhlambanyatsi over the past weekend, saw a number of schools compete in different sporting activities including football, netball and volleyball.

The tournament saw Bhunya High School taking gold while Inyandza High finished as runners-up.

Taking the third and fourth positions were Ngcoseni and Dwalile High Schools, respectively.

Bhunya's Sandile Nyatsikati and Nhlakanipho walked away with the Best Player and Best Goalkeeper awards in the individual categories.

In netball, Dwalile gave the other schools a run for their money and emerged as champions while Bhunya settled for second position. Inyandza and Ngcoseni were placed third and fourth, respectively in this discipline.

The company's Crime and Intelligence Manager Sihle Mavuso said the idea to host a tournament of this nature

proved to be a huge success as they were able to deliver the targeted message to the community.

"This campaign was extremely useful and necessary for both the company and the community. We find that the main culprits who light fires in the forest are the youngsters who are beehive hunters. We need them to understand that this is a criminal offence."

We want them to know that it is not worth them throwing away their futures, and risking the livelihoods of thousands of employees. Instead Montigny Usutu is offering an alter-

native to lighting fires for honey, by paying each individual E30.00 for every hive reported," he said. Meanwhile, Bhunya High Schools Head Deputy Maseko thanked all those who made it to the event and commended the company and teachers for the successful event.

He also welcomed the other schools from the community and encouraged them to take safety and security seriously and to continue in their education and sports curriculum.

Maseko was seconded by Lokotfwako from Inyandza High School who urged the community and partici-

pants of the tournament to make good use of the toll free 3344 security number used to report crimes, fires and suspicious activities. Also present during the event was Montigny Usutu CEO Andrew Le Roux who said the company was thankful to everyone who assisted in making the event a success.

"Montigny Usutu believes that by educating the community about the seriousness of forest fires and fire safety all stakeholders will benefit tremendously," he said.

The event was also attended by Police, PSI and Dreams on Wheels.



## 'Downs supporters take up charity initiative

By Qondile Ntiwane

**SOCCKER-MANZINI** Sundowns have heeded to the call of premier League teams taking up their own charity initiatives.

The Manzini outfit's supporters partnered with the Siteki Social Club in pursuit of a charity endeavour which will see them construct a house for a Fakudze family at Makhewu.

The supporters and social club have also donated food parcels and clothes to the family.

The partners were responding to a dire call from the family which is now homeless following an Arson attack resulting in the family squatting at a neighbour's homestead.

Manzini Sundowns PRO Muzi Matsenjwa said the supporters would do all in their power to assist the

family.

"In view of the dire situation faced by the Fakudze family, Manzini Sundowns Football Club Supporters have vowed to indemnify the family through the construction of a two-room house.

This is part of the charity events happening around the country under the auspices of SPTC."

"Teams have been encouraged to undertake their own charity projects and Sundowns has responded to the call for action. Donations from supporters are pouring in.

The project is anticipated to be complete by end of August," he said.

He said supporters and members of the public willing to assist the family are encouraged to touch base with the Manzini Sundowns office at Manzini Club for donations towards this noble cause," he said.



**GENEROUS:** Manzini Sundowns supporters and Siteki Social Club presenting food parcels to the Fakudze family. (Courtesy pics)





# PLS DEVELOPMENT AWARDS



**WINNER:** EL Best Goalkeeper Neliswa Kubheka accepting his award from PLS COO Pat Vilakati during the PLS Development awards held at the Cafe Mogambo on Friday. (Pics: Sibusiso Masilela)



**WORDS OF WISDOM:** FA President Adam 'Bomber' Mthethwa addressing the gathering.



**ALSO AWARDED:** 2016 /17 PLS Reserve League champions Manzini Sundowns posing with dignitaries and officials after receiving their trophy.



**THE BEST:** Esibayeni Lodge League Best Manager Simiso Jele (Highlanders) appreciating his award.



**COULD NOT MISS OUT:** Manzini Sundowns Development Manager Zandile Bulunga sitting next to parent Lulu Mkhonta.



**SWEET TOOTH:** Green Mamba Development Manager Gcina 'Magiyane' Dlamini with Swallows' Richard Mccreesh, Leon Manyisa and Phinda Shabangu.



**GOLDEN BOY:** PLS Reserve League Player of the series Mkhuleko Magagula from Manzini Sundowns accepting his award from PLS COO Pat Vilakati.



**APPRECIATED:** Midas City Youth Manager also won himself the Best Manager award.



**ME TOO:** Reserve League Best Coach Penuel Malinga of Manzini Sundowns receiving his award from PLS executing member Sicelo Mkhonta.

## THE LIST OF THE WINNERS

### ESIBAYENI LODGE E200 00 LEAGUE

Player of the Series: Lindani Matsenjwa (Young Buffaloes) E2 000  
 Best goalkeeper: Neliswa Kubheka (Young Buffaloes) E1 000  
 Best Defender: Sabelo Gama (Royal Leopard) E1 000  
 Best midfielder: Leon Manyisa (Green Mamba) E1 000  
 Top goal scorer: Thembela Hlandze (Manzini Wanderers) E1 000  
 Best Coach: Percy Shongwe Manzini Wanderers E1 000  
 Best Managers: Simiso Jele (Highlanders), Siboniso Sihlongonyane (Midas City) E5 00 each

### PLS RESERVE LEAGUE

Player of the Series: Mkhuleko Magagula (Manzini Sundowns) E2 000  
 Best goalkeeper: Lwethu Simelane (Manzini Sundowns) E1 000  
 Best Defender: Siboniso Sibandze (Young Buffaloes) E1 000  
 Best midfielder: Desmond Mlambo (Mbabane Swallows) E1 000  
 Top goal scorer: Mphumelo Zikalala (Midas City), Muzi Mahlalela (Sundowns) E5 00 each  
 Best Coach: Penuel Malinga (Manzini Sundowns) E1 000  
 Best Managers: Zandile Bulunga (Manzini Sundowns), Mduduzi Masilela (Mbabane Swallows) E5 00 each



**Mbabane Swallows' Desmond Mlambo** receiving the EL Best Midfielder award.



**Young Buffaloes' Lindani Matsenjwa** walked away with the EL League Player of the series presented to him by Yolanda Oswin.



**EL League Best Defender Sabelo Gama** with his award.



**Green Mamba's Leon Manyisa** receiving an award from NFAS Acting CEO Nkhosinamandla Mavuso.





■ Barcelona are ready to offer £80m for Liverpool and Brazil midfielder Philippe Coutinho, 25. (*Sunday Mirror*)

■ Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp says Coutinho is "comfortable" at the club after holding talks with the player amid Barca's interest. (*ESPN FC*)

■ Barcelona believe signing playmaker Coutinho could help keep his 25-year-old international team-mate Neymar, who has been linked with a move to Paris St-Germain. (*Mail on Sunday*)

■ PSG are increasingly confident of signing forward Neymar for £196m from Barcelona, with the Brazilian supposedly having agreed a contract worth £27m a year after tax. (*Sunday Express*)

■ Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger has denied forward Alexis Sanchez, 28, is on the verge of a £70m move to Paris St-Germain. (*Standard*)

■ Liverpool and Manchester City are still in the race to sign 18-year-old Monaco forward Kylian Mbappe. (*Le 10 Sport, via Star on Sunday*)

■ Real Madrid boss Zinedine Zidane believes forward Cristiano Ronaldo "is going to stay" with the club after reports he wanted to leave Spain following tax fraud allegations. (*Independent*)

■ Chelsea will make a formal offer for Arsenal midfielder Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain within the next 48 hours but face competition from Manchester City for the 23-year-old. (*Sunday Express*)

■ The Stamford Bridge club have spent nearly £130m this summer but Blues boss Antonio Conte says they need to make more signings to improve the quality of the squad. (*Sunday Telegraph*) Manchester United are confident of signing Chelsea midfielder Nemanja Matic, 28, after missing out on Tottenham's Eric Dier, 23. (*Guardian*)

■ United's £60m pursuit of Paris St-Germain midfielder Marco Verratti, 24, is on hold, because the French club want 21-year-old forward Anthony Martial in return. (*Sunday Mirror*)

Barcelona forward Lionel Messi, 30, has told the club to buy 23-year-old Juventus striker Paulo Dybala. (*Don Balon, via Goal*)

■ Chelsea have made a move for 20-year-old Brazilian forward Richarlison, who was expected to join Ajax from Fluminense for £12m. (*Mail on Sunday*)

■ Leicester City manager Craig Shakespeare says winger Riyad Mahrez "could stay" following interest from Arsenal, Spurs and Roma for the 26-year-old. (*Leicester Mercury*)



**FITNESS FANATICS:** Some of the participants of the Bootcamp organised by Zithande Athletics Club at the Coronation Park yesterday. (Courtesy Pics)

# DPM SWEATS IT OUT AT ZITHANDE BOOTCAMP

By Qondile Ntiwane

**ATHLETICS – THE Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini continues to lead by example as he took part in the Bootcamp organised by Zithande Athletics Club yesterday.**

The Bootcamp, which is part of the club's 'Mkhaba Phuma Kim' campaign, was held at the Coronation Park in Mbabane on Saturday and attracted over 50 athletes.

The DPM took part in a number of exercises during the three-hour session. Interviewed yesterday the team's coach Nsizwa Thwala said they were humbled by the presence of the DPM.

He said this was a sign that everyone needs to concern themselves with health issues.

"We are very happy to have the DPM join us in this event. It was really encouraging to see the different types of people attending the bootcamp. The DPM motivated us to continue educating the nation about a healthy lifestyle through such activities," he said.

July 22  
July 29  
August 5

## BOOT CAMP

Coronation Park  
Ubombo Country Club  
Manzini Club

Mbabane  
Big Bend  
Manzini



**LET'S RUN:** Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini in action with Zithande Athletics Club coach Nsizwa Thwala.

Thwala said the Mbabane Bootcamp

was a success as it also attracted people with a training background hence making the challenge even more exciting.

"Mbabane was just on another level. Preparing for it we knew that people from gyms would attend and this made the bootcamp even more exciting," he said.

The coach then thanked all those who attended the event and urged them to continue spreading the word.

The bootcamp will next week hit the Lubombo Region and will be held at the Ubombo Country Club in Big Bend.

This bootcamp included amongst other exercises the Jack push-ups, travelling lunges and low plank and high plank combo, amongst others.

These exercises build on muscular base, speed and agility for athletes including runners and soccer players.

"It also helps in fat burning for those looking to lose weight."

## 11-year-old youngster stuns Under-16s in tennis tourney

By Sibusiso Dlamini

**TENNIS – 11-year-old Luching Ngambi Sorokhai Bam stunned opponents three to four years older than her when she bulldozed her way into the finals in the Under-16 category.**

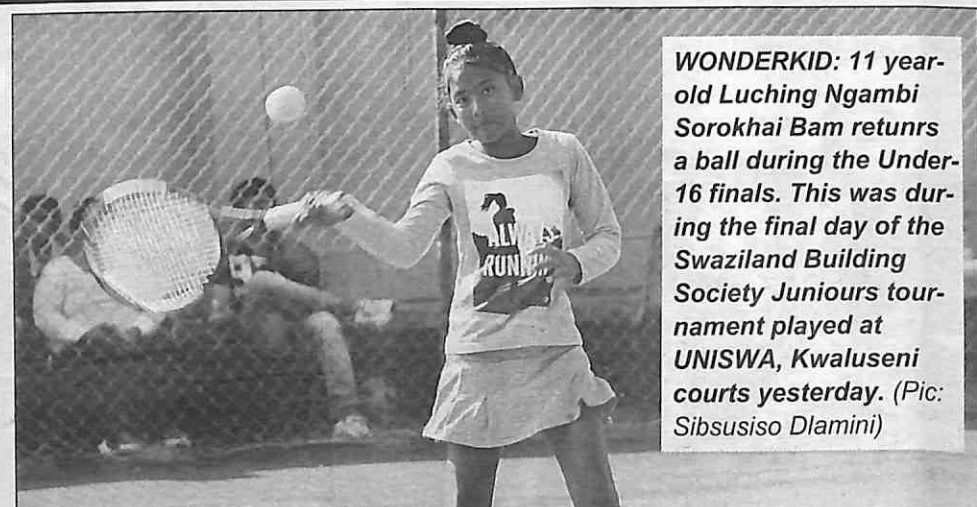
The player qualified to play in the Under-12 category but opted to play in the U-16 division.

This was during the Swaziland Building Society (SBS) sponsored development games played at the University of Swaziland, Kwaluseni courts yesterday.

Speaking about the youngster's stellar performance, Swaziland National Tennis Association (SNTA) Treasurer Nqaba Mkhalihi said the youngster proved to be a force to reckon with in the sport.

"She is simply great. I think you've seen for yourself how talented she is. I think it's because her parents are supportive as they are here to support her today."

"She also trains hard because she lives close to this court (Kwaluseni UNISWA)."



**WONDERKID:** 11 year-old Luching Ngambi Sorokhai Bam returns a ball during the Under-16 finals. This was during the final day of the Swaziland Building Society Juniors tournament played at UNISWA, Kwaluseni courts yesterday. (Pic: Sibusiso Dlamini)

Mkhalihi added that they were happy with the turnout recorded during the tournament and that they were confident that the future of the sport was in great hands with the youngsters.

"I think this was a great tournament, especially on the first day (Saturday) as we had over 50 participants."

"Also we know that if we train these children

to be quality tennis players, the sport will definitely develop in the country.

Meanwhile, in the boy's Under 16s category, Thando Bhembe was the eventual champion after triumphing 6-1, 6-2 against Owenkhosi Dlamini, whilst the boy's Under-12 finals between Mukelwe Maziya and Sakhile Hlophe was still on-going by the time of compiling this report.



## WE NEED EXPERIENCED PLAYERS FOR LEAGUE - EDWIN

By Sabelo Majola

**SOCCER - AFTER leading Vovovo to the PLS play-offs triumph and gaining promotion, the team's coach Edwin Matsebula said his side needs experienced players to survive in the league.**

Matsebula said they would beef up the squad ahead of the new season during a post-match interview after a 2-1 triumph over Sea Birds at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

Matsebula said they needed the game more than Sea Birds hence they prepared thoroughly for it.

"I'm very happy for the boys, they wrote their own history today (yes-

terday). All that is left to do now is to blend the squad with experienced players ahead of the new season and we would be beefing the squad up," he said. Despite rumours linking the coach with Royal Leopard, he said that he won't be leaving Vovovo anytime soon. Meanwhile, Sea Birds head coach Gcina Dlamini said the summary of their season was plagued by bad luck.

"We created winning chances throughout the season but luck was not on our side as we failed to take them. I think we have to change the mindset of the players if we are to make it back to the elite league but we were just unlucky this season," he said.

Sea Birds managed only one victory in 22 games in the league last season.

## Region 5 Troika ministers to meet King

By Qondile Ntiwane

**SOCCER - REGION 5 Troika ministers of sports will pay a courtesy call to His Majesty King Mswati III on Thursday.**

This was revealed by Ministry of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Under Secretary Henry Zeeman yesterday.

He said the ministers would meet his Majesty at the Lozitha Palace and also get a chance to meet with the country's Prime Minister Dr Sibusiso Dlamini at Cabinet on the same day.

The Troika minister from Angola, Botswana, and Zimbabwe would also hold talks with the country's

minister of sports David Cruiser Ngcamphalala.

### Preliminary

"The Troika ministers of sports from Angola, Botswana, Zimbabwe and the Region 5 Secretariat will arrive on July 26. There will be a preliminary meeting of the ministers, with our minister of sports," he said.

### About the Troika ministers

Troika is a management Board of Council of Ministers, responsible for taking decisions in between meetings of the council. Its governing body is as follows;

- A Chairperson
- Vice Chairperson
- The immediate past Chairperson

## Kola, Oladele appear for Matsapha United in SA tourney

By Sibusiso Masilela

**SOCCER - MATSAPHA United are expected to bolster their striking force with Nigerian pair of Kola Aladeon and Solomon Oladele in the new season.**

The former Manzini Wanderers and Red Lions players appeared for the 'Deep Blue Ocean' during the Mbombela-Umsebe Cup played at KaNyamazane Stadium in South Africa yesterday.

Oladele started the first semi-final against Mbombela United and was rested by the Wanderers trusted man Kola in the second half of the game, eventually winning by 2-0.

The duo was among the four paraded by coach Saul Chaminuka during the encounter.

The other players in included Ghanaian defender Bismarck Afrie and former Royal Leopard star Xolani 'Papi' Sikhondze.

Matsapha United Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Victor 'Mavikane' Dlamini said during an interview that they would be announcing their signings soon.

"We are in the process of beefing up our team and will announce everything to the supporters once the technical bench is done with their assessment," he said.

Matsapha were without their veteran midfielder Dennis 'Yuki' Masina and Ajax Cape Town bound Mike Dombo.

## I HAVE A SMALL POOL TO SELECT FROM-DE JONGH

By Sabelo Majola

**SOCCER - SIHLANGU head coach Pieter De Jongh pinned his 3-0 loss to Zambia on having a small pool of players to choose from.**

De Jongh was quoted by SuperSport saying that Mbabane Swallows is the only team in the country that is professional hence he has little options when assembling his team.

"In Swaziland there is only one team which is professional. The rest are semi-professional. That makes it difficult to play against teams like Zambia where there are several teams with quality

players. "It is always difficult to apply tactics after losing the first leg 4-0 and having conceded in third minute in the first half of the second leg. You concede in third minute, then another goal shortly after that and a third goal in additional time of the first half. That is what killed us in this match today."

Meanwhile, Zambia coach Wedson Nyirenda attributed the success of the team the inclusion to Zesco United and Zanaco players whom he said had helped to bring stability to the team.

"When we played in the COSAFA Cup we were scoring goals but were also conceding. After we brought in Zesco and Zanaco players, we have



**PINNED: Sihlangu head coach Pieter De Jongh.**

looked to be more stable than before. We have unison now between our defence and our attack. The team is better and more quicker," said Nyirenda.



**WINNER: Similo Nyoni who scooped first position in the Junior Category receiving his prizes.**

## MTN KHEMANI CYCLISTS WIN BIG IN BOTSWANA

By Simon Shabangu

**CYCLING -THREE local cyclists under MTN Khemani raised the country's flag high during the Capital Bank Classic at Gaborone in Botswana yesterday.**

Similo Nyoni scooped first position in the Under-23 category and was followed by yet another local Lungelo Mlangeni who finished on second position.

Meanwhile 2016 national champion Sicelo Phiri who was competing in the 120km main race managed to

get third position overall. The cyclists came after cyclists' from Zimbabwe and Botswana, respectively.

A total of six cyclists represented the country during the competition and these include Muzi Shabangu, Mduduzi Zwane and Ronny Nxumalo.

The team competed in the same race last year and Similo Nyoni and Darren Dunn came second and third respectively. Artwell Ndzinisa who led the team to Botswana said they did well in the competition and proud of the achievement by the cyclists. "It was a learning experience for us. We were beaten on the sprint finish hence need

to do more on the flats; the route is all flat in terms of the terrain. As a team we lack natural sprinters to finish off a race but we will work on that as we prepare for other international races," he said. He noted that there were about 150 cyclists that took part in this race coming from South Africa, Zimbabwe, Lesotho and the host country Botswana. He said the team is gearing for the grueling 2017 MTN Khemani Road Classic to be held in September 2017.

He said in overall, the locals did well as all of the six team members managed to finish in a bunch sprint of top ten.



**ATLEAST: Sicelo Phiri got third position in the 120 km race accepting his medals and prizes.**



**PROUD MOMENT: Lungelo Mlangeni receiving his prizes for being the runner-up in the Junior category.**



# Matsapha lose Mbombela-Umsebe Cup to youthful Pirates

By Sibusiso Masilela

Orlando Pirates (0)1  
Matsapha United (0)1  
(Pirates win 9-8 on sudden death penalties)

**SOCCER-** A youthful Orlando Pirates clinched the 2017 Mbombela - Umsebe Cup after beating Matsapha United 9-8 during sudden death penalties at the Kanyamazane Stadium yesterday.

The Soweto giants fielded their side campaigning in the Multi Choice Diski Challenge. The youngsters showed zeal against the stubborn locals in the exciting final of the four-team tournament.

The South African outfit goalkeeper Thutsane Kopane became the instant hero when he denied defender Jimoh Moses a goal before netting the winner on his side.

Matsapha drew first blood in the second half after a goalless first and it was through Mthobisi Mdluli who tapped home a Kola Aladeon pass. The goal sent the over 500 travelling Swazi fans into a frenzy. However, the frenzy was spoiled just four minutes before time by young striker Thobela Sikhakhane who forced the match into penalties with a low shot, firing past United's goalkeeper Khanyakezwe Shabalala. It was rather an impressive showing from the MTN Premier League rookies as they managed to beat Mbombela United in the

semi-finals by a convincing 2-0 to advance while Pirates got the better of Mozambican side Costa Do Sol, which replaced Maxequene also from Mozambique, beating them 4-3 after penalties. Although failing to bring home the title, the Deep Blue Ocean will come back home smiling as each of the four teams received E250 000 participation fee.

## The teams

**Matsapha United** - Khanyakezwe, Sifiso, Sabelo, Bismarck, Jimmoh, Menzi, Mthobisi, Peter Mabaso, Oladele(Kola), Zungu, Neguyani.

**Orlando Pirates** -Thutsane, Zahir, Fezile, Nkomo, Mbulu, Moremi, Monyane, Valentrice, Lehasa (Thusana), Hlalele, Myeza Hlakanipho.



# SWAZI OBSERVER Sport

IF SPORTS IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE'RE YOUR CHURCH

MONDAY JULY 24, 2017



By Sabelo Majola

Sea Birds... (0)1  
Vovovo..... (2)2

**...NFD Division records 2-1 victory against Manzini outfit to earn spot in Premier League**

**SOCCER - NATIONAL** First Division side Vovovo had the last laugh in the Premier League of Swaziland (PLS) play-offs after beating Manzini Sea Birds 2-0 to gain promotion to the elite league.

The team won during an exciting encounter played at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

Vovovo is the third team from the NFD to be promoted to the elite league after Matsapha United and Malanti Chiefs. First half goals from Mcolisi Tsabedze and Sibusiso Tfwala were enough to give Vovovo a nicely wrapped PLS promotion gift.

Tsabedze connected a cross from Mpendulo Dlamini, chipping the ball over Sea Birds keeper Bafana Ngwenya in the 18th minute to put his side ahead.

Former Mbabane Highlanders forward Sibusiso Tfwala doubled the score 12 minutes later with a fine header from Mncedisi Dlamini's free kick, much to the delight of

## ROAD TO THE FINAL:

Madlenya	2	Vovovo	0
Vovovo	2	Sea Birds	1
Madlenya	1	Sea Birds	2
Vovovo	3	Madlenya	1
Sea Birds	5	Madlenya	0
Sea Birds	1	Vovovo	2

## PLS PLAY-OFFS FINAL LOG

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Vovovo	4	3	0	1	7	6	1	9
Sea Birds	4	2	0	2	9	5	4	6
Madlenya	4	1	0	3	5	10	-5	3

Vovovo spectators.

Sea Birds were looking for an early goal to the second half in order to get back in the game and it almost came through Nkhosikhona Tsabedze two minutes into the stanza after creating enough space in the box but his shot went wide. Jabulani Mabuza eventually pulled one back for the hosts three minutes before time, capitalising from a scramble inside the box to score a shot but it was too late as the game ended 2-1 in favour of Vovovo.

The play-offs follows a decision by the PLS Board of Governors to increase the number of teams in the Premier League from 12 to 14.

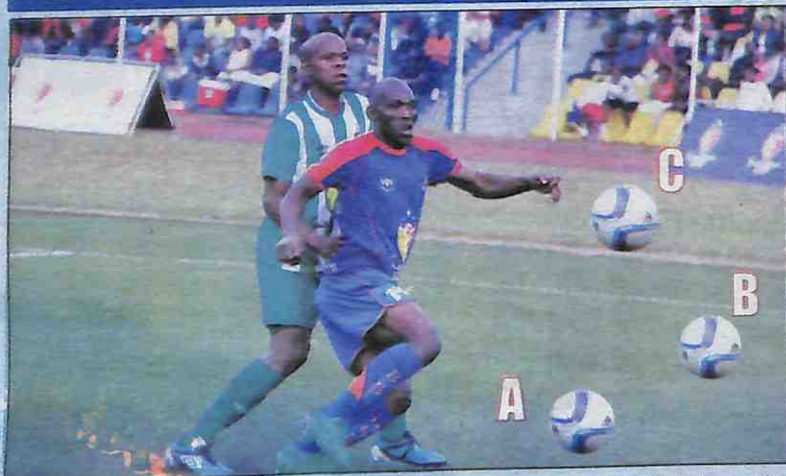
The decision saw Mbabane Highlanders evading relegation while bottom side Sea Birds had to go past both Vovovo and Madlenya to re-instate their Premier League status or go down to the second tier and the latter was true for the Gcina Dlamini led charges.

## Teams

**Sea Birds** - Bafana, Sihle, Sibusile, Mfundo, Muzi, Gcinwayinkhosi, Jabulani, Bhekumuzi, Nkhosikhona, Wandile, Bonginkosi.

**Vovovo** - Machawe, Mlamuli, Mncedisi, Makhosi, Banele, Mandla, Mancoba, Mpendulo, Sibusiso, Banele, Mcolisi.

## 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 one alphabet they think represents the ball from the three available. One of the alphabets is placed 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, Pigg's Peak, Nhlanguano, Manzini or at the main office in Mbabane. Diala sibone. Good luck!  
Sports Editor.