

TITAN COMPUTERS
Makhaya Centre, Manzini (Opp. Motruck & The George Hotel)
Tel: 2505 9213 Fax: 2505 9247 E-Mail: Sales@Titan.co.sz

XEROX
LEXMARK
Canon
brother
HP
HEWLETT
PACKARD
EPSON
OKI
SHARP

Swazi OBSERVER

www.observer.org.sz

MANZINI "BOREHOLES"
Expert Services, Competitive prices
"Groundwater is our business"

A Cut Above the Rest

Tel: 2505 3880 / 2505 9402
Fax: 2505 9408, Cell: 7622 5300
www.purelldrilling.co.sz
E-mail: info@purelldrilling.co.sz

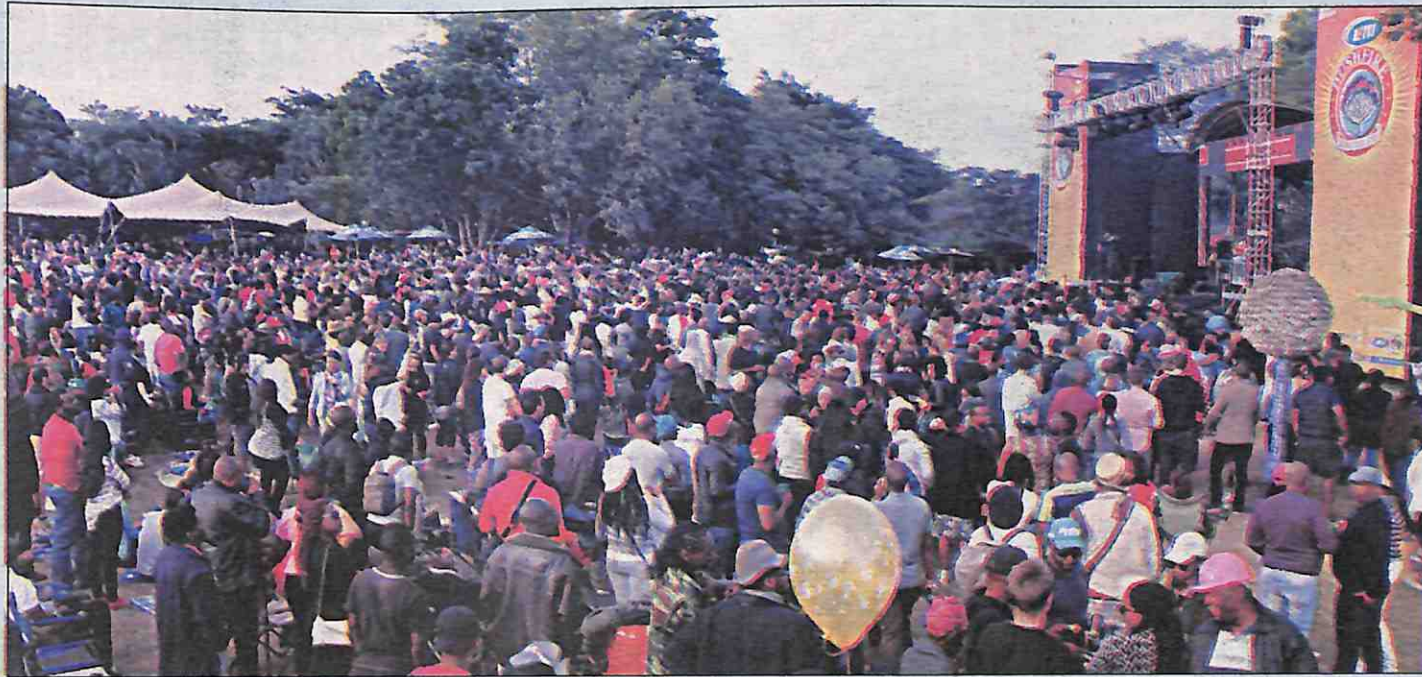
WATER FOR LIFE

MONDAY MAY 29, 2017

REVIVED, RELIABLE AND READ

PRICE: E5.00 (VAT INCLUSIVE)

THE GOOD AND THE BAD OF THE FESTIVAL...



20 BUSHFIRE TOURISTS ARRESTED

● Accuse police of only targeting foreign registered vehicles

STORY ON PAGE 3

'SCHAZA' MURDER SUSPECT'S BAR RAIDED

PAGE 2

BRILLIANT PUPIL (15) HANGS HIMSELF

PAGE 2

BAR OWNER STABBED, ROBBED E20 000

PAGE 5

POST BOX RENEWALS

Our valued customers are kindly reminded to pay for their Post Box rentals for the year 2017/18

To avoid penalties payments must be made before 1st May 2017.
Annual Rentals: BUSINESS - E310.90 RESIDENTIAL - E211.60

For more info visit your nearest Post Office or call 800 2100.



SWAZIPOST

2 NATIONAL NEWS

BRILLIANT PUPIL (15) HANGS HIMSELF, LEAVES SUICIDE NOTE

By Nozipho Sibiya
Dvokolwako

A Form II pupil at Dvokolwako High School reportedly committed suicide by hanging himself.

He is said to have left a suicide note. The 15-year-old schoolboy is said to have left home last Thursday evening apparently for his usual study with his schoolmates, but unfortunately his relatives woke up to find his lifeless body dangling from a tree in the home backyard.

Sources revealed that he was a brilliant and loving pupil in his classroom.

The late pupil was amongst the top pupils in Form II. The pupil who lived with his relatives at Dvokolwako wrote a suicide note hinting why he opted to take his life.

However, it could not be ascertained what exactly he wrote since police regarded the suicide note as confidential.

Deputy Police Information and Communications Officer, Assistant Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed the matter.

Dvokolwako High School Principal Sabelo Sibandze described the incident

● No matter what the problem is, committing suicide is not an option. There is no problem shared with friends and relatives that can not be solved.

Today is a sad day for the school



TRAGEDY: Dvokolwako High School entrance.

as unfortunate and shocking.

"No matter what the problem is, the best is not to commit suicide. There is no problem shared with friends and relatives that can not be solved. Today is a sad day for the school," he said.

He said he was surprised and shocked about what could have led the young boy to take his life.

Sibandze described the late pupil as a peace-loving and brilliant one who was forever on his books. Sibandze said no one knew why he committed suicide.

"Even the suicide note does not state why he resolved to suicide," he said. He said he didn't see the suicide note but the police read it to him over the phone.



RETURNS: Prime Minister Dr Sibusiso Dlamini with DPM Paul Dlamini on his arrival at the KMIII last Friday. (Courtesy pic)

PM BACK FROM TAIWAN

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

PRIME Minister Dr Sibusiso Dlamini has returned from the Republic of China on Taiwan.

He quietly returned home on Friday.

The prime minister returned to the country from a month long medical mission.

According to Assistant Government Secretary Sabelo Dlamini, the premier was welcomed last Friday at the King Mswati III International airport by the Deputy Prime Minister Senator Paul Dlamini and Cabinet ministers.

Others that welcomed him included the Ambassador of the Republic of China on Taiwan to Swaziland Thomas JC Chen.

SIPA DISTANCES ITSELF FROM ASIAN INFLUX

Stories by Mbono Mdluli
Lobamba

THE Swaziland Investment Promotions Authority (SIPA) is distancing itself from the questionable influx of the people of Asian origin.

SIPA appeared before the Parliament select committee that was appointed to probe the questionable influx of Asians into the country.

Currently, the committee is taking contributions from stakeholders to compile a comprehensive report that they will table in Parliament, probably next month.

Members of the committee present last Friday included Zombodze Emuva Member of Parliament Titus Thwala, who is the chairperson of the committee. Other members present included Mtfongwaneni MP Mjuluklo Dlamini, Nhlambeni MP Frans Dlamini, Manzini North MP Jan Sithole, and Committee Clerk Celumusa Khoza.

SIPA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Phumelele Dlamini said her organisation facilitated the start of businesses that were to be done by investors, not traders. The CEO referred to the Asians, that were talked about last Friday, as traders, not investors.

"People who are in the business of buying and selling are traders and investors are people who will buy raw material and process them into finished products, right here in the country," Dlamini said.

The CEO was asked to explain what made these people to be called investors yet they did not come into the country because of SIPA. She was asked by Nhlambeni MP Frans Dlamini. The CEO said she could not be sure what made such a situation exist because they also saw them in the country. She then related an incident they once experienced at SIPA, in relation to the Asian business

SIPA brings investors worth E26m a year

THE Swaziland Investment Promotions Authority (SIPA) brings in investments worth E26 million per annum.

This was said by SIPA CEO Phumelele Dlamini when asked to state how many businesses they brought into the country each year.

This question was asked by Mtfongwaneni MP Mjuluklo Dlamini. Dlamini wanted to know the number of investors, on average, that entered through SIPA.

Dlamini said in the textile industry, they brought investments worth E26 million in a year.

Investors they bring per year are about 10 to 15. Last year, they brought two to three investments in the textile industry.

Other investments they brought were in the manufacturing assembly, agribusiness, and mining industries. They brought one in each of them. She said



CONFIRMED: SIPA CEO Phumelele Dlamini.

for an investment, it took nine months to set. For those that needed land, it could take from 15 to 24 months.

people.

She said on a certain weekend back in 2013, they received a call in their office. The call was coming from a police officer based in Matsapha International Airport.

Investor

"They were telling us about an investor that had just landed at Matsapha International Airport. We went to check on the investor and we found that we had not been in contact with the investor. However, we found that the investor already had a trading licence and other documents to work in the country," Dlamini said. Dlamini said they then booked the businessman at a hotel and

was turned back the following Monday. The chief executive officer said they were not convinced the Asian was an investor because she could not fit in their policy that guided their scope of work. The investor had only E12 000 that he intended using to start his business as an investor in the country. The CEO, when asked what the solution could be, said Swazis needed to be aggressive in doing business. She said Swazis used to drive the economy in the yesteryears because they operated as general dealers and in transport businesses. Dlamini mentioned that the situation could still be reversed because access to credit had improved now.

'Schaza'; Suspect's bar broken into

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

THUGS at Ludwala area broke into a bar which is believed to be run by incarcerated murder suspect Lucky Matsenjwa in the early hours of yesterday morning.

Matsenjwa stands accused of killing fellow police officer Mduduzi 'Schaza' Matsebula.

Information gathered is that the culprits gained forced entry at the bar and helped themselves on money from the pool table and stole volumes of cigarettes and booze.

The items stolen including cash is alleged to have amounted to E4 000. Residents of the place stated that they were shocked to see police officers in the early hours of yesterday flocking into the place. When this reporter visited yesterday morning the bar lady who was on duty confirmed that there had been a robbery.

However, the bar lady refused to entertain further questions and asked to call her manager in order to get authority to comment or let the manager

address the media herself.

After a brief call, the bar lady came back and informed this reporter that her boss said she could not address the media. Such an incident comes at a time when Matsenjwa who runs the bar is in police custody for allegedly murdering Matsebula.

Charges

Matsenjwa resigned as a police officer after he and others faced charges in a case where they are alleged to have had fingerprints for people who were convicted for criminal matters cleared from the police system.

Deputy Police Information and Communications Officer Phindile Vilakati confirmed that a case of a break-in at Fontana Bar was reported to the Manzini police.

She said no one had been arrested in connection with the incident and police were still investigating the matter.

Such an incident comes at a time when a number of bars in Manzini have been broken into and some suspects have already been sentenced for such offences while others are still attending trials.

BUSHFIRE WEEKEND SEES 126 ARRESTED FOR DD

By Nozipho Sibiya
Mbabane

THE busy MTN Bushfire Festival weekend saw about 126 motorists arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol.

Deputy Chief Information and Communication Officer Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed the figures yesterday. She said the number showed an increase from last week's reported cases. There were 115 drink-driving cases reported.

Those arrested have either appeared

in court for their troubles or will be greeting the magistrate this morning. "We advise drivers to plan ahead by leaving their cars at home, share a taxi or take public transport or alternatively nominate a designated driver who is fit to drive," said Vilakati.

Drunk

She also advised drivers to stay free from intoxicating substances at all times saying the police were all out to arrest those found to be breaking the law. She said drink-driving was not only a danger to the drunk motorists but to innocent people who may lose their lives during such accidents.

COLD FRONT ENDS TOMORROW

By Nozipho Sibiyi
Mbabane

THE cold front is expected to last until tomorrow.

According to information sourced from

Swazi Meteorology Services, the cold front began moving through Saturday night, bringing cooler temperatures and drizzles to some areas.

"There are chances of drizzles overnight through to Tuesday mainly in the western parts of the country where tempera-

tures will drop to 17 degrees Celsius in the Highveld and 23 degrees Celsius in the Lowveld. After two days of cooler weather, temperatures will once again jump into the mid-20s for Wednesday and Thursday. Wednesday and Thursday looks mild and cool," said the forecaster.

Today there will be morning fog and drizzle mainly over the western parts, otherwise partly cloudy with cloudy episodes and cold but mild becoming warm in the Lowveld.

Mbabane	Mankayane	Manzini	Siteki	Mhlume	Big Bend
6/17	7/18	8/21	8/29	9/22	7/23
Tomorrow, there will morning fog patches, otherwise partly cloudy and mild but warm in the Lowveld.					
6/18	7/19	8/22	8/21	9/23	7/24
On Wednesday, it will be sunny and mild but warm to hot in the Lowveld.					
7/21	8/22	9/25	9/24	10/26	8/27
While on Thursday, it will be sunny and warm in the Lowveld.					
7/22	8/23	9/26	9/25	10/27	8/28

20 MTN BUSHFIRE TOURISTS ARRESTED FOR DRINK DRIVING

COVER STORY

Stories by Phesheya Kunene
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

THE internationally acclaimed MTN Bushfire Festival was a sweet-sour affair for over 20 tourists.

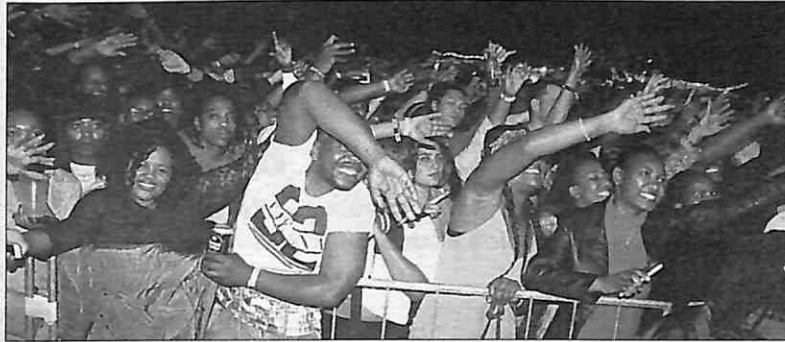
They apparently took their excitement to the road yet they had taken one too many alcoholic drinks.

They were nabbed for driving while under the influence of alcohol and appeared in court on Saturday and yesterday where they were punished for their deeds.

The Lobamba traffic police were not in a compromising mood on Saturday and in the early hours of yesterday morning as they arrested over 15 traffic offenders who were tourists who came for the 11th edition of the MTN Bushfire. Over five had been taken in the previous day bringing the number to well over 20. There were locals too that were arrested as the figure of drunk motorists stood at 126. Even though this left most of the tourists unhappy, they did acknowledge it was wrong of them to drive their motor vehicles whilst under the influence of alcohol. They pleaded with the court to be lenient on them as they were not aware of some of the country's traffic laws. Most of them said they were in the country for the first time.

According to the charge sheets, the offenders' breathalyzer test results ranged from 1.00mg/l to 2.00mg/l whilst the lowest recorded only 0.84mg/l.

The two spots, where roadblocks were mounted and proved effective were



FUN ALL THE WAY: Fun lovers having a good time during the festival. The festival is known to attract booze lovers who are prone to breaking the law.

Nkhanini and Ludzidzini.

As the number of tourists hauled before court for driving under the influence of alcohol swelled, the court opted to exercise leniency. Both Saturday and yesterday saw Senior Magistrate Nonhlanhla Dlamini having to deal with tourists who were nabbed for driving their motor vehicles whilst under the influence of alcohol. Most of the arrested tourists were from South Africa and they told the court they were here for the MTN Bushfire festival, which ended yesterday.

Offenders

The traffic offenders stated their concerns before the court as they felt they were the target over the weekend.

The senior magistrate also noted there were many tourists before her court and she said she would exercise leniency.

"Judging from the quantity of the alcohol content found in your blood systems the court is supposed to give you the maximum fine of E5 000 but since you are

our tourists, you will get lenient fines," the senior magistrate said. The senior magistrate fined the close to 20 tourists E1 200 or six months imprisonment each. The offenders spotted wrist bands from the weekend-long festival. Reuben Kamashinda (50) of Mahodison in Botswana said the court should have mercy on him after spending hours sleeping on a cold floor in the police cells. He was nabbed at 3:30am yesterday whilst driving a Jeep Cherokee at Nkhanini along MR 103 public road. The alcohol content found in his blood system stood at 1.62mg/l. He pleaded guilty to the offence. He was fined E1 200 or six months imprisonment.

Misjudged

Another offender Tsepo Mosibi of South Africa said he misjudged his soberness after sleeping it off.

"I take full responsibility of the offence, I follow the law. It was a mistake on my part as I thought I was sober after taking

TOURIST LOSES WALLET, WANTS NOTHING TO DO WITH SD

NTSIKENI Mtobe of South Africa told the court he was only interested in leaving the country following the bad experience he had whilst here.

Mtobe spent the hours of early morning yesterday behind bars after being nabbed for driving a Toyota Corolla whilst intoxicated. He was also charged for driving the car without his valid driver's licence.

He said this experience added to his already piling woes after losing his wallet at the festival.

"I found myself in a difficult situation after I lost my wallet as I had planned to hire a driver to take me to the hotel but I could not. I was forced to drive myself there as I thought it would not be a problem since I was booked at Ezulwini," he said. He said he did try to explain to the police about his lost wallet and driver's licence but he was

charged anyway. He said he would have a problem raising the money since he was now using the internet to access his funds.

"I have my passport back at the hotel and all I need is to go back home, I have to be at work tomorrow (today). If the court can allow me to leave as my car has a full tank, I only have a problem with money," he said.

Cautioned

The court insisted he must make means to pay the fine then he would be let go. He was cautioned and discharged on his second count after the court understood his explanation on why his driver's licence was not in his possession when he was stopped by the police whilst at Lobamba.

He was also fined E1 200 or six months imprisonment after the alcohol content detected in his blood system stood at 2.00mg/l.

a nap," he said. The alcohol content in his blood system stood at 1.66mg/l. He was fined E1 200 or six months imprisonment. Another offender, Mphumelelo Gama, who was also driving a South African registered car, complained before the court that the Lobamba traffic police were only stopping foreign registered motor vehicles. "This did not go down well with us as we discussed this whilst kept at the cells and discovered we all suffered the same fate. The local registered cars were not pulled over and it felt like we were targeted," he said with a disappointed face. "I will talk to the police and refer your comments to them since it is not within the courts,

but the court does acknowledge that this is a wrong practice especially because you are here on visit," the senior magistrate responded to the concerns. Gama apologised for being found driving while intoxicated at or near Ludzidzini in the early hours of yesterday morning. He pleaded with the court to reduce the E1 200 fine after noting it was being given out to all the other tourists. "Your worship, I have noted you have been using the same figure, please reduce it," he said much to the amusement of the court. However, he was told the court was already exercising its extreme leniency on them. He was fined E1 200 or six months imprisonment.

Bushfire fan falls sick in court

SHANGANI Zitha, a visiting tourist saw her matter being briefly suspended after she fell sick inside the court.

Senior Magistrate Nonhlanhla Dlamini opted to ask the police to take her to hospital or get her the necessary medication before being convicted.

Zitha told the court her medication was left behind at Lobamba police station. A police officer was ordered to assist her with getting the necessary medication. After the court had completed dealing with other offenders, the drunk-driver was recalled and she told the court she was better and ready for conviction. She was charged with drink-driving after being nabbed driving along Ludzidzini. She pleaded guilty to the charge. "I apologise, I tried to avoid the situation by sleeping, I am sorry for breaking the law in your country as a tourist," she said before attempting to walk out of the accused dock without her conviction. She was fined E700 or five months imprisonment.

I was going to buy bread – tourist

A fun lover from South Africa said the police nabbed him whilst he was on his way to buy bread yesterday morning.

Simphiwe Hlophe was arrested while driving a BMW sedan along Ludzidzini public road.

He was slapped with two traffic counts. He was charged for drink-driving and driving without a valid driver's licence.

He told the court his driver's licence was left behind at the campsite. The less pleased 31-year-old man of Secunda told the court he was surprised to be arrested as he explained to the police he was only going to buy bread and other essentials to use at the campsite.

"I told the traffic police I had left everything at the campsite since I believed I would find a shop close by," he said. Hlophe was also left unhappy with the experience. However, he apologised to the court and pleaded for leniency.

Tsepo Mosibi also from South Africa

asked not to say anything before court whilst showing signs of his displeasure. He was arrested at 12:35 am while at Nkhanini driving a Hummer. The alcohol content detected in his blood system stood at 1.66 mg/l.

He was fined E1 200 or six months imprisonment.

Charged

Nhlakanipho Mkhize of South Africa also opted not to say anything before court after he mentioned that he lost his wallet while enjoying himself at the festival. He pleaded guilty to all the traffic counts he was slapped with. He was charged for drink-driving, reckless driving and driving without a valid driver's licence.

He is said to have failed to stop while at a compulsory stop sign and when asked about his valid driver's licence, he said it was inside the lost wallet.

The court found him guilty and convicted him as per his pleas. He was only fined E1 200 or six months imprisonment.

NATICHEM (pty) LTD

WHOLESALE OF HIGH QUALITY CLEANING CHEMICALS

1L Petroleum Jelly.....	E27.50
1L White Oil.....	E26.50
200ml Black Shoe Polish.....	E15.00
1L Tyre Polish liquid.....	E15.00
5L Black Tyre polish liquid.....	E130.00
1L Dashboard Cleaner.....	E45.00
5L Wash and Wax Car Shampoo.....	E95.00
5L Thick Foam Bleach.....	E85.00
20L Chlorinated Butchery Sanitizer.....	E330.00
1L DeBlocks.....	E50.00
12.5Kg Multipurpose Powder Soap.....	E230.00
25L Selfshine Polish.....	E465.00
25L Pine Gel.....	E375.00 (plus Free Deoblocks)
12.5Kg Laundry Washing Powder.....	E263.00
25L Pit Toilet Digester.....	E380.00 (plus Free Deoblocks)
5L Deoblocks.....	E220.00
200L Metal Drums.....	E85.00
200L Plastic Drums.....	E171.00

Raw Materials

Sulphonic acid, CDE, Sless 70%, Pine Oil, Caustic soda, Propanol, Adogen, N-9 Ammonia, Formalin, Sasol wax, Kulu, Perfumes

Also available in 1 litre, 5 litres and refills.
Terms: Cash and Carry.

Tel: 2505 3120 / 7604 0013
P.O. Box 1075, Matsapha, Swaziland.
Sedco Estate Manzini

50ml Inkjet cartridge Refill ink E85.00

IMPORTANT:
For Re-usable Cartridges ie. Run Dry Cartridges ONLY



MTN BUSHFIRE LAST DAY



THANK YOU: Bushfire organising team led by Jiggs Thorne appreciating the audience for coming in their numbers to support the 11th instalment of the three-day MTN Bushfire Festival which ended on a high note yesterday evening. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



PRESENT: Businessman 'Squva and Prince Gcogca enjoying the show.



LET'S TALK: Fincorp MD Dumsani Msibi in a conversation with sister-in-law Marandi Ngwenya.



SEALED: A couple kissing as they celebrate the end of the festival.



ALL SMILES: Ayanda Mhlanga and her mother Lindiwe were also at the festival.



BEAUTIFUL DAY: Swazi MTN CEO Ambrose Dlamini and DPM Paul Dlamini in a deep conversation.



GOOD TIME: Nondumiso Dlodlu, Nomonde Matsebula, Justice Simelane and his wife Nomathamsanqa.



GAZING: Muzi Maseko and Sandile Mnisi watching the festival.



JAZZ IT UP: Bra Hugh Masekela and his guitarist doing it in style.



DOCTORS PRESENT: Dr Velephi Okello and Dr Gcinile Buthelezi having a good time.

ZERO TO HERO: Bholoja in a musical mood as he played his guitar.



FINAL DAY: A section of the multitudes which attended the last day of the festival.

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

CONTRARY to police suspicions that Manzini businessman Timothy Dlamini shot himself, friends of the late businessman believe it was not a suicide incident and have vowed that those responsible for the death of the businessman would follow him soon.

Friends who attended Dlamini's memorial service at St Paul's Methodist Church last Friday made it clear that they suspected foul play in the death of Dlamini.

Dlamini was found dead with bullet wounds in his right cheek after his wife heard gunshots in the compound, where the late businessman resided.

Police when asked about the incident confirmed that the deceased had two bullet wounds and stated that they suspected a case of suicide.

However, they stated that investigations were ongoing.

One of Dlamini's friends, who was also speaking on behalf of Moneni Football Club, stated that they were aware of the stories circulating pertaining the death of the businessman.

He said as a soccer team they were aggrieved by the passing away of Dlamini. The speaker said the deceased loved the team and supported it with everything.

"Thayma Thayma siyabongakakhulu etitseni tefu, sitsi asidvumise kutsi no nihlabile... nabakhona la labatotsatsa bufakazi kutsi nguye

KILLERS OF LATE BUSINESSMAN WILL DIE – FRIENDS

OBITUARY OF TIMOTHY DLAMINI

● Bongani Timothy Dlamini was born on the 24.04.1967 at Balfor North South Africa he was the last born of Wilson B and Esther Nkosi.

● He began his education at St Michael's Primary School, and then proceeded to Salesian High School where he obtained his O'level Certificate. Upon completion, he started working at Swaziland milling for a period of two months.

● He joined Mhlume Swaziland Sugar Company and was employed as an apprentice and in 1989 he was confirmed and was promoted to that of artisan.

● In 1991, he furthered his studies at Umlazi Technical College where he obtained his N1 and N6 Certificates in boiler making. He worked for Mhlume until December 1992 when he resigned from the company.

● In 1993 he was engaged by a construction company that was attached at Ubombo Sugar as a contractor and boiler maker working in the recovery boilers department. In 1994 he was employed on a fulltime basis as an artisan at the main workshop and was later promoted to charge-hand when Sappi did a restructuring exercise and in 1996, a multi skilled person was needed and Dlamini was

re-employed to head the four departments as a workshop foreman until 2002, when he left his employment on a voluntary basis to go into a vehicle venturing business.

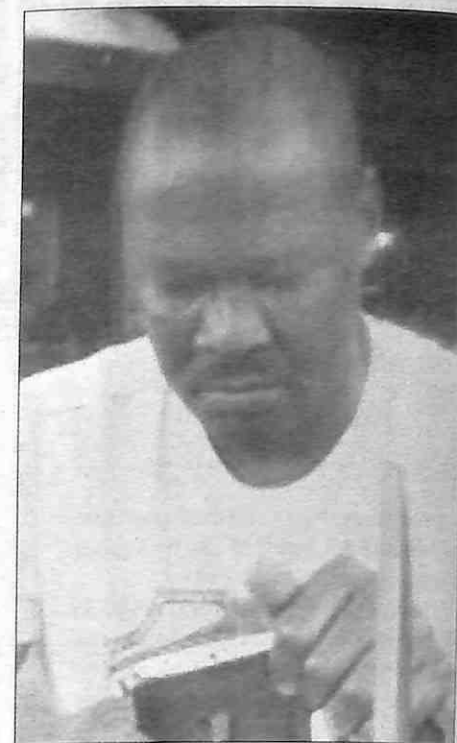
● In 2001 he and his colleagues founded SCATS Construction, a company specialising in welding and boiler making.

● In the year 2005, Dlamini bought Twins Restaurant and further embarked on forming another company, TN Digitech. In the year 2011-2015, he was appointed as a Director with Moneni Football Club. He met his demise on the May 18, 2017 leaving behind his parents, brothers, wife and three children.

yini Bongani yes nguyelona," the speaker said directing his remarks

to his killers. This can loosely translate to "Father,

father thank you for all you have done for the team. We are poorer



NO MORE: The late Manzini businessman Timothy Dlamini.

without you. To those who did this; they hit us where it hurts most. If they are here to confirm that Bongani is dead, indeed he is dead."

The speaker continued: "But Thayma utimlandza letingane kwane lektivakosyati vaimithandazo yethu itisi Thayma balandze" the speaker added. The business community also sent their farewell to the late Dlamini. Speaking on behalf of the business community was one businessman only identified as Matsebula. He stated that as the business community they have been dealt a major blow by losing a valuable resource.

People as far as South Africa and Mozambique who were business associates of the deceased also came to pay their last respects.

Night patrols have reduced crime in Pigg's Peak

By Sizwe Dlamini
Pigg's Peak

PIGG'S Peak Police Station Commander Webster Methula has revealed that the secret to reducing the high crime rate in northern Hhohho has been the vigorous patrols by police at night.

Methula said this has helped reduce the crime statistics which were reported to have dropped a lot in the past two months.

Patrols

The station commander is often part of the night patrols with his junior officers who comb out the dangerous streets of Pigg's Peak to reduce all bad elements.

Speaking to this newspaper, officers involved in the Lunyazi programme said one of the key successes in their fight against crime was the fact that Methula was actively involved on the frontline, working hand in hand with his junior officers.

"We are very happy that our station commander is actively involved in the crime prevention exercise as we have seen him talking to the bar owners and educating them on the importance of closing their business within the stipulated times.

This has allowed their customers to



SLEEPLESS NIGHTS: Pigg's Peak Station Commander Webster Methula does not sleep during weekends in an effort to eradicate crime in the small town of Pigg's Peak. (Pic: Sizwe Dlamini)

leave town for their homes early enough while the police are patrolling the streets, which has reduced crime," said the sources.

The station commander has further equipped members of the public with crime precautionary measures like teaching residents of Pigg's Peak to walk in groups at night and advising them to avoid certain areas if they will be walking alone added the source.

When interviewed Methula said his only joy was seeing crime in Pigg's Peak completely eradicated.

"We, the police in Pigg's Peak, are unified and motivated in our fight against crime. Our target is to see Pigg's Peak being crime free. We are very disappointed when we see a crime because we have taught people basic crime prevention techniques.

We hope we will see more improvements in the future as more people are sensitised about our duties. We have set ourselves a deadline of December 30 to see how much the crime in Pigg's Peak would have evolved during that period," said Methula.

FOREIGN EXTRAS

Algerian minister sacked three days after appointment

ALGIERS - Algeria's President Abdelaziz Bouteflika sacked his tourism minister yesterday days after he was appointed to the post, the presidency said, with one television channel claiming he had a criminal record.

A terse statement from the presidency, carried by the APS news agency, did not say why Bouteflika had fired Messaoud Benagoun, who became minister of tourism and crafts just three days earlier. Algerian media had criticised Benagoun's appointment, claiming that the 38-year-old had never had a job before joining the new government that was formed on Thursday. Yesterday, private television station Enahar claimed Benagoun

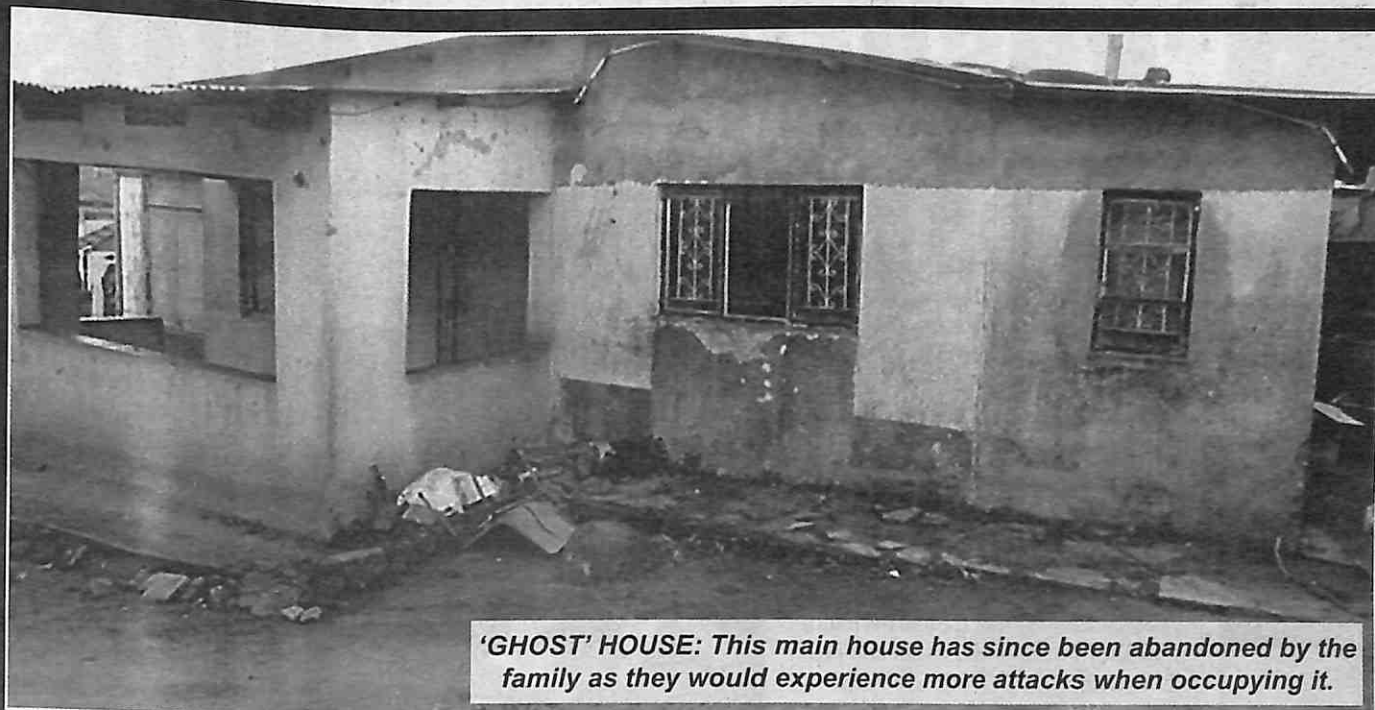
held a fake university diploma and had a criminal record, with several convictions, but did not specify for what offences.

According to Enahar, the sacked minister had submitted a doctored curriculum vitae in order to stand in the May 4 parliamentary election. Benagoun belongs to the Popular Algerian Movement (MPA) which won 13 seats. Bouteflika's party and its coalition ally won a clear majority while Islamists came in third place.

On Wednesday, Bouteflika appointed a new prime minister, Abdelmajid Tebboune, replacing his ally Abdelmalek Sellal in the wake of the election. Tebboune formed his government the following day. **AFP**



DISMISSES: Algeria President Abdelaziz Bouteflika.



'GHOST' HOUSE: This main house has since been abandoned by the family as they would experience more attacks when occupying it.

FAMILY FORCED OUT OF HOME BY 'GHOSTS'

Stories by Wonderboy
Dlamini
Siteki

...a Ndlovu family in Siteki tells a gory tale of how they are pelted with stones, plates and all sorts of objects

WITCHCRAFT and some evil spirits may remain just a myth for those who have not experienced such, but it is a reality for a Ndlovu family in Siteki which has since been literally kicked out of its homestead by vicious invisible beings.

The family has become the talk of the densely populated Ntamatshila Township as residents talk in hushed tones about the occurrences which would take place in broad daylight. So serious is the matter that children from the area have been sternly warned by their respective parents not to dare go anywhere near the homestead.

This became evident when this reporter visited the homestead on this past Saturday to ascertain the authenticity of the matter. At about 100 metres away from the homestead, a group of children were found playing football on the roadside just before sunset.

This reporter asked for directions leading to the Ndlovu homestead which was said to be situated near a shop operated by a man of Asian origin. With a questionable smile on his face, one of the boys pointed at the homestead.

When asked on what significance the homestead had, the boy stated that they have been warned of ghosts beating people inside the homestead. "Bantfu bakulelikhaya abasahlali kulo bacoshwa tipoko," said the boy, before he quickly returned to join his peers.

However, three senior family members were found at the homestead, seated near the gate. They

narrated the family's ordeal which they said would mostly take place when there were visitors. Isabel Ndlovu said they had been experiencing attacks from invisible beings since last year where they would be pelted with stones.

Intensified

She stated that the stones would come from the eastern direction and hit anyone within the premises. Isabel said the attacks had recently intensified, compelling them to seek refuge in neighbouring homesteads where they would spend the night and then return home in the morning.

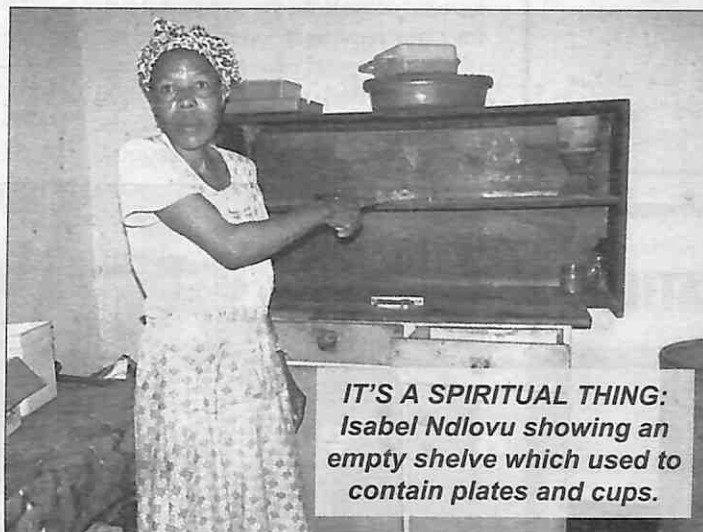
She said at first, they thought they were being attacked by some unruly boys from their neighbourhood. They even opened a case at the police station, accusing their neighbours of pelting them with stones.

This was until the invisible beings started using house utensils such as plates, cups and broomsticks to assault them both during the day and at night. Isabel stated that at a particular moment, a plate would suddenly fly from the shelves and hit anyone nearby while they would be seated in the main house.

Attacking

"We only see the stones and the other things being thrown at us but not the people or whatever kind of beings which are attacking us," said Isabel.

Following this attack, Isabel said they were no longer occupying the main house (a three-bedroom house belonging to their late father) as the attacks intensify when they are inside it.



IT'S A SPIRITUAL THING: Isabel Ndlovu showing an empty shelf which used to contain plates and cups.



WINDOWS SHATTERED: Ndlovu showing the damage left after one of the attacks.

Gogo Victoria Ndlovu, a wife to the late man, was said to be the most affected by the attacks. The elderly woman would at times be compelled to sleep at a veranda of a shop situated near her home during the attacks. She was reportedly taking a nap when this publica-

tion visited the homestead. She was said to have sustained injuries during a recent attack which took place last week Monday.

"We are now being isolated by our neighbours as they would also be pelted with stones when they visit us," said Isabel.

COPS GET THEIR FAIR SHARE OF BEATINGS

TWO police officers had to run for their lives after a hail of stones were thrown at them during their visit at the Ndlovu family about two months ago.

The officers are said to have been at the homestead to record statements of the alleged attacks. This was after the family reported that they were being pelted with stones by unknown people; at the time, they were suspecting their neighbours. While the officers were going about their duties and inspecting the damages, a flood of stones is said to have come from the same direction, hitting anyone in the vicinity.

There was no one seen to be throwing the stones. Isabel Ndlovu said it was then that they affirmed that the attack was spiritual. The family eventually resolved in extending their apologies to their neighbours for wrongly accusing them. "We wrongly accused our neighbours, and after we realised that this was spiritual, we asked the *umphakatsi* to assist us to extend our apologies to them," said Isabel.

She disclosed that the *umphakatsi* had arranged a reconciliation meeting which was scheduled for yesterday.

FAMILY NEEDS SPIRITUAL DELIVERANCE - PASTOR

ATTACKS from invisible beings are real, and the affected persons may only be assisted with spiritual deliverance.

This was said by Reverend Sifiso Mantimakhulu of Alliance Church of God during an interview. Mantimakhulu was asked whether or not such attacks were a reality and what could be done to assist the affected individuals.

The renowned preacher stated that there could be a number of factors which could have led to the paranormal activity taking place. He said, however, regardless of the intensity of the situation, a sincere prayer by specific men of God could stop the attacks.

"Such attacks need a sincere prayer from prophets with a specific anointing to cast out demons. It is not just any prophet who can withstand this kind of demons as they may have a history with that particular family," said Mantimakhulu.

IT'S WITCHCRAFT PRACTICE - INYANGA

WELL-KNOWN traditional healer Colani Matse has shared similar sentiments, saying similar attacks may be linked with witchcraft.

Matse said it was most likely that the family was not wanted in the area. He said, however, some specific traditional healers may be able to stop the attacks. He advised the family to consult traditional healers and seek help before it is too late.

He said such incidents were quite explainable when it comes to traditional healing but the attacks could be stopped for good. He highlighted that there were traditional healers who were good at stopping such evil spirits who could be of assistance to the family.

However, he did not specify the names of the traditional healers who were knowledgeable in dealing with ghosts.

BAR OWNER STABBED, ROBBED E20 000 CASH

The attack was brutal, fast and well planned because when Matsebula drove up to his front gate and exited his new vehicle to open the gate, the gang pounced on him

By Sizwe Dlamini
Pigg's Peak

A bar owner was stabbed multiple times and robbed E20 000 by a gang inside his own yard.

Owner of the Jazz Time bar Celimphilo 'Mandoza' Matsebula is lucky to be alive after he was brutally stabbed and robbed of his money while outside his own home.

The incident happened at around 3am yesterday at Matsebula's residence that is located close to the Mhlatane teachers' quarters before Macembeni area.

Sources close to the matter said that the attack was carefully planned by the gang of about 10 men who behaved like 'hunters' and waited for their victim in the dead of night in complete silence.

"The attack was brutal, fast and well planned because when Matsebula drove up to his front gate and exited his new vehicle to open the gate, the gang pounced on him. They stabbed him on the neck, back, leg and face while the other men ran to the car and stole the money that was placed inside a boxer store plas-



LUCKY: Jazz Time bar owner Celimphilo 'Mandoza' Matsebula (Inset) is lucky to be alive after he was brutally stabbed and robbed E20 000 outside his own home in Pigg's Peak. (Courtesy picture)

tic," said a source.

The gang then ran into the blanket of the night leaving their victim in a state of shock and pain.

His screams were loud enough to awake his family who then called emer-

gency services, who took him to the Pigg's Peak Government Hospital for treatment for the stab wounds that were inflicted. Acting Police Public Relations Officer (PRO) Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed the robbery.

Youth fund gets E10m but there is no board

By Mbono Mdluli
Lobamba

The Swaziland Youth Enterprise Revolving Fund (SYERF) has been given E10 million in this financial year, yet it has no board of directors to monitor how that money works.

This transpired last Friday when the authorities of the fund appeared before the Public Accounts Committee (PAC). The SYERF had appeared before the PAC to state why they had not submitted their audited financial statements to the Auditor General (AG), as dictated by the Public Enterprise Unit (PEU) Act of 1989.

The Act requires all public enterprises (parastatals) to submit their audited financial statements to the AG at the ministry of finance.

That happens after the statements of the parastatals have been audited by private auditing firms.

This also binds SYERF, which is a parastatal under the ministry of sports, culture and youth affairs.

The Auditor General found the fund to be wanting in terms of submitting its audited financial statements. The fund last submitted its statements in 2014, according to the 2016 report of the Auditor General. This was not accepted by the PAC, which is a government financial watchdog that scrutinises the way in which government money is used.

SYERF Chairperson Siboniso Mdluli said the report of the Auditor General was true.

The problem that made the statements not available was that there was no board of directors for a long time. What made this very difficult was that there was no chief executive officer (CEO), who also forms part of the board of directors. The PAC was informed that the fund had been dormant for the past three years. The office had been run by the finance officer, who paid for all the expenses that were incurred by the office. There was no activity at the organisation since 2014. Mdluli further told the PAC that they found no financial statements when they were appointed into the board in September last year. Mdluli then promised the PAC that by September this year, audited financial statements for 2015, 2016, and 2017 would be available. Mayiwane Member of Parliament (MP) Eric Sifiso Matsebula wanted to know if the fund had a way of collecting the money that was for the youth. Mdluli told him that even that activity was halted since there was no substantive board of directors.

PAC Chairperson Thuli Dladla advised Mdluli to seek an audience with Minister for Sport, Culture and Youth Affairs David Cruiser Ngcamphalala, with the intention, according to Dladla, was to speed up the process of the employment of a CEO of the SYERF.



Gugulethu Mswane
Marketing Manager

SWAZI PLAZA PROPERTIES (PTY) LTD

GE'EZ *Make a Statement*



Make a Statement

When did you open/launch?

We opened on the 23rd of December 2016, the eve of Christmas. What challenges have you been facing since opened? We have been facing marketing challenges in which People doesn't quite notice the shop exists at this area as the location is not very much exposing for our kind of business.

Ge'ez is an ancient South Semitic language that originated in Northern region of Ethiopia and Eritrea in the Horn of Africa. It later became the official language of the Kingdom of Aksum/Axum and Ethiopian imperial court.

It also has its own writing scripts or alphabets which were originally developed specifically for this language and the alphabets/scripts are still being used by many other languages in the country including Amharic which is the official language of Ethiopia. Today Ge'ez remains only as the main language used in the liturgy of the Ethiopian and Eritrean Orthodox Tewahedo Church and also the Ethiopian and Eritrean Catholic Church.

The major concept of our shop is that in the form of combining both coffee and exclusive fashion wears for men and women, we wanted to create a language that speaks about us and in the meantime our products and pass that message through a path of communication to people via Ge'ez the shop.

Why did you choose Swazi Plaza?

About product offering? What sets you apart from other coffee shops in Swaziland? The first thing is where our coffee originated from, we didn't start this without a passion, the passion we have about our coffee is related with a history and culture that we are involved and grew up with, so the basic thing is that we want to share that with other people.

Here is what coffee importers have to say about Ethiopian coffee. As Ethiopia is the birth place of Coffee Arabica, The Coffees from the different growing regions vary so incredibly that they don't even seem from the same planet. Ethiopian coffee is among the world's most unusual, offering a range of flavours from winy to fruity.

The Three main regions where Ethiopia coffee beans originate are Sidamo (Yirgacheffe), Harrar and Ghimbi. Ethiopia Yirgacheffe coffee bean, is the most favoured coffee grown in Southern Ethiopia. It is more mild, fruitlike and aromatic plus it is one of the best choices for iced coffee. Ethiopia Yirgacheffe coffee may also be labelled as Sidamo, which is the district where it is produced.

Another amazing coffee growing region with in Ethiopia is the Harrar region these beans are grown on small farms in the eastern part of the country. Harrars are wild coffees. *What's a wild coffee, you ask?* The term is a fancy name for dry-process or natural coffee where the coffee fruit dries on the bean, Ethiopian Harrar coffee can have a strong dry edge, winy to fruit like acidity, rich aroma and a heavy body. Ethiopian Harrar coffee is often used in espresso blends to capture the fine aroma..... Harrars are this and more!

Among the washed coffees of Ethiopia one is Ghimbi Coffee beans, these beans are grown in the western part of the country and are more balanced, heavier, and has a longer lasting body than the Harrars.

Coffee hold a special place in Ethiopian culture that transcends that of the coffees from other origin countries. The majority of the crop does not even leave the country and is drunk with great ceremony by the Ethiopians. One taste of an excellent Ethiopian coffee and you will understand this passion for the bean.

The branding of your shop how did you came up with it? We wanted to be something different and historically tangible in a way that people will love and enjoy, so that's how it all started.

What value do you think you will add to Swazi plaza? By making our shop and the service we provide interesting additionally by keeping our shop more attractive in a way that can keep Swazi plaza Properties advantageous by having us and vice versa.

What exiting things can we look out for? We can't predict the future but we definitely have many exiting plans

for the future that we think are interesting and enjoyable both by customers and Swazi plaza properties.

Where do you see yourself in the next 5 years?

To keep being one of the best shops Swazi plaza currently has and expand our service in many directions that can satisfy every customer's need.

What are your Value, Goals, Visions and Mission?

Value - Our values are our customers, seeing our customers being satisfied by our service is the biggest accomplishment. Goal - Our goal is to make the business grow every year by providing goods that will suit our customers need.

Vision - Vision of Ge'ez is to be the company that best understands and satisfies customer's needs and to become Swaziland leading Consumer Company for Coffee and Clothing products and services. Mission- Mission of Ge'ez is to expand in providing quality service, customer satisfaction and scope of operation especially on our target market and having more targets.

Are you worried about your competitions? Who are your competitors?

Definitely there is always a competitor if one happen to be doing well, but we are not worried about any competitors we believe they will motivate us to work harder.



SWAZI PLAZA



CHILL: Ministers Winnie Magagula and Moses Vilakati with Khanyi Hlophe enjoying the festival.

unicef for every child

INFORMATION REQUEST

The Office of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Swaziland is requesting that all suppliers and implementing partners registered with UNICEF to update their information which will further strengthen and ensure payments to you are in a timely and accurate manner.

We request that a recent bank letter containing the below information be submitted to us;

- Full Company Name
- Bank Name
- Branch Code
- Account Name
- Account Number
- Account Type

May we kindly also request additional information as per below;

- Contact Person
- Postal Address
- Email Address
- Telephone Numbers

This information can either be hand delivered to the address below or via scanned copy to coliver@unicef.org / edlamini@unicef.org

The Office of the United Nations Children's Fund
Finance Department
1st Floor Lilunga House
Somhlolo Road
Mbabane

Your usual support is always greatly appreciated.
Submission Deadline: 17th June 2017

unite for children

unicef

'BUSHFIRE PROMOTES

By Simon Shabangu
Malkerns

DEPUTY Prime Minister Paul Dlamini says the MTN Bushfire Festival is the best platform to promote the peace and stability that exists in the country to the world.

He said the festival has grown up to the standard where it attracts tourists from all over the world, who in turn apart from enjoying the good music also would witness the peace and stability that Swaziland is known for.

Dlamini said after witnessing all the good the country has, the tourists in turn spread the word to the world and promote Swaziland in a positive way.

The DPM was speaking at the festival where he joined the thousands of music lovers who came from all over the world to be part of the 11th instalment of the festival.

He was with other dignitaries at the VVIP lounge hosted by MTN Swaziland where he was joined by Prince Masitsela, Minister of Tourism Christopher Gamedze, Minister of Agriculture Moses Vilakati, Minister Owen Nxumalo, Minister Winnie Magagula, Senate Acting President Ngomuyayona Gamedze, MP Marwick Khumalo and Senator David Dlamini who is also MTN board Chairman among others.

The DPM said the organisers of the event now need to consider hosting the festival two times a year to accommodate everyone because some might have loved to come to the this instalment but for many reasons they were unable to.

"This is a good relaxation environment where one comes to rest and refresh and be with music lovers. One also needs to encourage the nation to take good

care of the visitors so that they take good memories of the country back home and be good ambassadors of Swaziland.

"I am a big fan of music and this environment is good for me as I am here to enjoy music and have a good time. I am also happy about the local participation and I must say that the locals are matching their international counterparts," he said.

Meanwhile, MTN CEO Ambrose Dlamini said as the main sponsor of the festival, they were impressed about the level of organisation and the growth the festival has realised since its inception 11 years ago.

He said the festival has become one of the country's biggest festivals which draws tourists from all over the world hence it was key for all stakeholders to ensure that it continues to be a success.

"The festival is now a tourist attraction hence we see the need to double the effort and grow the festival even bigger than it is. For now we are excited about the success and the growth it has achieved.

"This year we know for a fact that there are more than fifty countries represented and such is an indication that it has gone international," he added.

He said the nation must support the festival because it also contributes



GUESTS: DPM Paul Dlamini and Prince Masitsela among the dignitaries at the MTN VVIP Lounge at the MTN Bushfire Festival on Saturday night. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



WE WERE THERE: Friends having a good time at the VIP area.



RELAXING: Minister of Tourism Christopher Gamedze, Senate Deputy President Ngomuyayona Gamedze and Senator David Dlamini in a relaxed mood.

SCOPING MEETING INVITATION

Proposed Gecko Eco City Gardens Development
On
Remainder of Portion 9 (A Portion of Portion 1) Of Farm Droxford
Estate No. 1007, at Ngwenya

The proponent, Tinsimbi Holdings (Pty) LTD, a locally registered, Swazi owned company, is proposing to develop Remainder of Portion 9 (A Portion of Portion 1) Of Farm Droxford Estate No. 1007, HHOHHO DISTRICT at Ngwenya into Gecko City Gardens. The main purpose of this development is to create and provide a state of the art world class shopping, recreational and entertainment experience as a preferred family destination offering 24hr non-stop service.

This is a multi facet, phased development whose major components to be developed in phases will include: a Filling Station/Convenient Store, TV and Film Production Studio, Commercial and Residential Facilities, Medical Center, Recreational Center, University and a Hotel.

In accordance with the Swaziland Environment Authority (SEA) Environmental Audit, Assessment and Review Regulations 2000, members of the public are invited to a scoping meeting, where information about the project can be obtained. The meeting is also intended to give Interested and Affected Parties (IaP's) an opportunity to voice out their concerns regarding the project for eventual input to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

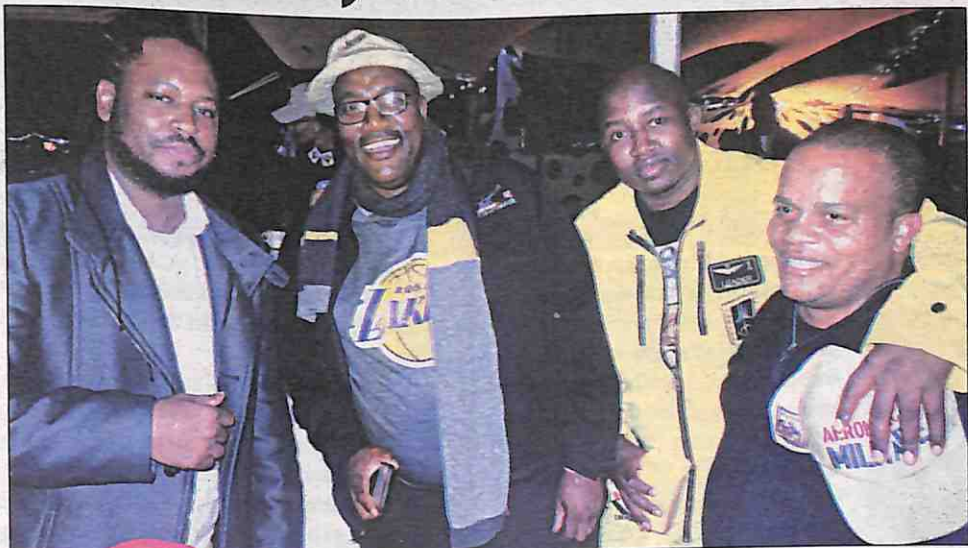
The meeting will be held on Thursday 01/06/ 2017 at 10: 30 a.m at Ngwenya Town board Conference Room.

For details, written submissions, etc., contact:

Mr. Ndumiso Mndziniso
Tinsimbi Holdings (Pty) LTD
Oribi Court Office # 2,
P.O. Box 53, Motjane,
Swaziland

Mr. Wandile Dlamini
Expressions Architects and
Steve Hall Development
Consultants (Pty)Ltd
Plot 168 Tsekwane Street

PEACE, STABILITY'



DIGNITARIES: Prince Sicelo, Sithofeni Ginindza, Gcina Mabena and Jomo Nkambule having a good time at the show.



COMFORTABLE: Lawyer Mangaliso Magagula, MTN Board Chairman Senator David Dlamini and Minister Owen Nxumalo at the VIP area.

immensely to the economic development of the country as well as the many spill over business opportunities it brings about. "We are also grateful for the support we receive from government because this tells us that government endorses

this festival. We also thank our counterparts from other countries for coming through to support us. We have no choice but to double up the effort and grow the festival in conjunction with the many other sponsors that help us host this festival," he

said. Dlamini also noted that among their special guests were MTN South Africa CEO Godfrey Motsa and Ruanda MTN CEO and senior executives from many other companies locally and international-



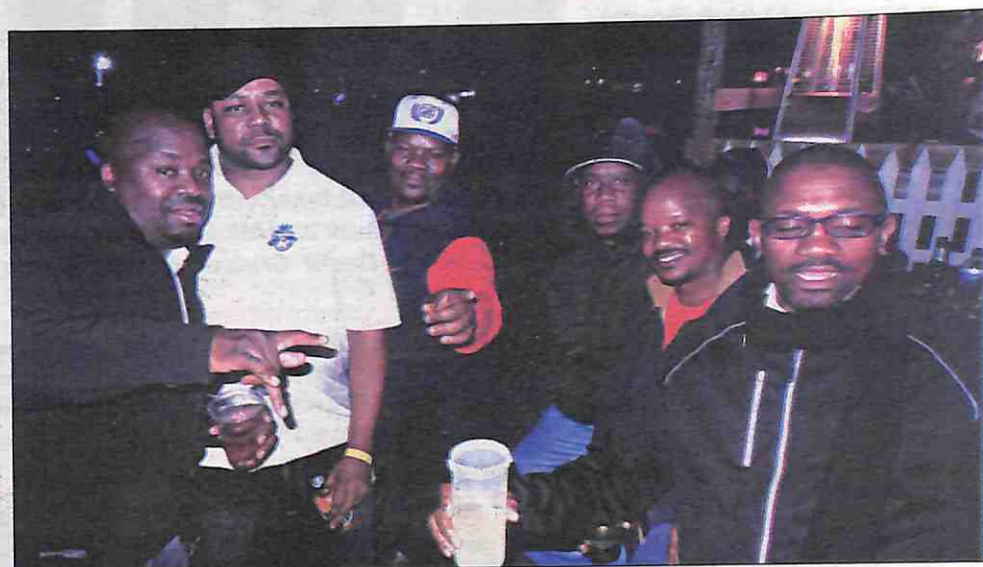
HAVING FUN: Prince Gcogca, MP Marwick Khumalo and Nelisile Ginindza were also spotted at the festival.



SPECIAL: MTN South Africa CEO Godfrey Motsa, Philani Maswati Chairman Lutfo Dlamini and Lawyer Smanga Mamba were also among special guests.



COMMENT: SBIS Journalist Mabandla Bhembe interviewing Swazi MTN CEO Ambrose Dlamini. The station broadcasting the festival live.



EXCITED: Bongani Mamba and friends were also among the guests at the VIP area.



VACANCY: LEGAL OFFICER

The Swaziland National Trust Commission (SNTC) is a national agency responsible for the conservation of the Kingdom of Swaziland's natural and cultural heritage as mandated through the Swaziland National Trust Commission Act No. 9 of 1972 (as amended by the King's Order-in-Council No.22 of 1973). The SNTC is a Category A Public Enterprise (regulated by the PEU), under the Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs.

Job Summary

- The Legal Officer will report to the Human Resources Manager.
- He/she will be charged with providing legal services and specific legal advice to the Commission.

Key Responsibilities

1. Working with Environmental and Conservation Experts and Non -Governmental Organisations to assist in harmonising conservation policies and legal instruments.
2. Undertaking such other reasonable tasks as may be assigned by the Human Resources Manager.
3. Provide accurate and timely legal advice to the Commission on all laws, regulations and policies that the Commission is enforcing
4. Providing legal support to the CEO during Board meetings including, preparing meeting documents, taking minutes and preparing reports.
5. Managing and critically analysing contractual agreements between the Commission, its staff and third parties.
6. Promote the adoption of appropriate conservation laws

Minimum Qualifications

- LLB Degree from a recognized Institution
- A Post -graduate qualification in Environmental/Corporate Governance Law will be an added advantage
- A minimum of 2 years' experience in a legally oriented environment

Skills Requirements / Attributes

1. Knowledge about matters of law related to the field of work,
2. Excellent legal analysis skills
3. Ability to work long hours
4. Clear knowledge and understanding of conservation, Industrial Relations and environmental legislation and policies
5. Ability to prepare independently, legal briefs, opinion and /or legal submissions
6. Ability to explain complex legal issues to non-legal experts in a service-oriented manner
7. Sound judgment and ability to analyse situations and information
8. Highest degree of professional ethics, integrity and confidentiality
9. Good communication, public speaking and presentation skills

Remuneration

The Commission offers a competitive package commensurate with qualifications and experience. Interested applicants can send their applications, attached certified academic certificates and 3 credible references to: Human Resource Manager
Subject: Legal Officer Advert
hmr@sntc.org.sz

Deadline: Friday, 2nd June 2017 @ 4:00pm

HYENAS DONATE TO CHILDREN AT MAWELAWELA CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

...items included blankets, diapers, clothing and E5 000 cash

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Matsapha

AS part of reaching out to the destitute, Hyenas Motorcycle Club has donated blankets, clothing, diapers and cash amounting to E5 000 to children whose mothers have been incarcerated at Mawelawela Correctional Facility.

The donation was made during the Hyenas MCC 2nd Day Jol 2017 Charity event held at Esibayeni Lodge on Saturday.

The event was attended by Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini, Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala and some Members of Parliament.

It started with a motorcade which comprising bikers from the coun-



GIVING BACK: A biker introducing himself to the DPM Paul Dlamini and Minister of Sports Culture and Youth Affairs David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala during the event.

try and other countries such as South Africa going to Mawelawela where the donation was made.

Speaking during the event, Hyenas

Motor Cycle Club captain Ayanda Masina said they went to donate the items to the children with the youngest child being at least three

weeks old.

Masina said the reason they chose to donate to the kids was because they discovered that even though government was providing for the incarcerated women however there was still a need for their children to be taken care of, so they as a club came in to fill in that gap.

Masina said the bikers also forked out money from their pockets amounting to E5 000 and donated it to the children.

Objective

He said as a club charity is their main objective and they will continue to host charity events where they aim to raise funds, he said an upcoming Blanket Run to Mpolonjeni in Siteki is in the pipelines and it will see the club working with World Vision in reaching out to the destitute.



SWAZI PRIDE: A Swazi cultural group entertaining the audience during the event.



THANK YOU: WLSA's Colani Hlatjwako making her remarks during the event while MC Mandla SP Hlatjwako looks on.

Drunk driver nabbed metres away from drinking hall

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

A drink-driver told the court how he was nabbed for the offence just a few metres away from the bar which is situated near a public road.

Sandile Maseko appeared before the Magistrate's Court, where he faced the charge of contravening the Road Traffic Act. He was alleged to have wrongfully and unlawfully driven his motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol.

A breathalyser test is said to have indicated that the accused had alcohol content amounting to 0.97 mg/l in his system, which is above the legal limit set at 0.38 mg/l.

In the particulars of the matter, the accused was said to have been driving the vehicle in a manner which posed a danger to other road users. When the charge sheet was read to him, the accused pleaded guilty to the charge.

His plea was also accepted by the crown without leading evidence. During mitigation, the accused stated that he was arrested a few minutes after getting behind the steering wheel as he was on his way home.

He told the court that he was about to take a gravel road going through a residential area when the police pounced on him.

He asked the court to be lenient when passing sentence, saying that he did not intend to break the law. Magistrate Donald Mavuso, however, pointed out that the accused was still on a public road when he got arrested.

He was therefore found guilty of the offence, and was accordingly sentenced to six months in a correctional facility with an option to pay E1 500 fine.

STOP & THINK!

Minister applauds good relations with Namaacha

By Sifiso Nhlabatsi
Manzini

MINISTER of Housing and Urban Development Phiyayinkhosi Mabuza has applauded the good relations that exist between Mozambique and Swaziland and stated that such is good for business.

The minister was speaking during an exchange visit by delegates from Namaacha town to the Municipality of Manzini last Friday.

Minister Mabuza stated that Swaziland and Mozambique come a long way as neighbouring countries who historically share good relations. He said he is pleased to see Manzini and Namaacha strengthening the good relations through these exchange visits.

He said he hopes such initiatives will create good relations between people of the two towns. He added that the good thing was that not only government officials attended the exchange visit but also members of the business community.

Mabuza said the Lomahasha border



PRESENT: Delegates from Namaacha and the Manzini Municipality together with government officials and relevant stakeholders at Manzini Municipal Council Chambers during the exchange visit program. (Pics: Sifiso Nhlabatsi)

gate which leads to Namaacha carries a large percentage of people who come from Manzini or are destined for Manzini, which boosts the economies of the two towns.

The minister also encouraged Swazis to visit Namaacha, saying it is known as a good tourist site. He also stated that Swaziland and Mozambique share the same history as originally the people of

Swaziland originated in parts of Mozambique such as Matola and these two countries share the same culture.

During the exchange visit the minister also had an opportunity to launch new upgraded roads in Manzini. The roads that were officially opened by the minister in the presence of the delegation from Namaacha and other government officials from the country included those that have been upgraded from gravel to bitumen, according to the City Public Relations Officer Mathokoza Thwala. These roads include Coates Valley, Madonsa, Sterkstroom, Woodmasters (GV), Sikhunyana, Fairview North and Ngwane Park Extension.

During the event Manzini Mayor Khethokuhle Dlamini introduced a new innovation by the city which is a 24-hour hotline service by the municipal council.

Dlamini said this line is available for all Manzini residents and will start operating on Thursday, June 1. He said residents will use the line to report any concern they encounter in the city. The hotline



GOOD RELATIONS- Minister of Housing and Urban Development Phiyayinkhosi Mabuza making his remarks during the event. He applauded the good relations between Mozambique and Swaziland.

numbers are 800 2004 (toll free) and 2505 7000 (accessible by land-line and cellphone).

POOR ROAD LEAVES TIKHUBA WITH NO POLICE VEHICLE

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

THE state of the road connecting Siteki and Mambane is said to have seen Tikhuba Police Post running for over two months without a motor vehicle.

The police vehicle is said to have broken down early in March. Police at the post now use phone calls to summon criminals who would be reported by complainants.

This publication learnt of the situation after a resident of Tikhuba raised a concern. The resident stated they were facing an increase in criminal activity as criminals were well aware that the nearest police post had no vehicle to respond to emergency incidents.

Occured

The resident, who did not reveal his name, stated in most instances police will only attend to a crime scene two days



ACKNOWLEDGES: Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Khulani Mamba.

after an incident has occurred.

This would be police from Siteki Police Station. Upon inquiring about this irregularity, the residents were told that the

vehicle had broken down due to the bad state of the road.

Apparently, the police vehicle would at times be available for a few days before being taken back for repairs.

Due to the unavailability of a police vehicle criminal activities such as house breaking, theft and assault were said to have drastically increased.

"Criminals are now having a field day here since they are aware it would take police at least two days to get to a crime scene," said a resident.

Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Khulani Mamba acknowledged the lack of a vehicle at Tikhuba Police Post.

In fact, Mamba stated that it was most likely for vehicles posted in rural stations to develop mechanical problems. "Generally as a service, we still lack sufficient motor vehicles in some stations around the country," said Mamba.

It is recalled that residents of Mambane, Tikhuba and Maphungwane have over the past many years been complaining about the bad state of the road.

The Mambane-Siteki gravel road is said to have also seen some public transport operators pulling out of the route as they complained that their vehicle experienced frequent break downs.

MP Phila Buthezi blamed the ministry of public works and transport of not taking the constituency seriously. Buthezi said the ministry will always lament unavailability of trucks to upgrade the road.

FOREIGN EXTRA

COSATU invites Ramaphosa to central committee meeting

JOHANNESBURG - The Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) says it has officially invited Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa to address its central committee meeting on Wednesday.

The four-day meeting will begin today where the African National Congress (ANC) is expected to deploy a member to address the central committee.

Confirm

The labour federation confirms it will not be President Jacob Zuma.

This comes after COSATU's decision to bar President Zuma from addressing its activities. It says Ramaphosa has been invited as a guest and will be not representing its alliance partner at the meeting. Spokesperson Sizwe Pamla says they are building a relationship with Ramaphosa ahead of the ANC elective conference. "We do have a standing decision to say the president of the republic will no longer be allowed to address COSATU meetings."



INVITED: SA Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa.

Comrade Ramaphosa will address the central committee on Wednesday, he's been invited as a guest of the federation from the ANC. We do have a standing position to support him as our candidate to take over as the president of the ANC in December." **EWN**

Egypt blocks financial newspaper website, widening media blackout

CAIRO - Egypt has blocked the website of one of its most prominent financial newspapers, the paper's owner said yesterday, expanding a media blackout initiated last week to curb what authorities called support for terrorism and fake news.

Egypt blocked access to a number of news websites including Al-Jazeera and Huffington Post Arabic last Wednesday after similar actions by its Gulf allies Saudi Arabia and the

United Arab Emirates.

The censorship of Al-Borsa, a widely read financial newspaper that generally steers clear of politics and reflects the views of a largely pro-state business community, suggests a more expansive attempt to control private media coverage.

The website of Al-Boursa's sister publication, the English-language Daily News Egypt, was also blocked, a statement by parent company Business News said. **AFP**

SADC Industrialisation Strategy based on 3 pillars

Stories by Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

THE overall goal of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap (2015-2063) is to engender the structural transformation the economy of the region.

This is according to SADC's Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, who was commenting on the SADC Industrialisation Strategy which was adopted in the Extra Ordinary Summit in Zimbabwe in 2015 and approved by SADC Summit in Swaziland in March.

The SADC Secretariat has since published a detailed and Costed Action Plan for the implementation of the strategy, and design, developing an appropriate institutional framework to implement the strategy.

The Costed Action Plan covers Phase I and II of the strategy, with specific focus on the first fifteen years (2015-2030).

Dr Tax said the release of the strategy is anchored on three pillars: industrialisation as champion of economic transformation; competitiveness as an instrument of efficiency and new source of competitive wealth creation; and deepened regional integration.

She said it endeavours to converge SADC economies into the high development level of present day developed countries as well as with the African Union Agenda 2063. Dr Tax said the industrialisation strategy was developed as an inclusive long-term modernisation and economic transformation scheme that enables substantive and sustained raising of living standards, intensifying structural change and engendering a rapid catch up of the SADC coun-

tries with industrialising and developed countries.

"The strategy sets out three potential growth paths, agro-processing, mineral beneficiation and downstream processing and industry along with service driven value chains.

The paths are mutually supporting and inclusive, encompassing the combination of downstream value addition and backward integration of the upstream provision of inputs, intermediate items and capital goods," said the Dr Tax.

She highlighted that the central challenge facing Africa is how to transition from the commodity-dependent growth path in which African countries find themselves to value-adding, knowledge-intensive and industrialised economies.

She said the goal is to occupy a higher place in the global division of labour. She noted that Africa at present is predominantly viewed as a producer and exporter of primary commodities and an importer of value-added manufactured goods.

"There are deep structural fault-lines in the economies of the SADC countries that remain entrenched, characterised by resource-dependence, low value-addition and low levels of exports of knowledge-intensive products.

This is reflected in the low levels of private sector investment into the manufacturing sector of the economy," she said.

The executive secretary highlighted that the concern of policymakers is that if the declining share of manufacturing, 11.3 per cent in 2014 across SADC, down from 15.9 per cent in 2004, is not reversed, the "ladder" to address the deep structural problems in these economies will be effectively removed.

E1.4 billion needed for Action Plan

THE total indicative public coordination cost for the action plan over the period 2016-2020 is estimated at about 102 million US dollars.

This is contained by the SADC Industrialisation Strategy and Roadmap (2015-2063) report.

Dr Tax said built in the action plan is the flexibility of implementation of the strategy, where beyond collective action on regional projects, national development a preserve of the countries would take into consideration the capacities and constraints they face indi-

vidually.

"Ultimately, the far-reaching changes and the long-term transformations envisaged in the strategy production, distribution, policies, institutions and the global and regional engagements would assist member states to converge into the unified and developed SADC economy of the future by 2063. By then SADC countries would be readier to operate and compete at the demanding developed country standards of high business and economic sophistication and innovation," said Dr Tax.

Indicative Action Plan Public	Phase 2 (2021-2030)	Total (2016-2030)	Percentage of Total
Coordination Costs (In Thousands of US Dollars) Phase 1 (2016-2020)			
Industrialization	25,464	19,292	44,756
Competitiveness	11,382	14,958	26,341
Regional Integration	19,722	3,862	23,584
Cross-cutting Issues	2,119	658	2,777
Institutional Arrangements*	-	-	-
Monitoring and Evaluation	4,521	400	4,921
Grand Total**	63,208	39,171	102,379
			100.00%

Moment of truth - Macron

PARIS - France's new President Emmanuel Macron says he was ready for his "moment of truth" with US counterpart Donald Trump - when they shook hands for the first time.

"You have to show you won't make little concessions, even symbolic ones," Macron, 39, told the French weekly Journal du Dimanche yesterday.

Footage of the handshake as the pair met for lunch at the US embassy in Brussels ahead of a NATO summit last Thursday has gone viral.

As cameras rolled, Macron held on tight to Trump's notorious power grip as the two men sat next to each other, the Frenchman's mouth clenched and eyes firmly fixed at the 70-year-old tycoon's squinty stare.

After some five seconds, Trump was the first to open his hand but Macron insisted on being the last to let go.

"It's not the be-all-and-end-all... but a moment of truth," Macron said.

"I don't miss a thing, that's how you get respect."

The French leader had another chance later in the day to be his own man, making a beeline for German Chancellor Angela Merkel to embrace her before turning to greet Trump - who smilingly pumped and wrenched Macron's arm as other leaders laughed.

Macron said Trump and the Turkish and Russian presidents Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Vladimir Putin "think in terms of power ratios, which doesn't bother me".

But Macron, who became France's youngest president just three weeks ago, said he does not believe in "the diplomacy of public invective but in bilateral dialogue".

He faces his next diplomatic test today, when he hosts Putin at the palace of Versailles outside Paris. **AFP**

12 NATIONAL NEWS

SADC CONGRATULATES DR TEDROS GHEBREYESUS ON NEW POSITION

● for being elected first WHO African Director-General

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

SADC Secretariat Executive Secretary, Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax has congratulated Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus for being elected the first African Director-General of the World Health Organisation (WHO), describing him as a man who has always wanted to upscale public health in his career.

Dr. Tax described the new Director General, Dr Tedros as a proven reformer, who brings years of experience, with a fresh perspective and forward looking diplomatic skills in human development.

His Majesty King Mswati III is the



current Chairman of SADC and is due to hand over the reins to South Africa President Jacob Zuma in August.

"With his vast experience at national level as Ethiopian Federal Minister of Health and subsequently Foreign Minister,

and at international level as Chairperson of the Global Fund Board, Dr Tedros has the technical expertise and the breadth of perspective to lead WHO in the era of Sustainable Development Goals," said Dr Tax, adding that the SADC Region remains confident that Dr Tedros would ensure that public health, and health determinants, remain at the top of the multi-sectoral development agenda.

Dr Tax added that "as a region that is highly affected by the HIV and AIDS epidemic, TB and Malaria, we are optimistic and with unwavering confidence, that our Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan will attract the attention of WHO as we embark on the Industrialisation Programme that has a multi-sectoral approach to poverty alleviation and elimination of TB, Malaria and HIV by 2030."

The SADC executive secretary re-affirmed the support and commitment of the SADC secretariat

to working with the new director general in the global effort to eliminate HIV and AIDS, TB and Malaria in the region.

WHO and other global partners were credited in the SADC region for the tremendous progress in malaria control and particularly, with the establishment of the Elimination 8 (E8) Secretariat in Windhoek and the rolling out of Global Fund Supported Projects in HIV and TB in the Mining Sector which have created opportunities to save lives.

With support from WHO and other partners, the SADC region is currently working on addressing issues of non-communicable diseases such as diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular diseases, trauma and injuries and chronic respiratory diseases.

Dr Tedros was elected Director-General of WHO at the World Health Assembly held in Geneva, Switzerland in May 23, 2017.

'Buy electricity through mobile money during off-peak hours'

By Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

SWAZI MTN has advised mobile money subscribers to utilise the service during off-peak hours to receive efficient service.

This is after there have been a number of complaints from customers that it is not easy to access the service between 5pm to 9pm.

Swazi MTN Corporate Manager Mandla Luphondvo said they were aware that there has been a challenge regarding the purchase of electricity through mobile money, particularly around the high traffic times, which is between 5pm and 9pm.

"The company has been working on this issue as a matter of priority. Much as it may be difficult to say when exactly this will be completely resolved, we can say that once all the platforms involved in providing this service have been adjusted to handle high traffic, the



WORKING IT OUT: Swazi MTN Corporate Manager Mandla Luphondvo.

service will be normalised," he said. Luphondvo said in the interim, it would be advisable for customers to use the low-traffic timelines to purchase electricity.

"We sincerely apologise for the inconvenience that some of our customers have experienced. We are looking forward to advise our customers shortly that service has been normalised during high traffic times," said Luphondvo.

AU VOLUNTEERS FOR PHILANI MASWATI

By Samukelisiwe
Ginindza
Mbabane

PHILANI Mswati Charity Organisation whose patron is Her Majesty Indlovukazi has received volunteers from the African Union (AU).

Philani Maswati's Chairman Lutfo said the sole intention for such was to obtain international donors as well as take the organisation to the rest of the world.

"We had initially requested for three volunteers from the AU, the first one has arrived and we are still expecting two more, we will utilise their expertise to better the organisation to



VOLUNTEER: Michelle Kamneza.

international standards, for financial stream so we reach out to an increased number of needy people in the country," he said. Dlamini further added that they hope to utilise Michelle Kamneza's quali-

fications to good use.

Michelle Kamneza is the volunteer from Burundi, who will be in the country for the duration of 12 months, where she will be working with the organisation as a research, motiva-

tion and partnership officer.

"I hold a Masters Degree in International Development obtained from Romania and before coming to Swaziland I worked for a bank, I hope with that knowledge I will be able to assist the organisation to reach where they aim, as well as finding myself in terms of strength, as I plan to learn a lot from the organisation and the people of Swaziland," Kamneza said.

She said amongst her priorities during her stay is to fundraise funds for the organisation as well as maintaining communication within the organisation's stakeholders and partners.

Man surrenders to cops for killing another

By Sizwe Dlamini
Pigg's Peak

THE man who killed another while driving a tractor has surrendered himself to the police and has been charged with culpable homicide.

It is said, the man who was involved in the terrible tractor accident, left one man dead and a female critically injured was arrested on Monday afternoon after he handed himself over to the police.

Sikelela Komati (35) was the driver of the tractor that ended the life of Mciniseli Matsenjwa (35) from Siteki and also injured Simangele Magagula (44) from Mzimnene.

Velaphi Gule (37) was also injured during the fatal accident that happened at the B7 compound opposite Power.

Komati handed himself to the police last Tuesday, two days after the initial accident.

"I cannot confirm if he was intoxicated or not or that he was driving his tractor in a negligent way. All I can say is that he has been arrested for culpable homicide and for not possessing a licence," a source said.

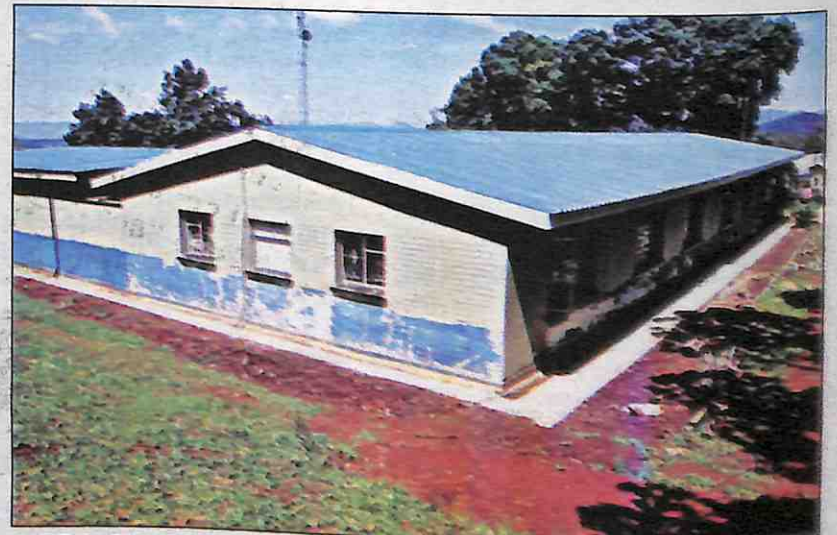
Meanwhile, RSP's Superintendent Phindile Vilakati confirmed that Komati handed himself to the police on Tuesday.

He was remanded until May 31 after he appeared before the Pigg's peak magistrate's court on Wednesday.

PIGG'S Peak police are disappointed that business people in the small town have not taken their offer of providing a free police escort when money above E10 000 is being transported.

Speaking to this newspaper yesterday afternoon in the aftermath of a robbery involving a Pigg's Peak businessman where E20 000 was stolen, Pigg's Peak police said they did not understand how business people would take large sums of money to their homes and fail to inform the state security forces for protection.

"As part of our memorandum of understanding with the public, we have informed the Pigg's Peak business community in our crime prevention seminars to phone us for our assistance which is free. We will escort any business person with any sum of money above E10 000 to the bank or we will keep the money safe at a secure location, this alone reduces the possibility of robbery and saves the business person's life," said the source.



HERE: The Pigg's Peak police station. (file pic)

Under the Lunyazi 24-hour-shift regime, the police are all well-equipped in all tactical areas as their goal is to have crime free weekends in Pigg's Peak.

They said already they had seen a decline in crime, but unfortunately, there was a robbery that could have been avoided.

"It is frustrating to work so hard to keep the town safe especially during

month end when criminals are patrolling the streets looking for victims. Communication is imperative, we fear that business people of Pigg's Peak will be killed if they fail to adhere to our message of involving the police during the transportation exercise," said the source.

TOURISM MINISTRY WANTS TRANSFORMATION AT SNTC

Stories by Gugu Simelane
Mbabane

UNDER Secretary in the Ministry of Tourism Sicelo Hlophe says they (ministry) want transformation at the Swaziland National Trust Commission (SNTC).

He highlighted this during their five-year strategic plan development process meeting

for 2017/18 to 2021/22 which was attended by stakeholders last week.

"We are, as a ministry, also excited about the engagement of the new CEO, who we are hopeful will drive the process of growth and development of this public enterprise so that it can deliver on its mandate," he said. He said he understands that the strategic plan process is meant to place SNTC at a

higher pedestal of success. He said the ministry will ensure that necessary support and policy guidance is provided for the sustainability model as envisaged. "We are cognisant of current developments, among others, the GEF funded the National Protected Systems of Swaziland (SNPAS) project and the UNESCO funded Intangible Cultural Heritage project," said Hlophe.

'Increasing population affecting conservation land'

THE increasing population and sugarcane fields expansions are becoming a threat to conserved land.

This was revealed by Wisdom Dlamini, Director of National Parks. Dlamini said the increasing demand for land and resources is becoming a threat to national parks in the country. He said as the Swazi population was

increasing and more and more people were in need of land for settlement.

"Pressure from competition with other land uses including sugarcane expansion and human settlements, among others are becoming a threat.

There is a need for conservation measures in areas outside of private ranches and pro-

tected areas in consultation with communities," said Dlamini.

He said one other threat to conservation was poaching which he said was now more than just subsistence but for financial gain.

He said poaching is contributing to a decline and possible future extinction of some species if not curbed.

Stranded gogo reduce onlookers to tears

Stories by Samukelisiwe
Ginindza
Mbabane

AN old woman identified as Maina Metisa was last Wednesday found seated by the roadside at Mvutshini with her belongings as she said she had nowhere to go.

Concerned on-lookers attempted to talk to her, asking about her destination, only for her to reveal that she had nowhere to go.

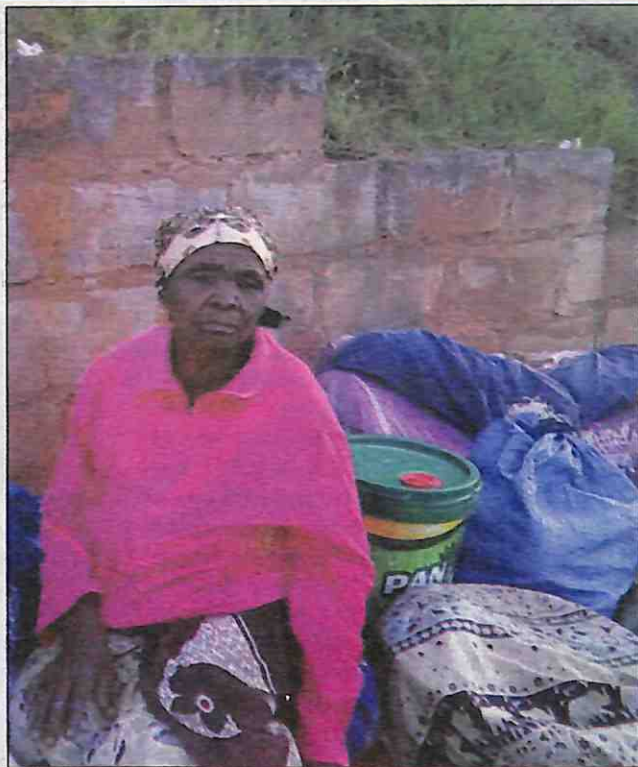
The old woman who used to take shelter at Manzini Satellite Bus rank was chucked out because she wanted to burn down the tent she lived in.

"I was sent packing, my clothes were thrown out of the gate after they told me that I wanted to burn down the tent, but how can I burn down my sole accommodation," Metisa said.

She added that after being thrown out, a Good Samaritan driving a lorry gave her lift to KaKhoza, and then she took a kombi to Mvutshini, where she was dropped off.

"I have no relatives, just survived by my son who is currently studying at the University of Swaziland.

"I will sleep next to the road



OUT IN THE COLD: Gogo Maina Metisa.

if it calls for that, but all my belongings are these items next to me," she said.

Handcraft

Gogo Metisa revealed that she makes a living through selling handcraft and was sent packing from her marital home following the death of her husband many years ago.

"I then rented flats around Mvutshini, while still selling the brooms I make, but life has been tougher, I ended up without a place to stay, so now I am by the road side," Maina revealed.

According to Maina Metisa's national identity card that was in her possession, she is from Zibonele in the Hhohho region.

Lobamba police to the rescue

LOBAMBA police came to Gogo Maina Metisa's rescue by keeping her at the police station, where she remains.

According to Police Information and Communications Officer Phindile Vilakati, the police are also searching for gogo's family.

"Yes she is currently kept at Lobamba Police Station and we hope to keep her there until we find her family.

"Also, we are in contact with the deputy prime minister's office (social welfare) as we work hand-in-hand in such cases to locate her family and find her a proper shelter," Vilakati said.

Vilakati further revealed that it was not Metisa's first time to be accommodated by the Lobamba Police Station.

"We suspect that since she spent so much time around Mvutshini before, it has become the sole place she is familiar with, so she always goes there when she needs any form of help," she added.

Vilakati urged the public with any information that will assist them locate Gogo Maina Metisa's family to contact the Royal Swaziland Police on their toll free line 999/9999 or contact them on 7606 2312.



NAMBOARD
National Agricultural Marketing Board

Head Office: 100, Mbabane
Tel: 031 262 1000
Fax: 031 262 1001
Email: info@namboard.co.sz

Suppliers Expression of Interest

Namboard's mandate is to drive, procure and sell farmers' produce at the best available prices, increasing income and livelihoods of farmers in Swaziland. Namboard's commitment is to promote Swazi Businesses and ensure that Goods and services are procured efficiently and effectively without compromising standards as set out in the Swaziland Procurement Bill of 2010.

Suppliers currently doing business with Namboard are urged to submit the Expression of Interest to be eligible to continue doing business with Namboard. Suppliers are required to submit Expression of Interest per category in separate envelopes if the supplier is interested in more than one category.

No.	CATEGORY NAME	CATEGORY NUMBER
1	Supply of Office Stationery and furniture	NAMBo0117
2	Supply of Office consumables and Cleaning materials	NAMBo0217
3	Supply of Printed Stationery	NAMBo0317
4	Supply Computer hardware, software and Printers and cartridges	NAMBo0417
5	Supply of Protective Clothing and Corporate uniforms	NAMBo0517
6	Supply of Tyres and Tubes for Vehicles and Trucks	NAMBo0617
7	Supply and Servicing of Motor Vehicles, and Trucks.	NAMBo0717
8	Supply of Corporate branding materials, gifts, promotional wear, Billboards	NAMBo0817
9	Supply of Security Services and supply and Installation of Security systems, Fire Equipment, surveillance camera's and Alarms	NAMBo0917
10	Supply of Hygiene Cleaning services and control of pesticides	NAMBo1017
11	Supply and provision of Business Consultancy for : Human Resources (HR) management systems	NAMBo1117
12	Supply and provision of Architectural, construction and Project works supervision services	NAMBo1217
13	Supply, installation, and maintenance of Irrigation systems	NAMBo1317
14	Supply and Provision of Courier, Freight and Transporting services including boarder clearing	NAMBo1417
15	Supply, Installation and service of Refrigerated Cold rooms, Scales, air conditioners, and Generators (Including mobile refrigerated units)	NAMBo1517
16	Supply, installation and servicing of Borehole Drilling	NAMBo1617
17	Supply and delivery of Agricultural supplies (seeds, Farming chemicals, and fertilizers)	NAMBo1717
18	Supply and deliver Growing Medium	NAMBo1817
19	Supply and delivery of Packaging materials (Crates, Hessian bags, netting bags, Styrofoam plates, plastic bags and dishes)	NAMBo1917
20	Supply of Building, plumbing and electrical maintenance materials, and Painting materials and supplies	NAMBo2017
21	Supply of transport hire services for passengers, trucks with cross border permits (8t,34t,10t) and supply of Car rental services	NAMBo2117
22	Supply of graphics designs services, photographer, Video and documentary production, producing of adverts for print media, Television and Radio	NAMBo2217
23	Supply of Air travel tickets and hotel accommodation	NAMBo2317
24	Supply and provision of conference venue with conference package including meals and accommodation	NAMBo2417
25	Supply of catering services and delivery of meals	NAMBo2517
26	Supply and provision of Legal Labour Relations Consultancy services	NAMBo2617
27	Supply and provision of Legal and Company Secretariat services	NAMBo2717
28	Supply of Telecommunications systems with PABX and accessories, Mobile telephones and services	NAMBo2817
29	Provision of Medical services for Namboard Staff	NAMBo2917
30	Supply of Quality Compliance and Monitoring programs (HACCP, Global gap, ISO)	NAMBo3017

Eligible Companies who would like to do business with Namboard under the above listed categories are invited to collect an Expression of Interest form to be completed and submitted on or before **16th June 2017 at 12noon**. This document will give full details of submission requirements.

Completed Expression of Interest forms should be delivered in Sealed Envelopes in the Tender Box at the Reception of the Head Office located in Manzini Mhhaba Street on or before **16th June 2017 12noon**. Clearly addressed to:

Tender Committee Chairman
Namboard
P.O. Box 4261
Manzini

SHISELWENI NEWS

...With

Starsky Mkhonta

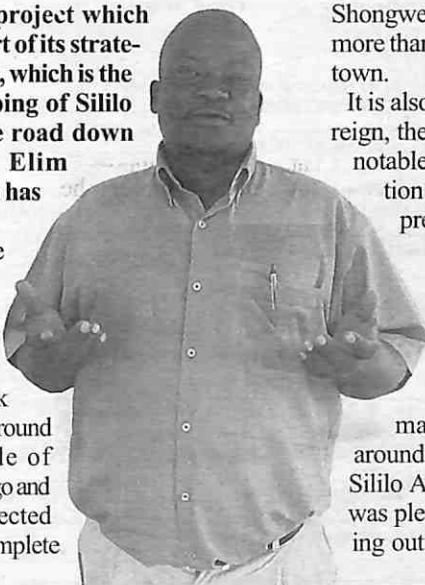
Nhlangano office

Tobacco Complex, Cnr King George Masengule Streets
Opposite SEDCO PremisesTel: 2207 5159 Cell: 7621 5081
Email: Starsky@realnet.co.sz

MASHUMI-LED COUNCIL'S E7 M PROJECT BEGINS

THE outgoing Nhlangano town council is pleased that the last major project which was part of its strategic plan, which is the revamping of Sililo Avenue road down to the Elim Church has begun.

The project worth close to E7 million took off the ground a couple of weeks ago and it's expected to be complete



PLEASED: Outgoing Nhlangano town council Mashumi Shongwe.

around July this year.

The council led by Mayor Mashumi Shongwe is believed to have delivered more than any previous councils of the town.

It is also believed that in its five-year reign, the council managed to make a notable turnover and bail the institution from debts it inherited from previous council teams.

Shongwe said when they were ushered into office nearly five years ago, the municipality had a deficit of over E2 million where some of its accounts were not even serviceable but managed to turn the situation around. Talking about the tarring of Sililo Avenue road, Shongwe said it was pleasing that as they were bowing out of office, such a project has

commenced and the time frame was communicated to all parties.

He said Pots Construction has been contracted to undertake the E7m project adding that they were confident that Pots would deliver as it had done previously.

Shongwe appealed to all stakeholders including nearby businesses that could be affected as work progresses to be cooperative.

He said he expected the same cooperation everyone has been giving to companies working on the improvement of the road infrastructure.

"Such inconvenience is expected as development comes with temporary challenges. The residents close by as well as road users, have to exercise patience and this is a spirit people of Nhlangano are known for hence we have been able to succeed in a number of things that touch on development," said the Mayor.

Residents don't want dumping site

RESIDENTS at Extension six near Mathendele Township are bitter at the Mashumi Shongwe led council for turning an area close to their 'doorsteps' to a dumping site.

The new Nhlangano dumpsite has caused uproar with property owners accusing the town council of violating their rights as the dumpsite is a health hazard.

The town council has relocated the dumpsite which all along has been at the foot of the Nhlangano Industrial Site.

At the new site near Mathendele, is a developed residential area.

One of the issues raised about the establishment of the dumpsite near Extension Six, was that property owners feel exposed to serious health risks.

They want council to act on the matter and give it the urgency it deserves.

One of the property owners is former SwaziBank Managing Director Sam Kuhlase who has since questioned the logic behind relocating the dumpsite to residential doorsteps. In a stinging letter dated April 28, 2017, Kuhlase informed the town council that he had interest in the issue as owner of Lot 636 at Extension Six. He asked the council to do something about the situation.

"The waste on the hillside facing the extension will indeed significantly contribute

to ill health, increase in serious irreversible illness from the smoke that the site invariably generates. This will pose a substantial present and future hazard to human health and is unfriendly," reads part of the letter Kuhlase has written to the town council.

Kuhlase also pointed out that there were a number of concerns that the town council should have considered before deciding to relocate the dumpsite to the said area.

"Land disposal site that pollutes and contaminates the atmosphere in the vicinity should be avoided in the interest of the community and good health standards. Please revisit the said land disposal site for your own assessment, and take corrective measures deemed necessary to address the situation. It will be appreciated if appropriate action is taken without much ado," the letter reads partly.

When contacted, Kuhlase confirmed having brought to the town council's attention the danger of relocating the dumpsite to the area in question.

"Yes I have taken up the matter with the (town council). It is a serious matter and we want action or else we are going to seek help elsewhere if they don't take this seriously," said Kuhlase sounding furious.

Many residents have heaped Kuhlase with praises for taking up the issue as others said

it was indeed a concern even to them but were not sure which route to take.

It's not the first time that Kuhlase challenges a matter affecting the public. In one instance, he was in the forefront when the current Nhlangano Park was identified to be suitable for another project. At the end whatever project that was planned for the park, it never materialized.

On the other hand, outgoing Nhlangano Mayor Mashumi Shongwe said he was not aware of any correspondence from anyone regarding the new dumpsite.

He said he was still to find out from the management team as it could be a matter that was handled by them (management). He was however quick to point out that procedures were followed when the decision to relocate the dumpsite to the present area.

"All stakeholders were involved and we followed all laws in as far as deciding where it should relocate. It is up to standard and it is well looked after as we have a full time labourer making sure that all is done in order.

It is a dumpsite that we think can be approved by all those who are experts and it is user friendly. But having said that, I have to first know the contents of the said letter and that is then where I can publicly make a comment based on what I know in as far as this matter is concerned," said Shongwe.

NATICC hires new legal, communications officer

THE Nhlangano AIDS Training Information and Counseling Centre has a new legal and communications officer.

Mzwakhe Khumalo, a socialite in the Shiselweni region popularly known as 'Tjovitjo' has landed the new post created in the organisation which deals with gender based violence (GBV) matters as well as HIV and AIDS issues.

NATICC is one of the respected organisations which also advocates for harmonious living not just in families but also in communities.

Khumalo was with the Nhlangano SOS Children's Village where he served as Human Resources Administrator assumed his new role at NATICC on May 1, 2017.

Legal

NATICC Director Sisekelo Nzima confirmed that Khumalo is now their legal and communications officer.

"We welcome him to the NATICC family and we hope he will add value to this organisation whose work now covers a lot. We brought Khumalo on board because we saw the need for that," said the director.

Khumalo's role will include giving legal support to survivors and victims of gender based violence as we assist clients

seeking help using the legal routes.

When contacted, Khumalo said he had known the organisation for years and he kept following some of its work.

"It's a dynamic organisation with dynamic leadership and employees.

I am delighted to be part of this growing entity and it's my passion to assist people. There are issues that need certain techniques such as being able to deal with a serious issue brought by clients," said Khumalo. Khumalo thanked the organisation's leadership for bringing him on

board to be part of the growing NATICC family.



NEW ROLE: NATICC Director Sisekelo Nzima.

Airtime vendors aggrieved

A number of airtime vendors known as 'Bobizemoyeni' who had been all along using the area near Galp Filling Station opposite Standard Bank in Nhlangano are now frustrated as they have since been 'relocated'.

All along, the airtime vendors were located close to the filling station and customers had gotten accustomed to that.

It is said things went sour after one of the airtime vendors had an altercation with the management of the filling station and later a decision was taken that all those selling airtime near the filling station premises should move.

Others said it was after the filling

station had also realised that its customers were no longer happy with others claiming that one of the airtime vendors had forgot that it was a privilege to be allowed to use the premises near the filling station.

"There is someone among us who was also doing the mobile money business and something happened where he failed to show respect and argued with the management of the filling station. It was then that a decision was taken and that they should move," cried some of the airtime vendors who added that they were greatly affected by what happened.

Some of the airtime vendors said this has affected their revenues as they had declined.

SUSPECTS ALMOST RAN OVER MY LANDLORD WITH CAR-ABDUCTED PARAMEDIC

By Pshesheya Kunene
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

THE female paramedic, who was allegedly abducted, humiliated and assaulted by four women told the court that her landlord survived from being hit by a car driven by one of the suspects.

Ntombifuthi Dlamini (paramedic) was almost tearful as she related before court how her alleged kidnapping came about on September 29, 2016.

The state witness alleged on the evening of this fateful day, after completing a massive shopping spree at the Corner Plaza, one of the female suspects approached her before she reached her rented flat at Mvutjini.

Dlamini told the court that she did not suspect anything sinister since she knew Phindile Ziyane as they went to the same school together. The emotional complainant said while she was talking to Ziyane, a Toyota Auris with three female occupants approached and she was forcefully pushed inside.

"I fought back and they had a tough time pushing me inside the car. I then raised an alarm since I was by the gate and my landlord was present at the homestead. After several minutes of pushing and shoving, my landlord, Fikile Vilakati, ran towards the car as she attempted to rescue me," she said.

According to the evidence shared by Dlamini, Vilakati was almost hit by the car driven by Gugu Ziyane, who is said to be the mastermind of the abduction after learning that Dlamini was dating her husband.

She said the four women managed to squeeze her in before Vilakati came to her rescue and when she tried to stop

... "I was sandwiched and both the women at the back assaulted me with open hands and fists, they even pinched me several times. The driver also assaulted me with one arm whilst driving"

the moving car, it moved at high speed in her direction.

"I was sandwiched and both the women at the back assaulted me with open hands and fists, they even pinched me several times. The driver also assaulted me with one arm whilst driving," she added.

Silence

She said there was a brief moment of silence inside the car, which then prompted her to blurt out the words "If you are not going to kill me, I will report you to the police."

She said these words saw Gugu Ziyane reacting with anger as she claimed that they would not be arrested as they had money. "She told me I would be the one arrested as I snatched her husband," she continued.

The complainant said while inside the car, she was asked about Ziyane's husband, whom she told them he was her boyfriend of two years. She said she informed them that she was not aware

the man in question was married.

"They then asked for my phone, I told them I had left it inside my rented flat, however, a few minutes later it rang and one of the women took it and discovered Ziyane's husband was calling, they then continued assaulting me while asking why he was calling me not his wife," she said.

Moreover, the four women, Gugu Ziyane (32), Phindile Ziyane (30), Happy Maphalala (30) and Matsidiso Mbetse (26) are facing five counts.

They are charged with kidnapping, robbery where a white ZTE cell phone valued at E1 500 was stolen from the complainant and money in cash amounting to E2 600 was taken, indecent assault, assault common and *crimen injuria*.

They are alleged to have indecently assaulted Dlamini by forcefully removing her clothes and parading her naked at the Luphohlo Dam area. They are alleged to have further slapped her and called her a prostitute as they invited men from the area to come and 'buy' her.

They are alleged to have taken a further step of taking a video and pictures of her while naked and shared them on social networks. They allegedly dipped the woman inside Luphohlo Dam as they allegedly continued assaulting her.

The women, who are represented by Noncedo Ndlangamandla, pleaded guilty to only two charges that of indecent assault and *crimen injuria* and refuted the other charges.

The crown is represented by Counsel Mbutfo Mbingo. Senior Magistrate Nonhlanhla Dlamini postponed the matter to May 29 soon after Dlamini told the court Mbetse suggested to Ziyane that they drive to Mbabane where they would deal with her.

Bricklayer buys stolen laptops, fined E4 000

By Pshesheya Kunene
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

A 26-year-old bricklayer was fined E4 000 for receiving two stolen laptops.

Sifiso Bulunga of Sidvashini was happy he was cleared from charges of robbery and theft committed in the same area, but he was not entirely let off the hook as the court charged him for receiving property he knew very well was stolen.

Principal Magistrate Fikile Nhlabatsi slapped him with two counts. Bulunga pleaded guilty to both counts and he was found guilty and convicted as per his own pleas.

The professional bricklayer is said to have committed his first crime in the month of April while at or near Makhokholo.

He unlawfully and intentionally received a black Acer laptop valued at E5 000 while knowing same was stolen.

In the very same month, Bulunga did again commit the offence after a stolen ASUS laptop valued at E5 000 was brought to him and

he accepted it while knowing it was stolen.

The offender was cleared off on count four and five after the charge sheet was amended by the crown.

The items are alleged to have been stolen from students studying in the nearby institutions.

In court, Bulunga said he had learnt his lesson and would never commit the offence again after spending two months in jail.

"I deserve a second chance in life since this is my first offence and that I am only 26 years old. I have a child who is dependent on me. I cooperated fully with the police during their investigations and never gave them a hard time," he said.

Bulunga pleaded with the court to exercise its leniency since he did not waste the court's time by pleading guilty to the offence.

Nhlabatsi warned him to stay away from black market deals as it was unlawful. He advised him to focus on his business of brick-laying.

Bulunga was fined E2 000 or two years imprisonment on each of the two counts he was facing.



Welder wins E5 000 at Lucky Star promotion

By Wonderboy Dlamini
Siteki

GERALD Isaac, a Siteki based welder won himself E5 000 in an activation promotion conducted by Lucky Star Company.

Lucky Star recently launched a promotion which is intended at giving back to customers by giving out prize money. The company will be giving out 136 prizes across the country.

Isaac became the first winner after buying five tins of Lucky Star Pilchard.

Speaking during a presentation of his prize by the company, Isaac stated that he got to know about the promotion after he was told by a merchandiser.

He said he normally bought tin fish to make his daily meal. Isaac disclosed that he will use the money to buy a television set which he has always been praying for.

"I was surprised when I opened one of the tins and found that I have won such an amount of money. This is a lot of money since it is almost double my



ALL SMILES: Gerald Isaac (in white T-shirt) congratulated by Willie Roux while Lucky Star brand merchandisers look on.

monthly salary," Isaac said.

Meanwhile, Lucky Star Senior Manager Willie Roux said the promotion was solely meant to give back to consumers who have always supported the company.

He pointed out that Lucky Star was a known brand which is found in almost every part of the African continent. Roux

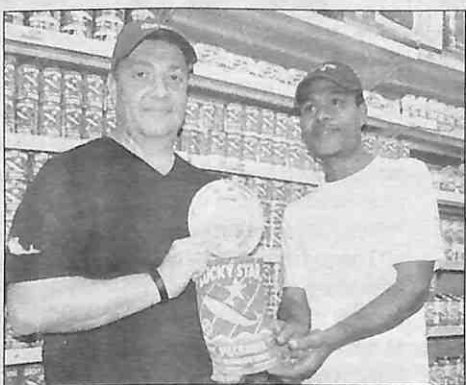
revealed that the grand prize is an amount of E10 000, while the lowest prize will be E500.

"We are very proud to present the first prize of the promotion and urge customers to look out for a winning message on the seals of the tins," said Roux.

The first presentation was conducted at Siteki Shoprite Store.



WINNER: Gerald Isaac posing with merchandisers Nombuso Masango and Thembi Nyoni.



LUCKY STAR: Gerald poses with Lucky Star Manager Willie.

16 NATIONAL NEWS

'NATIONAL EVENTS ARE FOR EVERYONE'

"We have in our presence those with disabilities and it's something appreciated as they know the importance of such gatherings. My worry now is that people living with albinism have not attended"

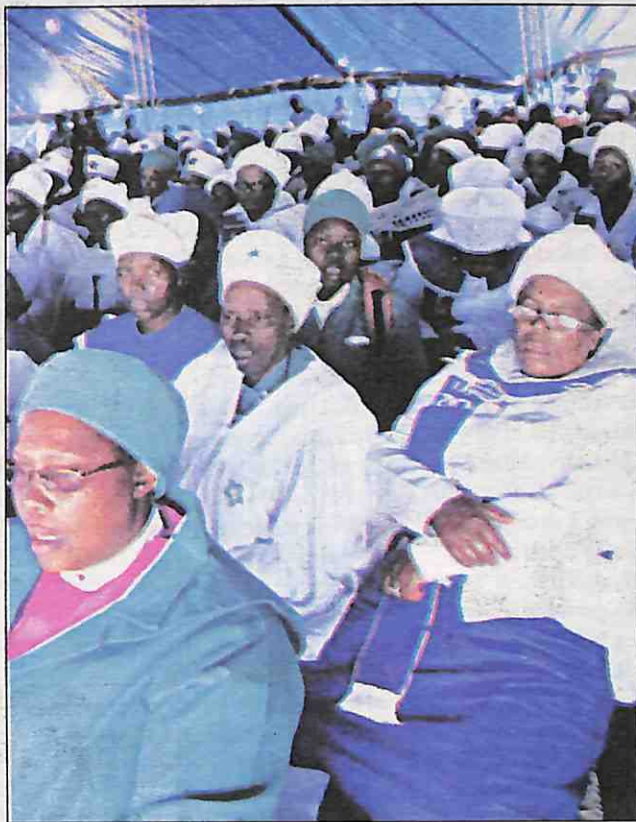
Stories by Starsky
Mkhonta
Nhlangano

LEAGUE of Churches President Bishop Samson Hlatshwako has appealed to people living with albinism to participate in national events including church services.

The Bishop said it was worrying to see people with albinism shunning important events which are sometimes graced by the country's authorities.

Bishop Hlatshwako said it was not a good thing to see the people living with albinism 'isolating' themselves in events which all Swazis attend and stated that it would end up looking like they were being segregated. The long serving leader of the League of Churches made these remarks during Ascension Day at Mbangweni Royal Residence where His Majesty was represented by Prince Hlangabeza, last week. In his remarks, Bishop Hlatshwako said it was encouraging to see all those with disabilities forming part of an activity sanctioned by the country's authorities as they were all part of the nation.

"We have in our presence those with disabilities and it's something appreciated as they know the importance of such gatherings. My worry now is



IN NUMBERS: Some of the throngs of Christians who attended the Ascension Day service at Mbangweni Royal Residence last Thursday. (Pics: Starsky Mkhonta)

that people living with albinism have not attended. It's not a good thing as they may feel they are segregated when that is not the case.

They should not isolate themselves as they are part of us as a nation. These are our children. They are our brothers and

sisters and should be encouraged to participate in such events," said the Bishop.

In a separate interview, Hlatshwako said what he was actually saying was that anyone irrespective of how a person was, they were encouraged to be part of any national event.



FIRST AID: Red Cross members and Scouts were also at the service to provide assistance where needed.

E3 600 offering collected during Ascension Day

THIS year's offerings during the Ascension Day held at Mbangweni Royal Residence amounted to only E3 600.

Bishop Sam Hlatshwako when announcing the amount collected from the over 2 000 Christians said the money would be deposited in the account meant for the construction of the church at Mbangweni Royal Residence, a project that has

taken a long time to be implemented with the major setback being the financial constraints.

"Today's collection has amounted to E3 600. We are thankful to the Christians for this offering made."

Project

There is an important project and this is the construction of the church here.

All these years we have been

collecting offerings, directed to this project which has delayed to take off the ground.

"So far we have managed to raise over a E100 000 for this project and it's still not enough," he said.

Hlatshwako said it was necessary that a church building be available as even the country's leaders have seconded the idea long time.



IN THE MIX: Shiselweni Red Cross coordinator Pastor Sam Dlamini (c) from St Joseph Christian Church In Zion was also present.

Regional Administrator praised for good work

CHURCH leaders including the President of the League of Churches Bishop Samson Hlatshwako have commended work by Shiselweni Regional Administrator Themba Masuku.

Bishop Hlatshwako said Masuku has proven how capable he is in changing things around in particular where development is concerned.

Addressing Christians at Mbangweni during the Ascension Celebrations Royal Residence Hlatshwako said they were noting with envy the good work Masuku was doing for the region.

He said even those in the leadership of the Christian fraternity in the region were pleased with Masuku's good work stating that even the committees that were involved in the preparation of the service, were supported by the RA's office. "We



IN SONG: A choir rendering music at the service.

have noticed his versatility and he is indeed a hard worker.

Vision

"Having united organisations including the business community and crime prevention as well as having issues of fire being part of his work, it shows

this man has a vision.

"He cooperates with all stakeholders hence we now see changes in this region with Nhlangano town now becoming a mirror because of the development taking place," said Hlatshwako.

MAY MADNESS

Manzini Matsapha

Open till 2pm on Saturdays & 1pm on Sundays

Valid 18th - 31st May

WINDSCREENS		
HILUX 84-88	WS 5461	E599.99
HILUX 89-05	WS 5546	E699.99
COROLLA 89-95	WS 5480	E599.99
COROLLA 96-02	WS 5533	E639.99
CORSA 03-07	WS 170007	E799.99
ISUZU 89	WS 2729	E699.99

RADIATORS

COROLLA 89	ROTA 0880	E699.99
GOLF 1 '85	ROVW 0810	E499.99
GOLF 4, 1.6/1.8	ROVW 0810A	E649.99

STILL THE BEST DEALS ON

Gabriel

WE CARRY A FULL RANGE OF AUTO BODY PARTS

1st Street - Matsapha - 000 Auto Zone - Tel: 2518 5234

Manzini - Tel: 2505 7360 - WhatsApp us on 085 305 305

VALUE AUTO PARTS



FEATURES & OPINION

REFRESH WHAT YOU THINK...

info@observer.org.sz

GBR'S SPIRITUAL FATHERS (2)



The Global Business
ROUNDTABLE

Platform

AS shared in last week's column, the Global Business Roundtable has spiritual fathers, whom one way or the other direct the spiritual growth of the organisation.

Today we share a brief profile of another spiritual father this organisation looks up to, and this is none other than Bishop D O Oyedepo. And as promised in last week's column, more GBR spiritual fathers shall be shared on this column.

● A NEW THING PREVIEW-SEASON 2

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 2, 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 it tonight at 9pm with a repeat on Sundays, 5pm.

● "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.



GBR'S INSPIRATION: Bishop Oyedepo being prayed for, by Daddy G.O.

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 11:00-1:00p.m.

● For more information log in to the GBR and GFFJ websites:

www.globalbusinessroundtable.com/www.globalfundforjesus.com or send an SMS to: +268 7872 2063 for questions and clarifications.



David Oyedepo

David Olaniyi Oyedepo was born in September 27, 1954 in Osogbo, Nigeria. Oyedepo was born again in 1969, through the influence of his teacher, Betty Lasher, who took special interest in him during his high school days.

He studied architecture at the former Kwara State Polytechnic, now Kwara State University and worked briefly with the Federal Ministry of Housing in Ilorin before resigning to concentrate on missionary work. He received a Ph.D. in Human Development from Honolulu University, Hawaii, United States.

In 1982 he married Florence Abiola Akano (now known as Faith). They have four children together (David Jr, Isaac, Love and Joyce). David Jr and Isaac Oyedepo were ordained as Pastors in May 2007 by Kenneth Copeland. David Jr pastors the London Branch of the Church with His wife, Kemi while Isaac Oyedepo is the present Resident Pastor of Winners' Chapel International, South Africa.

He received a mandate from God through an 18-hour vision in May 1981, to liberate the world from all oppression of the devil through the preaching of the word of faith. This is the inaugural vision that led to the founding of the Living Faith Church World Wide (LFCWW), first called Liberation Faith Hour Ministries, in 1981.

Two years later, in September 17, 1983, Pastor Enoch Adeboye, General Overseer of the Redeemed Christian Church of God, ordained David and his wife, Florence Abiola Akano (known as Faith Abiola Oyedepo) to become pastors and officially commissioned the new church. Five years later, Oyedepo was ordained as Bishop.

Living Faith Church (AKA Winners Chapel) started in Kaduna but moved to Lagos, the former capital of Nigeria in July 1989, to start a new branch of the church after Oyedepo claimed to have received instructions from God to reach out to the people of Lagos.

HOW TO FIND US:

MANAGING EDITOR:

Mbongeni Mbingo
e-mail: mbingo@observer.org.sz
Cell: 7602 9564
P.O Box A385, Swazi Plaza,
Mbabane, Betfusile Street
Tel: 2404 4437, 2404 4436, 2404 9600,
2404 9797, 2404 0706
Email: info@observer.org.sz
Website: www.observer.org.sz

NHLANGANO OFFICE

Tobacco Company Complex, Cnr King George, Masengule Streets
Opposite SEDCO Premises, Tel: 2207 5159
Starky Mkhonta Cell: 7621 5081 (starky@realnet.co.sz)

EDITORIAL CONTACTS

EDITOR: Thulani Thwala - 7605 0985 editor@observer.org.sz
NEWS EDITOR: Kenneth Dlamini - 7607 0035 newseditor@observer.org.sz
SPORTS EDITOR: Mphikeleli Msibi - 7605 8044 sports@observer.org.sz
BUSINESS SENIOR REPORTER: Mangoba Makhubu - 7670 4606 business@observer.org.sz
ENTERTAINMENT SNR REPORTER: Nomfundo Sifundza - 7675 1649 entertainment@observer.org.sz
SENIOR SUB EDITOR: Paradise Mamba - 7603 5639 subeditor@observer.org.sz

PIGG'S PEAK OFFICE

Kai Kai Building opposite Shoprite, Office No. 3
Tel: 2437 1083 Sizwe Dlamini Cell: 7670 0678
Email: observersipiki@realnet.co.sz



MARKETING MANAGER

Siphesihle Mkhonta (7605 2296)
2404 8671/ 2404 8699
smm@observer.org.sz

CIRCULATION OFFICER

Bongani Simelane (7605 3707)
circulation@observer.org.sz

MANZINI OFFICE

Makhaya Convenient Centre, Office No:25
Siso Nhlabatsi Cell: 7674 6378
Tel: 2505 2320, Fax: 2505 7220

SITEKI OFFICE

Siteki market offices, Office No:15
Wonderboy Dlamini
Cell: 7643 6549 TEL: 2343 5779

OUR CODE OF CONDUCT

The Swazi Observer commits itself to reporting news truthfully and accurately, and to publish comment that is fair, in accordance with our mission and vision of being the definitive news media, as well as abiding by the journalism code of ethics.

If we breach our code, please lodge your complaint with our ombudsman:

Email: mbingo@observer.org.sz

Cell: 7602 9564

Fax: 24045503 or 24046463

Landline: 2404 9600/1/2

ON THIS DAY

...FEBRUARY 27

1453 - Constantinople fell to Ottoman Sultan Mehmed II, ending the Byzantine Empire.

1660 - Charles II was restored to the English throne after the Puritan Commonwealth.

1721 - South Carolina was formally incorporated as a royal colony.

1765 - Patrick Henry denounced the Stamp Act before Virginia's House of Burgesses.

1790 - Rhode Island became the last of the original thirteen colonies to ratify the US Constitution.

1827 - The first nautical school opened in Nantucket, MA, under the name Admiral Sir Isaac Coffin's Lancasterian School.

1848 - Wisconsin became the 30th state to join the United States.

1849 - A patent for lifting vessels was granted to Abraham Lincoln.

1910 - An airplane raced a train from Albany, NY, to New York City. The airplane pilot Glenn Curtiss won the \$10 000 prize.

1912 - Fifteen women were dismissed from their jobs at the Curtis Publishing Company in Philadelphia, PA, for dancing the Turkey Trot while on the job.

1916 - The official flag of the president of the United States was adopted.

1916 - US forces invaded Dominican Republic and remained until 1924.

1922 - Ecuador became independent.

1922 - The US Supreme Court ruled that organized baseball was a sport, not subject to antitrust laws.

1932 - World War I veterans began arriving in Washington, DC, to demand cash bonuses they were not scheduled to receive for another 13 years.

1951 - CF Blair became the first man to fly over the North Pole in single engine plane.

1953 - Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay became first men to reach the top of Mount Everest.

1962 - Buck (John) O'Neil became the first black coach in major league baseball when he accepted the job with the Chicago Cubs.

1965 - Ralph Boston set a world record in the broad jump at 27-feet, 4-3/4 inches, at a meet held in Modesto, CA.

1973 - Tom Bradley was elected the first black mayor of Los Angeles.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

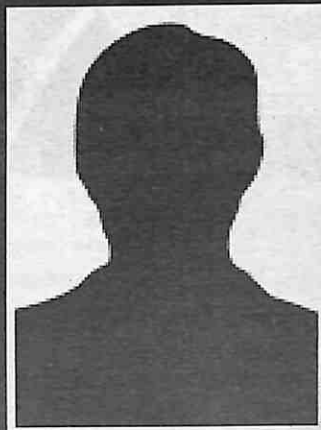


Mel B (pop singer) - May 29, 1975 (42 years old)



Laverne Cox (tv actress) - May 29, 1984 (33 years old)

You know what you did President, JZ



Mondli Makhanya, City Press editor in chief

A few weeks ago, a rather pitiful President Jacob Zuma lamented his own fate in front of congregants of the Abundant Life Church, telling them that he was being persecuted for things he did "not know".

(A slight digression before we continue: Who comes up with these church names? Is there a computer programme that spews out options, or is there a shelf company database where they are sourced? Or do the spiritual entrepreneurs sit around with close associates and brainstorm over a pot of tea or some stronger stuff? Anyway, let's leave that for now and return to the sad tale of the persecution of our selfless leader.)

Crisis

Zuma said he could not understand why people were saying there was a crisis in the country and why people were talking about his being a problem.

"We always hear people talk about Zuma. No one has come out to say Zuma has done this and that ... if I am not told what I have done wrong, I cannot correct my mistakes because I don't know what I have done wrong."

Well, if he bothered to follow the media, he would have an idea. But then, we know that the media are the running dogs of neocolonial apartheid white supremacy and the handmaidens of white monopoly capital.

The same goes for opposition parties and civil society, who – as we all know – are part of a conspiracy by white monopoly capital and Western imperialists to halt radical economic transformation and derail the Brics project.

But surely Zuma would have – out of respect – read the letter written to him by ANC titan Ahmed Kathrada, in which the great man outlined exactly what he was doing wrong.

● (A slight digression before we continue: Who comes up with these church names? Is there a computer programme that spews out options, or is there a shelf company database where they are sourced?)



IRON LADY: Former public protector Thuli Madonsela.

If Kathrada's letter was unclear, then the president must have come across the For the Sake of Our Future document penned by 101 stalwarts and veterans and sent to the ANC leadership. In point form, the stalwarts and veterans – some of them

Zuma's own struggle peers and former fellow Robben Islanders – outline what has gone wrong in the country under his leadership and also suggest steps to get South Africa out of the morass. This they followed up with several meetings where they told him and his officials the hard truth. If that was still not enough, he would have heard directly from the mouths of the Umkhonto weSizwe Veterans' Council, which consists of the most accomplished and politically conscientised commanders and com-

batants of the ANC's erstwhile army. They too have communicated what is wrong in a frank and honest manner.

Zuma would also have heard from members of his own national executive committee, among them mem-

bers of his own Cabinet, who risked their jobs by laying out the issues in an open session of the ANC structure.

If Zuma really wanted to know what it was that people said he had done wrong, he would have read former public protector Thuli Madonsela's State of Capture report or got someone to

summarise it in bold, digestible bits. Even if he believes Madonsela is the spawn of Lucifer – as he surely does – what he would have found

in there would have alarmed him as head of state and as a citizen.

But he most likely avoided it because he already knew his own role in the state capture plot.

Zuma now has some new material to familiarise himself with if he really wants to know what lies people are spreading about him.

The first piece of material is the Unburdening Panel report, compiled by the SA Council of Churches. The report, the product of "unburdenings" by people who found themselves being compromised by unlawful instructions and actions around them, contains galling details of what has been going on in the Zuma administration.

A head of state who cared about the welfare of his country and really wanted to act in the republic's best interests would get his hands on it. Or get someone to crunch it into a short summary in bold letters.

The second one is a research work by respected academics titled Betrayal of Promise: How South Africa was Stolen. It is frightening in the way it tells us bluntly how a network centred on Zuma has created a parallel state that allows them to loot and abuse public resources to the tune of billions upon billions.

Report

The authors of the report characterise the state capture effort as "a political project at work to repurpose state institutions to suit a constellation of rent-seeking networks that have constructed and now span the symbiotic relationship between the constitutional and shadow state".

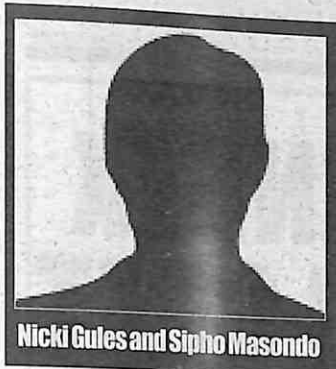
It is this shadow state that exists side by side with the constitutional state, but has supremacy over it and the institutions within it.

Zuma's presidency of the constitutional state serves only to enable him and his power elite to run and milk the parallel state, which spans the entire government infrastructure.

What is scary about this is that it sounds like some crazy futuristic conspiracy; yet, it is not. It is real. We have lived through it, our media have reported on it, intellectuals have analysed it, and activists have campaigned against it. All of us have been severely harmed by it. We just haven't stopped it. The challenge is to do so before it totally swallows the constitutional state.

News24

ZUMA'S DUBAI EXIT PLAN



AN email trail between the controversial Gupta family and their employees has blown the lid off how they have managed to do business with government, ingratiate themselves with senior officials, and go so far as to help move President Jacob Zuma and his family to Dubai.

The emails, obtained by City Press this week, also reveal how the Guptas seduced many senior government role players in their bid to capture departments and state-owned entities.

One of the most astonishing emails is from Gupta-owned Sahara Computers' Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Ashu Chawla, to Zuma's son Duduzane. It contains a draft letter from the president to Abu Dhabi Crown Prince General Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and shows how close Zuma is to the Guptas.

In the letter, Zuma writes: "I fondly remember our meeting in the UAE [United Arab Emirates] and the gracious hospitality and warmth extended to me during my visit. It is with this sentiment that I am happy to inform you that my family has decided to make the UAE a second home. It will be a great honour for me and my family to gain your patronage during our proposed residency in the UAE."

Last night, Zuma strongly denied any plans to leave the country, saying through his spokesperson Bongani Ngqunga: "I have my home in Nkandla and I have no intention of living anywhere else. When I retire I will go home to Nkandla. This is a pure fabrication. Duduzane has never spoken to me about living in any other country. He has never shown me any letter. It's shocking in the extreme. It's absolute mischief aimed at sowing confusion".

The emails also show how the Guptas seduced Cabinet ministers and CEOs of state-owned companies with opulent hotel stays and chauffeur-driven trips in luxury cars to their home in the exclusive Dubai suburb of Emirates Hills, where they bought a R445m mansion.

One was Eskom executive Matshele Koko, whom they flew to Dubai in January last year, putting him up at the posh Oberoi Hotel. Others included Mineral Resources Minister Mosebenzi Zwane, new Communications Minister Ayanda Dlodlo, Denel chairperson Dan Mantsha, businessman and arms deal protagonist Fana Hlongwane, Duduzane Zuma and two of Free State Premier Ace Magashule's sons, Thato and Tshepo.

THE GUPTA'S GRIP

The emails are the latest indication of the grip that the Guptas have on

The emails, obtained by City Press this week, also reveal how the Guptas seduced many senior government role players in their bid to capture departments and state-owned entities.

the South African government and state-owned entities. They come in the week in which the SA Council of Churches and a collective of academics from top South African universities released reports showing the extent of state capture in South Africa. They come as pressure mounts on Zuma, inside and outside the ANC, in relation to his close association with the Guptas.

For Koko's trip in 2016, an email, from employee Reya Pomar, confirms Koko's reservation and the arrangement of transfers to the hotel from the airport. He also asks for billing instructions.

Chawla responds: "Sahara will pay the entire bill. Please do not ask any credit card guarantee from the guest at the time of check-in". The hotel concierge informs Chawla: "Please note the chauffeur details mentioned below for the drop towards Emirates Hill (sic)".

At the time, Koko was Eskom's group executive for power generation and the Guptas were busy buying the Optimum Coal Mine from Glencore.

The Oberoi Hotel was a favourite of the Guptas, and Duduzane Zuma also stayed there the month before Koko arrived.

The email trail also shows that, on the day Chawla booked Koko's trip to Dubai, he also made Mantsha's travel arrangements. An email shows that Mantsha, who swiftly axed Denel CEO Riaz Saloojee and replaced him before engineering the joint venture between Denel and Gupta-owned company VR Laser Asia, was booked to arrive by chauffeur from the Oberoi at the Guptas' mansion at 7am.

In the December of that year, the Guptas booked Zwane into the Oberoi and hired him a BMW 7-Series to chauffeur him to and from the Dubai airport and the Guptas' house in Emirates Hills.

The emails also show that the Guptas appear to regard Zwane – the man they took with them to Switzerland to persuade Glencore boss Ivan Glasenberg to sell the Optimum mine to them – as their personal property.

An email from JP Arora – CEO of Gupta-owned JIC Mining Services – to the Gupta brothers' nephew, Kamal Singhal, and Oakbay CEO Ronica Ragavan, is included in the tranche. In it, Arora invites them and their partners to a "private – by invitation only – dinner with...Zwane during the Mining Indaba 2016 in Cape Town".

Another email from Chawla confirms the passenger manifest for the December 2015 trip on the Guptas' private business jet, ZSOAK. The seven passengers, which included Zwane, and three crew members travelled to Zurich, Switzerland, via Delhi, India. Also on the plane were Rajesh Gupta, business partner Salim Essa and Maleatlana Joel Raphela, the deputy Director-General of Mineral Regulations in the department of mineral resources.

The email tranche also indicates the level of involvement of the Guptas in the appointment of Zwane to his ministerial position. Included is an email to Gupta brother Tony on July



EXIT PLAN: Ajay Gupta with Jacob Zuma at Gupta residence gala dinner in June 2005. (File pic)

31 2015 – two months before he was appointed. The email was sent by Oupa Mokoena of Koenig Consulting and Property Developers, which is situated in Zwane's home town of Vrede, Free State, and reads: "Please find attached the CV of Mosebenzi Zwane for your attention."

The email tranche also contains one written in February 2016 from former Oakbay CEO Nazeem Howa in which he anticipates a question from the media about Zwane's involvement in the landing of a chartered Boeing containing Gupta wedding guests at Air Force Base Waterkloof in 2013. In it, Howa writes to Duduzane Zuma and Tony Gupta: "I need some help on some of the answers. I think we should also prepare for a question of his role around the Waterkloof landing." Zwane invited an Indian provincial minister to the Free State, which became the ruse by which the Guptas could land their wedding guests at Waterkloof.

OTHER REVELATIONS IN THE EMAIL TRAIL INCLUDE THAT:

● In March last year, British public relations firm Bell Pottinger, whom the Guptas had hired to clean up their image, had prepared a press release which would have implicated former deputy finance minister Mcebisi Jonas in receiving bribes and other benefits such as flights upgrades and luxury hotel rooms from a South African businessman.

● The Guptas, Bell Pottinger and Black First Land First's leader Andile Mxxitama cooperated to mount a campaign to discredit state capture allegations, including that the Gupta family had offered Jonas a R600 million bribe and former ANC MP Vytjie

Mentor a ministerial position

● The Guptas lobbied Zuma to arrange that the June 2015 departure of their guest, for Mauritius, should be through Fireblade Aviation, a luxury terminal at OR Tambo International Airport, owned by the Oppenheimer family.

Another controversial deal involving a state-owned entity and the Gupta family also appears in the email tranche: that of the Denel and VR Laser Asia joint venture. An email from the department of public enterprises to Minister Lynne Brown, also sent in December 2015, was of an internal confidential memorandum to which the Guptas appeared to have easy access.

The memorandum shows that public enterprises was uneasy about the joint venture for which Denel was trying to obtain permission from Brown or then finance minister Pravin Gordhan.

The memorandum says: "The two companies estimate that the new [company] will require a R100million cash injection over a five-year period for operational costs."

"At face value, the proposal is attractive; however, there are numerous fundamental gaps that need to be clarified by Denel in terms of the Public Finance Management Act before comprehensive advice can be given to the minister with regards to the merits of the application."

"The department is not comfortable with the impression that project funding will be provided by the shareholders...It is also not clear whether the R100million investment by VR Laser in the establishment of Denel Asia is a loan and what the repayment terms are." *News24*

With and Wisdom

● "It is difficult, when faced with a situation you cannot control, to admit you can do nothing." – *Lemony Snicket, Horseradish*

● "I have never met a man so ignorant that I couldn't learn something from him." – *Galileo Galilei*

● "Time to leave now, get out of this room, go somewhere, anywhere; sharpen this feeling of happiness and freedom, stretch your limbs, fill your eyes, be awake, wider awake, vividly awake in every sense and every pore." – *Stefan Zweig, The Post-Office Girl*

● "What can you do to promote world peace? Go home and love your family." – *Mother Teresa*

● "And hand in hand, on the edge of the sand, They danced by the light of the moon." – *Edward Lear, The Owl and the Pussycat*

● "I am too intelligent, too demanding, and too resourceful for anyone to be able to take charge of me entirely. No one knows me or loves me completely. I have only myself" – *Simone de Beauvoir*

● "The only calibration that counts is how much heart people invest, how much they ignore their fears of being hurt or caught out or humiliated. And the only thing people regret is that they didn't live boldly enough, that they didn't invest enough heart, didn't love enough. Nothing else really counts at all." – *Ted Hughes, Letters of Ted Hughes*

● "In order to be irreplaceable, one must always be different." – *Coco Chanel*

● "Love can make even nice people do awful things." – *Jude Deveraux*

● "Romance is the glamour which turns the dust of everyday life into a golden haze." – *Elinor Glyn*

● "If you win, you need not have to explain...If you lose, you should not be there to explain!" – *Adolf Hitler*

● "Hades raised an eyebrow. When he sat forward in his throne, shadowy faces appeared in the folds of his black robes, faces of torment, as if the garment was stitched of trapped souls from the Fields of Punishment, trying to get out. The ADHD part of me wondered, off-task, whether the rest of his clothes were made the same way. What horrible things would you have to do in your life to get woven into Hades' underwear?" – *Rick Riordan, The Lightning Thief*

● "Sometimes you remind me a lot of James. He called it my 'furry little problem' in company. Many people were under the impression that I owned a badly behaved rabbit." – *J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*

BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

CONTACTS

Manqoba Makhubu
(7670 4606)
business@observer.org.sz
Majaha Nkonyane
(7844 8668)
Tel: 2404 9600/1
Fax: 2404 5503
2404 6463

VITALS

Prime Rate	10.75%
First National Bank	
Inflation Rate	7%
Central Statistical Office	
Mortgage Rate	9.75%
Swaziland Building Society	
Bank Rate	7.25%
Central Bank	
Petrol (u)	E11.80 per litre
Replacement	E11.85 per litre
Diesel	E11.70 per litre
Paraffin	E 7.95 per litre
Engen Garage	

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Correct as at 24 MAY 2017

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	13.0863	13.1363
British Pound/SZL	16.9716	17.0365
Japanese Yen/SZL	8.5199	8.5486
Swiss France/SZL	13.4481	13.4538
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.2236	1.2348
Australian Dollar/SZL	9.7558	10.0072
Canadian Dollar/SZL	10.1115	10.1462
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	5.5211	5.5942
Euro/SZL	14.6213	14.6772
Gold	1,335.5100	
Oil	52.8300	

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



Standard Bank

ELECTRICITY ACCESS INDEX NOW STANDS AT 75 PER CENT

By Manqoba Makhubu

FOUR agencies pumped in over E193.4 million towards rural electrification during the preceding financial year.

These were the Republic of China on Taiwan, ministry of natural resources and energy, Micro Projects and the Rural Development Fund (RDF).

According to the Swaziland Electricity Company (SEC) annual report 2016, this was amongst the key highlights for the 2015/16 financial year.

The money invested in rural electrification doubled compared to the E92.7 million invested in 2015.

SEC reported that the number of homesteads to benefit from the funded projects also doubled to 15 862.

"To date, the electricity access index in Swaziland is about 75 per cent and this is attributable, in part to the sustained efforts on the rural electrification programme since its inception in the early 1990s," said the report.

However, the utility noted that the challenge with rural communities was in the majority of cases, the homesteads that were stretched too far apart from each other.

"This situation makes it rather

... Over E190m pumped in rural electrification



FINANCIAL STATUS: SEC headquarters.

expensive to provide the grid infrastructure necessary for supplying power to rural communities," reads the report in part.

During the reporting period, SEC had a total of 164 231 customers, this was a nine per cent growth from the previous year.

Customers

The number of major customers increased slightly by 1.7 per cent from 1 130 in the previous year to 1 149 during the 2015/16 financial year. Small and commercial domestic customers grew by 9.2 per cent and 9.0 per cent respectively.

"Overall, domestic customers have increased significantly over

the last four years, by 36 per cent, from 109 873 to 149 762, small commercial by 31 per cent from 10 161 to 13 320 and major customers by nine per cent from 1 057 to 1 149," said the report.

Commercial

Backed by the growth in customers, the utility's units sold increased from about 1 074.1 GWh in 2015 to about 1 084.1 GWh.

However, the report said both the small commercial and major customer categories indicated a decline during the 2015/16 financial year compared to the previous year.

The utility has relied heavily on imported power during the past

financial year as its internal generation in hydro-power stations was halted because the water volume dropped below the required level for electricity production.

As a result, the report said the cost of imported power also increased from E757 million to E908 million during the period.

In the report, SEC Managing Director Meshack Kunene said with the utility's 2015-2020 strategy in motion; he was convinced that the company is towards a self sustaining status in the medium to long term.

SEC's ultimate objective is to increase internal generation capacity from 60MW to 150MW by 2022.

Effective from April 1, the utility effected a 15 per cent electricity tariff increase after an approval from the regulator, Swaziland Energy Regulatory Authority (SERA).

In its application to the regulator, the utility said it required E4.4 billion in the next two years for generation expansion, revenue diversification, improved levels of customer service, improved quality of supply and safety for all its stakeholders.

'YOUTH SHOULD BE EXPOSED EARLY TO ENTREPRENEURSHIP'

By Majaha Nkonyane

PRIME Minister Sibusiso Dlamini says it is important for the youth to be exposed early to entrepreneurship.

The prime minister was represented by Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini during the Junior Achievement Swaziland annual fundraising dinner held last Friday at the Royal Swazi Sun Convention Centre in Ezulwini.

"Achieving a faster pace of entrepreneurship is always going to be an essential," he said.

Therefore, he said there was a pressing need to create a strong entrepreneurship culture to create a strong backbone for the country within the younger generation.

"We need to create of a strong entrepreneurial culture and there are a few better ways of securing that than exposing our youth to entrepreneurial activity as early in their lives as is practical," he said.



REPRESENTATIVE: Deputy Prime Minister Paul Dlamini who was standing in for the Prime Minister speaking at the Junior Achiever gala dinner at Royal Swazi Sun Convention last Friday. (Pic: Majaha Nkonyane)

Dlamini said economic growth was dependent on the youth and with job scarcity affecting a lot of young people, entrepreneurship

stands as a cornerstone for the country.

"The youth are the future of the country, its society, and its economy. An ideal future to anticipate is one where we have a very high proportion of our young people engaged in sustainable livelihoods," he said.

"The issue from the current youth unemployment figure in our country which is reported as in excess of 40 per cent. What we want is for our youth to be coming out of education with a desire to be entrepreneurs," he added.

Work

The prime minister also acknowledged the work of teachers and the JAS board in ensuring sustainability of the programme.

"It is clear that the board, management, and teachers have all delivered a high quality service to the scheme. They are to be congratulated for what they have achieved; we are also interested in the path of JA alumni after they have com-

pleted their education. It is most encouraging to see the out of school youth programme which caters for JA Alumni," he said.

Meanwhile, DNA Economics Executive Chairperson Elias Masilela called for politicians and business people to consider the youth in developmental agendas due to the fact that the country was currently experiencing a period wherein the numbers of youth were more than adults.

Poverty

Masilela was the guest of honour at the dinner held at the Royal Swazi Convention Centre last Friday evening. "Because the youth bear the biggest brunt of inequality and poverty as the highest unemployed component of the population, they are traditionally ignored and are in much need of recognition," he said. "As the private sector, we need to rely on the youth being gainfully involved in the economy and increase resource productivity to ensure long term stability," he added.

PRIVATE SECTOR URGED TO EXPLOIT SACU-MERCOSUR PTA

By Manqoba Makhubu

THE private sector has been urged to make use of the market access preferences presented by Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) between the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) and the Common Market of the South (MERCOSUR).

The productive sectors of MERCOSUR which benefit from tariff preferences include chemical, textile, steel, plastic, automotive, electronics and capital goods, in addition to agricultural products.

SACU hosted the inaugural Joint Administration Committee (JAC) of the PTA between the MERCOSUR and union in Kempton Park, Gauteng from last week Thursday to Friday.

The country is party to the PTA between SACU and MERCOSUR which entered into force on April 1, 2016.

In a joint statement released to this publication endorsed by South Africa Department of Trade and Industry Deputy Director Xolelwa Mlumbi-Peter on behalf of SACU and Republic of Argentina Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship-National Director



ADVANTAGE: South Africa Department of Trade and Industry Deputy Director Xolelwa Mlumbi-Peter.

for Economic Issues Ambassador Roberto Salafia, the parties announced that they agreed to jointly promote trade to enhance access to information on market preferences under the agreement.

Advantage

"The parties called upon the private sector in SACU and MERCOSUR member states to take advantage of the market access preferences presented by the agreement," reads the statement as part.

Mlumbi-Peter, the SACU-MERCOSUR PTA was signed on December 15, 2008 in Salvador, Brazil, on the side of MERCOSUR, and on April 3, 2009 in Maseru, Lesotho, on the side of SACU.

The PTA is the first trade agreement concluded by SACU as a single entity, following the SACU Agreement of 2002.

"This agreement is also the first with another developing region, giving meaning to the objectives of South-South cooperation," said Mlumbi-Peter. The PTA covers over 1000 tariff lines from each side and the preference margins range between 100 per cent and 10 per cent.

In addition, SACU offered a tariff rate quota on four agricultural products; soya beans, soya bean oil and sunflower to MERCOSUR.

According to the statement, the next meeting of the JAC will be held in MERCOSUR at a date to be still announced next year.

The PTA contributed to the promotion of trade exchange in the South Atlantic with the MERCOSUR countries expected to have easier access to a potential market consisting of about 65 million consumers.



INVESTORS SHOW INTEREST IN GOVT'S SHORT TERM DEBT

By Manqoba Makhubu

INVESTORS continued to show interests in government's short term debt instruments.

In last Wednesday's Treasury Bills auction, government raised E90.40 million from a total possible E100 million for the 91 and 182 days T-Bills.

This follows a 100 per cent successful auction where government raised a total of E100 million from the E60 million 91 days T-Bill and E40 million 273 days T-Bill.

The average competitive yield rate for the last successful auction was 8.334 per cent for the 91 days T-Bill, 8.739 per cent for the 182 days, 9.212 per cent for the 273 days and 9.350 per cent for the 364 days T-Bills. According to the recent Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) T-Bills announcement, the matu-

rity date for the 91 days T-Bill will be September 1, 2017 and December 8, 2017 for the 182 days T-Bill.

The average discount rate as last successful auction was 8.164 per cent for the 91 days, 8.374 per cent for the 182 days, 8.618 per cent for the 273 days and 8.553 for the 363 days T-Bills.

Competitive

The CBS reported that competitive bids received for the 91 days T-Bill amounted to E110 million and E50 million for the 182 days T-Bill and competitive bids allotted amounted to E55.63 million for the 91 days T-Bill and E30 million for the 182 days T-Bill.

Total non-competitive bids amounted to E4.37 million for the 91 days T-Bill and 0.40 million for the 182 days T-Bill and total non-competitive bids allotted were E4.37 million for the 91 days T-Bill and 0.40 million for the 182 days T-Bill.

CSR KEPT US GOING - NETSTORM TECHNOLOGIES

By Majaha Nkonyane

NETSTORM technologies, a local Information Technology company is singing praises over Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) rewards which they have gained as a business over the past seven years in business.

One of the company directors Celmusa Dlamini said corporate social responsibility has kept them going through the years such that they have plans to invest more in giving back to the community.

He said the company through CSR has been able to venture into different spheres that has brought more business. "Most of our work has been through our CSR programmes. We have been able to venture into different programmes such as motivational speaking and offering IT support," he said.

Apart from CSR programmes, he said the business had been able to survive through support from relationships.

"Formal institutions have not been very supportive when it comes to finances and we have been able to survive through the support of friends, former teachers and we are grateful to all the help we have been getting from different friends," said Dlamini. He said they have intentions to venture into bigger platforms that would change the IT industry as a whole. "Being in business requires that we find opportunities in the market and the next big thing in our field is venturing into online marketing. We live in

a time where everyone has gadgets and everyone is exposed to the internet," he said.

"We are also looking into venturing into systems, which will both create and support, other businesses which are not able to keep track of a number of quotations and invoices that they work on and with systems that can create such we are sure to create a difference in the market," he added.

Challenge

However, Dlamini said competition had been a great challenge in running their business, "considering how we have broke into the industry and we found players that have been in the business for more than twenty years. Our business started off when I was still a student at Kwaluseni and the passion I had for the business kept me going."

However, he said hard work was yet another element that has kept the business going.

"I am grateful to have gotten an opportunity to travel to the United States of America in June on the Mandela Fellowship where I will be travelling with twelve other Swazis and I will be doing my internship with Global Entrepreneurship Network for six weeks," he said.

"I would like to encourage other young people who would like to join the IT space to make use of the internet as most of what we work is readily available on the internet. The work that we do is most of the things that are self-taught and we made use of networking and liaising with senior players in the industry," Dlamini further stated.

BUSINESS BOOMING AT BUSHFIRE FESTIVAL 2017

By Majaha Nkonyane

BUSINESS was booming at the Bushfire festival as small businesses set up different stalls and attracted different tourists.

The food section in particular was a hit with a lot of tourists.

Swazi Tacos made their debut at the Bushfire festival amongst other businesses and were a popular stand that had different people flock to the stand. "We are happy to have so many people visit our stand. The idea came about from my mother who in her international trip saw a gap in the market and came up with Swazi Tacos," said Swazi Tacos Manager Sijabulile Vilakati. The stand sold tacos at E50 and had both nationals and internationals purchasing from the stall.

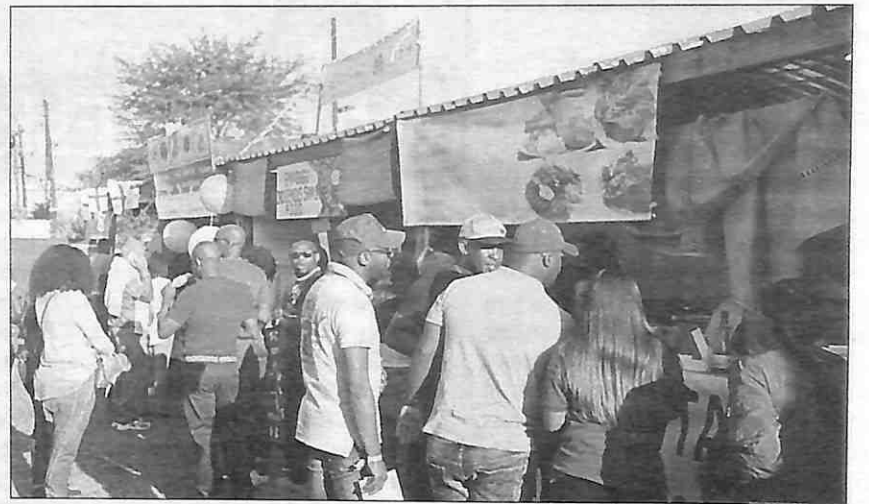
Nolwazi Gama of Quazi Design also had a mouthful to say about the support she got from tourists in her jewellery stand.

"Our stand has had a lot of people supporting us, especially tourists from different countries, they love our jewellery and we are happy to be part of the festival," she said.

The Swaziland Tourism Authority (STA) also saw an influx of tourists in their stand who inquired about the country.

"It is overwhelming to see so many tourists inquiring about the country. Most tourists after the festival remain behind for their holiday and this gets to be an opportunity for us to market the country," said STA's Chunky Mdluli.

Transport issues were dealt with adequately as Sky World Travel Tours also had their stand and was visible at the festival.



BUSY: Consumers buying from different stalls during the Bushfire Festival.

"We are happy to be a partner with the festival; we have a new relationship as it is our first time this year being involved in the festival. We have received a very good response from the people and we are happy to transport tourists from the festival to Johannesburg," said Sky Operations Manager Akhona Fakudze.

Tourists

"With some of our packages our tourists will be getting discounts if they have camped, the environment is also conducive because we are not involved in aggressive marketing because the tourists come to us in a more relaxed atmosphere," he added.

Other organisations like Small Enterprises Development Company (SEDCO) also took part on the business side of the festival.

"It is our first time being involved in the bushfire festival and we are in an environment that allows us to be more interactive with our customers where we are able to share information on our

services. A lot of people have only heard about us and we are able to share more information on the matter," said SEDCO's Stakeholder Relations Specialist Mxolisi Dlamini.

Growth

"Ours is all about SME growth and such a platform allows us a chance to also educate people on the importance of entrepreneurship. We have been able to interact with people in a more relaxed environment and the people here have well received our stall," he added.

The festival was also supported by Swazi Wire.

The fencing company sponsored the event with six 320 metres long rolls of fence.

"We have been always involved with the festival and we have received positive response over the years, and this is a well organised event which brings different cultures together," said Swazi Wire Sales Representative William Ferreira.

GIGABA OPPOSES DENEL VR LASER DEAL

JOHANNESBURG – National Treasury reiterated its opposition to the application by the State-owned arms manufacturer, Denel, to establish a joint-venture with Gupta-linked VR Laser SA.

This comes after Denel on Tuesday said that it was forging ahead to re-establish itself in the East Asian market via its joint-venture with VR Laser despite a high court bid to halt the undertaking.

Denel wants to create Denel Asia through a partnership with the Asian-based business of VR Laser as a vehicle to penetrate the Asia-Pacific markets. VR Laser Asia is owned by Salim Essa, an associate of the politically-connected Gupta family.

It was revealed in court papers that VR Laser SA might be a technically insolvent company and as such did not appear to be in a position to raise the funds that would enable VR Laser Asia to establish the joint-venture with Denel.

In a statement last Friday, Treasury said it had noted Denel's statements in relation to the Denel Asia transaction.

"National Treasury would like to place on record that Minister Malusi Gigaba held a meeting with the Denel Chairperson, Daniel Mantshe to discuss the Denel Asia joint venture.

At the meeting, Minister Gigaba reiterated his opposition to the joint venture with VR Laser Asia given

the fragile financial situation that Denel is in," Treasury said.

"The minister further invited Denel to withdraw its litigation against National Treasury.

The position of the minister of finance has not changed in this regard. He remains opposed to the transaction for reasons stated elaborately in the National Treasury affidavit to the court."

Treasury further said that it would not be making any further comment until the matter has been finalised as it is currently before the courts.

"We hope that the other parties will also respect the court process and refrain from misleading public comments," Treasury said.

African News Agency



NO WAYS: Minister of Finance Melusi Gigaba.

\$100 of bitcoin in 2010 is worth \$75 million today

WASHINGTON - Bitcoin has received a lot of attention over the past few weeks in the wake of the recent malware attacks that impacted dozens of countries and thousands of businesses.

Victims were required to pay a "ransom" in the digital currency to unlock files that were encrypted by the virus. The question for many business owners is that, given its growing acceptance, is it ready for prime time? Should we accept bitcoin?

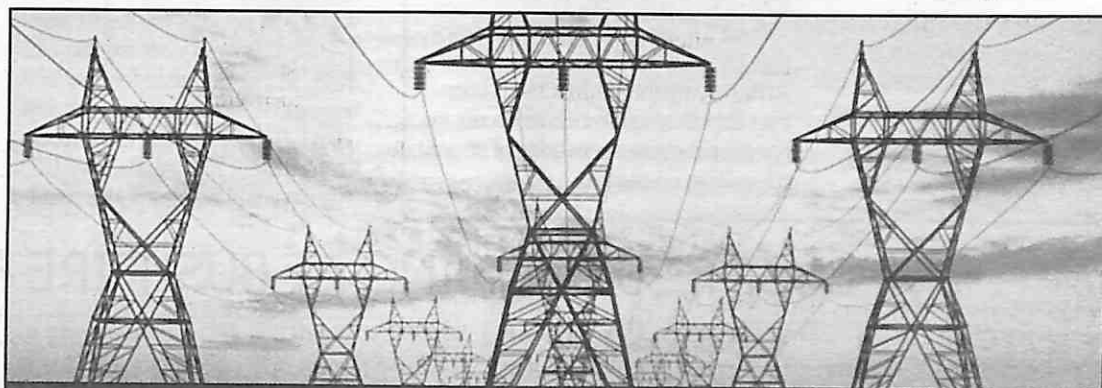
There's no question that it's been a good investment, particularly if you bought at the right time. According to a report from CNBC, the price of a single bitcoin has recently soared to \$2 200 from just \$0.003 seven years ago. We know this because on Monday its fans celebrated the anniversary of Bitcoin Pizza Day, when Laszlo Hanyecz, a programmer, spent 10 000 bitcoin for two Papa John's pizzas. Times have definitely changed.

Oil

So what's driving the run up in price? CNBC's tech correspondent Arjun Kharpal cites factors such as new legislation in Japan that allows retailers to accept the cryptocurrency (40 per cent of all bitcoin trade is in Japan), the resolution of a dispute in the digital community that could've created competing currencies and the general market turmoil brought on by global economic uncertainty.

President Donald Trump's stated desire to weaken the dollar and make American goods more attractive overseas may also be contributing. Not only that, but according to a report on CNN.com, a few high ranking members of his administration, like budget Director Mick Mulvaney and Vice President Mike Pence's Chief Economist Mark Calabria, have both supported the cryptocurrency.

Fin24



Return of Eskom CEO 'unlawful'

JOHANNESBURG - Even if Eskom's convoluted explanation for Brian Molefe's return is accepted, it is still unlawful.

That is the crux of a new affidavit filed by the DA's James Selfe last Friday in response to Eskom's argument that Molefe in effect never resigned and that reinstating him was simply the easiest way to correct the unlawful "early retirement" pension payout he was given last year.

Eskom this week argued in court papers that Molefe's R30.1 million pension may have been unlawful, but it was an honest mistake.

His retirement was "rescinded" on the basis of his pension deal being unlawfully based on pension fund rules for early retirement – for which he is too young.

This led to a reinstatement agreement which the DA said counts as a new contract of employment, meaning Public Enterprises Minister Lynne Brown had to approve it.

Brown, for her part, said she was happy to let the court decide this point.

If the DA was correct, then the reinstatement is invalid, she said.

Her own affidavit this week made clear that the dilemma around Molefe's pension payout had

four potential solutions, according to legal advice sought by the Eskom board.

Bringing Molefe back was one. The others were to have him leave with an agreed smaller payout or to fight him to lower it.

Selfe said that the choice to bring Molefe back, rather than opting for any of the other solutions, amounted to an exercise of public power, meaning it could be challenged on the basis of rationality.

As with almost every decision taken on the Molefe matter, Brown seemingly had no real input at all.

The legal fight is being pursued by the opposition, but the ANC itself has expressed almost exactly the same condemnation of Molefe's re-employment and the "irrational and untenable" situation created by the convoluted explanations for Eskom's behaviour.

The argument made by Eskom chair Ben Ngubane in his affidavit this week is that it was all an honest mistake.

However, Ngubane's explanation involves two distinct mistakes.

First, Ngubane claims that no one on the Eskom board realised that the rules of the Eskom Pension and Provident Fund (EPPF) do not allow for employees to go on early retirement before the age of 55.

They accidentally granted this to Molefe not knowing it was unlawful, Ngubane said in the papers. Second, the board gave Molefe his outsized pension based on a rule of the pension and provident fund for retrenched employees – not early retirees.

Ngubane dismissed this as a typing error. According to his affidavit, his letter accepting Molefe's retirement "incorrectly refer(s) to

the rules relating to retrenchment as opposed to early retirement".

Fin24



BACK: Eskom CEO Brian Molefe

PE to feel the pain as GM exits

PORT ELIZABERTH - The unexpected exit of General Motors SA (GMSA) from South Africa will cause massive pain and suffering in Nelson Mandela Bay communities.

In addition, the ripple effect on downstream industries will be just as devastating.

GMSA said it was pulling out of South Africa at the end of this year, and its operations would be taken over by Japan's Isuzu Motors.

This brings the company's 90-year-old association with Port Elizabeth to an abrupt end, with 600 employees facing possible job losses.

The decision to pull out will also adversely affect numerous social responsibility initiatives which the company has been involved in through its GM Foundation.

These include education, housing and charity projects.

"This is not a time for one to lose one's job, especially when the country has been declared 'junk' status. I am panicking because I don't know whether I am one of the 600 to lose their jobs," 54-year-old Mlamli Vellem, who has been with the company for 21 years, told City Press this week.

"I started working for GM in 1996 as a general worker. Now I am a team leader. I have five kids, with the eldest being 29 years old and still living with me. This is going to affect me big time since I am the sole breadwinner. *Fin24*

Hawks bust visa fraudsters

DURBAN - In the wake of the Manchester bombing and a heightened global terror threat, Durban has emerged as a conduit for people trying to gain illegal entry into the US.

In a counter-terrorism crackdown, 30 people have been arrested in the city by the Hawks Organised Crime Unit which is working alongside the local US embassy.

Two of the arrests took place this week.

US Embassy spokesperson Heidi Ramsay referred questions about the operation to the police.

"Due to law enforcement sensitivities and privacy considerations, we are unable to provide any further information," she said.

Hawks KZN spokesperson Captain Simphiwe Mhlongo confirmed the 30 arrests and said more were imminent.

"This operation is ongoing," he said.

All the suspects used counterfeit South African documentation to apply for US visas, apparently paying a local syndicate R25 000 to get them through the system.

It is understood that Durban was red-flagged when there was a disproportionately high number of out-of-town applicants using the local visa and immigration office for their travel documentation. The latest arrests include a couple from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) who were nabbed outside the US Consulate in Durban on Wednesday.

The couple, Morgan Biandosila, 40, and Belbiche Bitwadisi, 33, allegedly used their DRC passports and fake SA work permits to apply for US visas. They have been charged with fraud under the Immigration Act and will appear in the Durban Magistrate's Court for a plea bargain tomorrow.

The other arrests, which have taken place over the past six months, included people from Pakistan, Nigeria, Cameroon, Bangladesh, India and China. *Fin24*



World News

NORTH KOREA LEADER OVERSEES 'NEW' WEAPON SYSTEM TEST

SEOUL - North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un has overseen a test of a new anti-aircraft weapon system, state media said yesterday, amid mounting tensions in the region following a series of missile tests by Pyongyang.

Over the past few months, the young leader has overseen several military drills, including the test-firing of a medium-range ballistic missile last Sunday, as Washington seeks to ramp up pressure on Pyongyang to curb its nuclear ambitions.

The North's official Korean Central News Agency said Kim "watched the test of a new-type anti-aircraft guided weapon system", which was aimed at "detecting and striking different targets flying from any direction".

KCNA did not give the exact date and location of the drill.

Pyongyang first tested the new weapon system in April last year when some defects had been discovered, but Kim said the latest test verified that all glitches had been "perfectly overcome", KCNA said.

The efficiency of the weapon system "to detect and track targets has remarkably improved and its hitting accuracy has also increased" compared to last year, the young leader was quoted as saying.

Expressing his satisfaction, Kim said: "(It) should be mass-produced to deploy in all over the country like forests so as to completely spoil the enemy's wild dream to command the air, boasting of air supremacy and weapon almighty."

Tensions are high in the region



MONITORING: This undated picture released by North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency. (Daily Mail)

over the nuclear-armed North's weapons ambitions and its regular test-firing of ballistic missiles.

The North has carried out two atomic tests and dozens of rocket

firings since the beginning of last year in its quest to develop a missile capable of delivering a nuclear warhead to the continental United States. **AFP**

Morgue workers jailed for stealing drugs

NAIROBI - Tanzanian police said on Saturday that they had arrested two morgue employees in Dar es Salaam after they admitted to cutting open a dead man's corpse and stealing the drugs hidden in his stomach.

"The two morgue workers admitted to cutting open the body" a week ago to take the drugs, local police official Simon Sirro said in a statement, adding that the dead man had died of an overdose.

Drug traffickers regularly employ drug "mules" to transport merchandise by stuffing the drugs in small airtight bags which are then swallowed or inserted in someone's stomach. But the technique is hardly foolproof as the bags can be eaten away by stomach acid and cause an overdose - which is what may have happened to the dead man. The man, a Ghanaian national, was found dead in a hotel room in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania's economic capital, and transported to the morgue at Mwananyamala hospital, where the two employees worked, Sirro said.

According to police, the workers said they then sold the 32 drug capsules to an unidentified businessman, who in turn sold the merchandise to Ally Nyundo, a suspected drug trafficker.

Those two men were also arrested, police said, without identifying the drugs. Africa's east coast has long been used as a transit point for drugs bound for Asia and Europe.

AP

British PM May is retreating from globalisation

LONDON - Prime Minister Theresa May is offering voters a retreat from globalisation in one of the most significant developments in recent British political history, former finance minister George Osborne said.

Osborne, who was sacked by May as finance minister after the June 23 Brexit vote, criticised May's plan to cut annual net migration to the tens of thousands and said her pre-election social care proposals were clearly badly thought through.

May rejected "untrammelled free markets" and promised to rein in corporate excesses in pre-election pledges earlier this month. The leader of the opposition Labour Party, Jeremy Corbyn, has pledged to nationalise water, mail and rail companies.

"Both Theresa May and Jeremy Corbyn are offering, in very different ways, a retreat from international liberalism and globalisation," Osborne, who now edits the Evening Standard newspaper, told the BBC. **News24**



Egypt launches second day of Libyan air strikes

CAIRO - Egypt launched a fresh round of air strikes over Libya last Saturday, Egyptian military sources and an eyewitness told Reuters, targeting militant camps it said were responsible for a shoot-

ing spree that killed dozens of Egyptian Christians.

Last Friday, Egyptian fighter jets struck eastern Libya just hours after a shooting that killed 29 and wounded 24 in the southern Egyptian

province of Minya when masked militants boarded vehicles en route to a monastery and opened fire at close range. Islamic State claimed responsibility for the attack, the latest directed at Egypt's increasingly embattled Christian minority following two church bombings last month that killed more than 45, also claimed by the group.

President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi said last Friday he had ordered air raids on militant camps in Libya, where he said the Minya gunmen had trained, though he did not name a specific group responsible.

Sisi, who has presented himself as a bulwark against Islamist militants in the region, said Egypt would not hesitate to carry out additional strikes inside and outside the country to quash future threats. **AP**



EYE FOR AN EYE: President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi said on Friday he had ordered air raids on militant camps in Libya, where he said the Minya gunmen had trained, though he did not name a specific group responsible.

BRIEFS

Man arrested for killing special agent

RICHMOND - US authorities said a man had been taken into custody following an overnight manhunt in the fatal shooting of a Virginia State Police special agent. Virginia State Police said that Travis A Ball of Richmond was being held without bond on charges that include malicious wounding and use of a firearm in the commission of a felony. Additional charges are pending. The 27-year-old Ball is charged in the shooting of Special Agent Michael T Walter, who died early on Saturday. **AP**

Clashes break out in Venezuela

CARACAS - Demonstrators clashed with Venezuelan police again Saturday as they descended on the offices of the state media regulator, the latest in nearly two months of often-violent protests demanding the ouster of President Nicolas Maduro. Youth with their faces covered blocked the main motorway running through Caracas, cutting it off with trucks that they then set on fire. They also erected barricades of rubble. Police fired tear gas to disperse the rally, and demonstrators fought back by hurling Molotov cocktails and stones. **AFP**

UK's Petrofac resumes gas production

TUNIS - British energy firm Petrofac has resumed production at a plant in Tunisia after a stoppage that lasted several months, the company and a trade union said. "Yesterday (Friday) natural gas was brought by pipeline to Sfax" from the Chergui field operated by Petrofac, Abdelhadi Ben Jemaa, Secretary General of the powerful UGTT trade union in second city Sfax, told AFP. Petrofac confirmed that work had resumed at the Chergui gas field concession on Kerkennah island in southeast Tunisia. **AFP**

'52 dead' in militia clashes

TRIPOLI - Forces loyal to Libya's unity government said Saturday that 52 of its fighters were killed as they repelled rival militias in fierce clashes in the capital Tripoli. Apart from sporadic gunfire in southern Tripoli, calm returned to the city on Saturday, the first day of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. Among the 52 killed in Friday's clashes which centred on the southern district of Abu Slim, said Hashem Bichr, a security official of the Government of National Accord, were 17 members of pro-GNA forces who had been "executed". There was no immediate confirmation from medical or other independent sources of the death toll, updated from Friday's health ministry figures of 28 dead and more than 100 wounded that did not give a breakdown of the casualties. **AFP**

Morocco authorities arrest 20

RABAT - Moroccan authorities have arrested 20 people following violent clashes between police and protesters in the northern city of Al-Hoceima on Friday evening, the local prosecutor said. Clashes erupted in Al-Hoceima after authorities sought to arrest a well-known activist who led recent demonstrations and who interrupted a Friday prayer sermon, activists and local residents said. Political protests are rare in Morocco, but tensions in Al-Hoceima have been simmering since October after the death of a fishmonger who was crushed inside a garbage truck while trying to retrieve fish confiscated by the police. His death sparked anger. **AFP**

Focus on SA scene



FRIENDS LIKE THESE: President Jacob Zuma and Atul Gupta at the Bidvest Wanderers Stadium.

LEAKED GUPTA EMAILS EXPOSE JACOB ZUMA

..ZUMA'S DUBAI EXIT PLAN

JOHANNESBURG - A trail of emails between the Gupta family and their employees has blown the lid off how they have managed to do business with government, ingratiate themselves with senior officials, and go so far as to help move President Jacob Zuma and his family to Dubai.

The emails, obtained by City Press this week, also reveal how the Guptas seduced a number of senior state actors in their bid to capture government departments and state-owned entities. The emails include:

- A draft letter from Zuma to Abu Dhabi Crown Prince General Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan in which he asks for "patronage" in his bid to "make the UAE a second home";
- How the Guptas seduced Cabinet ministers and CEOs of State Owned Companies with opulent hotel stays and chauffeur-driven trips in luxury cars to their home in the exclusive Dubai suburb of Emirates Hills, where they bought a R445m mansion;
- How two months before Zuma appointed him, Minerals Resources Minister Mosebenzi Zwane's CV was sent to the Guptas for their "consideration";
- The identities of the other passengers, besides Zwane, who were on the Guptas' private jet when they took Zwane with them to convince Glencore boss Ivor Glassenberg to sell them the Optimum coal mine;
- That in March 2016, British public relations firm Bell Pottinger, whom the Guptas had hired to clean up their image, had prepared a press release which would have implicated former deputy finance minister Mcebisi Jonas in receiving bribes and other benefits such as flights upgrades and luxury hotel rooms

from a South African businessman; and that

● The Guptas lobbied Zuma to arrange that the June 2015 departure of their guest, for Mauritius, should be through Fireblade Aviation, a luxury terminal at OR Tambo International Airport, owned by the Oppenheimer family.

Zuma strongly denied any plans to leave the country, saying through his spokesperson Bongani Nqulunga: "I have my home in Nkandla and I have no intention of living anywhere else. When I retire I will go home to Nkandla. This is a pure fabrication. Duduzane has never spoken to me about living in any other country. He has never shown me any letter. It's shocking in the extreme. It's absolute mischief aimed at sowing confusion".

Trips

The emails also show how the Guptas seduced Cabinet ministers and CEOs of state-owned companies with opulent hotel stays and chauffeur-driven trips in luxury cars to their home in the exclusive Dubai suburb of Emirates Hills, where they bought a R445m mansion.

One was Eskom executive Matshela Koko, whom they flew to Dubai in January last year, putting him up at the posh Oberoi Hotel.

Others included Mineral Resources Minister Mosebenzi Zwane, new Communications Minister Ayanda Dlodlo, Denel Chairperson Dan Mantsha, businessman and arms deal protagonist Fana Hlongwane, Duduzane Zuma and two of Free State Premier Ace Magashule's sons, Thato and Tshepiso.

THE GUPTA'S GRIP

The emails are the latest indication of the grip that the Guptas have on the South African government and state-owned entities.

They come in the week in which the

SA Council of Churches and a collective of academics from top South African universities released reports showing the extent of state capture in South Africa.

They come as pressure mounts on Zuma, inside and outside the ANC, in relation to his close association with the Guptas.

For Koko's trip in 2016, an email, from employee Reya Pomar, confirms Koko's reservation and the arrangement of transfers to the hotel from the airport. He also asks for billing instructions.

Chawla responds: "Sahara will pay the entire bill. Please do not ask any credit card guarantee from the guest at the time of check-in".

The hotel concierge informs Chawla: "Please note the chauffeur details mentioned below for the drop towards Emirates Hill (sic)".

At the time, Koko was Eskom's group executive for power generation and the Guptas were busy buying the Optimum Coal Mine from Glencore.

The Oberoi Hotel was a favourite of the Guptas, and Duduzane Zuma also stayed there the month before Koko arrived.

The email trail also shows that, on the day Chawla booked Koko's trip to Dubai, he also made Mantsha's travel arrangements.

An email shows that Mantsha, who swiftly axed Denel CEO Riaz Saloojee and replaced him before engineering the joint venture between Denel and Gupta-owned company VR Laser Asia, was booked to arrive by chauffeur from the Oberoi at the Guptas' mansion at 07:00.

In the December of that year, the Guptas booked Zwane into the Oberoi and hired him a BMW 7-Series to chauffeur him to and from the Dubai airport and the Guptas' house in Emirates Hills.

News24

Crime has no nationality – Makhura

JOHANNESBURG - Gauteng Premier David Makhura cautioned political leaders against making "reckless remarks" which generally characterised foreign nationals as criminals.

"Africans from all over the continent, those who have chosen our province as their home, we want you to contribute positively to the growth and development of Gauteng province.

If you are a criminal, we must deal with you, whether you are a South African or an African from any other country. The first thing which defines you is that you are a criminal," Makhura told an Africa Month celebrations event in Johannesburg.

"Criminals must be dealt with [but] we must not criminalise a nationality. A criminal is a criminal, whether it is a Nigerian or a South African, that criminal belongs in jail. I want to warn those that

keep criminalising nationalities, sometimes it is the mayors who take platforms and condemn a whole nationality.

If there is a drug dealer who is a Nigerian, it is not that [all] Nigerians are drug dealers. We must deal with the drug dealer."

Makhura warned political leaders to avoid generalisations. He called for concerted efforts by all who lived in South African communities to fight crime, particularly drugs-related crime.

"If we have a South African who is a rapist you cannot then say all South Africans are rapists. We must deal with that rapist and put that rapist to jail. We work together with the African Diaspora Forum. Let us make sure that in our communities there are no drugs. God's people, drugs are killing our children. The drugs are finishing our communities.

News24

SCOPA, ANC, COPE welcome SABC boss Aguma's suspension

CAPE TOWN - Parliament's public accounts committee (SCOPA), the ANC study group on SCOPA, and COPE have all welcomed the suspension of SABC acting chief executive officer and permanent Chief Financial Officer James Aguma.

"The committee seriously wants to get rid of the financial mismanagement and maladministration at the SABC. SCOPA wants the corrupt elements that existed to be rooted out. SCOPA has committed to meet regularly with the SABC until its finances are in order," SCOPA chairman Themba Godi said in a statement on Saturday. Earlier on Saturday, SABC spokesman Kaizer Kganyago confirmed Aguma's suspension. The South African Broadcasting

Corporation (SABC) would like to announce the suspension of acting group chief executive officer (AGCEO) James Aguma.

Tseliso Ralitabo, Group Executive: Media, Technology, and Infrastructure, will be acting as the GCEO. At this stage, SABC can unfortunately not reveal any further details due to internal processes," he said.

ANC study group on SCOPA Chairman

Mnyamezeli Boozi said the suspension followed a recent recommendation by SCOPA that Aguma be placed on suspension while the interim SABC board conducted its forensic investigation into irregularities in procurement and expenditure at the SABC.

News24

R9m bill to set up Rand West City

JOHANNESBURG - The merger of the troubled Westonaria and Randfontein municipalities will cost the taxpayers nearly R9 million, which will fund the setting up of a new organisational culture, workshops and branding, among others.

The new local municipality, Rand West City, has been granted more than R8.6 million to fund the costs of new municipal boundaries determined by the Municipal Demarcation Board, according to Gauteng Finance MEC Barbara Crecy.

The new boundaries came into effect after the 2016 local government elections. Rand West City spokesman Tshidiso Tlharipe said the grant was also a "transformational budget".

Tlharipe said the funds would be used for branding of the new municipality and creating a new organisational structure from the two merged entities. He said part of creating a new organisational structure and outlook would entail workshops for employees.

AFP



THE NAKED TRUTH: Eight inmates were later recaptured and prison guards posted pictures of them lying handcuffed and naked on the floor. (Daily Mail)

100 INMATES ESCAPE THROUGH A 90 FOOT TUNNEL

- More than 90 crawled through a 90ft tunnel under Parnamirim State Penitentiary
- Prisoners discarded their jail uniforms before changing into civilian clothes
- Eight were recaptured before being stripped and handcuffed by Brazilian guards

BRAZIL - Almost a 100 inmates escaped from a jail in Brazil after digging a 90ft tunnel under the prison walls, it has emerged.

Guards at the Parnamirim State Penitentiary in Rio Grande do Norte found the tunnel and the empty cells in the early hours of the morning.

They also found piles of clothes by the exit to the hole after prisoners discarded their uniforms, changed into civilian clothes and sprinted off to find getaway cars.

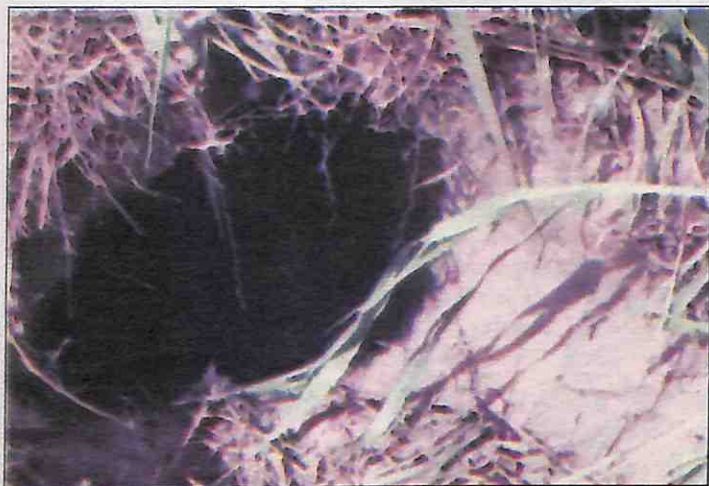
However, eight inmates were later recaptured and prison guards posted pictures of them lying handcuffed and naked on the floor.

The escapees somehow had time to wriggle along the 90ft homemade tunnel. As they emerged the other side of the prison wall, they left piles of abandoned prison uniforms and jail issue flip flops.

Then they reportedly waited at a nearby road for getaway cars to ferry them away from the jail,

according to local reports.

More escapes were only thwarted when the heavily armed Military Police surrounded the jail and sealed the tunnel. Prison officials told local media they had no accurate figure for the number of successful escapees but it is reported to be as high as 82. *Daily Mail*



BID FOR FREEDOM: Almost 100 inmates escaped from a jail in Brazil after digging a 90ft tunnel (pictured) under the prison walls. The escapees somehow had time to wriggle along the 90ft homemade tunnel. (Daily Mail)



PERFECT ESCAPE: These are the piles of prison uniforms that were found by the exit.



MEET THE MANCHESTER CASUAL KILLER

MANCHESTER - Leaning back nonchalantly with his hands thrust casually into the pockets of his black body warmer, there is nothing about Salman Abedi's relaxed demeanour that betrays his monstrous intent.

Yet minutes after these photographs were taken, he detonated the nail bomb in his backpack, killing 22 people, many of them children, and maiming dozens more.

Though facing his own death, too, there is nothing about his manner or his appearance to separate him from the countless other young men hanging around Manchester city centre last Monday night. He blends in with the crowd with his casual attire: a £65 Hollister body warmer, his best £150 Nike Air Jordan trainers, a black baseball cap, navy jeans with turn-ups. In one still, he stares ahead as his hand rests in his pocket, perhaps checking the trigger of the explosive device that he would use to murder teenagers and young children at the Ariana Grande concert in the Manchester Arena.

These images, taken from CCTV cameras, were released yesterday by detectives piecing together the final movements of the callous killer.

And in both pictures, the police have blacked out the background, suggesting they wished to protect the identities of people standing next to him at the time.

The exact location of the image has not been given by officers, but it is believed he could have been in a lift on the way to the Arena's box office. Only the straps of the rucksack—a bag containing tri-cyclic acetone peroxide, bolts and nails—are visible in the pictures. At

10.30pm, he detonated the 'highly sophisticated' device, that injured 119 people. *Daily Mail*



WAS HIS HAND ON THE TRIGGER? Salman Abedi the night he travelled to the Manchester Arena and detonated a bomb after the Ariana Grande concert, killing 22 people and injuring 119. (Daily Mail)



THROW BACK: Hairdresser Abdallah Forjani (left) with cousin Salman Abedi (right).



- NEWS
- REVIEWS
- STAR SIGNS
- CELEBRITY WATCH
- CARTOONS

PRO HEATS UP RONDE VU

● Packs hundreds of fun lovers

By Ayanda Dlamini

WHEN everyone was at the MTN Bushfire 2017 to watch Kwesta some revellers decided to be serenaded by South Africa hip-hop artist Linda 'PRO' Mkhize, who was on fire at Ronde Vu, Esibayeni Lodge on Friday night.

PRO took over the stage at 2:45 am Saturday morning, the moment everyone was waiting for.

He made his first appearance as DJ MBO rendered one of his instrumental beats of 'Bhampa'. "What's up good people," he greeted the crowd.

He warmed the place with a few rhymes about Swaziland having good mari-

juana. "Sisi, we have the grade A ganja," he rhymed.

He thrilled the crowd when he performed 'Bhampa' as revellers braced the cold and sang along to every single lyric. He then performed 'Vulani Isekele' which got revellers from the VIP up, leaving their champagnes and bottles of whisky to join the dance floor. Every song he rendered, the crowd sang along, "Vulan' isekele, Okaaaay, Abeze la sibenzele," crowd sang along.

He serenaded the crowd with his dance moves as well.

He was interactive with the crowd, and gave them a chance to sing a few lines of the lyrics. He also thrilled when he performed 'Uthini ngo Pro'. This song was well received by the crowd

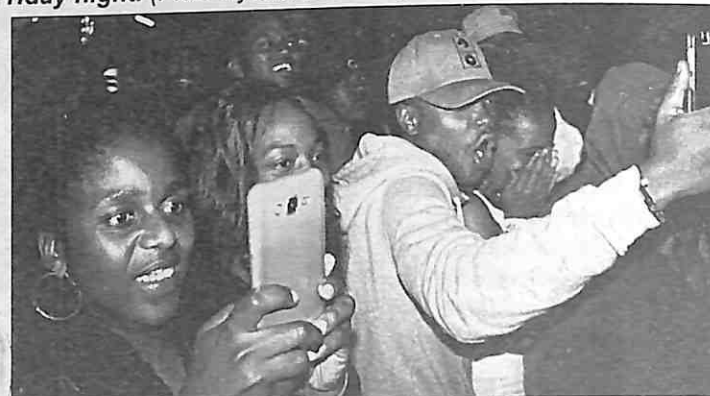


MUSIC MAN: South African Rapper Linda 'PRO' Mkhize thrilled hundreds of fun lovers at Ronde Vu, Esibayeni Lodge on Friday night. (Pics: Ayanda Dlamini)

and he was surprised that Swazis still knew his song as he hadn't been in the industry for a while.

He then performed 'Makasane' and ladies could not control themselves but screamed.

The beat of the song allowed him to give justice to this song.



MEMOIRS: PRO's fans capturing videos and pictures of his performance.

SD is my home country - PRO

THE South African rapper proclaimed that he is always in Swaziland since it is his home country.

The rapper claimed that he is originally from Nhlanguano and always visits his grandmother whenever he is around. "I'm always in the country, just that you guys always find me when there is a gig of some sort. "I always visit my family especially my grandmother in Nhlanguano," he said during an interview with this publication after his performance.

"Basically I am a Swazi and this is home," the rapper said.

Before the South African Hip Hop artist invaded Ronde Vu, DJ ID warmed up the show

with his genre mix, from hit songs 'Charlotte' by Prince Kaybee featuring Lady Zamar to '10 fingers' by Aka ft Anatii. At 12 DJ Wicked took the decks as he rendered a remix of 'Birthday Cake' by Rihanna which was dedicated to Swaziboy Entertainment first lady Lindokuhle Mthupha and Socialite Stix as it was their birthday.

The two personalities were enjoying themselves with their friends at the VIP section at their reserved tables.

Ur Girl Zee who was the programme director of the Night sang a birthday hymn for the personalities.

DJ Wicked thrilled the crowd when he rendered his old school hip hop set.

He played 'Back and Forth' by Aaliyah and revellers sang along. He then switched to birthday hymns such as 50 Cent 'in the club', Trey Songz's 'Say aah'.

DJ Mbo took over the decks with the hit song 'Memeza' that has been repeatedly playing in almost all clubs in the country.



IN THE MIX: Former Miss UNISWA Buhle Nyamane with her friend. **RIGHT - MAY BABIES:** Personality Stix and SwaziBoy Entertainment's Lindokuhle 'Leendor' Mthupha cutting a birthday cake as they celebrated their birthday on the day.



KODAK MOMENT: Thulani 'Lolo' Thwala and Gordon Bennett could not miss PRO's show. **RIGHT - DISPLAY:** TouchOfSoul (TOS) merchandise on display at the show.



RHYMES: PRO performing 'Bhampa' wearing a local brand cap TOS.

ZAHARA, TKZEE DELIVER AT MTN BUSHFIRE 2017

...TKZee thrills with every song they perform
...Zahara sheds tears on stage

Stories by Ayanda Dlamini

SOUTH African music veterans TKZee and Zahara were on fire on the second day of the MTN Bushfire as they had festival goers begging for more.

Afro soul singer Zahara shed tears on stage as she performed 'Umthwalo wami' from her first album 'Lolilwe'. She could not control herself as the song got deeper and more sincere than just a performance.

She literally broke down when the song was about to end. She started mumbling as she moved away from the microphone stand as the beat of the song continued to play.

Just right after the song ended, there was a moment of silence and she fought tears back, wiping them with the palm of her hand. "I'm sorry about that" she said after wiping her tears

off.

She then performed 'Ndiza' on the same emotional tip. She thrilled the fun lovers as soon she took over the stage; it was a moment revellers had been waiting for, over the years; Zahara on Swazi soil.

Promise

She took over the stage with 'Lizalise idinga lakho Thixo wenyano' (God of truth fulfil your promise) a gospel song. She appeared on stage in her white Thu Thu skirt and African print crop top. She went on singing remixing the song as she sang 'La la la'. In the middle of the song she introduced herself and shared her feelings on being invited to perform in the country for the first time. She then performed 'Ndiya-godola' taken from her first album.

The 'Incwandi encane' rendition was also as good. She danced up a storm with her two

...Zahara pays tribute to late Brenda Fassie

IN her performance, she said it wouldn't be an actual performance without a few songs from the late Brenda Fassie's albums.

"My time is very short and I am only left with four songs right now but it would be a sin for me not to pay tribute to 'Sisi Mabre', Brenda Fassie," she said. She performed hit song such as 'Promises' and 'Vulindlela' fun lovers sang along with her and danced to each and every song she rendered.

She then thrilled the crowd with her break through hit song 'Loliwe'.

"Fun lovers did much justice to the song as they sang along. She then performed 'Thetha nami' a song by Riot where she is featured. She closed the performance with 'Bendi rongo' where she features Robbi Malinga. "I love you Swaziland, thank you," she said as she rendered her last song 'Bengi rongo'.

backers. She showed the fun lovers how they dance in Namibia, Mozambique and later invited her backer to show them how they do it in South Africa. The male backer did not disappoint as he danced up a storm.

She later invited a Swazi to come up stage to show them how Swazi do it; young looking lady dressed in tight jeans shorts jumped to stage and danced like nobody's business, doing all sorts of dance moves. However, the lady had some on-lookers in awe as she used

her back to lean over a monitoring speaker with her legs split up until stage management security whisked her away.

DOLO PHEZULU: Zahara dancing up a storm during her performance at the 11th edition of the MTN Bushfire Festival on Saturday.

TKZEE 'STILL GOT THAT FIRE', AS THEY THRILL

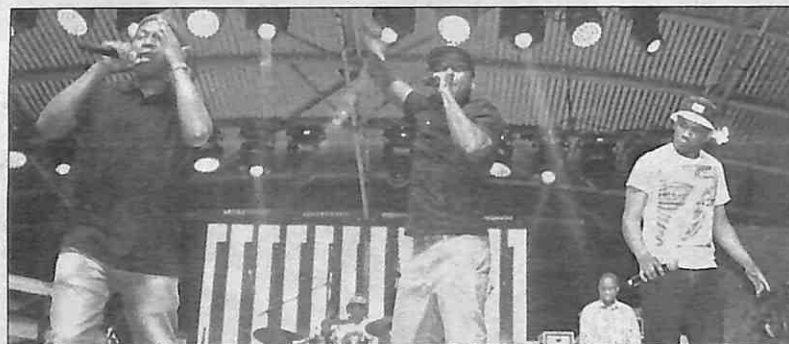
THE legendary Kwaito trio TKZee; Tokolo, Kabelo and Zwai Bala were on fire at the MTN Bushfire 2017.

They thrilled the audience with every single song they performed. The kwaito trio took over the stage at 11 pm. They took over the stage with hit song 'Magesh'. Fun lovers could not control themselves as they sang along.

Creative

The trio then performed 'Palafala' as revellers sang along with the Kwaito trio. They thrilled the thousands including the VVIP section when they rendered hit song 'Fella Kae' a well known song from the 90s. Everyone in the festival including the VVIP section sang along and danced up a storm.

The hit song is well known for its creative pleasing rhymes, 'Trrratatata tada ta,' continuously. The crowd sang along to every lyrics of the song, from



IN THE AREA: TKZee put on a great performance.

'Trrratatata tada ta' to 'Umuntu o fana nam umcinezala kanjani?' read few lines of the song as it was the crowd's most favourite part.

After performing 'Izinja zami' they decided to take it slow as they performed 'We love this place' which was led by Zwai Bala, the crowd sang along to every detail of the song. They later

performed 'Fiasco', which was also well received by the thousand festival goers. They closed the show with hit song 'Shibobo', which is a 1998 hit single featuring legendary South African football player Benni McCarthy.

The crowd could not control themselves, as they sang along, "TKZee in the area, the Bafana in the area,"



HOLY: Kabelo captured singing 'Malibongwe' whilst Zwai backed him up.

Kabelo takes it to church

Stories by Nomfundo Sifundza

CLEARLY they were not just reports, Kabelo Mabalane is born again and he has no reason to hide it.

The last song Mabalane sang acapella leading the whole of MTN Bushfire attendees was 'Malibongwe,' an old gospel hymn.

He led the song with deep emotion and fun lovers joined

him as he confessed that the name of the Lord heals and so should be acknowledged.

"Gama leNkosi malibongwe, igama leNkosi liyapholisa," he sang.

Zwai Bala also displayed beautiful skills on the piano and vocals with his deep voice serenading the whole arena.

The other quarter of the legendary kwaito group (TKZee) Tokollo was lost in the music and fun of the night as he clearly enjoyed himself on stage.



NICE IN HERE: Music lovers enjoying themselves as Sands performed.

SANDS SPECIAL FIREFLY APPEARANCE THRILLS

THE youthful audience packed at the Firefly arena were yet again treated to a special up close performance by superstar, Sands.

Sands did not have to perform all the songs in his album or even just three songs to make the fun lovers night but just one simple rendition of 'Tigi' was enough to declare him 'the people's darling.'

The heart-throb performed

'Tigi' in at least two different versions.

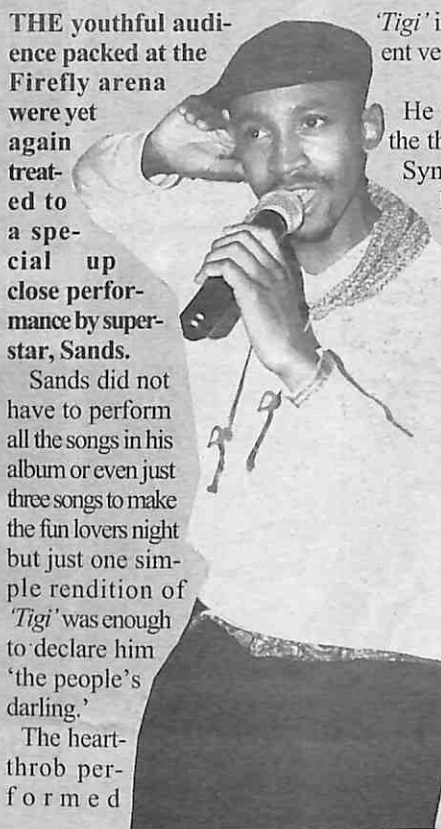
Requesting

He then congratulated the three firefly winners Symphony, Lindz and Mandisa before requesting that they join him on stage to perform the song.

Jumped

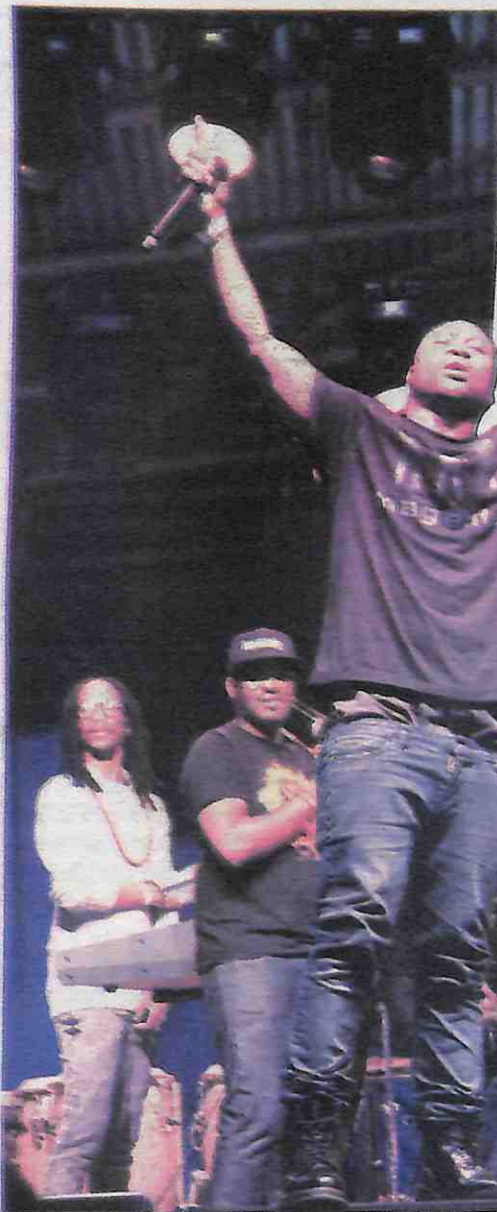
Symphony jumped at the opportunity to perform with Sands and backed him up very well as they danced in unison.

VANI: Sands gestures as he performs at the Firefly stage.





More from MTN Bushfire



THRILLED: Reason gave it his all as he performed at the 11th edition of the MTN Bushfire. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



HANDS UP: Fun lovers raising their hands as they enjoyed their time at the festival.



MTHWALO WAM: Zahara got emotional as she rendered her hit song 'mthwalo wam.'



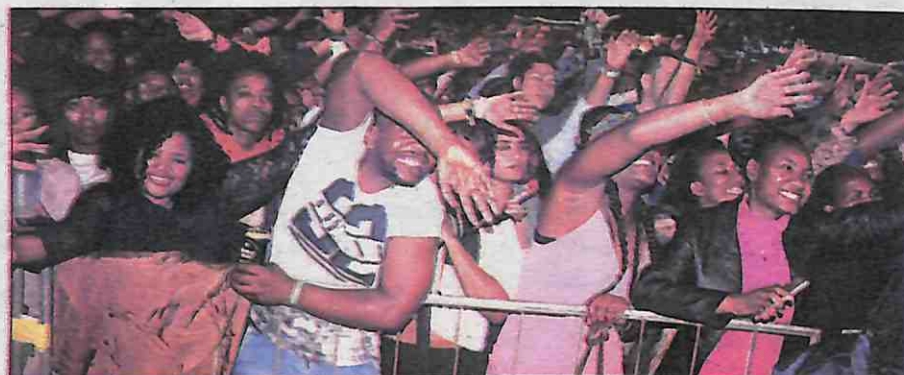
LEGENDARY: TKZee gave a sterling performance taking fans back in time.



SENGIKHONA: Symphony during her time on stage.



HERE IS FIRE: The ring of fire literally brought fire at the Bushfire Festival.



CLOUD NINE: Thousands came out to support their favourite artists.

TKZee's Corner



2017 11th Edition



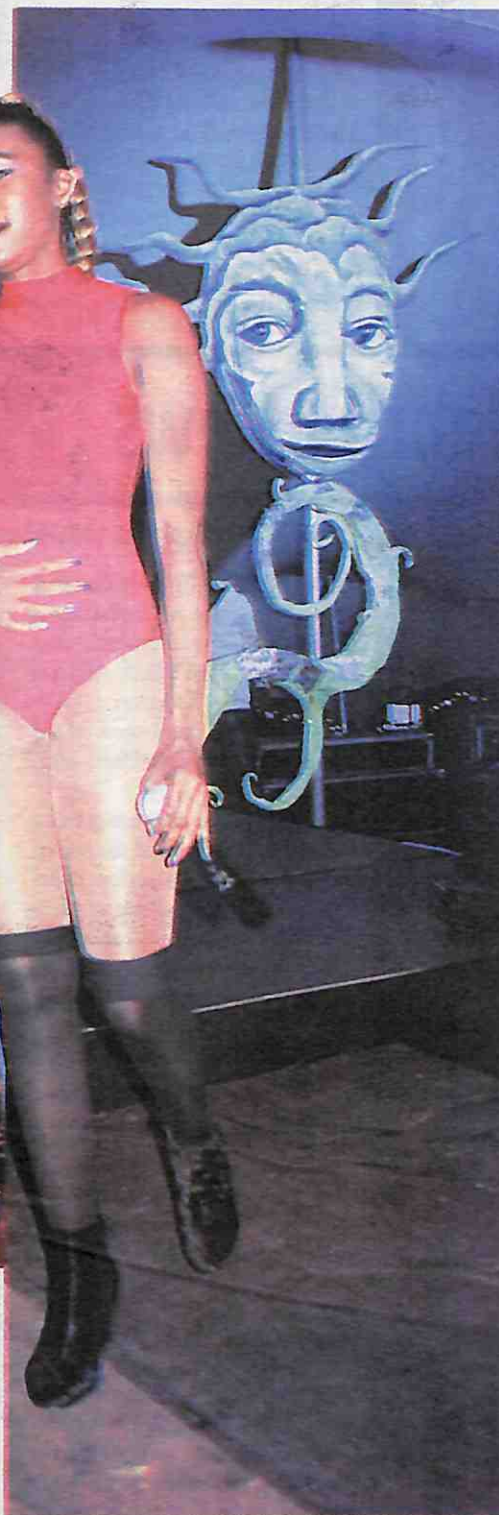
CHILLING: Festival goers basking in the sun as they watched Lodanda perform in the main arena.



PACKED: A view of a section of the fun lovers watching Sands perform.



OUR MONEY'S WORTH: Fans screamed their lungs out all evening.



SIGNING OFF: Mandisa prepares to take a bow as she ended her second performance on the Firefly stage.



AGAINST ALL ODDS: This child looked lost as he tried to make sense of the renditions on stage.

Zahara's Corner



International
Celebrity News

Julia Roberts loses it

LOS ANGELES - The show is called Running Wild With Bear Grylls. But Julia Roberts was wishing her episode, for Red Nose Day, was slightly less dangerous as the outdoors man forced her to cross a rope bridge over a river filled with hungry crocodiles. The 49-year-old actress and 42-year-old adventurer were seen delivering life-saving vaccines to children in Kenya in the episode which aired last Thursday on NBC. It all began when Bear got Julia to board a tiny plane, which saw the Pretty Woman star shriek in terror over its bumpy takeoff and landing. Then they got into a jeep and crossed some rough

**LOSING IT: Julia Roberts.**

terrain before coming upon a river. The only way to cross it was a dinky rope bridge over the ravine. Down below was a river filled with crocs. **TMZ**

Jamie Foxx criticised for making fun of sign language

LOS ANGELES - Jamie Foxx has come under fire from deaf stars and activists Nyle DiMarco and Marlee Matlin for allegedly mocking sign language during his recent appearance on The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon. Foxx's rep had no immediate comment. In a clip from last Thursday's show, shared online over Memorial Day Weekend, he is seen making hand gestures as host Jimmy Fallon tosses to a commercial break. Marco posted the video on his Twitter page last Friday and said in a statement Saturday that Foxx's

**CRITICISED: Jamie Foxx.**

behaviour on the show "should not be tolerated." **Eonline**

Mark Wright sees wife once a month

LOS ANGELES - They both lead jet-set lifestyles, with Michelle in South Africa filming for BBC drama Our Girl for months at a time. And Mark Wright, 30, has revealed that he sees his wife-of-two years just once a month - but they 'just make it work'. Speaking to The Daily Mirror, the former TOWIE star spoke about his long-distance relationship with his wife. Revealing his dating schedule, the Take Me Out: The Gossip presenter said: "She is going to be in South Africa on and off until next year and I'm going to be in Los Angeles." **TMZ**

**BUSY MAN: Mark Wright.**

Prince Harry, Obama discuss Manchester attack

LONDON - Prince Harry hosted former US President Barack Obama Saturday at Kensington Palace, where they discussed the deadly terrorist attack in Manchester. On Monday, a suicide bomber killed 22 people, including children, at Manchester Arena after Ariana Grande finished a concert. The attack marked the deadliest terrorist incident in the UK since the 2005 London bombings. The American leader offered his condolences to the victims and support for those recovering from injuries, Kensington Palace said.

**IN TALKS: Prince Harry and Obama.**

"Good to see my friend Prince Harry in London to discuss the work of our foundations & offer condolences to victims of the Manchester attack," the former president tweeted. **MIO**

SA Celebrity News

Khanyi's nude dress gets heat

JOHANNESBURG - Khanyi Mbau's revealing #SAMA23 dress which showed off her assets set social media on fire this past Saturday. Dressed in a local cut, sheer nude dress which showed off major cleavage, Khanyi has become the talk of the town. While some Twitter users complimented Khanyi for looking smoking-hot, others have commented that Khanyi's outfit was not "appropriate" for prime-time viewing. Khanyi conducted live red carpet interviews for SABC as the glitzy awards ceremony got underway at Sun City Superbowl. **CityPress**

**TRENDING: Khanyi Mbau.**

Skolopad steals limelight at #SAMA23

JOHANNESBURG - Skolopad once again sent social media into a frenzy with a revealing peach satin dress at the 23rd South African Music Awards (SAMAs). The musician's dress showed off her thighs and part of her, erm, behind. Skolopad became an overnight sensation when she rocked the Metro FM Awards with a yellow dress that had everyone talking. The D-list star not only rocked the red carpet with her semi-nude dress but decided to give the media a show

**HEAD TURNER: Skolopad.**

by lying on the floor. **SundayWorld**

Scandal! actor caught in brothel drama

EAST RAND - A prominent young e.tv actor from TV soap Scandal! was arrested in a sex den raid last Thursday by police in the East Rand and will appear in court on Friday. The 21-year old actor who appears in e.tv's most watched TV show produced by Ochre Moving Pictures luring 4.5 million viewers on week-nights, was arrested after a 25-year old woman managed to escape the sex den in Springs, east of Johannesburg, and fled to the police. The woman who told police that she is fearing for her life, has since been taken to a place of safety. Seventeen people - 11 women and six men ranging in age between 19 and 43 - were arrested and charged



with sexual exploitation and human trafficking. Channel24 understands that police found a large number of condoms on the premises. **Drum**

Babes, Mampintsha vent over their SAMAs loss

JOHANNESBURG - As far as music awards in South Africa are concerned, 2017 has not been Babes Wodumo's year. Mampintsha and Babes are beyond furious with this past Saturday nights SAMA results. After a disappointing night for the Wololo hitmaker, both Babes and Mampintsha could not hold back their anger and frustrations. Babes took to social to vent over not winning any awards for her music. She said that she "refuses to believe" that her song can be played and trend as it did but not receive any award. She added that she is being recognised by international brands such as BET but failing to win even one award in SA is biz-

**ROBBED: Mampintsha and Babes Wodumo.**

zare. Everyone saw what happened at the Metros has happened at the SAMAs. These awards are sold. Continue buying the awards. But it's fine, we won't starve. I will always be Babes Wodumo and Mampintsha will remain Mampintsha," Babes said. **Timeslive**

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST

ISIBAYA

TODAY

Club Sheba falls prey to a wolf in sheep's clothing. Qaphela faces a life-threatening situation. Lerato and Zama bond over their tragedies. Mabuyi finds herself drawn to a new member of the royal family.

**BONDING: Zama.**

ISIDINGO

TODAY

Barker makes the biggest offer yet for the Moloi land, but gives them a short time to decide. Wendy spills the beans to Nikiwe about Grace's shebeen gossip. Matlala attempts to write an apology letter to Kgothalo but English won't let him be great.

**MAKES AN OFFER: Barker.**

Muvhango

TODAY

**ON A MISSION: Thandaza.**

Will Susan agree to do the DNA tests? Thandaza is on a mission to discover the identity of the mystery woman. Will Mulimisi and Shonisani find common ground?

RHYTHM CITY

TODAY

Niki and Suffo's wedding at Zer011 is imminent. Suffo wants to see the results of the paternity test. The fertility clinic admits that they shared the results. Mapula, unhappy about the bad news, makes a call to move back to the shack.

**UNHAPPY: Mapule.**

My ex texted me
"You can delete my number"



I replied
"Who is this?"

TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22 – JANUARY 19

You have an increased desire now to succeed in everything you set out to achieve. There is a feeling that anything is possible if you set your sights high enough. There are optimism, faith and an urge to take all sorts of chances. You are appreciated for your ability to find the crux of a problem and get things accomplished.



AQUARIUS JANUARY 20 – FEBRUARY 18

This is a very lucky day for making plans or decisions and finding your way through just about any scenario. If you need it, good advice from an older person is available. There are optimism, faith and a tendency to put your good ideas out for others to digest. This is a time of exploring new places to enjoy or create a garden.



PISCES FEBRUARY 19 – MARCH 20

High energy this morning could find you burning yourself out towards the afternoon. Perhaps this is not the best time to joke around or have a big lunch with your friends. A light lunch and a brisk walk will have you feeling good and ready to return to completing the items on your list.



ARIES MARCH 21 – APRIL 19

This is one of your challenging days. However, others will give you encouragement and are willing to lend a helping hand if things get too stressful. This could mean that today is the day for the big garage sale or the swim meet or any other group interaction.



TAURUS APRIL 20 – MAY 20

Reading the news or hearing some news report causes in-depth discussions to arise around the table this morning. Probing conversations find you at your mental best. You have a feeling that with the right amount of persuasion, coupled with the necessary knowledge and financial backing, you could succeed at anything.



GEMINI MAY 21 – JUNE 21

You are curious about the happenings today and may find it quite difficult to hold back from asking questions. You may wonder where some activity is headed. Just be yourself and do whatever it is you feel you need to do in order to be productive in your own projects; all will be understood soon enough.



CANCER JUNE 22 – JULY 22

You are in a fun mood—willing and able to dive in and join a group of friends or family or take your turn at a hike with young people for a time during the day. You might even remember to take a few pictures. You can see whatever is needed and you make the right choices regardless of the subject matter.



LEO JULY 23 – AUGUST 22

You may feel like you are going to fall on your face trying to prove a point this morning. Back away for a little while and make your ideas known again when you have the facts and statistics that others can see. Your presentation is correct but needs better support.



VIRGO AUGUST 23 – SEPTEMBER 22

Your mind is stimulated and there is great wit at hand this day. Your inclination and ability to solve complex problems and puzzles amaze others. If you are able to channel this mental energy productively, you will accomplish much around the home front. You display an urge to be complimented and so you might put yourself in charge of a decoration or entertainment committee.



LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23 – OCTOBER 23

There could be some hesitancy with regard to decision making this day. Challenges at this time will require your patience. Take your time when making important choices or decisions and stay as flexible as possible. A mate or relative may need your energies for a project today.



SCORPIO OCTOBER 24 – NOVEMBER 21

You are usually full of enthusiasm and creative energy. You never seem intimidated by failure and will rise above any problems that may come your way. This may be one of those days that test your endurance and creative ability to help a troubled child.



SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22 – DECEMBER 21

While others could get on your nerves today, patience and a willingness to accomplish your chores will get you through the morning unscathed. A lunch date with a friend is highly rewarding.



BABY BLUES



BUCKLES



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MINI CROSSWORD - PUZZLE CHOICE

Can you find the hidden words? They may be horizontal, vertical, diagonal, forwards or backwards.



ADJUTANT,
AVOCET,
BITTERN,
COURSER,
CURLEW,
EGRET,
GODWIT,
HERON,
IBIS,
JABIRU,
JACANA,
KILLDEER,
LAPWING,
MARABOU,

OYSTER CATCHER,
PHALAROPE,
PLOVER,
SANDERLING,
SANDPIPER,
SHOEBILL,
SNIPE,
STILT,
STORK,
TURNSTONE,
WILLET,
WOODCOCK,
YELLOWLEGS.

LOL
Laughing Out Loud

Tragic mistake

A wife comes home late one night and quietly opens the door to her bedroom. From under the blanket, she sees four legs instead of just her husband's two. She reaches for a baseball bat and starts hitting the blanket as hard as she can. Once she's done,

she goes to the kitchen to have a drink. As she enters, she sees her husband there, reading a magazine. He says, "Hi darling, your parents have come to visit us, so I let them stay in our bedroom. Did you say hello?"

USELESS FACTS

1. The only elements that are liquid at room temperature are bromine and mercury.
2. Though solid at room temperature, gallium will liquefy in your hand.
3. Hydrogen is the most abundant element. About 75 per cent of the

elemental mass of the universe is hydrogen.
4. The most common isotope of hydrogen is protium, with is one proton and zero neutrons.
5. The hardest chemical in your body is your tooth enamel.

BRAINTEASERS
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Friday's brainteasers

1. What word in the English Language is always spelled incorrectly?
Answer: Incorrectly
2. What goes up a chimney down but can't come down a chimney

up?

Answer: An umbrella

Today's brainteasers

1. What grows when it eats, but dies when it drinks?
2. The more it dries, the wetter it gets. What is it?



DStv
Feel every moment

NEWS



HIGHLIGHTS



Wives with knives Tonight 22:50 | CBS Reality (132)

Wives with Knives tells the stories of various women who have committed crimes on their partners. Within each episode, the women tell the tales of the crimes they committed and what led each couple to their demise. Interviews with the victims are also shown. Stories include that of a New York City mother of four, who meets the man of her dreams, until he starts using drugs and repeatedly abusing her. Just when she thinks he's gotten rid of his demons, he brutally attacks her and in a fight for her life she stabs him to death.

Naked and afraid Tomorrow 22:00 | Discovery Channel (121)

The series returns with a pair of complete strangers, one man and one woman, who find themselves stranded in and quite literally exposed to one of the world's most extreme weather environments. This time, the extreme locations include the jungle of Amazonia, with constant rain and a lack of resources. Florida's remote, gator-filled Seminole Forest and the freezing wilderness of Canada also test these plucky couples' grit and determination. The duo will be stranded with no food, no water - and no clothes. They must survive on their own for a full 21 days, with nothing but one personal item each. The prize is simply their pride and sense of accomplishment. The pressure is on as they must quickly get to know each other and their surroundings, forcing them to question and test everything they may think they know about their acquired survival skills and instincts. What happens when a man and a woman without clothes are landed in one of the most remote areas of the world?

Little Women Wednesday 20:00 | Lifetime (131)

S6/E1 - Ballroom Blitz'. The ladies feel that Terra has changed since she began competing on 'Dancing With the Stars', Terra is blind sided when Elena demands she quit the competition, Tonya receives a concerning diagnosis.



BLOCKBUSTER MONDAY ON M-NET

TODAY is a big day on the M-Net 101 calendar.

That's when the television channel known for its best of the best programming, and 18:00 to midnight prime time without repeats, will boost its schedule with four new acclaimed shows, three of which are hot new items from Hollywood.

This is Us, the refreshingly honest Golden Globe-nominated drama, which tugged at American heartstrings this year and was voted the best new show of 2017 by many critics, makes its M-Net 101/2 debut today at 19:30. Then, at 20:30, Christine Baranski steps into the shoes of the formidably intelligent Diane Lockhart in the spin-off of The Good Wife, The Good Fight. Thereafter, the comedy Veep is back for another season of sharp political satire, at 21:30.

From the writer and directors of Crazy, Stupid, Love, the premiere episode introduces us to four different people who all share a birthday. As their stories unfold and their paths cross and intertwine in curious ways, we come to see that a birthday isn't the only thing they have in common. It's emotional, human and compelling. The series stars Mandy Moore, Milo Ventimiglia, Sterling K Brown, Chrissy Metz, Justin Hartley, Chris Sullivan, Susan Kelechi Watson and Ron Cephas Jones.

THE GOOD FIGHT

The spin-off of the award-winning The Good Wife promises the same high-level courtroom drama that turned its predecessor into an audience favourite. The new series picks up after a financial scam destroys the reputation of young



lawyer Maia Rindell and wipes out her mentor and godmother Diane Lockhart's savings. When the two legal ladies are forced out of Lockhart and Lee, they join forces with Lucca Quinn at one of Chicago's pre-eminent law firms where they find some familiar faces and old problems. The Good Fight stars Christine Baranski, Cush Jumbo, Rose Leslie, Delroy Lindo, Erica Tazel, Sarah Steele, Justin Bartha, Paul Guilfoyle and Bernadette

Peters.

VEEP

The sixth season of the acclaimed comedy Veep continues to take a sharp, satirical look at the insular world of politics by following the day-to-day existence of former VP and onetime President, Selina Meyer. One year after the events of Season 5, the new season sees Selina attempting to secure her legacy, after she finds herself out of public office for the first time in years. In a true

parody of American politics, things couldn't be more difficult for her as she tries to find her place in the world. Veep's ensemble cast includes Tony Hale, Anna Chlumsky, Matt Walsh, Reid Scott, Timothy C Simons, Suze Bradshaw, Kevin Dunn, Gary Cole and Sam Richardson as new staff member Richard. Additional guests include Sarah Sutherland, Clea DuVall, Margaret Colin, Amy Brenneman, Paul Scheer and Stephen Fry.

DIRTY DANCING BURSTS INTO 2017

IN recent times, there has been a revival of 1980s hits on our television screens.

Now, the channel that bought you Twin Peaks, McGyver and Lethal Weapon, M-Net 101, has added the much talked about 30-year anniversary television special of Dirty Dancing to its schedule. Just days after its first US broadcast (on Wednesday May 24), M-Net will be screening the TV reboot of the cult movie Dirty Dancing in two parts of 90 minutes each. M-Net 101 will broadcast Part 1 on Friday May 26 at 19:30 and Part 2 on Friday June 2 at 19:30.

The ode to the 1987 movie features a sterling cast as well as all the favourite musical items from the original film; not to forget that



iconic final ballroom scene in which Patrick Swayze lifted Jennifer Grey over his head to the sound of (I've had) The Time of My Life - probably one of the most memorable scenes in the history of cinema.

Stepping into the role of fresh-faced rich girl "Baby" Houseman, originally played by Grey, is Oscar-nominee Abigail Breslin, who enthralled audiences in Little Miss Sunshine.

Her mother is portrayed by Debra Messing from Will and Grace, and the hunky working-class dance instructor who will sweep Baby off her feet is relative newcomer Colt Prates. The film also stars Bruce Greenwood (Star Trek), Nicole Scherzinger (X Factor), Sarah Hyland (Modern Family), Tony Roberts (Law & Order), Katey Sagal (Sons of Anarchy) and Billy Dee Williams (Star Wars).

"M-Net is yet again at the forefront of television with this special two-part Dirty Dancing screening," says M-Net's Head of Publicity, Lani Lombard. "There's currently a big buzz around this celebratory television event, and it promises to be great entertainment for a Friday night in."

Choose Affordable Advertising

THE SWAZI OBSERVER

lassifiedemail: advertising@observer.org.sz

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS 11.00AM

ADVERTS

2404 8699 or 2505 2330

index

1. FOR SALE
2. SERVICES
3. JOBS/VACANCIES
4. TUITION
5. ACCOMODATION
6. NATURAL HEALING
7. PROPERTY
8. HEALTH & BEAUTY
9. NOTICES / PETS
10. CHANGE OF SURNAME
11. DEATHS
12. MEMORIAM/CLEANSING
13. CATERING

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Clients are advised to please check their adverts on the first publication day, for we will not be held responsible for any errors after the first day of publication. If it happens that you note any errors, please call 2404 3807 / 8671 immediately and it will be corrected as soon as possible. Failure to adhere to these terms, we assume no financial responsibility.

Thanking you in advance for we assure satisfactory services.

Swazi Observer e-edition

Read the
Swazi Observer
online

log on to www.observer.org.sz and follow link**BODY PARTS CENTRE & SPARES**

MANZINI BRANCH: Former Indali Furnitures Building, Opp. Lihaga Flats
Contact BONGANI: 7612 8651, THANDO: 7652 7264/7604 7776, or Tel/Fax: 2505 9454/2505 9002

SEDANS

- Toyota Corolla 2002-2006.....E1350.00
- Toyota Corolla 2007 -2013.....E1550.00
- Toyota corolla 1996 - 2001.....E1150.00
- Toyota Corolla 1998-1996.....E1150.00
- Mazda 323 -1998-2000.....E1150.00
- Ford Bantam 1998-2000.....E1150.00
- Ford Fiesta 2008 etc.....E1699.00
- Mazda 323 Import / Etude MK3.....E1550.00
- Ford Focus 2000-2010.....E1450.00
- Sentra Mk1 1990-2001.....E1150.00
- Almera / Sunny / Primera.....E1350.00
- Skyline.....E1450.00

TAXIS

- Hiace Local.....E1060.00
- Hiace Import.....E1060.00
- Iveco / Sprinter.....E1799.00
- Crafter / Sprinter 512.....E2250.00
- Toyota Quantum.....E1150.00

All Prices Include VAT...
FREE FITTING

**Windscreens
Specials****List
&
Find**

For Advertising
your business
Call our office
@ 2404 3807
2404 8699

The Hub Mall Shop no. 4, Tenbergen St. Manzini

English, Maths
& Science**Need a little Help?**

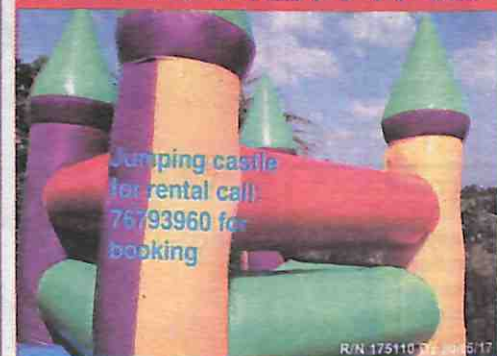
Book a free
assessment session
today!

Sometimes, just a little expert
input can make a world of
difference to the way our
children feel about school,
homework and most importantly
themselves.

At the Homework Centre, we
have a different approach to
teaching which takes the stress
out of schoolwork and
maximizes your child's success!
Come and talk to us and see
how we can help.



contact: +268 76041460/ 76041450

FOR RENTAL

Jumping castle
for rental call:
76793960 for
booking

R/N 175110 Ds 06/06/17

Kwenda Boutique Manzini
(Lihaga)

CLEARANCE SALE

1. Leather handbags **E1800** from **E2500**
2. Men's casual jackets **E1000** from **E1500**
3. Summer Dresses **E200** from **E350**
4. Toddlers leather shoes **E250** from **E350**
5. Kids swimwear **E100** from **E150**
6. Men's polo chinos & shirts **E450** from **E750**
7. Ladies plus size dresses **E650** from **E900**
8. Leather pumps **E400** wholesale
9. Cotton 300 thread count king size duvet cover sets **E3000**. Huge discounts for hotels and guesthouses or bulk orders
10. First of its kind Leather Jordans **E1500**



HURRY NOW at Lihaga Building, G07
- Kwenda Boutique Manzini
Call 78244888/ 7622 0700

R/N 175115 Ds 06/06/2017

ALL TYPES OF SECURITYFencing, Gate Motor Burglars
& Pre-cast

Call: 2505 8191 / 7607 1518

**"If it's Security,
Come to us"****S'HLENGE FENCING**We supply and install
On 11 JUNE 2017

IF YOU'VE GOT THE
GOODS... WE'VE
GOT AFFORDABLE
RATES



MINISTER
NOMINIS
HARRIS

YOU ARE RIGHT ON TARGET WHEN YOU READ**OUR CLASSIFIEDS SECTION.**

FOR SALE



Lexus Toyota 2004,
E 55'000 Negotiable.
Call: 76336676
R/N167905

Oil perfumes
E 100 each
Whatsapp:
+27784928858
Call: 7850 9564

R/N: 175181 DX: 30/05/2017

SERVICES

FRIDGE DOCTORS
Call: 7603 0866

R/N: 175136 DX: 07/06/2017

GROW YOUR
BUSINESS: For
Company
registrations,
Business &
Marketing Plans,
Financial Statements,
Book-keeping, and
Graphic Advert
Design. Call: 7671
3350

R/N: 175184 DX: 30/05/2017

PROPERTY

Newly built 1
bedroom flat, fully
fitted at ka-Shali
E 2'500. Call @
76853292

R/N: 175183 DX: 29/05/2017

Classified Section

Book
Your
Classified
Advert Now!

CALL OUR OFFICES @
2404 3807 /
2404 8699

MANZINI
"BOREHOLES"

Expert Services, Competitive prices
"Groundwater is our business"

A Cut Above the Rest

Tel: 2505 3880 / 2505 9402
Fax: 2505 9408, Cell: 7622 5300
www.purelldrilling.co.sz
E-mail: info@purelldrilling.co.sz

Dx 31MAY

WATER FOR LIFE

DOC:12844

Swazi
OBSERVER

For Advertising
your business ,

Call our office @

2404 3807 /

2404 8699

WE CONNECT YOU WITH
YOUR POTENTIAL
CLIENTS, ADVERTISE
WITH US.



ESTATE LATE:

MUDINDILE MINAH NXUMALO NEE
GINA
ESTATE NO. EL 4/2017

Debtors and Creditors in the
above mentioned estate are
asked to lodge their claims and
pay their debts with the under-
signed within **thirty (30)** days
after the date of publication of
this notice.

MSONGELWA L NXUMALO
P.O.BOX 1
MATATA

R/N167909

Swazi Observer
CLASSIFIEDS ADVERT

CHOOSE AFFORDABLE ADVERTISING FOR ALL
YOUR BUSINESS AND SERVICES NEEDS.

WHAT YOU
CAN ADVERTISE

- CARS FOR SALE
- SERVICES OFFERED
- JOBS/VACANCIES
- ACCOMMODATION
- PROPERTY FOR SALE
- DEATH NOTICES ETC.

COME TO YOUR NEAREST OBSERVER OFFICES
FOR ALL YOUR SERVICES

Swazi
OBSERVER

OBSERVER
ON SATURDAY

Observer

ESTATE LATE:

ALFRED MGALAJELWA MSIBI
ESTATE NO. EM 109/2016

Notice is hereby given in terms of
Section 51 (2) of the Administration
of Estates Act No. 28/1902 that the
First and Final Liquidation and
Distribution Account will lie open for
inspection at the office of the Master of
the High Court of Swaziland, Mbabane
branch First Floor Miller's Mansion for a
period of **Twenty One (21)** days from
the date of publication of this notice.

Any person objecting to the account
may lodge his or her objection in writing
with the executor and with the Master of
the High Court at any time before expiry
of the said period.

MHLONIPHENI MSIBI
P.O.BOX 25
MANKAYANE

ESTATE LATE:

GEJANE SIMELANE
ESTATE NO. ES 13/2015

Notice is hereby given in terms of
Section 51 (2) of the Administration
of Estates Act No. 28/1902 that the
First and Final Liquidation and
Distribution Account will lie open for
inspection at the office of the Master of
the High Court of Swaziland, Mbabane
branch First Floor Miller's Mansion for a
period of **Twenty One (21)** days from
the date of publication of this notice.

Any person objecting to the account
may lodge his or her objection in writing
with the executor and with the Master of
the High Court at any time before expiry
of the said period.

PHILEMON M SIMELANE
P.O.BOX 235
MANZINI

R/N 175167

IF YOU'VE GOT THE
GOODS.. WE'VE
GOT AFFORDABLE
RATES

www.observer.org.sz

Swazi Observer
Classifieds

CALL OUR OFFICES @ 2404 1555 / 2404 8699

Advertiser



CLASSIFIED ADS

WHAT YOU CAN ADVERTISE

- CARS FORSALE
- SERVICES OFFERED
- VACANCIES/JOBS
- ACCOMODATION
- PROPERTY
- DEATH NOTICES ETC.

COME TO YOUR NEAREST OBSERVER OFFICES
FOR ALL YOUR SERVICES OR CALL 76549032

MESSI MAGIC INSPIRES BARCA TO RETAIN COPA DEL REY

MADRID - A Lionel Messi masterclass salvaged some silverware to end Barcelona's season and gave coach Luis Enrique a victorious send-off as the Catalans retained the Copa del Rey with a 3-1 win over Alaves on Saturday.

Messi opened the scoring then helped tee up Neymar and Paco Alcacer to lead Barca to a record 29th Cup triumph after Theo Hernandez's brilliant free-kick had briefly brought Alaves level.

Victory means Enrique bows out after three seasons in charge with nine trophies to his name, including the Cup in every year of his reign.

However, once again it was Messi who inspired Barca to bounce back from the disappointment of losing their La Liga title to Real Madrid last weekend with a stunning individual display.

Barca was without the suspended Luis Suarez and Sergi Roberto and Enrique was forced into another reshuffle just 11 minutes in as Javier Mascherano was forced off with a head injury.

Yet, whilst Barca's depth has been much-criticised this season, Andre Gomes deputised ably at right-back after replacing Mascherano and Alcacer took his chance in a rare start on the big stage in Suarez's absence.



CHAMPIONS: FC Barcelona's players celebrate the first goal of the team by Argentinian striker Lionel Messi (L) during the King's Cup final match between FC Barcelona and Deportivo Alaves at the Vicente Calderon stadium, in Madrid, Spain. (AFP)

In stark contrast to Barca's glorious run of six finals in seven years, Alaves were appearing in Spanish football's showpiece for the first time.

The Basques were roared on by the more enthusiastic support at a far from full Vicente Calderon in its last competitive fixture before

Atletico Madrid move home next season.

And Alaves were left wondering what might have been had they gone ahead when Ibai Gomez's effort came back off the post, ricocheted off the back of Barca 'keeper Jasper Cillessen but somehow squirmed along the goal line

and not into the net on 27 minutes.

Three minutes later Messi kicked off a thrilling four-goal spell in the final 15 minutes of the half as he exchanged passes with Neymar before curling his 54th goal of the season.

AFP

Caster Semenya extends her winning streak

JOHANNESBURG - Caster Semenya had to keep her composure against Kenyan Margaret Wambui but eventually prevailed in another fine performance.

Though she had to put up a fight on Saturday night, middle-distance specialist Caster Semenya stretched her lengthy unbeaten streak with another fine performance at the third leg of the Diamond League series in Eugene.

Holding off a challenge from Kenyan athlete Margaret Wambui all the way to the line, Semenya secured victory in the women's 800m race in 1:57.78 at the annual Prefontaine Classic.

While she was more than a second outside her own world lead set in Doha earlier this month, it was the third fastest two-lap performance of the season, with Wambui finishing just 0.10 off the pace.

Semenya extended her unbeaten run to 21 months over the 400m, 800m and 1 500m distances.

The fourth of 14 legs in the Diamond League campaign will be held in Rome on June 8.

The Citizen



COMPOSURE: SA's Caster Semenya eases to victory as Kenya's Margaret Wambui follows.

Owen da Gama out of Baxter's Bafana

JOHANNESBURG - Owen da Gama will have to find a new role within the SA Football Association (SAFA) after Bafana Bafana Coach Stuart Baxter this week made it clear that he had his eye on someone else, not Da Gama, to be his assistant.

"I have got nothing personal against Owen, let me get that out of the way," said Baxter, who named his 25-man squad to face Nigeria in their opening 2019 Africa Cup of Nations qualifier in Uyo on June 10.

"When Louis van Gaal came to Manchester United, did he ask David Moyes to stay on as his assistant? If Pitso Mosimane is going to take over SuperSport United tomorrow, will he be asking Stuart Baxter to stay on as his assistant? That's football life, that I come in here and wouldn't have the person that was sitting in before as my assistant."

Da Gama was asked to serve as Bafana caretaker coach in November last year

when Shakes Mashaba was initially suspended for his tirade - aimed at his bosses - minutes following the national team's crucial 2-1 victory over Senegal in a qualifier for next year's World Cup.

Da Gama carried on in that capacity again in March for the two friendly matches against Guinea-Bissau and Angola, Mashaba having been sacked three days before Christmas.

Baxter has not discussed his backroom staff much since his appointment earlier this month, with reports suggesting that he'd asked SAFA to bring in his son Lee as the goalkeeper coach as well as Joshua Smith, who is currently the fitness trainer at SuperSport United, where Baxter is also coach until the end of June. "If SAFA have Owen under contract and want to put him into another role and he agrees, then yeah, but it won't be with the senior national team," the Scotsman explained.

"I am not going to give out names because I haven't gone to my employ-

er yet. In principle, I think Thabo Senong (Under-20 coach and second assistant to Mashaba) has done a good job with the junior team and I think he should follow that group and see how far

he can take them, and maybe he can still be with us as someone we could mentor a little bit.

Sunday Independent



NO JOB AT BAFANA: Owen da Gama.

AMAJITA - MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

JOHANNESBURG - After all the hype and all the promises, Amajita finished at the bottom of Group D at the FIFA Under-20 World Cup after a goalless draw against Uruguay.

South African football's Achilles heel - our failure to score and our inability to keep possession - was the team's undoing. Amajita joined Guinea as the second African team to bow out.

Developing

Coach Thabo Senong decried the country's lack of junior leagues: "Other countries have these leagues, but we only start developing players from the age of 13."

He praised the SA Football Association (SAFA), however, for the work done in supporting Under-17, Under-20 and Under-

23 teams at provincial tournaments. While some have questioned Senong's credentials and fitness to lead Amajita at an international level, he believes he has paid his dues and was not thrown in the deep end.

Starting as a junior coach at Orlando Pirates, he led their development club Yebo Yes, which produced players such as Brighton Mhlomo, Michael Morton and William Twala.

Successfully

From there, he moved on to head Patrick Viera's South Africa-based Diambars Institute with Lebo Mothiba, who now plays successfully in France.

He then went to lead the Mamelodi Sundowns Academy in 2012. It was from there that Safa chose him to first be Shakes Mashaba's assistant at Bafana Bafana and then take on the dual role of Under-20 national coach and as Owen da Gama's Under-23 assistant in 2015.

Aside from continental tournaments and taking Sundowns to the Norway Cup, he went to the Olympic Games in Brazil last year. *Sport24*

DEFENCE PROVIDES SHARKS' DESERVING 22-10 WIN

CAPE TOWN - The Sharks exploited their scoring opportunities to run out deserving 22-10 winners over the hapless Stormers in the Super Rugby coastal derby at Growthpoint Kings Park, Durban, on Saturday evening.

The Sharks held a commanding 15-0 lead at the halftime break after scoring two unanswered tries. In the end, the Sharks outscored the visiting Stormers

3-1 in the try count thanks in the main to their stout defence in the face of mostly predictable attacking patterns.

The inclement weather made for greasy conditions at the kick-off and in the opening minutes, both teams showed great intent.

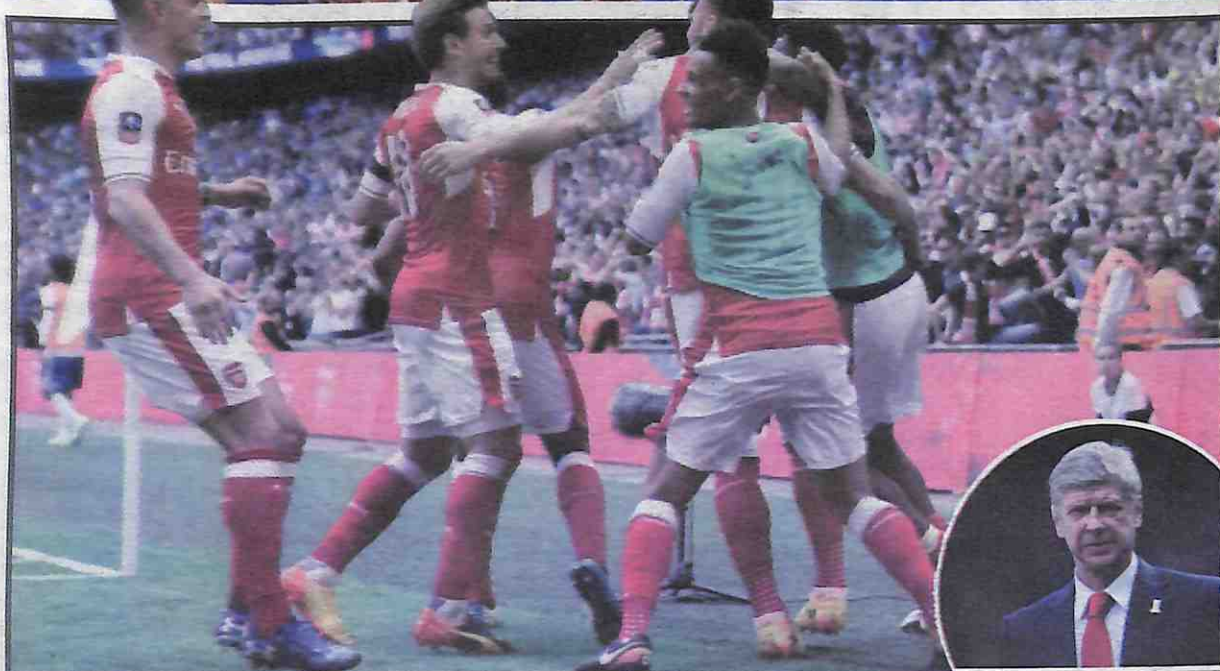
A 5th-minute scrum penalty against the Stormers gave the Sharks a chance to open the scoring in the game as fly-

half Garth April was on target with a penalty (3-0).

The Sharks' pack seemed to have the upper hand in the tight exchanges and were able to take the ball through the phases. After a number of pick-and-go drives upfield saw the Sharks' midfielder Johan Deysel crossed the whitewash for the opening try. April's conversion attempt went awry (8-0). *Africa News*



ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



FA CUP HERO RAMSEY CALLS FOR WENGER TO STAY

LONDON - Aaron Ramsey called on Arsene Wenger to extend his Arsenal reign after the Welsh midfielder fired his manager into the FA Cup record books.

Ramsey headed Arsenal's 79th minute winner as the Gunners clinched a thrilling 2-1 win over Premier League champions Chelsea in Saturday's final at Wembley.

Wenger has now won the FA Cup a record seven times, but uncertainty hangs over the 67-year-old head-

ing into the close-season.

Heavily criticised by Arsenal fans furious at the club's failure to qualify for the Champions League for the first time in 20 years, Wenger is yet to confirm if he will stay in charge next season.

Contract

Wenger's contract expires at the end of the campaign, but he remains popular with Arsenal's players and Ramsey made it clear he wants his boss to extend his 21-year reign.

Pinpointing Wenger's decision to switch to a three-man defence late in the season as the key to Arsenal's FA Cup glory, Ramsey said: "Of course I want him to stay at the club. He deserves this. 'We changed the formation and had a lot of success.

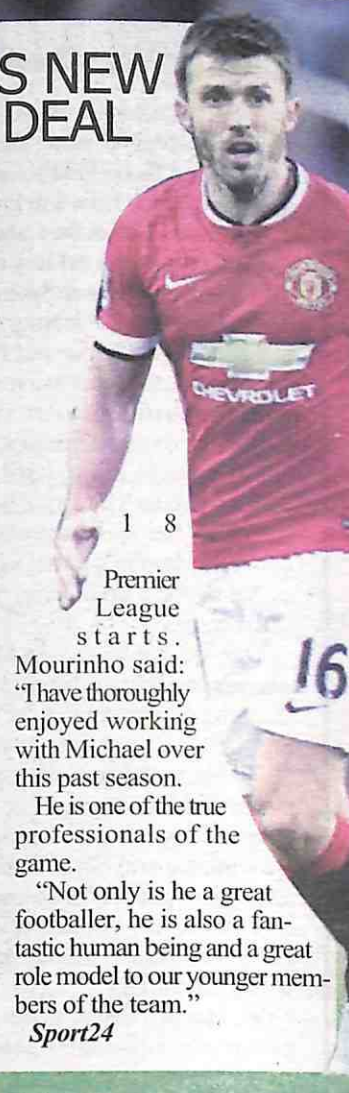
"Fair play to him, he changed the system. Hopefully, he'll be there next season." Arsenal has won the FA Cup three times in the last four seasons and Ramsey has now bagged the winner twice. *AFP*

CARRICK PENS NEW MAN UNITED DEAL

MANCHESTER - Veteran Manchester United midfielder Michael Carrick has agreed a one-year contract extension at Old Trafford.

Carrick's deal was due to expire this summer and the 35-year-old had been ready to retire, if Jose Mourinho decided against keeping him at the club. But a week ahead of his Man United testimonial, the club have confirmed that Carrick will be staying put for at least another 12 months. "I am delighted that my journey with this great club is going to continue," said Carrick. "My focus now is looking ahead to my testimonial match next Sunday.

It will be a very proud moment for me and my family, and is the perfect way to top what has already been a great season. "I am thrilled that the fans will also get to see our shiny new Europa League trophy on the day." Carrick has remained an important figure for United this season after making 38 appearances for Mourinho's men, including



Premier League starts.

Mourinho said: "I have thoroughly enjoyed working with Michael over this past season.

He is one of the true professionals of the game.

"Not only is he a great footballer, he is also a fantastic human being and a great role model to our younger members of the team."

Sport24

TIE UP QUICK £24M DEAL FOR KEANE - MOURINHO

MANCHESTER - Manchester United are to try to wrap up a quick deal for Burnley's Michael Keane, having seen rivals Manchester City make their first big signing and Jose Mourinho putting executive Vice-Chairman Ed Woodward under pressure to get his business done.

United are ready to offer £24million for defender Keane, of which they would keep £6 million because of the 25 per cent sell-on clause they negotiated with Burnley when they sold the player in 2014.

Manchester City completed their first major purchase of the summer last week by tying up a £43 million move for Monaco's Bernardo Silva and, speaking from the Monaco Grand Prix where he is watching as a fan, Mourinho urged his club to do the same.

"As I

promised after the final, I don't care about football for a month. You have to ask Ed Woodward about signings. He's known since March who I want.

"Now is for him to work because he will have holidays in August and in August I'll be working."

United are favourites to re-sign England star Keane, who is a boyhood United fan and was a member of their FA Youth Cup-winning side in 2011 alongside Paul Pogba and Jesse Lingard.

Liverpool were considering trying to exploit any unhappiness Keane felt at being sold by United three years ago but Jurgen Klopp's main target is Southampton defender Virgil van Dijk.

Complete

Keane could complete his move in the next fortnight because he has been left out of the England squad, having missed the end of the Premier League season with a calf injury.

United's most expensive acquisition would be £80 million France international and prime Mourinho target Antoine Griezmann but he is sending mixed messages from Atletico Madrid, saying there is a 6/10 chance of him joining United and then that he has unfinished business in Spain.

Torino striker Andrea Belotti could be an alternative target and Mourinho also wants a holding midfielder and a left-back. *Daily Mail*

Ibrahimovic will stay in Europe - agent

MANCHESTER - Zlatan Ibrahimovic will stay in Europe when he returns to action next season, despite rumours of a move to the United States.

Ibrahimovic faces missing the remainder of 2017 after injuring his cruciate ligaments last month, with the Swedish striker's situation unclear at Manchester United.

United had been expected to trigger an option to extend Ibrahimovic's contract at Old Trafford, yet that was before the 35-year-old sustained a long-term injury. Ibrahimovic's agent, Mino Raiola, insists that the former Juventus and Inter Milan striker will continue playing, although he is unsure whether that will be at United or not.

Moving

But if Ibrahimovic does depart, he will join another European club, rather than moving to the MLS.

"I do not know if he will stay at Manchester United, many clubs want him," Raiola told Sky Sports.

"Ibrahimovic will certainly play for another season or probably two. We will talk about his future with United. "He has many offers, certainly he will stay in Europe."

Sport24

Courtois blames ref for Cup defeat

LONDON - Chelsea goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois blamed a lack of concentration and a refereeing decision for the FA Cup final defeat that reminded him of a familiar anti-climax to the season when he was with former club Atletico Madrid.

A 2-1 defeat by London rivals Arsenal on Saturday cost Chelsea the second Premier League and FA Cup double in the club's history.

"It's not a good feeling," the Belgian international told Chelsea's official website. "I had the same thing in Spain when I won the league and then lost the Champions League.

That was in 2014 when Atletico won their first La Liga title since 1996 but lost to city rivals Real Madrid 4-1 in the European final.

"The first goal should never have been allowed," he said of Alexis Sanchez's controversial opener for Arsenal at Wembley.

"It was clearly a hand ball. His hands were not in a natural position.

"And then (Aaron) Ramsey was offside because he was interfering in play.

"If Ramsey was not in an offside position, I could go out and touch the ball but I had to stop because he was there," Courtois, admitted, however, that it was a bad lapse to allow Arsenal

a second goal, by Ramsey, immediately after Diego Costa's equaliser.

"We scored the goal. We needed to hold on but we were maybe not paying attention. It was a very hard moment after equalising. "As a team we were not at our best."

Neither Chelsea, as champions, nor Arsenal, as Cup winners, will hold the traditional celebratory parade through the streets because of security concerns after 22 people were killed in the Manchester bombing last week. Arsenal had also cancelled a live screening of the game at their Emirates Stadium.

Reuters

BLAME GAME: Chelsea goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois.





THE
Emirates
FA CUP

ARSENAL CROWNED FA CUP CHAMPS 2017



JUBILATION: Arsene Wenger looks emotional as he hugs Hector Bellerin during their FA Cup finals match against Chelsea where they edged the latter 2-1.



THE GUNNERS: Hector Bellerin lifting the trophy after Arsenal's official crowning as FA Champions.



WE DERSEVED IT: Olivier Giroud and Francis Coquelin parading with the trophy.



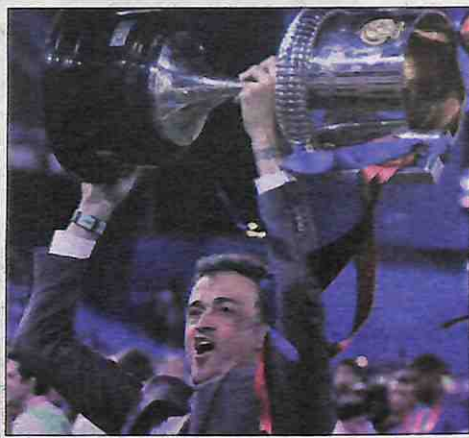
BARCELONA 3-1 ALAVES



CHAMPS: Barcelona's players and staff with their newly earned Copa del Rey after winning the game in Madrid. barcelona won 3-1.



GOALEE: Lionel Messi opened the scoring on the half-hour mark with a magnificent shot from the edge of the box.



SWEET VICTORY: The victory was Luis Enrique's final match in charge of Barcelona before he steps down from his role with the club.



ITS A GOAL: Barcelona celebrates after scoring a goal.



LEAD: Neymar controversially scored from an offside position to restore Barcelona's lead before half-time.



CHAMPS: The Gunners in a frenzy after their crowning.

LONLA INVESTMENTS

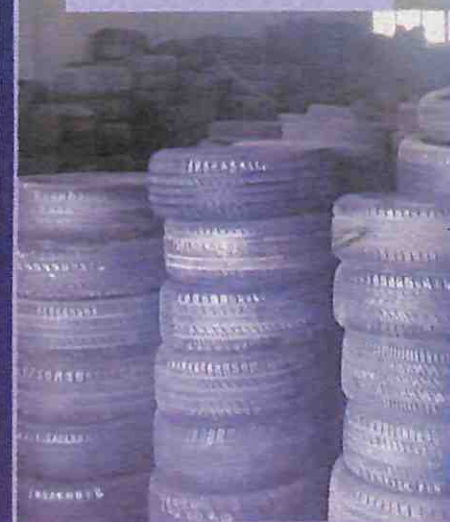
Tyres & Rims

NEW STOCK ARRIVED
COMBO

RIMS FROM £2,800



TYRES FROM £250



Manzini: Opposite Satellite
Bus Rank Below Hub,
Cell: 7639 8839 / 2505 8455

LARSEN LAUDS PLAYERS AFTER PIRATES WIN

JOHANNESBURG - Clinton Larsen has lauded his Lamontville Golden Arrows players after their stunning last-gasp 2-1 win over Orlando Pirates in the ABSA Premiership this past Saturday earned the Durban club a top-eight finish.

"I am so proud of our players' never-say-die attitude, as it's for that reason that we have qualified for the top-eight," said the Arrows coach of the club's website yesterday.

"We started brightly but conceded to a Gabuza header after 20 minutes. We never really settled in the first half, going into the break a goal down, but came out much stronger in the second half. "We deservedly equalised through Lamola

and kept Pirates under constant pressure until finding the winner through Mutizwa in injury time.

"Our players deserve all the credit for what they have just achieved as they have fought to honour our club's colours," he added.

Arrows' win pushed both Platinum Stars and Ajax Cape Town out of top eight contention. It also meant Pirates finished 11th in their worst finish since the Premier Soccer League started in 1996. *Mzansi Football*

LAUDS: Clinton Larsen has lauded his Lamontville Golden Arrows players.



West Ham submit bid for £20m-Rated Manchester city striker Iheanacho

LONDON - West Ham have made a bid for Manchester City's £20million-Rated striker Caleb Iheanacho.

The 20-year-old has left Nigeria's training camp in Paris and took a return flight to Manchester on Saturday evening as he looks to sort out his future.

Iheanacho also has interest from Leicester, Everton, Southampton and West Bromwich Albion plus clubs in the Bundesliga. City want to insert a buy-back option into any transfer.

After a season where many expected Iheanacho to kick on after an impressive breakthrough under ex-manager Manuel Pellegrini the striker has found playing time hard to come by.

Pep Guardiola entrusted Iheanacho with just five league starts with the youngster finding himself behind Sergio Aguero and mid-season arrival Gabriel Jesus in the pecking order.

Despite that limited opportunity Iheanacho still managed seven goals and three assists, with those strikes coming at an average rate of one every 128 minutes. With value for money goalscorers a commodity always cherished by Premier League clubs it is hardly a surprise such a promising forward is in such high demand.

However, Iheanacho recently dismissed any talk of an impending Etihad exit, telling reporters: "I'm not very aware of that. I just keep working with the team and I'm still at Manchester City so I'll meet up with the boys and kick off the season with Manchester City. I'm happy to stay at Manchester City and keep fighting to help them achieve what they want to achieve. Manchester City is a big team and we need to go far as a squad, so we need everybody." *Daily mail*



BID: Striker Caleb Iheanacho.

Stokes urges England to take SA form into Champions Trophy

SOUTHAMPTON - England all-rounder Ben Stokes urged the tournament hosts to maintain their momentum heading into the Champions Trophy after a dramatic series victory over South Africa at Southampton on Saturday.

Man-of-the-match Stokes made a superb century before England sealed a stunning last-ball win in the second one-day international to go 2-0 up with just one to play ahead of Monday's finale at Lord's.

The all-rounder, who struck 11 fours and three sixes in 79 balls as he equalled his highest ODI score of 101, told Sky Sports: "It's always nice hitting the ball well and knowing you've got a bit of form behind you."

Jos Buttler chipped in with a dashing 65 not out and Stokes added: "We've seen Jos hitting the ball nicely, which is great for us going forward."

"Hopefully we can just continue going forward and continue this form into the Champions Trophy."

Stokes, however, bowled just the three overs on Saturday having suffered a knee injury in England's 72-run win in the first ODI at Headingley last Wednesday.

"It's just the bowling that's getting affected by my knee," said Stokes.

"Batting, fielding and running around isn't an issue."

South Africa, chasing 331 to win after England made 330 for six, saw opener Quinton de Kock make a stylish 98.

Further half-centuries from skipper AB de Villiers (52) and David Miller (71 not out), plus some powerful hit-

ting from Chris Morris, took the Proteas to the brink of victory.

They needed seven off the last over but were denied by England fast bowler Mark Wood, with South Africa finishing on 328 for five.

England captain Eoin Morgan said the fact his side had prevailed in a close finish augured well for their Champions Trophy chances.

"I think the tournament is bound to be pretty tight," said Morgan of an event featuring the world's top eight ODI sides. *AFP*

Hernandez passes Borgetti as Mexico's all-time leading scorer

MEXICO - Javier Hernandez passed Jared Borgetti as Mexico's all-time leading scorer when his goal in their 2-1 defeat by Croatia took his tally to 47.

The Bayer Leverkusen striker rose to head home a free-kick at the far post with four minutes left in the match.

Duje Cop and Fran Tudor had put Croatia 2-0 by half time.

Hernandez, better known as

'Chicharito', got the goal after coming on as a substitute in the 66th minute of the friendly match played at Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

Finishers

"I think Javier is one of the best finishers in the world," Mexico manager Juan Carlos Osorio said after the fixture.

The game was a warm-up for next month's Confederations Cup in Russia.

Daily Mail

Fabio Borini set for talks

ITALY - Italian sides AC Milan and Lazio have expressed interest in signing Sunderland striker Fabio Borini.

Lazio want Borini as a replacement for Keita Balde who is expected to join Juventus.

Talks over £6million rated Borini are expected to take place next week.

The 26-year-old joined Sunderland from Liverpool in 2015 for £8m

but endured a frustrating last campaign making just 26 appearances, predominantly from the bench, and scoring two goals as Sunderland were relegated.

Linked

Borini has also been linked with a reunion with former Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers at Celtic.

Sunderland are looking to offload players after being relegated to the Championship. *Daily Mail*

'Pure perfection Ronaldo was shaped at Man Utd, not Real Madrid'

MADRID - The Portuguese star has won three Ballons d'Or during his time in the Spanish capital, but Michael Owen says his greatness originated in Manchester

Cristiano Ronaldo has developed into the "perfect" player at Real Madrid, Michael Owen says, but he has Manchester United to thank for it instead of the Spanish side.

The Portugal international has claimed four Ballons d'Or in his career, three of which have come during his time at Madrid.

After winning his second Liga title since arriving in 2009, he can lift his third Champions League crown with the club and fourth overall, having won it with United, when they take on Juventus in next week's final.

The 32-year-old is widely regarded as one of the best players the game has ever seen,

the scale in how he was performing at United," Owen said. "So I don't think Real Madrid can take the credit at all because United and Sir Alex Ferguson groomed him in that way and he continued to progress at Real."

"Ronaldo had a couple of out-of-this-world seasons at United at the end and has not stopped improving. He is a one-off, he really is. Ronaldo and Messi have taken football to a new level for so long as well, consistently being top of the tree."

"People don't realise that it's so hard to become what Cristiano has become because if you painted the perfect picture of a football player it's just Ronaldo. He's the perfect height, he's not too tall, a perfect height and shape. He's quick, two-footed, brilliant in the air,

and ex-Madrid and United forward Owen feels Sir Alex Ferguson had a big role in his development during their six years together at Old Trafford.

"He was absolutely off

those attributes into a computer you couldn't come up with a more perfect player than Ronaldo. He's got the lot. And added to that what he's got between his ears as well in terms of the confidence, the arrogance and self-belief to be the best, it's hard to see anyone coming close to him in the future."

Owen also pointed out the Euro 2016 winner's commendable work rate and believes his arrogance has helped him become a star.

"Don't dismiss the way he lives his life either and the dedication he has to becoming better every day. Not everyone is like that. So there are lots of different elements to him being the best and he is certainly that."

Goal

SHAPED: Real Madrid Ronaldo.



CELEBRATION: Javier Hernandez celebrates scoring in Mexico's 2-1 defeat by Croatia in LA this past Saturday.



HAMILTON LOSES GROUND IN TITLE RACE AS SEBASTIAN VETTEL WINS

MONACO - Sebastian Vettel ended Ferrari's 16-year wait for a Monaco Grand Prix victory and extended his championship lead in the process with a commanding drive.

Michael Schumacher's victory in 2001 was the Scuderia's last here, but the German took his second win in the principality after some blistering laps midway through the race. They allowed him to jump pole-sitter and team-mate Kimi Raikkonen at the pit-stops.

The Finn finished second with Red Bull's Daniel Ricciardo completing the podium.

Vettel's third win of the season moves him 25 points clear of Lewis Hamilton in this season's title race, as the Briton recovered from 13th on the grid to finish a creditable seventh.

"If anyone overtakes here I'll give

you a tenner," said Jenson Button on the pre-race drivers' parade.

How right the returning 37-year-old was. Wheel-to-wheel action was scarce around the famously tight street circuit, emphasising the importance of the 200-metre run from pole position to turn one in Monaco.

Pole

Raikkonen made the most of his first pole since the 2008 French Grand Prix, easily holding off Vettel into Sainte-Devote to keep his lead.

In fact, so tame were the opening few seconds that the top seven all retained their positions.

Starting 13th - also for the first time since that 2008 race in France - Hamilton was one of the few to make up places, getting up the inside of Stoffel Vandoorne off the line.

It was sweet revenge for the Briton,

MONACO GRAND PRIX RESULTS AND STANDINGS

- 1 Sebastian Vettel (Ger) Ferrari 1hr 44mins 44.340secs
- 2 Kimi Raikkonen (Fin) Ferrari 1:44:47.485
- 3 Daniel Ricciardo (Aus) Red Bull 1:44:48.085
- 4 Valtteri Bottas (Fin) Mercedes 1:44:49.857
- 5 Max Verstappen (Hol) Red Bull 1:44:50.539
- 6 Carlos Sainz (Spa) Toro Rosso 1:44:56.378
- 7 Lewis Hamilton (Gbr) Mercedes 1:45:00.141
- 8 Romain Grosjean (Fra) Haas 1:45:02.490
- 9 Felipe Massa (Bra) Williams 1:45:03.785
- 10 Kevin Magnussen (Den) Haas 1:45:05.783
- 11 Jolyon Palmer (Gbr) Renault 1:45:07.077
- 12 Esteban Ocon (Fra) Force India 1:45:08.065
- 13 Sergio Perez (Mex) Force India 1:45:23.429
- 14 Lance Stroll (Can) Williams at 7 Laps
- 15 Daniil Kvyat (Rus) Toro Rosso at 7 Laps

as it was the McLaren driver's crash on Saturday which ultimately scuppered Hamilton's qualifying session. *DailyMail*

Costa says he will only go to Atletico

LONDON - Chelsea striker Diego Costa has no interest in a lucrative move to a Chinese club because it would jeopardise his chances of playing in next year's World Cup.

Recent speculation has linked him with Chinese Super League club Tianjin Quanjian.

After losing the FA Cup final to Arsenal, despite scoring his team's goal, he told Spanish media that former club Atletico Madrid were the only team he would leave for.

"If the club want to sell me, there's one club I'd move to," he was quoted as saying, agreeing that it was Atletico, who he left three years ago to join Chelsea.

"I will remain (at Chelsea) if there is intention from the club and the coach for me to stay, but if they want to sell me to bring in another striker, I will go."

It will not be to China, he insisted.

"People talk too much, people talk about China but there's a World Cup coming up and if I go to China I won't have the chance of going to it."

Costa, Chelsea's top scorer as they won the Premier League this season, played two games for Brazil in 2013 but switched to Spain a year later after being granted Spanish citizenship and represented them at the 2014 World Cup. © *Reuters*

Kjell Jonevret left fuming after final day loss

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates coach Kjell Jonevret was left fuming after his side's loss to Golden Arrows in their final league game of the season this past Saturday afternoon.

The narrow 2-1 loss thanks to a late Knox Mutizwa strike condemned the Buccaneers to an 11th-place finish, the first time the Soweto giants have not made the top eight since 1987.

A furious Jonevret labelled his players' display as "stupid", saying he couldn't understand why they defended the way they did.

"What do you think? Hey? I'm both angry and disappointed. In

the first half we had good control of the game," Jonevret fumed after the game.

"It was pretty windy, but we played with the wind against us and we did that okay, even if played a few passes ... but then we played the ball back to the keeper many times. Stupid."

"You've to play simply when the weather is like that and we said at half-time, 'Okay, quicken this up now, play simple, put the ball up there - we have players around Thamsanqa Gabuza and Tendai Ndoro, try and get the ball upfront and put some pressure on them'." *KickOff*

World No 1 Kerber knocked out of French Open

PARIS - Germany's Angelique Kerber became the first top seed in French Open history to lose in the opening round when she was knocked out by Russia's Ekaterina Makarova 6-2 6-2 yesterday.

Before this year, the earliest exits suffered by a top seed were in the second round - Justine Henin in 2004 and Serena Williams in 2014.

Makarova goes on to face either Lesia Tsurenko or Kateryna Kozlova, both of the Ukraine.

"It's unbelievable to win and to do it on my first appearance on Philippe Chatrier court as a singles player after nine years of coming to Paris," said Makarova, a former semi-finalist at the Australian and US Opens. "At the end of the match, it was really tough as I knew she wouldn't give it to me - I had to win it."

It was the second successive first round exit at Roland Garros for World Number 1 Kerber, the reigning US Open champion. Last year, she fell to unseeded Kiki Bertens of the Netherlands. It also continued a miserable spell for the German 29-year-old on clay this year. She lost her opener in Stuttgart where she was the defending champion,

suffered a thigh injury in the third round in Madrid and lost first time out in Rome.

Yesterday, she fell a double break down to trail 5-1 to her Russian opponent, who she was facing for the 12th time. Makarova, now ranked 40 after reaching a career high of eight, was a double break ahead again for 3-0 in the second set.

Four successive breaks of serve followed before Makarova saved seven break points in the crucial eighth game to cause the upset.

AFP



Cristiano Ronaldo's mother rubbishes pregnancy rumours

MADRID - Cristiano Ronaldo's mother Dolores has shut down talk that the Real Madrid forward's girlfriend is pregnant.

The 32-year-old caused many to jump to conclusions when he posted a romantic photo of himself and Georgina Rodriguez on Instagram

earlier this week.

Ronaldo had his hand on Rodriguez's belly and captioned the image with a heart emoji but Dolores Santos insists there was no subliminal meaning.

"It's just nonsense," she said. "It's just a hand on the belly, and as far as I know, Cristiano will not be a father again."

Ronaldo, meanwhile, will be more focused on next week's Champions League final against

Juventus at the Principality Stadium.

Los Blancos are bidding to complete a famous Double, an achievement which could push Ronaldo towards his fifth Ballon d'Or.

The Portuguese and his team have already won La Liga for the first time in five years, sealing the title with a 2-0 win away to Malaga on the final day.

Daily Mail

Hunt pays homage to Sheppard

JOHANNESBURG - Bidvest Wits Manager Gavin Hunt reserved praise for departing midfielder Dillon Sheppard, following their maiden title winning campaign.

Despite being a peripheral figure this season, the 38-year-old was lauded by Hunt as a model professional as he bowed out for the Students with a late substitute appearance, in the 1-0 defeat against Kaizer Chiefs this past Saturday.

It remains unclear if the former Bafana winger will be retiring from professional football or assuming a permanent role as a development coach with the Bid Boys U17 side.



"You know the send off for Sheppard today... He started with me as a 17-year-old and leaves. I don't know... 40 years? I wish him well. He has been a great asset to this game. What a professional he has been in my time," he told reporters. *TeamTalk*

SIHLANGU VS LESOTHO FRIENDLY MATCH



SEMNİKATI: Sihlangu players ready for the clash.



VISITORS: Lesotho players before the match against Sihlangu yesterday.



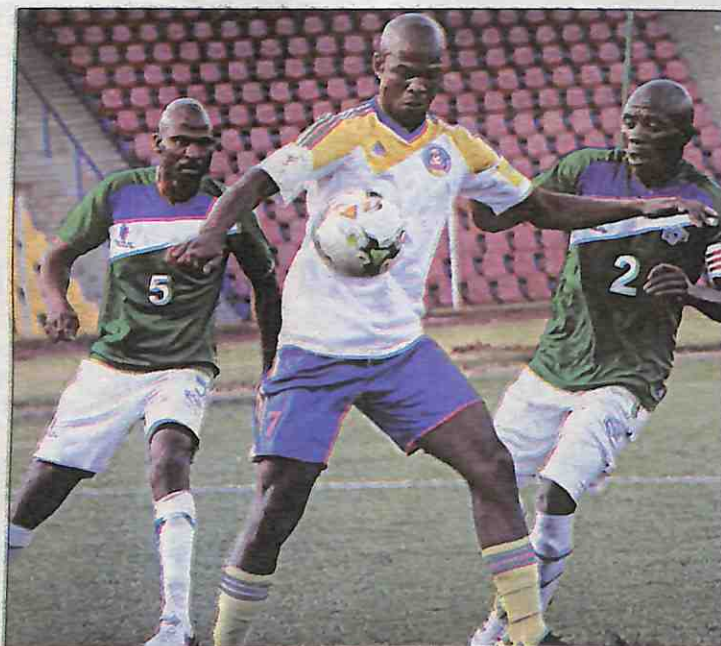
CHALLENGE: Lesotho's Thabiso Brown clearing the ball away from Sihlangu captain Tony 'TT' Tsabedze during their international friendly match at Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday. Lesotho won 1-0. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



WHICH WAY: Koetle Tshonnelo challenged by Mxolisi Lukhele.



CONCERNED: Lesotho national team coach Moses Molithe.



TIGHT MARKING: Simanga Shongwe sandwiched by Poloko Mohale and Mafa Moremoholo.



NO WHERE TO GO: Sanele Mkheweli attempts to go past Thabiso Brown.



GOAL: Lesotho players celebrating their goal.



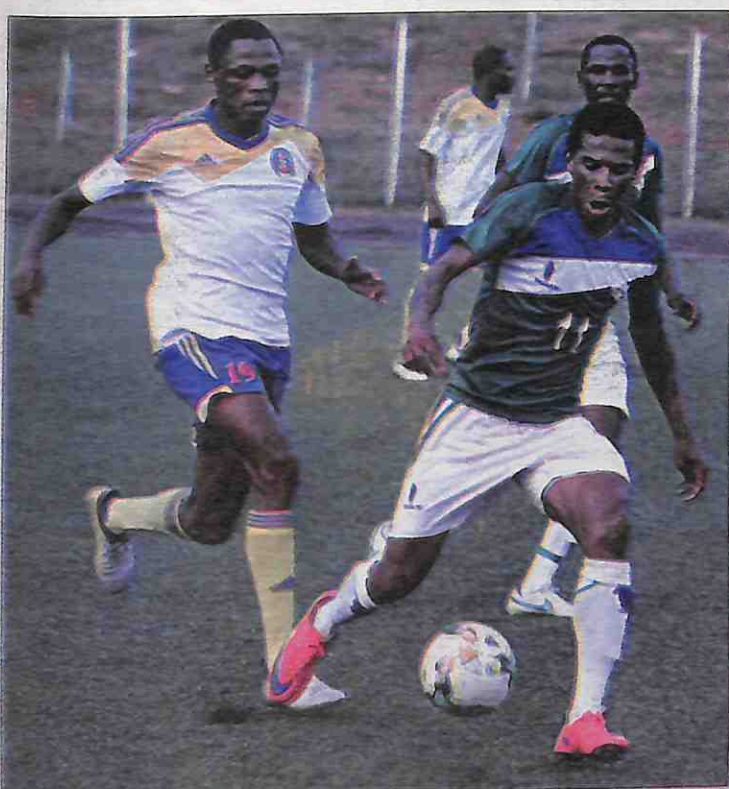
BRIEFING: Lesotho coach Moses Molithe, captain Mafa Moremoholo, Sihlangu captain Tony Tsabedze and head coach Pieter De Jongh during a press conference.



(L) CLEAR: Koetle Tshonnelo winning the ball from Pupu.

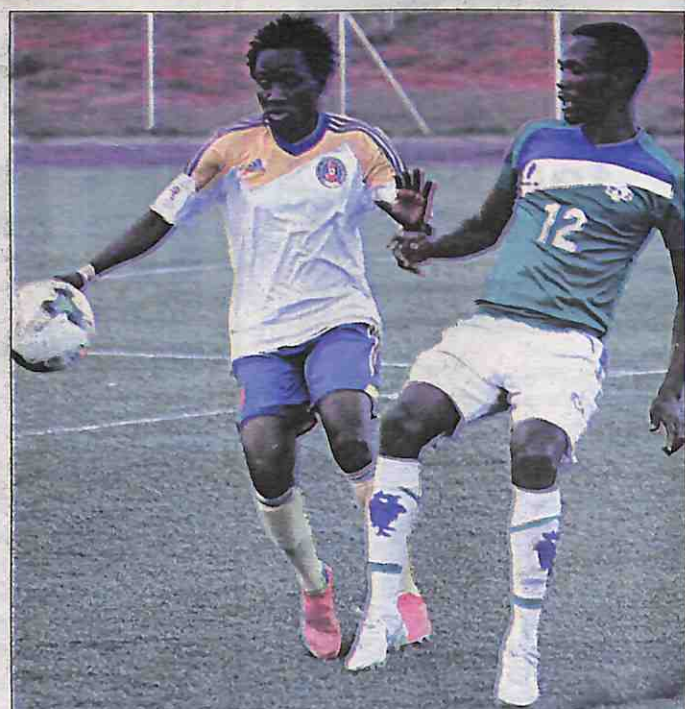


CLOSE THAT SPACE: Sihlangu head coach Pieter De Jongh issuing instructions to his charges.



(L) ATTEMPT: Sandile Hlatshwako chasing Koetle Tshonnelo.

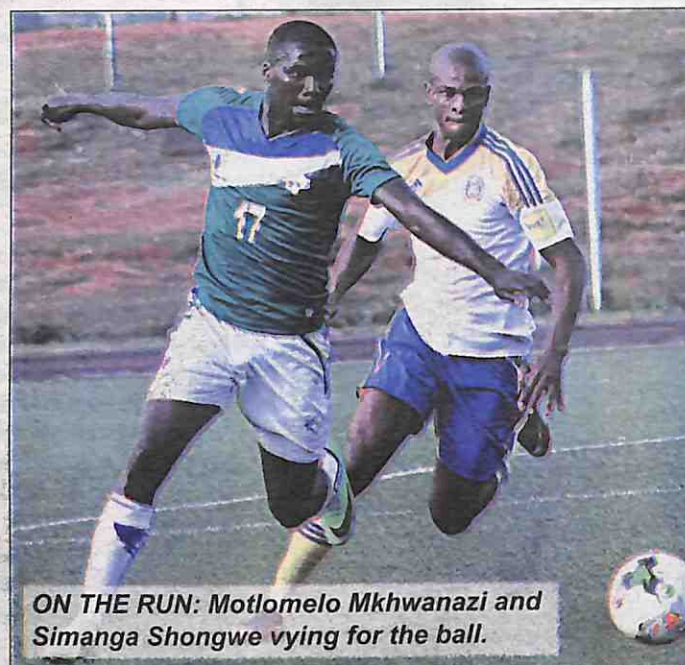
(R) The players greet each other before the game.



WHOSE BALL: Banele 'Pupu' Sikhondze winning the ball from Thabiso Mahapi.



DANGER ZONE: Njabulo Ndlovu clearing the ball away from Litshepe Marabe.



ON THE RUN: Motlomelo Mkhwanazi and Simanga Shongwe vying for the ball.

football talk

all your latest world football news

Stoke are preparing a £45m package to sign striker Wayne Rooney, 31, from Manchester United.
(*Sunday People*)

West Ham are prepared to meet the £140 000-per-week wage demands of Everton's England midfielder Ross Barkley, 23.
(*Star Sunday*)

With speculation continuing over their pursuit of 26-year-old Atletico Madrid forward Antoine Griezmann, United could also move for another striker - Torino's Andrea Belotti, 23.

(*IBT, via Manchester Evening News*)

Chelsea and Arsenal are also interested in Italy international Belotti, who could cost £85m.

(*Sun on Sunday*)

Manchester City are planning to open talks with manager Pep Guardiola over a long-term deal beyond the three-year contract he signed on his arrival last summer.

(*Sunday Mirror*)

Chelsea, Arsenal and Tottenham are interested in signing Celtic striker Moussa Dembele, 20, but face competition from AC Milan.

(*Sunday Express*)

Injured out-of-contract Manchester United striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic, 35, has several offers from other clubs and will definitely stay in Europe, according to his agent.

(*Sky Sports*)

Tottenham and Everton both want Hull City defender Harry Maguire, 24.

(*Sunday People*)

Valencia have given up on keeping Manchester City defender Eliaquim Mangala, 26, with City not willing to accept an offer of below the £15.7m option in his loan contract.

(*Marca*)

Liverpool are ready to challenge Manchester clubs City and United for the signature of Monaco left-back Benjamin Mendy, 22.

(*RMC Sport, via Liverpool Echo*)

Manchester United face competition from Roma for Benfica and Sweden central defender Victor Lindelof, 22, who is valued at £35m.

(*Sunday Mirror*)



LEOPARD EDGE PIRATES IN PLS RESERVE LEAGUE

Stories by Sibusiso Dlamini

Moneni Pirates (0)0
Royal Leopard (0)1

SOCCKER - POLICE outfit Royal Leopard managed to narrowly edge Moneni Pirates 1 - 0 in their PLS Reserve League encounter played at the Manzini Club Sports Ground yesterday.

Linda Mbuli's 76th minute header was all the Mancoba Mtseftwa-led charges needed to brush aside a sloppy Moneni Pirates.

The match was a physical affair from the onset as both teams came hard at each other.

The teams resorted to a cautious approach as none was willing to commit errors, hence the limited clear-cut chances.

The best chance of the game came a minute before the recess when Celani 'Hlokolozo' Mabila broke free from the Leopard defense

but failed to make it count as he fired his shot over the bar.

The match went to the break with both sides tied to a goalless draw.

The second half started on a high as both sides seemed to come out of their shells.

Tempo

They upped the tempo in search of the elusive opener.

When the clock hit the hour mark,

Leopard got a penalty after Babele Nzima's reckless tackle on Tony Dlamini.

Effort

The forward steeped up to take it but his tame effort was comfortably saved by Mlungisi Msibi, who was manning the poles for the 'Sea Robbers'.

The also failed to make use of the rebound as the keeper flicked

it over the bar for a fruitless corner kick.

Leopard continued to push for the opening goal as they ran riot over the Moneni Buccaneers.

Their efforts finally paid off in the 76th minute when Linda Mbuli rose above everyone to head home the winner from a telling cross.

Leopard then protected their lead until the finals whistle.



WE SHOULD STOP UNDERESTIMATING OPPONENTS - LEOPARD

SOCCKER - ROYAL Leopard development head coach Mancoba Mtseftwa says his side needs to stop underestimating opposition teams if they are to win the league.

The mentor said this during a post-match interview after his side's narrow 1 - 0 win over Moneni Pirates yesterday.

"I am not at all pleased with the performance today. I know the

boys can do better and I expect them to do exactly that. I think I have a challenge because ever since we won the SwaziBank Cup, I have been noticing we have a tendency of undermining opposition team which is wrong. This nearly cost us the game today because we then get frustrated by the fact that we were not getting goals."

He said they even committed

silly mistakes because of the pressure. The coach was, however, optimistic of his team's chances of winning the league.

Chance

"I think the league title is still wide open. We still have a chance, and it's only a matter of committing ourselves and working as a collective. We will take each game as it comes and see how it pens out at the end of the league," he

said. Meanwhile, his Moneni Pirates counterpart wasn't at all pleased with his charges performance.

He said fatigue took its toll on his thin squad.

"I am not happy with the performance from the boys today. I know for a fact they can do better and this is not acceptable. I think fatigue is also taking its toll on the boys now because we have a very thin squad," he said.

Local 'karatekas' shine in Ulundi tourney

By Sibusiso Masilela

KARATE - TOP local karate artists Allie Mdluli and Cebile Mdluli continued to shine beyond the borders after winning the Ulundi competition held over the weekend in South Africa.

The duo won the open weight category in the male and female section, outclassing their South African counterparts.

Other local athletes, who performed well in the competition, include Nolulu Magongo and Namile Mthupha, who both finished third in the womens open and the under 65kg section respectively.

Male players Wandile Motsa and Melusi Simelane also displayed good performances as they finished on position four in the open weight and under 68 kg sections, respectively.

Sosai Kyokushin karate Association of Swaziland Public Relations Officer (PRO) Mzwandile Ngwenya con-

firmed the results yesterday. He congratulated the locals for their great performances.

"We are happy with the performance of the national team in South Africa and this shows we are improving as a country. We would like to congratulate and commend our artists for working hard in the competition."

He urged them to continue working hard in other upcoming international tournaments.

Results

- Allie Mdluli - Champion of open weight
- Cebile Mthembu - Champion in the women open weight
- Nolulu Magongo - Position three in women open weight
- Nomile Mthupha - Position three in women under 65kg
- Wandile Motsa - Position four in males open weight
- Melusi Simelane - Position four in males under 60kg

RSSC, ZAKHELE LADIES WIN SA INTER-RELATIONS GAMES

By Sibusiso Masilela

VOLLEYBALL - LOCAL volleyball sides RSSC males and Zakhele Ladies made the country proud after winning the Inter-relations Games played in South Africa over the weekend.

Sugar belt side RSSC managed to beat Flamingoes from Mozambique 2-0 to clinch the crown on the males' category.

They were joined by Zakhele Ladies, who managed to beat fellow Swazis Chilli Babes 2-0 in the female finals of the annual international competition held at the Elukwatini Stadium.

Swaziland National Volleyball Association Vice Secretary Eric Zwane congratulated the two teams for their achievements.

"We are proud and happy by the performances of the local

teams in the tournament. Their performances proved to all that the standard of the sport in the country has improved in the country," He said they would continue working hard in preparation for other tournaments.

Zwane also thanked the organisers of the tournament for inviting them. "We would like to thank the Albert Luthuli Municipality of Elukwatini for inviting us to the competition. We believe such co-operation can help improve the sport in the region especially during the upcoming Zone 6 World Cup Qualifiers."

Results

- RSSC males 2-0 Flamingoes (Mozambique)
- Ladies Zakhele 2-0 Chilli Babes

WE HAD A BAD DAY IN OFFICE – DE JONGH

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCKER – SIHLANGU head coach Peter De Jongh says his charges had a bad day in office following their loss to Lesotho.

Sihlangu lost 0-1 during a friendly match played at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

The coach said they failed to come to the party in this match.

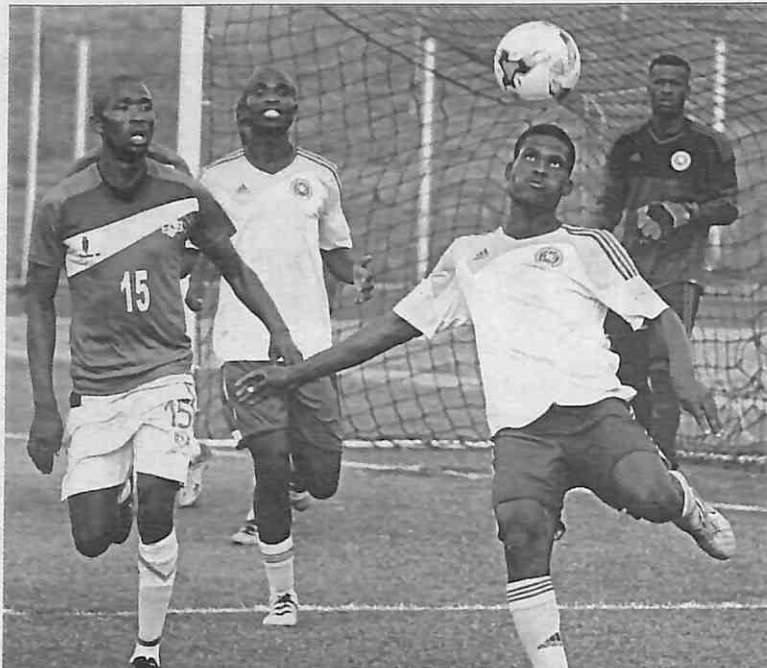
"We had a bad day today as we didn't play well compared to the last Friday match against the same team. We made mistakes at the back and failed to regroup after conceding the goal. We tried to come back in the second half but we could not get the equalising goal."

De Jongh said they were, however, on the right track.

"We are a good and talented team and I believe we will do well in our next match against Niger which is our major priority. This is one match we have to win and set the tone," he said.

The coach further said Lesotho gave them a good practise during the two friendly matches.

"Lesotho has given us good practise as they are an organised team. To us this is good practise ahead of our trip to Niger. We just have to continue working hard going forward," he said.



DANGER ZONE: Sihlangu's Njabulo Ndlovu clearing the ball away from Lesotho's Litshepe Marabe.

Meanwhile, his Basotho counterpart Moses Molithe commended his players for the hard-fought win.

"This was a game of two halves as we dominated the first stanza only for Swaziland to come back hard at us in the second half. We wanted to cut their supply in the midfield which is something that worked well for us.

Swaziland have given us a clear picture of what to expect in our AFCON qualifier against Tanzania next month," he said.

A Motebang Sena first half strike helped Likuena Likuena avenge the last Friday defeat at the hands of the nation's pride in the first match played at the Mavuso Sports Centre.

'SIKHALI' TOO GOOD FOR SA CELTICS - SUPPORTERS

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCKER – LOCAL supporters have rubbished South African outfit Bloemfontein Celtic's revived interest in Mbabane Swallows striker Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa.

The supporters stated in social media that the striker was too good for the South African ABSA Premiership outfit.

This follows reports that the team has revisited their interest in the 25-year-old striker following his impressive showing during Mbabane Swallows' CAF Confederation Cup group stage clash against Platinum Stars.

The striker netted four goals against the South African team in a game that ended with a 4-2 score line in favour of the 'Beautiful Birds'.

The supporters stated that the MTN Premier League top goal scorer deserved to play for bigger teams in the likes of Soweto giants Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates.

One of the supporters said it was funny how Celtics now wanted to

sign the player yet they let him go when they had the chance.

"Celtics should leave 'Sikhali' alone. They had a chance to sign him but instead they let him go. He is a very good player and is too good for Celtics. My wish is to see him playing for bigger teams," he said.

Invested

Another supporter stated that Mbabane Swallows had invested a lot in the striker and that in the event he leaves the team it should be to a bigger team.

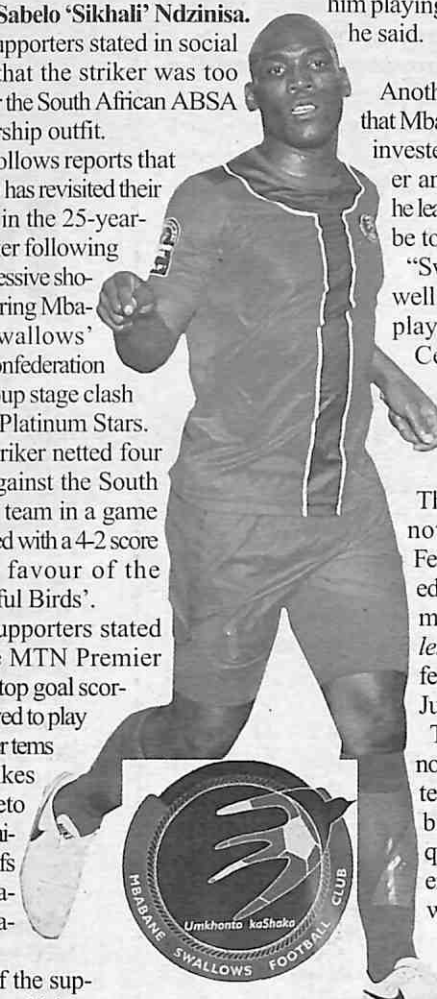
"Swallows have done well as a team and their players are very good.

Celtic is not a good enough team for the player, he deserves better," he said.

Deal

The striker alongside now AS Vita player Felix Badenhorst attended a two-week assessment with 'Phunyaselele' as the team is affectionately known in July last year.

They, however, could not clinch a deal as the team's CEO Khumbulani Konco was quoted saying the players were good but not what they were looking for in their striking force.



TO GOOD: Birds striker 'Sikhali'.

Imbumbwe stun Kupheleni

By Sabelo Majola

Kupheleni... (1)1
Imbumbwe..... (0)2

SOUTHERN HHOOHO FULL RESULTS:

Emajukujuku	2	Arsenal	0
Early Sunset	1	Ngwenya	0
Kupheleni	1	Imbumbwe	2

NORTHERN HHOOHO RESULTS:

Liverpool	2	K Celtics	0
Kappa Kappa	2	Chelsea	3
Swallows	0	Khanjana	0

SOCCKER – TWO late goals saved the day for Mandla Mahewu sponsored league outfit Imbumbwe, who claimed a 2-1 victory over Kupheleni in the Southern Hhohho Super League play-offs yesterday.

The games were played at Prince of Wales Ground. Six teams were fighting for three slots in the third tier and the battle for promotion saw three teams winning on the day.

The first game saw Emajukujuku beat Mdzimba Arsenal 2-0. This entertaining encounter had the fans cheering throughout as both teams came to the party. Early Sunset of Bakhanyisele and Menzi Dlamini Maphalaleni League beat Ngwenya United 1-0 to bag all three points. Ngwenya United plies its trade in the Futis Nkhaba Regional League.

The last game was the most stimulating as the two sides had a go at each other like two bulls in one kraal. They dished out top shelf football, much to the excitement of over 200 spectators.

Kupheleni, which is under the Pots Construction Sigangeni League took the lead in the first half and led for a prolonged period until the last quarter of the game where Mandla Mahewu find the equaliser before taking the lead two minutes from time following a superb transition from the enduring side.

The teams will all play five games and the top three will be promoted to the Super League.

TIGHT MARKING:
Kupheleni FC and Imbumbwe in action at Prince of Wales yesterday during the Southern Hhohho Super league playoffs. Imbumbwe won the game 2-1. (Pic: Sabelo Majola)



SWAZILAND SCOOPS RASA 'COUNTRY OF THE YEAR' AWARD

By Qondile Ntiwane

SPORTS – THE Swaziland National Sports and Recreation Council has scooped the prestigious African Union Sports Council (AUSC) Region 5 Country of the Year award.

The local sports mother body was awarded during the Regional Annual Sports Award hosted by the AUSC Region 5 at the Birchwood Hotel in Johannesburg, South Africa this past Saturday.

According to information sourced from the organisation's facebook page, SNSRC defied the odds to scoop the most sought after award beating nine other countries to the podium.

AUSC members include Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Accepting the award was the SNSRC Chief Executive



AWARD: SNSRC CEO Darius Dlobo, Chairman of the Board Lawrence Lolo Mthethwa, Vice Chairman Timothy Shongwe, Business Development Manager Zama Tsabedze and Media Officer Dumisani Ntiwane celebrating after receiving the award. (Courtesy)

Officer (CEO) Darius Dlobo, who said the Kingdom was honoured and humbled by the recognition.

Worth noting is that the country won the award even before it hosting the local sports awards slated for August/September.

Swaziland was lauded for implementing the African Union Sports Council Region

5 programmes perfectly.

Representing the SNSRC in the well attended event were the Chairman of the Board Lawrence 'Lolo' Mthethwa, Vice-Chairman Timothy 'Tim' Shongwe, Chief Executive Officer Darius Dlobo, Business Development Manager Zama Tsabedze and Media Officer Dumisani Ntiwane.

No foreigner in MC Alger squad

By Qondile Ntiwane

SOCCER – MBABANE Swallows' next CAF Confederation Cup opponents MC Alger have no foreign players in their squad.

Information sourced from the internet is that all players in the team are all of Algerian origin.

MC Alger will visit the local glamour giants at the Somhlolo National Stadium on Friday afternoon.

The Algerian outfit is currently at the top of Group B after playing to a draw against South Africa's Platinum Stars and recording a 2-1 victory against CS Sfaxien in their second encounter in the group stages.

Mbabane Swallows, on the other hand, are placed second in the group following their impressive 4-2 victory against Platinum Stars. They, however, lost their first game of the group stages after succumbing to a 0-1 defeat to CS Sfaxien.

Meanwhile, prior to their CAF Confederation match with the 'Birds', MC Alger President Omar Ghrib faces a fine of DA 100 000 which amounts to about E12 000 because of his statements against the President of the Algeria Football Federation (FAF), Khireddine Zetchi.

Ghrib is alleged to have uttered unbecoming statements during the extraordinary general assembly held by the National Professional Association.

The disciplinary committee of the National Association of Professionals has turned the case of MC Alger's President to sports ethics committee.

The sanctions committee issued a warning to Omar Ghrib and a fine estimated at E12 000. His case was transferred to the Committee on Sports Ethics.

This is because of the statements he issued against the president of the FAF, Khireddine Zetchi, according to the professional association published on its official website.

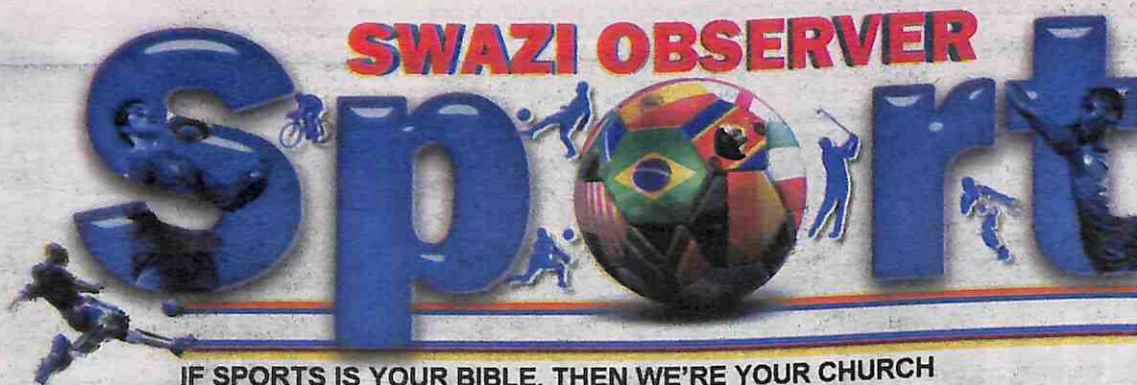
MC Alger is expected to land in the country any day from today for their CAF clash with the 'Beautiful Birds' slated for the country's only mecca and kickoff is 3pm.

The squad:

Player	Position
F. Chaouchi	Goalkeeper
K. Boussouf	Goalkeeper
F. Chaâl	Goalkeeper
B. Boudebouda	Defender
A. Demmou	Defender
A. Azzi	Defender
R. Bouhenna	Defender
Z. Mebarakou	Defender
A. Hachoud	Defender
Z. Zerdab	Midfielder
A. Mokdad	Midfielder
O. Chita	Midfielder
M. Kacem	Midfielder
S. Aouedj	Midfielder
A. Karaoui	Midfielder
Z. Mansouri	Midfielder
K. Gourmi	Midfielder
H. Chérif El Ouazani	Midfielder
H. Nekkache	Attacker
M. Seguer	Attacker
W. Derradja	Attacker
A. Djemaoui	Attacker
H. Bouguèche	Attacker
Manager	K. Mouassa

Log Standings

Group B	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts
MC Alger	2	1	1	0	3	2	1	4
M. Swallows	2	1	0	1	4	3	1	3
CS Sfaxien	2	1	0	1	2	2	0	3
Platinum Stars	2	0	1	1	3	5	-2	1



IF SPORTS IS YOUR BIBLE, THEN WE'RE YOUR CHURCH

MONDAY MAY 29, 2017



LESOTHO DENY DE JONGH PERFECT START

By Sibusiso Masilela

Sihlangu..... (0)0
Lesotho..... (1)1

SOCCER - LESOTHO has denied Dutchman Peter De Jongh a perfect start as Sihlangu head coach after handing the nation's pride a 0-1 loss during a friendly match played at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

The Basothos avenged the Friday night loss where they were handed 1-0 beating by the nation's pride during the first friendly match played at the Mavuso Sports Centre.

Likuena Likuena scored the decisive goal a few seconds before halftime through their striker Motebang Sera, who benefited from a defensive blunder by full-back from Sanele Mkhweli.

Sera intercepted the ball to beat Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza between the poles.

The visitors displayed a great showing in the first stanza where they had a better ball possession than the home side.

Lesotho threatened as early as

The Basothos avenged the Friday night loss where they were handed 1-0 beating by the nation's pride during the first friendly match played at the Mavuso Sports Centre.

the 20th minute through Jane Thabantsho, who was denied by 'Nkomishi' on a one-on-one situation inside the box.

The local side failed to stamp authority for a long period of the first half where they struggled to threaten the opposition.

It was skipper Tony 'TT' Tsabedze, who only took a meaningful shot at goal after the half hour mark but the ball sailed over the cross bar.

There was nothing much to write home about in the first stanza as the match went to break with Lesotho leading 1-0.

De Jongh made two changes in the second half, bringing in goalkeeper Sandanezwe Mathabela and Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko for 'Nkomishi' Ginindza and Sandile Hlatwako, respectively.

The changes, however, did not bring any change to the score line

as Lesotho protected their advantage until the end of the match watched by disappointing crowd of over 100 fans

including FA President Adam 'Bomber' Mthethwa.

Sihlangu did enjoy the lion's share of possession during the second period but still failed to supply target man Simanga Shongwe, who was handed his second start by coach De Jongh.

The teams:
Sihlangu - Nkomishi (Sanda), Machawe, Mkhweli (Gumbi), Siboniso, Phumlani,

D4D, Pupu, General (Chocco), Simanga, Sandile (Wonder), Tony Lesotho - Kotsokile, Mafa, Poloko, Motlomelo, Mohapi, Brown, Marabe, Sera, Koetle, Thabantsho



Phiwa has disciplinary issues – De Jongh

By Sibusiso Masilela

SOCCER – SIHLANGU coach Peter De Jongh says he dropped Young Buffaloes striker Phiwa Dlamini from the team because of disciplinary issues.

The Dutchman told local media that the SwaziBank Cup joint top scorer violated some rules of the national team hence the decision to drop him for the squad.

"We have rules in the team which the player violated and we had to drop him from the

team.

He has issues of discipline and that's another reason we dropped him.

He also failed to meet the outlined target in as far as his weight is concerned," he said.

Player

The player was also not available when Sihlangu won 1-0 against Lesotho on Friday.

Sought for comment on the matter, the player, however, refuted the disciplinary allegations cited by the coach.

"This is news to me. I was not aware I was dropped because

of disciplinary issues as I was only told I was overweight. I think the coach doesn't need me in the team and I will respect his decision," he said.

Teammates

Meanwhile, top Swallows striker Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa was missing in yesterday match where five of his teammates in Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza, Njabulo 'D4D' Ndlovu, Banele 'Pupu' Sikhondze, Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko and Captain Tony 'TT' Tsabedze appeared for the national team.