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SEPTEMBER 2, 2018

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His Majesty King Mswati III on arrival at Mavuso Trade Centre for the official opening of the 2018 Eswatini International Trade Fair in Manzini yesterday. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)

SENIOR COP FLOORED BY TEACHER **PROMOTED**

STORY ON
PAGE 3

...he is one of 67 police officers promoted by National Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula

WOMANDLA **Scene**
SWAZI REALLY IS

Broke govt
to hire 1 700
civil servants

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By-elections
this coming
Saturday

PAGE 6

MORE PICS
ON PAGES 4-5

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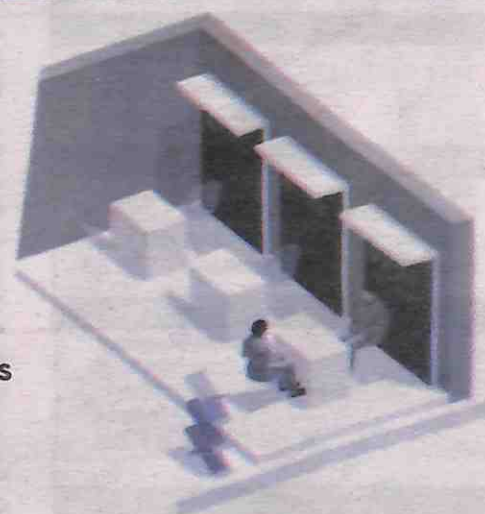
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CLARIFICATION

UMHLANGA DRIVES TOURISM - KING

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI

His Majesty King Mswati III has hailed Umhlanga Reed Dance Ceremony as an important drive towards tourism in the country.

His Majesty said in his address when he officially opened Eswatini International Trade Fair 2018 at Mavuso Trade Centre yesterday.

The King said the cultural ceremony serves as another very important drive towards the promotion of tourism in the country.

He stated that the Trade Fair was strategically linked to Umhlanga so that tourists could enjoy at their leisure a unique business and cultural experience. He thanked parents and chiefs for instilling cultural ethos in young maidens.

He stated that each year the numbers continue to increase, which shows the enthusiasm of the youth in preserving the cultural heritage

for future generations. He said during this period the country takes pride in the progress made in trade and business development, as well as the reed dance which embraces the dignity and pride of *Imbali*.

His Majesty stated that having successfully hosted the Trade Fair event for 50 years, it is an opportune time for the country to decentralise the event to the regions.

He said for the first time in the history of the country trade fairs have been hosted in other regions, namely, Hhohho, Lubombo and Shisweni.

His Majesty stated that this initiative is in line with government's decentralisation policy and Tinkhundla Development. His Majesty acknowledged the 39 exhibitors including municipalities that are participating in the regional trade fair.

He further appealed to other business entities to utilise the trade for



His Majesty King Mswati III addressing the gathering at the official opening of the Eswatini International Trade Fair yesterday. (Pic: Simon Shabangu)

opportunity to grow their businesses. He said the success of the regional trade fairs and developments rests on the public's participation in such businesses. He pointed out that a large population consists of the youth and stated that the country appreciates how

the trade fair brings entertainment to the children as they enjoy their second term break. His Majesty stated that the country needs investment that can generate billions of Emalangeni in order to finance a variety of programmes such as social responsibilities to the nation.

Government hiring freezing a fallacy

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

The recent circular announcing a freeze in government hiring and filling of vacant positions is nothing but a fallacy.

This comes after reports that government through the ministries of education and training and health will soon hire over 1 700 employees despite the reported ban on hiring announced last month.

The ban was communicated through Circular No. 3 of 2018, which was effected following the ongoing financial crisis which has partly resulted from the Wage Bill exceeding the ceiling.

The ministry of education and training is to fill over 1 500 vacant posts while the ministry of health is to fill over 200 posts following the exemption from circular No 3 of 2018. Through the aforementioned circular Cabinet directed that all vacant posts, including the creation of new posts and promotions across government be frozen. This was said to have been necessitated by the current financial situation faced by the country and the cash flow problems faced by government.

The circular was directed to all principal secretaries and heads of department. "Principal secretaries and heads of department are hereby informed that Cabinet has directed that all vacant posts, including the creation of new posts and promotions across government be frozen," reads part of the circular.

This however, was cancelled by Cabinet two weeks ago as government exempted health and education from the circular and allowed these ministries to fill vacant posts and those of who had retired. About 10 days ago, the ministry of health submitted a request to fill in about 202 posts which were vacant excluding those of retirees and six specialists.

...health and education to hire over 1 700 teachers and nurses

On the other hand, the ministry of education and training also filed a request for over 1 500 posts for teachers excluding inspectorate and the civil service.

This was confirmed by outgoing Minister of Education and Training Dr Phineas Magagula, who said the two ministries had been exempted from the ban.

"The circular has been issued and its position is as follows: for teachers, all the vacant posts will be filled. We only cannot create new posts.

Education

As we speak vacant posts across the board to be filled are over 1 500. These are the teachers and inspectorate vacancies and the same thing will happen to the civil servants that we have in the ministry of education.

Do not take the circular at face value, this is technical, the interpretation is that health and education have been given an exemption," he said.

Minister of Health Sibongile Ndlela Simelane also confirmed that vacant posts within her ministry will be filled. "On Tuesday, at Cabinet, I had submitted vacant posts that will be filled as the health ministry and that of education have been allowed to fill the posts.

The ministry of public service has not suspended hiring in the two ministries.

Among these posts are six specialists that will be employed, for us we have submitted about 202 posts excluding replacing those who have retired," she said.

Meanwhile, Public Sector Associations (PSAs) were last month quoted condemning government's stance to freeze hiring and promotions, saying it demonstrated its disregard for service delivery in the country.

PSAs include the Swaziland

National Association of Teachers (SNAT), the Swaziland Democratic Nurses Union (SWADNU) and the National Public Services and Allied Workers Union (NAPSAWU). The PSAs also slammed the circular, highlighting the negative impact this would have both economically and socially.

SNAT Secretary General Zwelithini Mndzebele was quoted in another daily saying the stance taken by government meant that education was not a priority in the country.

Mndzebele said if government, through the ministry of public service was adamant about freezing the employment of teachers, it should brace itself for poor external results at the end of the year. Meanwhile, SWADNU President Bheki Mamba was quoted saying they had noted with concern that those in leadership seem to be inconsiderate of the plight of civil servants and the public in general.

According to Mamba, the freezing of positions was an indication that the jubilation to be expressed by graduates in the upcoming graduation ceremonies country-wide meant nothing.

When called yesterday Mamba said they were awaiting a formal confirmation from government about the filling of the vacant posts that the minister said they were processing.

The president stated that in as much as they appreciate the 202 posts that will be filled, the figure was still insignificant compared to need on the ground considering that the ministry constructed more clinics that are short staffed.

He suggested that the ministry should conduct a survey to ascertain the required staff in hospitals and clinics and create the posts accordingly.

Armed gangs attack several homes at same time

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

Friday night, just before the stroke of midnight, saw several homes around Manzana and Sidvashini struck by armed robbers.

A victim, who had unfortunately fallen asleep without securing his burglar bars with a padlock, woke up to find two men armed to the teeth in his bedroom.

Relating his horrific experience, he said he was awoken by a commotion in his house which alerted him that something was amiss.

Rightly suspecting a home invasion, he called out and the two men suddenly appeared in his bedroom brandishing a gun and bush-knife.

"They asked for money and my phone," he said. Seeing as his cellular phone was charging near his bed, they took it. When they asked for money, he told them he did not have any. He had his hands up as he was told not to get up from his bed by the gun toting robber. Immediately after this exchange, the burglars left in haste, something which puzzled him as he expected them to rummage for more valuables.

"The television was on in the sitting room and my laptop and camera were charging nearby, so I thought they would take those as they made their way out," he said. In their flight, the man was able to see their getaway car which he presumed had been parked at a distance as he heard it going through several streets thereafter.

"I suspect they were picking other members of the gang because when the police arrived to attend to my case, the said they were from attending other reports of burglaries where electronics such as TVs were taken. While taking my statement, another call came through for them to attend to another one within the vicinity."

He said the time frame given by the police was 11:30pm and 00:30am. The police reportedly told him that they had seen the vehicle he described and had also taken note of its erratic driving as they made their rounds to the burgled houses. When Chief Police Information and Communication Officer (CPICO) Superintendent Khulani Mamba was called, he said the reports of the burglaries had not yet been compiled.

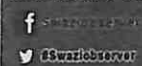
MANAGING EDITOR

Mbongeni Mbingo

e-mail: mbingo@observer.org.sz
Cell: 7602 9564 / 7904 8641

P.O. Box A385, Swazi Plaza
Mbabane, Buthe Street
Tel: 2404 4437 / 2404 4436 / 2404 9600
2404 9797 / 2404 0706
Email: info@observer.org.sz
Website: www.observer.org.sz

HOW TO FIND US



NEWS REPORTERS

Thembeke Dlamini - 7936 4936
Zwelethu Dlamini - 7946 0316
Fortune Ndlangamandla - 7946 0386
Email: sunday@observer.org.sz

SPORT EDITOR:

Qondile Ntswane - 7946 0316

SPORT REPORTERS

Sibusiso Masilela

Sibusiso Dlamini

Email: sport@observer.org.sz

SCENE EDITOR:

scene@observer.org.sz

SENIOR SUB-EDITOR

Futhi Dlamini - 7946 0345 / 7615 8517
Email: subeditor@observer.org.sz

NHLANGANO

Tobacco Company Complex, Cnr
King George, Masengule Street Opposite
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Sifiso Nhlabatsi CELL: 7674 6378 /
7946 0374
Tel: 2505 2320, Fax: 25 05 7220

MARKETING MANAGER

Siphesihle Mkhonta: 7605 2296 /
7946 0308 / 2404 8671 / 2404 8699
smm@observer.org.sz

CIRCULATION OFFICE

Bongani Simelane:
7605 3707 / 7946 0338
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...he is one of 67 police officers promoted by National Commissioner of Police Isaac Magagula

STORIES BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

A week after a gun-wielding Manzini Station Commander Raphael 'Sikheshekheshe' Maseko was allegedly floored by teacher Musa Maxwell 'Zondiyinkundla' Myeni, he has been promoted from Superintendent to Senior Superintendent.

'Sikheshekheshe' and 'Zondiyinkundla' wrestled last week Friday at the Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) Centre entrance and his promotion was revealed on Friday night seeing as the date stamp says 2100hrs on Friday.

The clash between police and teachers resulted in teacher Willie 'Mawillies' Dlamini being rushed to the nearest hospital after he was allegedly shot on the arm. The teachers were gathered at SNAT Centre to discuss government's offer of zero per cent cost of living adjustment (COLA) offer to civil servants which teachers have found unreasonable.

The promotion of 'Sikheshekheshe' is contained in a communication in which Superintendent Maseko was promoted with 66 other officers.

According to the document, the



Manzini Station Commander Raphael 'Sikheshekheshe' Maseko has been promoted from Superintendent to Senior Superintendent.

promotions were sanctioned by the National Commissioner (NATCOM) of Police Isaac Magagula and copied to all headquarter branches, police training, regional police stations, Ngonini Operational Support Service Unit (OSSU), stations, posts and border posts.

By yesterday morning, a screenshot of the communicate was viral on messaging application WhatsApp groups. The communicate said the promotions came pursuant to the continued diversification in the operational and administrative frameworks of the Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS) coupled with on-going staff attrition on account of various factors and in order to

ensure that service is sustained at the required level of efficiency.

It announced the promotion of officers falling within the Inspector to assistant national commissioner category. "The promotions are with effect from September 1, 2018," reads the communicate.

Information gathered is to the effect that the list is not final as it is anticipated that sergeant and constables will also be promoted in the near future.

When called to discuss the recent promotions, Deputy Chief Police Information and Communication Officer (CPICO) Superintendent Phindile Vilakati declined to comment.

She said this was because she knew nothing of the promotions. She went on to state that the document this publication has in possession was not official. However, high-ranking officers from different police stations countrywide confirmed that they were made aware of the promotions. The promotions come despite government announcing a freeze on hiring, promotions and creation of new posts in a circular last month. This was said to be caused by the poor cash flow of government. However, His Majesty's Correctional Services also recently announced its promotions, where commissioner general promoted 172 officers.

Police will kill for promotions – SNAT

The Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) Secretary General (SG) Zwelithini Mndzebele said the promotion of Manzini Station Commander Raphael 'Sikheshekheshe' Maseko would inspire other officers to shoot and kill civilians for promotions.

'Sikheshekheshe' is the police officer who wrestled with teacher Musa Maxwell 'Zondiyinkundla' Myeni last week Friday.

Teachers further accused him of shooting teacher Willie 'Mawillies' Dlamini.

Mndzebele said this when reacting to news that 'Sikheshekheshe' had been promoted from Superintendent to Senior Superintendent.

He said it was clear that Senior Superintendent Maseko would be promoted during the National Commissioner (NATCOM) of Police Isaac Magagula's press briefing last week Monday.

Dlamini wondered why NATCOM sang praises for the police officer as he allegedly shot until he ran out of bullets.

Mndzebele said Senior Superintendent Maseko did not restrain himself.

"I think he restrained himself by failing to shoot after he had run out of the bullets," Mndzebele said.

He stated that the promotion was a statement on the part of the state about the issue.

Mndzebele said SNAT was expecting the officer to be taken to task for his actions as the teacher who was protecting himself was arrested.

ed.

He said with the current government financial status the state will invest in bullets so officers can shoot civilians for promotions, because all officers want to be promoted. He said the example set by NATCOM would also encourage other security services officers to follow suit.

He then encouraged all teachers to record wills with their legal teams as the security services might wipe them out.

"After they hear that shooting a teacher gets one promoted, it is clear that those who will shoot, and kill would be promoted to higher positions," an unimpressed Mndzebele explained.

Apostle prophesied it: Phindile Vilakati promoted

Police deputy spokesperson Superintendent Phindile Vilakati and former Royal Leopard coach, who now doubles as Technical Director

(TD), Sifiso 'Nuro' Ntibané have been promoted.

Vilakati was promoted from the rank of Assistant Superintendent to Superintendent, the same rank as her principal, Chief Police Information and Communication Officer Khulani Mamba.

On the other hand, former Leopard coach Ntibané was promoted to Assistant Superintendent from Inspector. Superintendent Vilakati was last promoted in 2015 alongside Mamba. Her promotion is in line with a prophecy made by

Zambian Apostle Milton Ngandu from Lusaka, Zambia on December 2, 2017. The man of God prophesied while invited to Mamba's services at his church in Ezulwini, Jesus Dominion Centre.

Of note, the prophet said both Mamba and Vilakati would be promoted this year and this leaves Mamba with less than four months to get his heavenly endorsed promotion within the service as his name was not on the list.



Police deputy spokesperson Superintendent Phindile Vilakati.

THE FULL LIST OF PROMOTED OFFICERS:

FROM SENIOR ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER TO ASSISTANT NATIONAL COMMISSIONER

1. David M. Dlamini, S/ACP-PHQ Director Administration and Corporate Affairs
2. Christopher M Shongwe, S/ACP-Officer Commanding OSSU
3. Ezal H Dlamini - PHQ Director Criminal Investigation Department
4. Shadrack M Simelane - PHQ Director Finance, Procurement and Logic

FROM ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER TO SENIOR ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

1. Sibongile E Motsa (F) - PHQ Director Human Resources
2. Themba D Ngwenya, ACP - PHQ Director Fraud and Commercial crimes Unit
3. Patrick M Mavimbela, ACP - Deputy Commandant, Police Academy
4. Collen S Malinga - Close Protection Unit (CPU).

FROM SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT TO ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

1. Isaac M Dlodlo - 2nd in-charge OSSU
2. Elvis M Shabangu - National Crime Prevention Coordinator
3. Steven D Dlamini - ROO Lubombo
4. Loretta H Ngwenya (F), S/Supt. - Post Commander, KMIII
5. Charles T Magagula, S/Supt. - PHQ Senior Traffic Operations
6. Zanele P Nxumalo (F), S/Supt. - Police Academy, Clinic

FROM SUPERINTENDENT TO SENIOR SUPERINTENDENT

1. Henry M Khumalo, Supt. - Station Commander Mbabane
2. Raphael S Maseko, Supt. - Station Commander Manzini
3. Khetsani N Dlamini (F), Supt. - Close Protection Unit HMQ
4. Bonginkhosi F Dlamini, Supt. - Manzini RHQ Regional Staff Officer
5. Wela Z Mlambo - Supt. - Lubombo RHQ Regional Intelligence Officer
6. Salathiel M Lukhele - Supt. - Royal Residence Protection Services
7. Ephraim M Maphalala, Supt. - Head of drug Unit - PHQ
8. Richard D Fakudze, Supt. - Staff Officer Traffic and Transport

FROM ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT TO SUPERINTENDENT

1. Artwell V Dlamini, A/Supt. - 2nd In-charge Criminal Investigation Bureau
2. Kenneth M Mbingo, A/Supt. - Foreign Service, New York
3. Sikhumbuzo N Dlamini, A/Supt. - Royal Protection Services Unit (RPSU) Catering
4. Phindile L Vilakati (F), A/Supt. - PHQ 2nd In-charge Police Information Communications Officer
5. Nkosingiphile LS Dlamini, A/Supt. - Police Academy, Drill Instructor
6. Cecelia S Ndlovu (F) A/Supt. - Mbabane, In-charge High Court Security
7. Themba M Magagula, A/Supt. - Mbabane, High Court
8. Thabo M Hlopho, A/Supt. - Hhohho RHQ In-charge Lukhozi
9. Sabelo S Dlamini, A/Supt. - Deputy Regional Intelligence Officer Hhohho RHQ
10. Nkosinathi Simelane, A/Supt. - Deputy Regional Intelligence Officer Hhohho RHQ
11. Mangaliso Zwide Nxumalo, A/Supt. - Ngonini OSSU

FROM INSPECTOR TO ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

1. Insp. Isaac Nhlengetwa - In-charge Traffic Malkerns
2. Insp. Hezekiel B Bhembe - Instructor Matsapha police Academy
3. Insp. Austin M Fakudze - In-charge Salaries PHQ
4. Insp. James D Magagula - PHQ Chaplain
5. Insp. Oscar S Motsa - Mafutseni, Station Operations
6. Insp. Patrick N Makhanya - CPU
7. Insp. Emmelyn F Zulu (F) - Police Academy CDEU
8. Insp. Pholile S Zwane (F) - In-charge Intelligence Services Mbabane
9. Insp. Funani Promise Dlamini - Post Commander, Mlawula
10. Insp. William N Shiba - PHQ In-charge Organised crimes
11. Insp. Josiah S Shongwe - OSSU Royal Band
12. Insp. Zodwa P Hillary (F) - Ngonini OSSU
13. Insp. Muzi V Dlamini - OSSU Operations
14. Insp. Sifiso L Ntibané - Matsapha GD
15. Insp. Cyril M Mngometulu - In-charge Information Communication Technology, PHQ

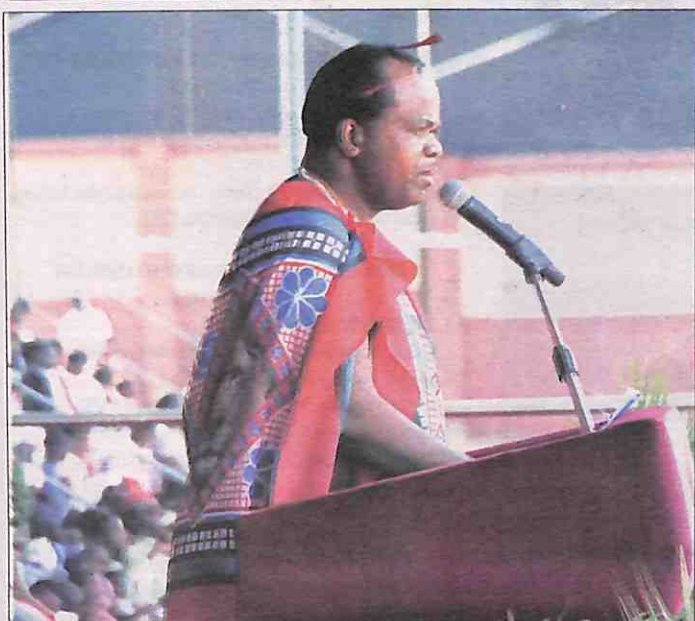
FROM ASSISTANT INSPECTOR TO INSPECTOR

1. A/Insp. Habakkuk M Dlamini - Post commander, Ngonini
2. A/Insp. Simon N Ntimane - OSSU Dog Unit (K9)
3. A/Insp. Martin V Vilakati - OSSU Platoons
4. A/Insp. Richard B Ginindza - Lukhozi Shiselweni
5. A/Insp. Sibusiso S. Vilane - Lukhozi Shiselweni
6. A/Insp. Mxolisi M Matsenjwa - Matsapha Police Academy, Inspector
7. A/Insp. Queeneth D Khayiyane (F) - Mbabane Diplomatic Security
8. A/Insp. Zandile G Mkhali (F) - Matsapha GD
9. A/Insp. Ncamile P Makhanya (F) - In-charge Intelligence Services Nhlanguano Police Station
10. A/Insp. Patrick D Dupont - Lubombo RHQ 2nd In-charge Lukhozi
11. A/Insp. Mgyayo M Kunene - Manzini RHQ Crime Prevention Unit
12. A/Insp. fanyana R Dlamini - Nhlanguano, DCS
13. A/Insp. Mefika W Shabangu - Lubombo RHQ Chaplaincy
14. A/Insp. Sakhile M Mncina (F) - Shiselweni RHQ In-charge Crime Prevention
15. A/Insp. Khanyisile Sifundza (F) - Manzini RHQ, Anti-Drug Unit
16. A/Insp. Ngabisia Z Dlamini (F) PHQ Open Registry
17. A/Insp. Philisiwe S Mngometulu (F) - PHQ DCS
18. Sgt. Bheki Don mamba - Royal Protection Services Unit
19. Sgt. Mbulelo S Dlamini (F) - Nhlanguano, Anti-Drug

50 YEARS OF CONNECTING TRADE



KING OPENS 2018 TRADE FAIR



His Majesty King Mswati III delivering his speech during the official opening of the 2018 Eswatini International Trade Fair at Mavuso Trade Centre yesterday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



Diplomats were also present.



Some of the VIP guests present for the festivities.



Inkhosikati LaMotsa pictured after the activities of the day.



Emakhosikati LaMahlangu, LaNtentesa and LaFogiyane also attended the ceremony.



Former Prime Minister Prince Mabandla and Bishop Stephen Masilela were also among the guests.



Lubombo Regional Administrator Sylvia Mthethwa speaks on behalf of the Manzini RA.



A section of the many people who came through to witness the official opening of the trade fair.



Lacwebetelako in song and dance as they see off His Majesty after the officiation.

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KING OPENS 2018 TRADE FAIR



SWADE CEO Samson Sithole and staff members pose at their stand which shows the amount of work to be done by the project which has developed a number of rural communities. The government parastatal is one of the many companies which are exhibiting at the Eswatini International Trade Fair launched by the King yesterday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



Matsapha Town Board CEO Lucky Sukati flanked by his bosses, Mayor Sandlane Zwane and Consellor Bongani Mkhathshwa and senior staff members at their stand themed connecting traders.

Cebsile Dlamini attending to customers at the Busy Hands stall which deals with handi-craft.



Director of Save Efficiency Lindiwe Mabuza attending to Samkeliso Masuku at the stand which sells a variety of items. The shop is based at Ngwane Park and South Gate Complex.



Tee & Jay Director Thembinkosi Mndzebele and Former Senator Ndumiso Mdluli also witnessed the official opening by the King.

Sengbuyile showcasing Kutsamba skills during the performance of combined Lutsango.

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BY-ELECTIONS THIS COMING SATURDAY

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

The primary elections are not yet over as by-elections will be held this coming Saturday. Four chiefdoms in the same number of constituencies will this coming weekend go back to the polls where voters will recast their primary election votes.

These by-elections are purposed to be tie-breakers after there were no clear winners.

The four chiefdoms where by-elections will be held are Tsambokhulu in Mhlume, Macudvulwini in Ngwempisi, Mgazini in Phondo and Simemeni in Maseyisini.

In these constituencies, there were no clear winners for the positions of Indvuna Yenkhundla for the first two areas and Bucopho for the latter two. Electoral and Boundaries Commission (EBC) Public Relations

Oops...mistakes in issued Vuvulane Chiefdom elections results

The Electoral and Boundaries Commission has issued a correction in the Vuvulane primary elections results.

In the records released early during the week, a case of similar names saw Nhlanhla

Mngometulu, who won under the Bucopho position after amassing 350 votes wrongly listed as the Member of Parliament winner. The right candidate for the Bucopho position was Nhlanhla Bibo Shabangu who got 724 votes.

Mngometulu actually got 350 votes for the position of MP. Thandi Ngwenya who trailed with 350 votes for the position of Indvuna Yenkhundla was not the ultimate winner as Sibusiso Siphithi Dlamini had 403 votes.

Officer Mbonisi Bhembe confirmed the by-election. Describing how they would occur, he said affected areas' voters would be given only the choice of the two aspiring politicians who came out tops in the vote count which took place after the initial primary elections held last Saturday. They have to choose between the two candidates and

get the ultimate winner. The ties in Mgazini and Simemeni mean that a winner of the Bucopho position has not yet been noted.

Bucopho positions are only contested in the primary elections meaning that winners in other chiefdoms around the country know that they own the positions they were voted into already. On the other hand,

the Indvuna Yenkhundla position will only be determined at constituency level as there can only be 59. However, each chiefdom has to produce only one person to partake in the secondary elections to be held in three weeks' time.

Mhlume Inkhundla

At Tsambokhulu Chiefdom, Ndumo Charles Dlamini and Thoko Mahlalela

EBC Public Relations Officer Mbonisi Bhembe.

amassed 111 votes. They are contesting in the Indvuna Yenkhundla category.

Ngwempisi Inkhundla

At Macudvulwini Chiefdom, Sifiso Maseko and Dumsane Matsebula amassed 260 votes during the primary elections while contesting for the Indvuna Yenkhundla position.

Phondo Inkhundla

At Mgazini Chiefdom, Almon Makhosi Mndzebele and Cycho Dumisa Dlamini amassed 158 votes each in the Bucopho category.

Maseyisini Inkhundla

At Simemeni Chiefdom, the Bucopho position is yet to be filled after Sandile Kunene and Khetsiwe Thembisile Mnisi were tied at 58 votes each.

Limkokwing University welcomes over 800 first year students

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

Limkokwing University of Creative Technology (LUCT) welcomed their first year crop of students for 2018 on Friday.

The event was held at SOS High in Mbabane. About 800 new students attended the orientation which lasted almost the whole day.

Students were introduced to the Limkokwing University of Creative Technology culture and were also briefed about what to expect during their three year journey with the University.

Limkokwing University of Creative Technology campus acting Director Tfbile Gumede gave the new students an insight of what the Limkokwing University of Creative Technology is about and what the university management expects from them in order for both parties' three-year journey to be smooth.

Gumede encouraged all new students to focus on their studies and not allow external factors to derail them because that would mark their downfall in academic performance.

She further urged all students to familiarise themselves with the university's high flyer manual which is a compiled document with all the university rules and to further engage themselves in extra curriculum activities.

Support

"The university is ready to support individuals' unique talents; all students should be free to avail themselves so that they get support from the university," said Gumede.

On another note, Swazi Observer Managing Editor Mbongeni Mbingo also shared his industry experience with the students.

Mbingo urged all students to think creatively and not look at being employed but rather create jobs and look forward to being their own bosses.

"If you graduate from Limkokwing University and then come to seek employ-



Students ambassadors appreciating one of the student winners during one of the games.

ment with any organisation I will regard you as a failure because that is not what you are being thought at Limkokwing University.

Think outside the box and create niche markets that will complement bigger organisations thus lifting the Eswatini's economy," he said.

Two Limkokwing alumni Sicelo Ndlandla and Nkosingiphile Lukhele, who now own companies, also shared their academic and educational journeys with the new students from when they were also students to being employers and paying their staff salaries.

Pastor Phetsa, who is also an author and life coach, also equipped the students with magical ways of taking charge of their finances.

The Man of God told the students that they are in control of their lives and shouldn't blame the devil for their misdeeds.

The 2018 orientation was closed with the screening of the 2017 graduation class video and the singing of the university's theme song titled "Wings to fly".

Low inmates turn-out disappoints aspiring MPs

BY SUNDAY OBSERVER REPORTER

The 'low' turn out by prisoners during the special voting for primary elections angered several aspiring MPs.

In one of the Kwaluseni polling stations, two aspiring MPs scoffed at the numbers revealed by the presiding officer prior to ballot boxes being opened.

The votes, which came in a sealed packet, could not be ascertained and it was only on opening and counting that the figure was known. Prisoners took part in the special voting process a few days before the national primary elections.

They voted together with security forces as well as other essential services staff. During the opening of the special votes, those from correctional facilities were highlighted as from there and numbers were stated. There was also one special

vote from Qatar cast by a resident of Mbikwakhe.

"All our visits for just 15 votes from the correctional offices," said a female aspiring MP.

She said it was disheartening to have spent so much money to have 15 people vote; and even then, there was no way of knowing who those 15 voted for.

"We bought many fruits and left money for just 15 votes? This is a joke," her male companion responded. The discussion on the numbers of prisoners went on for quite some time as others joined in and said they had dedicated their time to travel to the Matsapha Correctional Facility prior to nomination and thereafter in order to encourage votes.

"Are these the true numbers of arrested residents of our area," they asked each other not expecting responses. This was the same complaint made aspiring members of

parliament in one Manzini North polling station where 10 special votes from prisoners were presented.

They complained and asked if this was the total numbers in an unbelievable manner as though they expected more.

The Sunday Observer revealed three weeks ago how prisoners were coining it with several MPs making a visit to different facilities and greasing their palms for votes.

The prisoners revealed how they were assigned to be 'campaign managers' and were paid in order to share with others in exchange for votes. When asked about this occurrence, His Majesty's Correctional Services (HMCS) said they did not believe something of this nature could occur.

This is despite several sources in and outside of such facilities concurring and stating how prisoners were being used to further aspiring MPs agendas.

Safety concerns outside polling stations

The stabbing incident outside Kwaluseni Siphumelele Primary polling station during nominations did not increase the necessity for police presence during the primary elections last weekend.

This was witnessed at Kwaluseni where sober minded people as well as campaign agents had to calm several fights which sprouted from minimal provocation after heated arguments between drunk voters.

Campaign agents and sober minded people had a tough time bringing order as voters bearing all types of weapons had to be calmed and dragged away from near the entrance of the polling station.

The gates were at most times manned by a single female officer who watched helplessly as voters ran helter-skelter to avoid becoming collateral damage.

"We are tired of breaking-up fights and think the police should have done more in providing security here," said Mandla.

At one point, a voter had to be whisked to the safety from the polling station after a group of men ran after him brandishing broken beer bottles and knives.

"When so many people come together, there has to be a mechanism of ensuring that there is visible police presence for safety purposes because innocent people can get hurt."

Tired polling officers irk Moneni residents

A week after primary elections, Moneni residents are still angered by the complacency with which polling officers dealt with their zeal to vote.

Residents who had to wait for several hours in the dark before getting to cast their vote revealed how polling officers allegedly said they were tired and could not find their names on the voter's roll.

"We were delayed by people who are old, who had no drive to do the job," explained voter Londiwe.

She spoke while waiting to cast her vote at 9pm whereas she had arrived at the station before 6pm seeing as she started at work.

She said it would help if the EBC deployed younger officers for vibrant communities.



98 VUVULANE EX-WORKERS TO FINALLY GET BENEFITS

STORIES BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

...figures show that most would get around E100 000 each

Biblically, the number 12 signifies perfection of rule. For former workers of the Vuvulane Irrigation Farmers (VIF) PTY LTD, 12 years marks the end of their suffering after waiting to be paid their benefits. Information gathered is that there are about 98 former workers set to get their monies.

Figures seen by this publication suggested that many people would get around E100 000 each.

They will also get their pension and savings from their cooperative, Natsi Sinayo Investments.

This is according to documentation shown to the workers by liquidators of VIF (in liquidation) Sibusiso Motsa and Derick Jele on Friday at Vuvulane Inkhundla.

The meeting was attended by close to 100 affected people including the company's ex-employees, creditors who proved their debts with an unnamed previous liquidator.

Also invited to the meeting which started at 11am and ended at 13:30pm were farmers and tenants.

Some former workers stated that they foresaw trouble surrounding their payments.

This is because the evaluation on how much each should be paid was done by three different organisations; namely, VIF, attorneys and the ministry of labour.

They said this allegedly created irregularities such as long serving employees getting less money apportioned to them when compared to those who joined the company at a later stage.

However, liquidator Motsa assured the ex-labourers that there was no need to panic as all the amounts were approved by the office of the Master of the High Court. He said the irregularities were yet to be scrutinised.

Ex-workers revealed that they hoped the new development would also put to bed the confusion surrounding the ownership of the farm.



VIF (in-liquidation) ex-workers pictured at Vuvulane Inkhundla.

The two parties that have been in the centre of the confusion were Vuvulane Irrigation Farmers Association (VIFA) (Public) Company (Proprietary) Limited farmers and Vuvulane Irrigation Farmers (VIF) in liquidation.

Bitterness

The bitterness between the two parties' dates back to year 2000, when the Supreme Court ruled that VIFA should gain control of the farm ordering its liquidation in 2005.

This was to enable workers to get monies owed.

However, that was not the case until 2015 where VIF appealed and won against the liquidation verdict. As a result, VIFA, who had at that time taken control and had its people occupying the hostels were allegedly violently evicted from the farm premises.

VIFA suspected foul play in the 2015 court verdict as they believed that by that year, the farm was supposed to have been long liquidated. The farm is said to be a property of Tibiyo TakaNgwane.

During the meeting, Motsa told the close to 100 VIF (in liquidation) ex-workers and relatives of deceased ex-workers that within the next two months, liquidation would be completed. This will be after the liquidators complete their assessment including compiling a final account showing details on how those owed will be paid.

After endorsement by the Master of the High Court, an advert will be run in the media. The final account will then be opened for inspection for 21 days. This period enables those with complaints to come forth and after the 21 days elapses and all complaints are resolved, then payment of ex-workers will start.

"If everything goes well, the two months' count down starts today (Friday). We would have completed the liquidation process and their Majesties would have decided who should own the farm," Motsa explained.

He went on to add that the liquidators were now finalising the issue and were busy compiling a

final report which the Master of the High Court would forward to superiors. However, he was quick to mention that he was not at liberty to discuss the ownership of the farm.

Motsa acknowledged that there were some people who were bitter at Vuvulane and they caused the matter to delay as it dragged into courts.

Once paid, all workers will be required to vacate the houses as they will have no reason to continue occupying them.

Motsa said in as much as he was not aware what would happen to the farmers inside the farms, for now only workers will be required to vacate VIF houses. He said this was because the farmers were occupying their own houses.

After the meeting ended, ex-employees were seen photocopying and submitting documents which would enable them to receive their monies. Others also took the opportunity to mingle with Motsa and VIF (in liquidation) Manager Willie Shabangu.

Tibiyo TakaNgwane writes off Vuvulane's E27m debt

VIF PTY LTD (in liquidation) liquidator Sibusiso Motsa said the liquidation was underway because Tibiyo TakaNgwane agreed to write off E27 million in debts.

Motsa said this on Friday during a meeting with Vuvulane farmers. Motsa said their main ambition was to report to the farmers that money they owed VIF had been written off.

The money owed is from irrigation costs. "It was possible because we asked Tibiyo Taka Ngwane to write off the owed monies by VIF. Tibiyo TakaNgwane was the major creditor," Motsa said.

He said the liquidators took this route after seeing that the farmers were failing to settle the E27 million. Motsa added that all the other creditors also followed suit and agreed to write off the debt.

He said the farmers gave them reasons for their failure to settle the debt; however, he did not give out the reasons.

Motsa went on to add that the failure by VIF to settle its water bill debts resulted in the company's liquidation. He went on to state that ex-workers had been complaining that since 2005 they have not been getting their monies.

Motsa said this also motivated the liquidators' decision to ask Tibiyo TakaNgwane to write off the debt. "All the workers would be paid their monies at the courtesy of Tibiyo TakaNgwane."

That's what the meeting was all about," Motsa said.

On the issue of who owns the land, Motsa said the land ownership issue was a sensitive one. He said the liquidators were not at liberty to discuss the matter. He told farmers who questioned the land ownership to seek audience with their Majesties. Some ex-workers passed their gratitude to Tibiyo TakaNgwane for agreeing to write off the debts.

Be that as it may, the farmers insisted that they were the rightful owners of the land. One of the farmers, Sithembiso Shongwe, wanted to know how come VIF (in liquidation) was declared the rightful owners of the properties in the farm where as another company owned the farm before.

The farmers argued that the properties were built using the farmers' monies.

Nhlanhla Mazibuko told this publication that the liquidators failed to give responses to their questions. He said this failure resulted in the meeting being cut short as they were told that they would be addressed by Labadzala.

Sister hacks younger sibling over land

BY SAMKELISIWE KHOZA

A woman is fighting for her life in hospital after she was hacked by her elder sister with a bush-knife in the arm during a quarrel over a piece of land.

The two sisters were involved in a heated argument which became physical after disagreeing on a number of things pertaining the land.

Thing turned nasty when the argument led to the elder sister (46) hacking her younger sibling, who is 35, and landing her in hospital. The two are said have an unending dispute dating as far back as 2009 over the piece of

land. The hacked victim is said to have been at her home resting over the weekend when she got an unexpected visit from her older sister.

The two are said to have exchanged harsh words after the younger sister was accused of sleeping around with married men.

It is said she tried to defend herself and deny the accusations but her sister kept on demanding that she should confess that she does sleep around.

After what seemed forever, the elder sister is said to have grabbed a bush-knife that was lying around just a few metres away and hacked her sister in the arm.

The victim, who was bleeding heavily, was quickly rushed to the hospital where she is currently recovering. The incident however was not reported to the police as the younger sister is said to have preferred to keep it in the family.

The hacker is said to be sharing the plot of land with her sister who was unmarried back in 2009, the time the arrangement was made.

The younger sister was staying together with her children at her sister's matrimonial home in a one-room house, just metres away from the family's main house. It is said the hacking victim and her sister used to argue frequently and as a result the two would not greet each other for years yet staying in a same compound.

The younger sister is said to have asked her elder sibling about the shared plot of land just a kilometre away from the home so she could build her own home.

The elder sister is said to have agreed and without demanding to be paid E10 000 at first.

The construction of a new home was reported to the royal kraal, with community leaders informed that they were just extending the family home (bandzisa titja). That resulted in them not paying for the land or issuing any cow for kukhonta.

However, a community leader is said to have later teamed up with the elder

sister, resulting in the younger sister being visited by the known man telling her that the royal kraal had seen it proper that she pays a cow for a kukhonta.

The victim is said to have not questioned the elderly man and promised to pay as soon as possible because she needed the land.

A couple of years later, the sibling is said to have been granted the land and she constructed herself a one-room house. One of the community leaders when contacted for comment confirmed that the matter was reported to the authorities.

However, he refused to discuss the matter any further saying he had not been mandated to comment on the matter.

Car catches fire at Mvutjini



Good Samaritans rescuing a man from Motshane whose car caught fire whilst driving near Mvutjini yesterday. (Pics: Zwelethu Dlamini)



Residents rushing to fetch water to help put out the fire on the Mazda sedan.

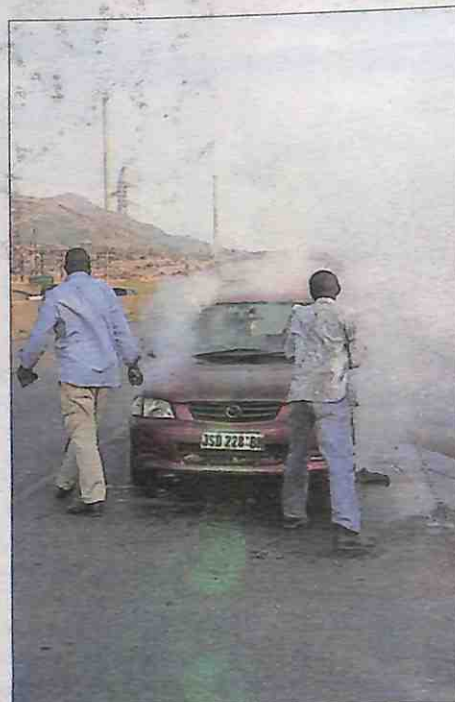
BIKER BITES DUST AT MALAGWANE



This was the scene after a Honda biker had an accident at Malagwane hill yesterday. The biker from Tembisa escaped with minor injuries. (Pics: Zwelethu Dlamini)



The biker being attended by a paramedic after the accident.



Residents finally managed to put out the fire.

SRA AUDITS

STORIES BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

First, it was the councillors who called for an extended forensic audit; now, the tax man is going through the Matsapha Municipality's payroll records.

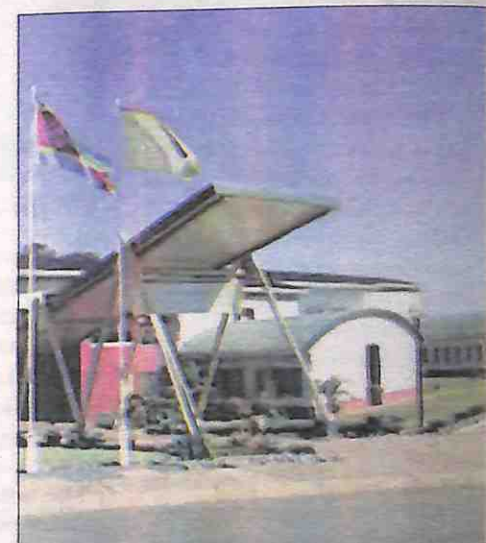
The municipality's woes have over the years remained in obscurity and the arrival of Mayor Sandlane Zwane seems to have shaken it at its foundation as accountability on its operations is being scrutinised.

The Sunday Observer last week exclusively revealed how an alleged last-ditch effort by the organisation to get its house in order failed after a senior manager allegedly visited an accounting package vendor with the view of getting assistance in 'correcting' some anomalies.

This allegedly happened sometime in June and the vendor allegedly warned the officer against fiddling with the package telling him nothing could be changed.

The visit to the vendor happened at around the time councillors were embroiled in disagreements with management.

Management was aggrieved that council want-



Matsapha Municipal offices.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)

The Central Bank of Eswatini (CBS) has a mission to foster price and financial stability conducive to the economic development of Eswatini. The vision of the Bank is to be a stable price and self-regulating financial system based on very strict Values. The Bank request service providers to respond to the following Request for Information (RFI).

CATEGORY	RFX TYPE	REFERENCE
Fleet Management System	RFI	CBS FLEET FINANCE RFI 08-2018 L

The CBE invites eligible interested service providers to access the EOI document on the CBE website; www.centralbank.org.sz under Tenders

Closing date: 14 SEPTEMBER 2018

Please address all Enquiries to: Secretary, Tender Committee

Tel: (+268) 2 408 2000 Supply Chain Division - Fax (+268) 2404 8636

Email: tenders@centralbank.org.sz

All tender documents should be sealed and deposited in the tender box situated at the Umntsholi Building (ground floor) clearly marked;

Secretary, Tender Committee

Tender Name & Reference

Central Bank of Eswatini, Mahlokohla Street, Mbabane, Eswatini

The CBE does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

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SRA headquarters.

ed to allegedly flout tender procedure and engage a second placed auditing firm as opposed to the one which scored a perfect score during a tender valuation process.

Result

As a result, Town Clerk Lucky Sukati tried to invoke Section 27 against council to no avail and had to apologise to councillors on the day auditors had to look at the municipality's books dating back several years instead of the initial scope of the 2017/2018 financial year, which

were unveiled.

On Wednesday morning, a team from SRA visited the municipality following a letter dated August 21 spelling out their intention.

The letter stated that the tax man intended to audit payroll from 2014 to date and it reads; "Please be advised that we intend to carry out a payroll audit in your company for the period

covering five years from 2014 to 2018."

Further, the communication stated that the commissioner may, in terms of Section 41 (1)(a) of the Income Tax Order of 1975 as amended, raise assessments for a period of six years if satisfied that the amounts which should have been taxed were not.

"Please be further advised that in terms of

Section 34 of The Income Tax Order 1975 (as amended), the office of the commissioner is empowered to make an enquiry to obtain full information about income of any tax payer."

The first meeting was held within council premises whereby the team from SRA is said to have met with outgoing Town Treasurer Mandla Ngwenya, Payroll Officer Girlie Johnson as well as other accounting staff.

...gratuity to be probed for tax payments

The team from Swaziland Revenue Authority (SRA) wants a list of all employees whose contracts were terminated in the last five years.

This is contained in the request for documents made by SRA.

Of note, employees have been aggrieved about the way gratuity was paid out with some employees not getting it when they left the municipality whereas those in management received it despite allegedly leaving before the end of their contracts.

Despite over 12 employees leaving council without their gratuity, the municipality recently revealed that there was a discrepancy in the money accrued over the last five years.

This they said resulted in failure to reconcile the money store in a fund for gratuity and the shortfall of E341 880.93; "Management explained that the shortfall was due to the inception of the fund, saved funds were calculated based on employees who were due to complete their contract and their gratuity was to become due on that particular year, resolving to finance it from the wages budget as there were two positions which were budgeted for but would only be filled this month."

The two positions are those of project manager and procurement officer.

The two positions would have, within six months, earned E315 110.85 and the balance of E26 770.08 will be covered by the delayed recruitment of the corporate services manager.

Some of the documentation requested by SRA include the approved organisational structure, all pay records for employees including board members, part time staff and consultants.

Further, policies which relate to staff salaries, wages, bonuses, benefits and other payments made to company employees were requested.

Other documentation includes pay-as-you-earn (PAYE) remittance forms, reconciliation and receipts; employment contracts; annual financial statements as well as the schedule clearly outlining the composition of total staff or employee costs.



ESWATINI ELECTRICITY COMPANY (EEC)

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Mbabane PO Box 258, Mbabane H100,
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Energy for the Future

PLANNED POWER OUTAGE NOTIFICATION

Kindly note that there will be power interruptions on our electricity lines due to routine maintenance as per the following schedule;

DAY:	DATE:	MAINTAINANCE BY (DEPOT)	AFFECTED AREAS:	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	PERIOD:
Sunday	2 Sep	Matsapha	Matsapha CTA, Swazi Wire, Swaziland Milling, Car Land, Cash Build, Cooper Ware Houses, Exipro, AD enterprise, Swazi Plastics, Old Nedbank	Routine Maintenance	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Manzini	Lube Township	Transformer Uprating	9:00am – 2:00pm
Monday	3 Sep	Matsapha	Mashayitafula Pick'n Pay (Complex), Sigodweni Police Station, Sigodweni MTN, Crane Feeds, KaGcina Bottle Store and surrounding areas	Routine Maintenance	10:00am – 4:00pm
Tuesday	4 Sep	Malkerns	Ngwenyameni and surrounding areas	Project Construction	11:00am – 3:00pm
		Malkerns	Ludzeludze – Sidwashini area	Group Scheme Project	10:00am – 3:30pm
		Hluti	Nsingizini	Project Construction	9:00am – 3:30pm
		Manzini	Sterksroom, Extension 6, Siyeni Madonsa, Two sticks, Nazarene	Routine Maintenance and MR3 Line Relocation	10:00am – 4:00pm
		Siketi	KaShoba, Tibiyo Tjelani Farm, Magwanyana, Mgababa, Mavalela, Nhlengesheni	Routine Maintenance	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Matsapha	EEC Houses, Unitrans Houses	Routine Maintenance	10:00am – 4:00pm
		Stonehenge	Dam Site, Hlabazonkhe, Nkhube	Routine Maintenance	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Matsapha	Mfubantfu area	Closing Span	10:30am – 3:30pm
		Big Bend	Mhlabudumayo Group Scheme	Transformer Structure Rebuilding	9:00am – 4:00pm
Wednesday	5 Sep	Malkerns	Mvangati, Mseleni Farm and surrounding areas	Project Construction	11:00am – 3:00pm
		Mhume	Nduma	Pole Plantation and Dual Line Stringing	11:00am – 2:00pm
		Siketi	Tikhuba, Dvumane, Hubeni	Transformer Uprating	10:00am – 4:00pm
		Manzini	Moneni, TB Centre Hospital, Moneni Spar, Extension 6, Hhhelehele Filling Station, Makhokhondela	Closing Span and MR3 Line Relocation	9:30am – 4:00pm
		Sithobela	Matjana, Phunga, Mphumakudze	Shield Wire Earthing Installation	9:00am – 4:30pm
		Hluti	Part of Ndiyaneni	Project Construction	9:00am – 3:00pm
		Pigg's Peak	Phophonyane, Mshinande	Dual Line Stringing and Closing Span	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Matsapha	Tubungu Township Extension 1 & 2	Routine Maintenance	9:00am – 4:30pm
		Big Bend	Illovo Security Village, Van Eck Dam, Mhlosinga Pumps, Bar R. MTN aerial, Umoba workshop at Bar R.	Line Rerouting	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Pigg's Peak	Bulembu Police Post, Bulembu Highsite, Malandahle, Bulembu Border Post	Routine Maintenance	10:00am – 3:00pm
		Matsapha	Sidwatjana Area – Boyane, Vusweni Primary, KaSiko area, Sikanye Primary School	Closing Span	10:00am – 3:30pm
		Nhlanguano	Mangwaneni, Hlathikhulu Police Station, Sibhoteleni, Sibetsamoya, Christ The King, Mahlashaneni	Routine Maintenance	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Stonehenge	Mountain Inn, Sherisa Flats, PWD, Enhlanheleni Flats	Routine Maintenance	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Big Bend	Vovovo, Nyamo Pump, Phuzumoya LTD, Londumane	Transformer Relocation	8:00am – 4:00pm
Thursday	6 Sep	Malkerns	Mahhashini, Mponono, Egugwini and surrounding areas	Closing Span	11:00am – 3:00pm
		Siketi	Mzilakazi, Buckwood, Lukhula, Khutsala, Mvundlane, Maphatsindvuku, Lonhupheko SWSC	Routine Maintenance	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Manzini	Mhubhe, Ngculwini, Mantjonga and surrounding areas	Routine Maintenance	10:00am – 3:00pm
		Stonehenge	Siphocosini, Ntsetse, Embotjeni, Sigangeni	Routine Maintenance	9:00am – 4:00pm
Friday	7 Sep	Matsapha	Sihhothweni area and H Ngcobo G/S surroundings	Transformer Uprating	10:00am – 3:30pm
		Stonehenge	Sidwashini Prison, Qobonga, Manzana, Sidwashini South	Routine Maintenance	9:00am – 4:00pm

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MORE DVULADVULA FOR EX-MINERS

BY SABELO MAJOLA
MBABANE

...Eight local ex-miners get over E1.6 million compensation from Qhubeka Trust

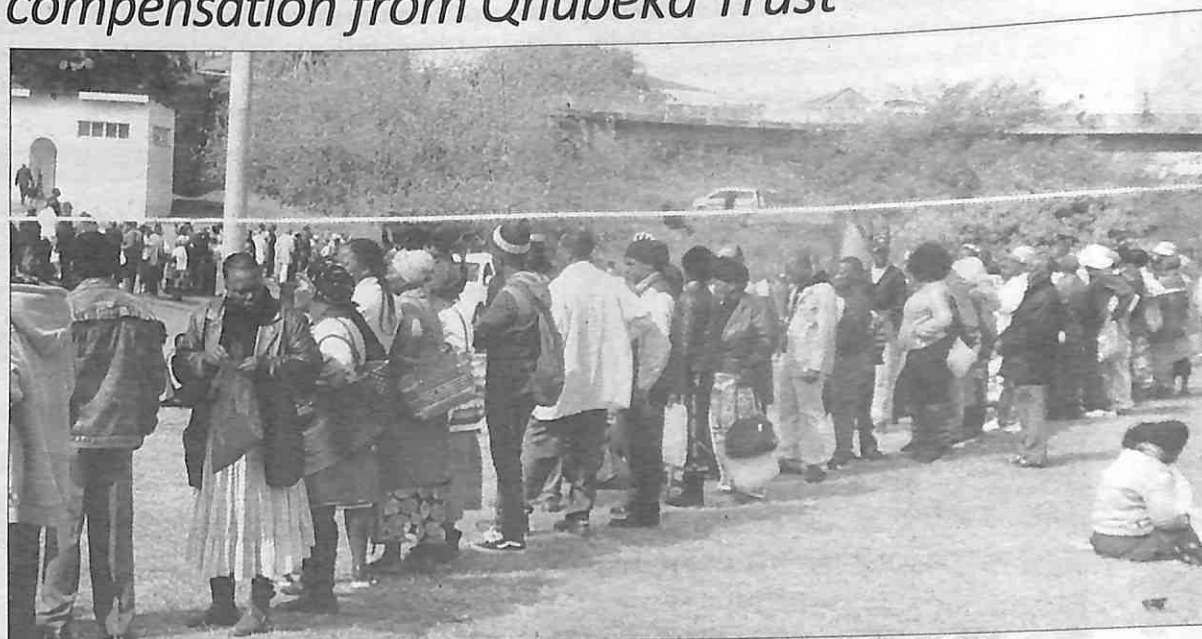
Eight Emaswati ex-miners were amongst the beneficiaries in the recently released E134 million piece of pie by Qhubeka Trust, which is compensation to qualifying ex-mineworkers suffering from silicosis.

These were ex-miners employed by Anglo American South Africa and AngloGold Ashanti mines. The eight are all deceased, according to Swaziland Migrant Mineworkers Association (SWAMMIWA) Executive Secretary (ES) Vama Jele.

He said Eswatini was among the first to be compensated and eight of the ex-mineworker's families got more than E200 000 each.

However, Jele revealed that one family at Mkhitsini in the Shiselweni region did not get compensated because the ex-mineworker changed both his name and surname before he died, making his case a complicated one altogether.

"It's been some time now since the local ex-miner's families were compensated and all of them got above E200 000 each. Sadly, one of the families situated at Mkhitsini didn't get their compensation because the ex-miner changed his name and surname before he died," he said.



Some of the miners queuing to open bank accounts.

According to The Citizen newspaper, the Trust was founded on the back of the successful conclusion of a lengthy compensation battle by attorneys, Richard Meeran and Zanele Mbuyisa, representing ex-mineworkers who contracted silicosis as a result of working for various mines owned by Anglo American South Africa and AngloGold Ashanti.

It has no connection to the recently settled class-action suit against various gold mining companies on behalf of gold miners who have developed silica related diseases.

Chairperson Dr Sophia Kisting-Cairncross said the Trust was established with the specific purpose of distributing the E395 million settlement won by the attorneys representing

these ex-mineworkers.

Kisting-Cairncross said the claimants in the settlement are 4 365 ex-mineworkers from South Africa, Eswatini and Lesotho who may be suffering from silica-related occupational lung diseases as a result of the failure by the mines to prevent workers' exposure to silica dust.

She said the E134 million awarded

to qualifying claimants as at August 1, 2018 was a huge achievement given the challenges that the Trustees encountered.

"We believe that this has not only had a positive impact on our claims process but has also contributed enormously to the level of care provided to ex-miners in these areas. We hope that it will be a lasting legacy that will also be beneficial to the bigger class action settlement trust and for public health as a whole," Kisting-Cairncross said.

Kisting-Cairncross said to date, approximately 3 160 of the 4 365 claimants had been referred for medical assessments, and just more than half of those assessed have been determined to be suffering from silicosis.

Approximately half of the outstanding claims are of deceased claimants, the majority of whom died before the establishment of the Trust.

She said this lack of medical records was one of the most significant challenges faced, but the Trustees were also working with several specialists on pioneering work to develop an instrument to confirm the presence of silicosis in the absence of medical records.

"We cannot fail our widows and the families of the mineworkers who have suffered tremendously by their loss," she said.

EU sugar markets drop: Eswatini feeling effects

STORIES BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

...Tough times call for creativity, adaptability – SSA CEO

Barely a year since the European Union sugar beet restrictions, the market outlook for Eswatini's main export, sugar, is not encouraging at present and the situation is forecast to last another season.

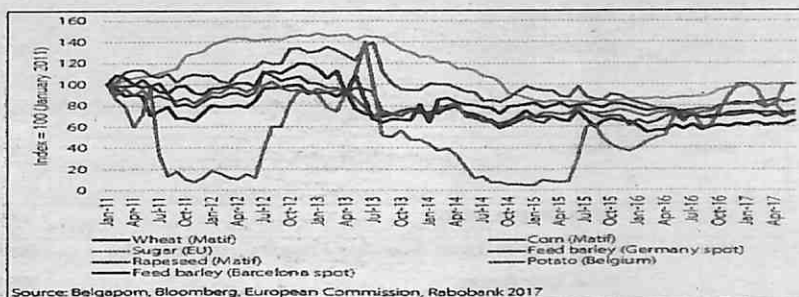
This is a tough year for the sugar industry amid calls for adaptability, creativity and diversification, says Swaziland Sugar Association (SSA) CEO Philemon Mnisi.

SSA is among other things responsible for the marketing, warehousing and movement of sugar and molasses. The association failed to achieve its objective of maximising sugar sales revenue in the past year due to depressed prices and high import at Southern Africa Customs Union (SACU) among other challenges. "Revenues dropped by 8.8 per cent from E4.6 billion last year, to E4.2 billion this year. The decrease in revenue is mainly attributed to unfavourable market conditions which resulted in decreased sales and depressed market prices in all markets.

Sales to the European Union (EU) fell by 36 per cent, both as result of loss in value in that market as well as abolition of EU production quotas in October, 2017, which led to the EU market being self-sufficient," reports the CEO.

Returns from the EU have been diminishing over the years and are expected to continue to do so following abolishment of beef restrictions in October 2017. Demand for imported sugar in Europe has declined as the region has become the net exporter.

Mnisi added that overall, SSA experienced an 11 per cent drop in sales from about 621 000 tons in 2016/2017 to 552 000 tons this year.



Source: Belgapom, Bloomberg, European Commission, Rabobank 2017

The SACU market, which is the largest share of Swaziland Sugar Association, saw a drop of 13.5 per cent in the volumes sold in the market. This was mainly in response to the market being saturated by imports from the word market. "The marketing plan in response to the foreseen loss of the EU market was to divert sugar from the EU market into the regional market being SADC and COMESA.

However, the regional market is pegged to the world market as the world market price dropped during the course of the year; unfortunately this market was no longer attractive as earlier envisaged. The challenge through this drop in sales has presented logistical challenges in the storage and warehousing calling for innovative ways to store high stocks," he added. The slow movement of sugar to markets presented huge storage challenges for the industry and significantly increased logistics costs as there was a need to review the logistic model including storage capacity. Another challenge faced by the association in the year under review included increased import competition in all major markets.

"The sugar markets have been challenging due to the world sugar surplus which has caused a fall in the world market prices over the past year. SSA had

challenges in obtaining markets that offer remunerative prices like in prior years.

SACU experienced an influx of world market sugar imports which eroded the key market and displaced Eswatini sugar," reads part of the report.

Furthermore, protecting preferences in existing markets, penetrating the regional markets as countries are protectionist, limited diversification opportunities, and additional sugar sold to low paying markets diluted sugar prices adding to the host of challenges faced by the association.

Despite all these challenges Mnisi said sugar and sugarcane were still Eswatini's gold and revealed that the association's vision aims to move with global trends of optimising the crop benefits.

Similarly, SSA Board Chairman Tom Dlamini said this year was another challenging period for the industry considering that the previous year had a low production due to the effects of the drought.

"The improvements in sugar production were counteracted by a depressed market. In acknowledgement of the changing global sugar market environment and volatility adaptability, creativity has become vital for SSA both operationally and strategically," he said.

Growers, millers to look into welfare of communities

The sugar industry should cater for the needs of the communities at which they are located.

This was said by SSA CEO Phil Mnisi following a question posed by The Nation Magazine Journalist Vuyisile Hlatjwako, who asked what the association was doing for the people who were evicted to make way for the industry.

Hlatjwayo made reference on the misery and plight of the people from Lunkunfu in the Lubombo region who were allegedly relocated to make way for the Ubombo sugarcane fields and later abandoned to fend on their own in the 1970s.

The CEO revealed that the SSA is in the process of developing a comprehensive sustainability programme that mirrors its commitment to sustainable business practices in respect of human rights, labour rights and laws while achieving sustainable economic development and environmental protection. He then directed his team to go and investigate and



Swaziland Sugar Association CEO Philemon Mnisi.

address the case of the people from Lunkunfu. Mnisi said the industry is the second largest employer in the country with about 30 000 employees after government, which reportedly has about 40 000. He said they were committed in ensuring that sugarcane created lasting value for the people, communities business and the eco system in which production occurs.

Anti-sugar campaigns not worrisome

Addressing anti-sugar campaigns, the CEO said in the same way that markets change, consumer tastes change and organisations which choose to compete in the market must change. "Gradually, consumers seek healthier substitutes for sugar amidst growing health focused campaigns against

sugar and its contribution to obesity and other non-communicable diseases.

As an industry we continue to believe in the sustainability of the industry as sugar is a good source of energy and can serve as a vehicle for micro nutrients and vitamins," he said.



Mkhonta's blankets in the car trunk.



Elvis Mkhonta's clothes found in the car.



The scrap Sedan used by Elvis 'Bigger Boss' Mkhonta as his shelter. (Pics: Zwelethu Dlamini).

HOMELESS ARCHITECT TURNS SKOROKORO INTO BEDROOM

STORIES BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

He is proficient in drawing fabulous mansions but cannot afford to pay for a roof over his own head.

A homeless architect who lives around Kwaluseni has found shelter in a scrap Sedan instead of a decent house. He says it feels like he is living in an airplane. He went to study Architecture in Pretoria, South Africa from 2000 to 2004 after completing school in 1998.

However, he did not complete the course because of financial constraints. By the time he dropped out he was set to study the final course 'Structural Engineering'. He said at tertiary he was well-versed at technical drawing.

He is from Velezizweni. Family disputes contributed to the life he is living now as after the death of his father in 1982, his mother together with him and siblings were not allowed to construct their homestead in the family land.

He has been knocked twice by different motor vehicles and is currently fighting to be compensated by Sincephetelo Motor Vehicle Accidents (SMVA) Fund. As if the two accidents were not enough, the architect has also survived two attacks.

He was allegedly hacked by family members because of a family dispute while in 2012 he was allegedly shot while relaxing in one of Manzini shopping centres. He initially left home in 2010 to hustle in the city.

That is the story of Elvis 'Bigger Boss' Mkhonta of Bigger Boss Architecture. Mkhonta, who has turned a scrap Sedan into a home, said he had been living this way for the past three months.

Mkhonta's life has raised concerns to some people in the area over his welfare. 'Bigger Boss' uses the car as his bedroom and office. His full wardrobe is also kept in the cream white car.

This publication visited Mkhonta on Wednesday night, where he was found inside his 'house' preparing to sleep. He said he was getting ready to sleep and asked the publication to come the next day (Thursday) for the interview.

He describes himself as living a lavish life.

"Hhawu ngiphila silungu mine la. Uyabona nalokuhlala ku one-room

...he designs fabulous mansions but cannot afford to pay for a roof over his head.



Elvis 'Bigger Boss' Mkhonta of Bigger Boss Architecture inside the skorokoro which he converted into a bedroom.

ukhandze kutsi uyachama landlini nebantwana bonkhe bachama khona lapha," he said, after being asked about living in the scrap Sedan, explaining how living in the car was way better than living in a one-room.

'Bigger Boss' said this was because in a one-room there was so much congestion as space is limited.

Expensive

He added that living in the scrap Sedan was like being in an airplane. 'Bigger Boss' added that the body of the airplane may appear to be worn out but the inside was very much comfortable. "The car is expensive; I do not feel any cold while inside, it is very warm. At times I sleep with the sedan's doors open so I can cool off," Mkhonta explained.

He went on to sing praises for the car and said he had blankets too, that keep him warm.

'Bigger Boss' further added that living in the car has saved him from paying monthly rentals. He said his stay was approved by the landlord of the idle plot which he said he was its watchman.

'Bigger Boss' added that the female landlord had also permitted him to construct a guard house within her plot where he would move in. He explained that he was in the process of accumulating money so he would build the house.

'Bigger Boss' said he used to occupy a shack inside the plot which was later destroyed by the owner after some people started to run illegal businesses in it. He said there were people who turned the shack into a day-care during the day. This affected with his work as he had to wait until in the evening to do drawings.

'Bigger Boss' said he was not the owner of the scrap sedan as it belonged to some businesspeople who used to operate a mechanical and motor vehicle workshop on the plot.

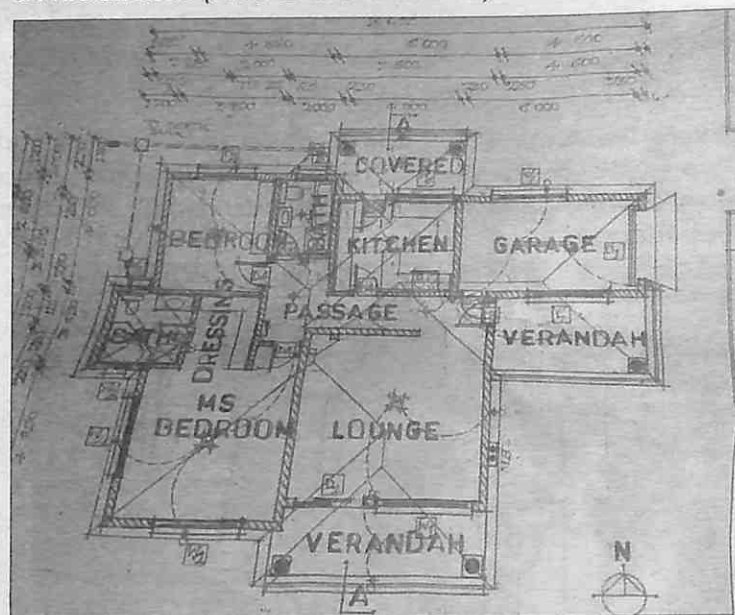
These gentlemen were allegedly kicked out by the owner of the land three months ago as she wanted to develop the land. Luckily, when the gentlemen took the cars the sedan was left behind. "I work here as a cleaner and security watchman. I'm paid for my services," he said.

When asked if he had a girlfriend who visits him in his 'house', 'Bigger Boss' said he was single and not planning to date anytime soon.

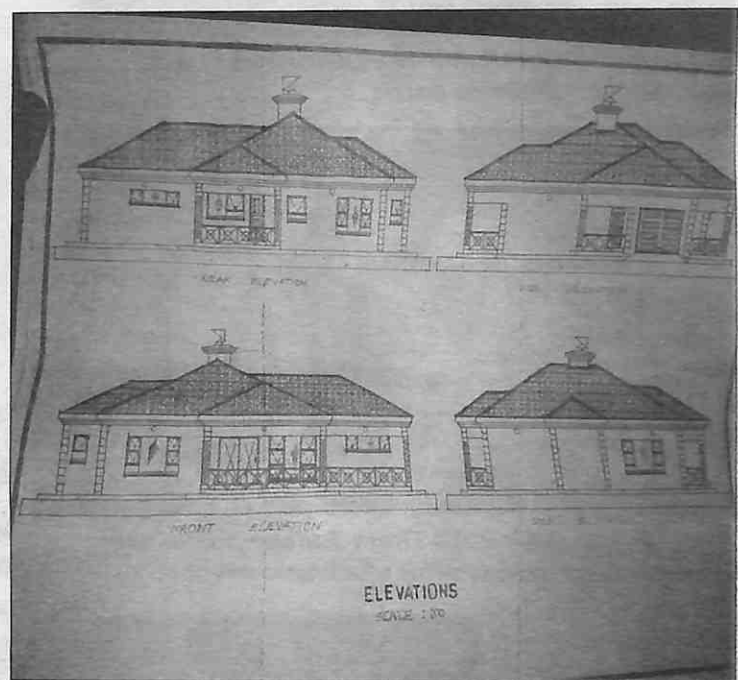
He said he took this resolution after his uncle was left by two wives despite paying full lobola for them.

'Bigger Boss' alleged that both wives cheated on his uncle with their workmates.

The uncle decided to stay single and he has since then become a successful individual and the first person to build a double storey in his family.



Pictures showing the architectural drawings in different views.



Sells architectural drawings to top brass

Elvis 'Bigger Boss' Mkhonta of Bigger Boss Architecture returned to the country in 2004 and established his dream company.

According to him, Bigger Boss Architecture has since then sold architecture drawings to top brass in the country. His list is boosted with former cabinet ministers and business people.

He came to the interview armed with house drawings which are ready to be sold to prove his architectural skills. He is currently using hand drawings as he sold his laptop back when life gave him lemons. However, that has not killed his business as he is still

selling drawings to date.

'Bigger Boss' explained that he charges less for drawings nowadays as he was now selling them for peanuts because he wants to survive.

People have since taken advantage of his financial troubles as he has been forced to drop charges from a maximum of E3 500 to E25. 'Bigger Boss' said people wishing to do business with him can contact his long-time ally Majaha Shongwe on mobile number (+268) 7820 2221. He said Shongwe has been a true friend even in trying times. Shongwe sells chicken dust just a few metres away from Mkhonta's scrap sedan.

BIKERS' RALLY KICKS OFF



Bikers leave the Riders Ranch to take part in the mass ride during Day Two of the 25th annual Swazi Rally held yesterday. The biker enthusiasts were treated to some music from local and SA DJs (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

BY NOKWANDA
SIBANDZE

The biggest biking kicked off on a high note as hundreds of bikers gathered at the Riders Ranch at Sidvokodvo, where the opening bash was held.

With over 500 tents pitched just outside the Castle, bikers were ready to begin the weekend with some musical entertainment. Every year over 10 000 bikers from as far as Namibia, South Africa, Botswana and Lesotho come to participate in the rally.

Celebrating 25 years of riding and biking stunts the event kicked off with music

by a number of artist including internationally acclaimed cover band Ice n' Fire. They thrilled the audience with their



Swazi Boys President Brian Carrington parks his bike next to the entrance.

acoustic performance singing cover songs such as Mafikizolo's 'Ndihambanawe', 'Collide' by Lady Zamar, 'Omuniye' by Dladla Mshunqisi, and ending their performance with 'Destiny' by Malaika leaving the crowd

chanting 'We want more'.

Bikes were parked outside for the night and dancing shoes came on as the line-up was packed with a number of DJs including South Africa's Prince Kaybee, who came in dishing



Dusty and Stones entertain the audience with Country and Western music.



Miss Swazi Rally 2018 Thato Tailane poses with some of her friends after she was crowned.



A member of the Ice n' Fire Band shows off his physique as he performs.



Some of the music lovers dancing up a storm.

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ON A HIGH NOTE

out nothing but good music that everyone could dance to.

Prince Kaybee mounted to the stage at 2am and the party started all over again as he made the crowd dance with his famous tracks such as 'Wajellwa', 'Charlotte', 'Club Controller'. Yesterday was a special night for the DJ as well as he was dropping his new single 'Banomoya' featuring Busiswa and TNS.

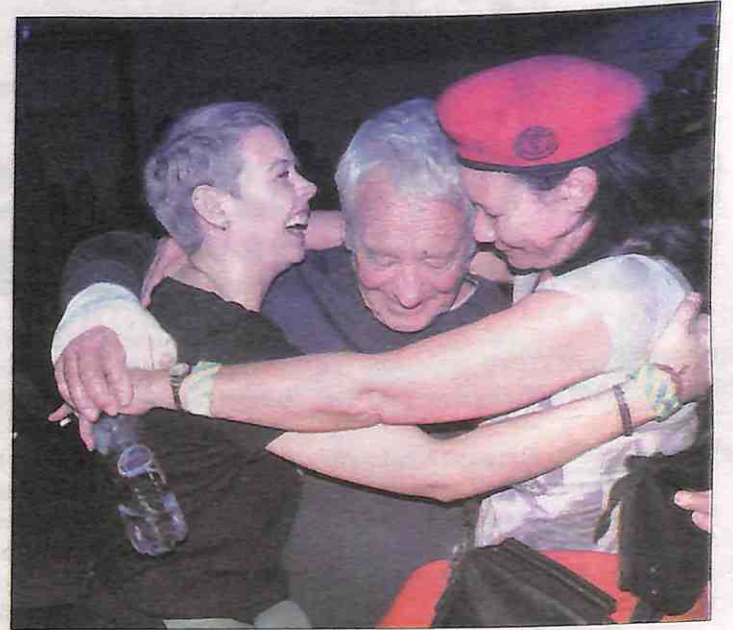
The artist said he played the song for the first time outside of South Africa and he was pleased with the response. "People do not know the song yet but the response that the crowd gave was amazing and it showed me that they will love the song," said the DJ.

He also said it was his first time playing in front of so many bikers and he loved every minute of it. "First time performing for this type of crowd but they sure know how to get down and I really enjoyed playing for them," he added. Taking the ropes from Prince Kaybee were local DJs who made sure they keep the party going and the crowd dancing till morning. Some of the DJs that played were DJ MBO, DJ 1D and DJ Master P to mention a few.

It was clear that biking is not the only thing that the attendants are good at as they danced to the music till the early hours of the morning.



Swazi Boys MCC members pose for our lenses.



A family locks arms as they dance.



Bandzi poses with Mary a lady biker inside the main hall.



DJ Mbo playing his set for the fun lovers.



A couple enjoys their Hubble bubble.



Entertainment was the order of the night.



Music band Ice and Fire entertained the audience at the Swazi Rally yesterday.



The Hyena ladies pose for our lenses.



PRESS STATEMENT

The Eswatini Tourism Authority (ETA) and the Eswatini National Trust Commission (ENTC) would like to thank all tourism stakeholders, including Tour Guides, for the role they play in promoting tourism in the country.

We have however noted that some visitors receive incorrect information which may be derogatory and insolent about the traditions and culture of the Kingdom of Eswatini. We therefore encourage all stakeholders, especially Tour Guides, to ensure that they seek and disseminate correct information in order to effectively and efficiently promote the country's unique and rich natural and cultural heritage.

By:
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
ESWATINI NATIONAL TRUST COMMISSION



PRIMARY ELECTIONS COVERAGE 2018



SIKHUMBUSO'S SUPPORTER SLAPS YOUNGER BROTHER

STORIES FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

The race to represent Nkwene in Parliament took a nasty turn when former Member of Parliament (MP) Sikhumbuzo Dlamini's supporter slapped his younger brother Mzwandile.

Information gathered is that the incident happened a few weeks prior to the primary elections which were held last Saturday.

In the primary elections, Sikhumbuzo beat his younger sibling hands down when he recorded 906 votes compared to Mzwandile's 209. The incident which caused tensions between the two is said to have happened in full view of members of the public.

In an interview with this publication, Mzwandile said he reported the matter to Hlatikulu police, where he opened a case.

When asked why the supporter slapped him, Mzwandile said: "The supporter asked why I was running for the elec-

tions because I was disturbing Sikhumbuzo's Parliament's race. But before I could give a response, he slapped me." He said the supporter only slapped him once. This is contrary to reports that the supporter assaulted and floored him to the ground. The incident occurred at the shops, just before the turn to Buseleni community.

Mzwandile went on to state that his brother's supporter was his neighbour so he was in the dark why he (supporter) acted the way he did.

When asked about his relationship with Sikhumbuzo, Mzwandile said as far as he knew there was no bad blood between the two.

Mzwandile alleged that he even called his brother to congratulate him on winning in the primary elections.

Initially, Mzwandile was against the idea that the matter be reported to the police, saying it would go to the Swazi National Court. This was because he wanted the assault case to be handled by his attorney.

When asked on the matter, Sikhumbuzo said he was not aware of it. He said his



Former Member of Parliament (MP) Sikhumbuzo Dlamini.

younger brother was in a better position to discuss the incident.

He further disputed reports that the supporter was his elections agent (*galajane*). He said as far as he knew, none of his men slapped any individual.

When asked about his relationship with Mzwandile on nomination day, Sikhumbuzo said there was no bad blood between them.

Stiff competition for ex-MP in Secondary Elections

Former Nkwene Member of Parliament (MP) Sikhumbuzo Dlamini who mercilessly defeated his younger brother Mzwandile from Parliament's race faces Buseleni's favourite candidate Philemon Vulimpompi Nhleko in the secondary elections.

Nhleko's main competitor in his chiefdom was former Nkwene MP Aaron Sotja Dladla. When Dladla and Nhleko competed in 2013 primary elections, Nhleko became victorious. He then faced Nhlalabantfu/Nkwene community and Dlamini managed to defeat him with a difference of 166 votes. This means, in the 2013 secondary elections, ex-Nkwene MP Dlamini won the Parliament seat by 1 460 votes while Nhleko bagged 1 274 votes.

On Saturday, Nhleko got 1 997 votes which is a higher number

compared to the votes Dlamini attained to win the 2013 elections. Moreover, Nhleko's main competitor on Saturday got 405 votes.

After the votes had been announced, Dladla reportedly went to shake Nhleko's hand as a sign of congratulating him for the massive victory. Unverified information suggests that the two Buseleni main candidates allegedly forged a working relationship as the elections continued.

Noting

Worth noting is that Buseleni is the largest community with a large population under Nkwene Inkhundla. Meanwhile, last Saturday, Dlamini amassed 906 votes while his younger brother got 209 votes. On the other communities, aspirant Hlobani MP Ncobile Dlamini and KuPhumleni Gab'sile Zwane amassed 109 and 93 votes respectively.

YOUNG WOMAN WORKING ON A BETTER MOTSHANE

BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

A young woman is leading by example on how to be neighbourly in Motshane as she recently donated to younger children in neighbourhood care points (NCPs).

Siphehile Shongwe is founder and director of Soaring High It's a Girl Thing (SIGT) an organisation operating within the Motshane, a non-profit which was launched in October 2017.

She started the organisation with her sister Lomkhosi and following the launch last year, they came together and collected donations which were given to ten girls from each of the five NCPs in the area. Explaining the purpose of the organisation prior to the donation, Siphehile said it was to improve the lives of the underprivileged children and the youth in the Motshane community.

"The SIGT motto goes as follows, 'We are the wings to propel change in the lives of children and to be the hands that feed and the feet that walk children to their great destinies'."

She said the organisations was purposed to make people realise that they are special, intelligent, great and talented and hence, in commemorating Women's Month, she said 50 girls from the various care point centres would benefit. "In this women's month we would like to encourage all the girls to dream big, work hard and achieve their goals. Here's to strong women, may we know them may we be them and may we raise them. Happy women's month ladies." She said she uses SIGT as a vehicle that propels change in the lives of children through donating food parcels, books and toys to the



Children from five Motshane Neighbourhood Care Points (NCPs) carrying some of the donated items comprising of shoes, clothes and toys. (R) Part of the 50 young girls who benefited from this past week's donation. (Courtesy pics)

NCP's and by donating clothes to the underprivileged and vulnerable children. "The food parcels are donated to the care point centres, so the children can get access to food, because children need to be physically healthy to be able to execute their daily activities." The books donated to the NCP's will be used to cultivate a culture of reading amongst the young children because the minds of children are like gardens that need to be intelligently cultivated and not neglected.

Through reading, the children's minds will be equipped with knowledge that will broaden their spectrum.

"Walt Elias Disney once said: 'Our greatest natural resource is the minds of our children.' It is therefore, important to ensure that we educate and cultivate these young minds to enable these children to become better leaders tomorrow," said Shongwe.

The donated toys will be used in the

NCP's by the children as part of their recreational wellbeing, said Shongwe adding that it was of paramount importance to ensure that the children flourish in all areas of their lives.

Making an impassioned plea, she stated that SIGT alone could not make a drastic change in the community as there was need for a concerted effort to help the children, "Lucius Seneca once said 'where there is a human being, there is an opportunity for kindness.'" She further challenged those in attendance that they should all ensure that they work together because children can best be raised by a community working with a common purpose.

"Having said this, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who came to support us today. It is heart-warming to see all of you here today and on behalf of S.I.G.T I would like to say thank you very much for coming and making this event a suc-



Part of the 50 young girls who benefited from this past week's donation. (Courtesy pics)



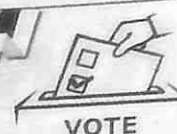
The drivers behind SIGT, Director Lomkhosi Shongwe, Nondumiso Dlamini, Founder and Director Siphehile Shongwe, Nonduduzo Nhlabatsi and S'khulile Dlamini.

cess may the Almighty God bless you." She thanked her mother, grandmother, partner and sister, Pastor Wandile Shongwe, Lizwe Masuku,

Bongiwe Matsenjwa, and Bonsile Gule for contributions they made to the organisation.



PRIMARY ELECTIONS COVERAGE 2018



WHAT ASPIRING WOMEN POLITICIANS HAVE TO OFFER

...COMPILED BY THEMBEKA DLAMINI

Makhosazana Fakudze Masilela (46)



As a qualified nurse, the woman contesting for the Maphalaleni Constituency Member of Parliament seat believes a healthy nation is a prosperous one. Her area of concern is women and girls, people she says are the worst affected when it comes to health issues and are at times left behind. "To be seen as a developed nation, health of the marginalised has to take priority." She says the increasing abuse of drugs should concern everyone as it mostly affects those who are supposed to drive the country to prosperity, the youth. Masilela says the entrepreneurial spirit needs to be imparted in every young person so as to encourage economic growth wherein new entrants to the employment pool are well paid because of competitiveness.

Gabsile Zwane (36)



She aspires to be a refreshing voice in the August House.

The woman from Kuphumuleni Chiefdom in Nkwene believes clean water supply in all rural areas is a prerogative and that there is need for looking at ways of ensuring that this happens in all 59 *Tinkhundla*. The businesswoman says living in the rural areas daily opens her eyes to the needs of those in similar settings and this drives her zeal to ensure that sustainable water supply is achieved. "Using catchment areas for harvesting water as well as purification means should be made in every constituency. In Nkwene, there is need for a water processing plant to supply water which is in short supply despite that there is a river nearby." She says the development of business areas within rural areas is important to her as this will bring markets for their produce which at times calls for them to travel several kilometres to the nearest towns. Her area of focus within business will be capitalisation of small and medium enterprises as she has borne witness to the struggles her peers within her community face when trying to secure finances for their start-up informal businesses. She is also in favour of encouraging cooperatives as they enable those without accounts to save their monies towards their various goals.

Busisiwe Mavimbela

She is a woman from Ekudzeni Chiefdom elected to contest in the secondary elections under the Ludzelu Constituency. Her first port of call, if elected MP, will be to work particularly with women and the youth on their economic empowerment.

She recognises that men cannot be excluded because everyone has to move together at the same pace. It is in this regard that she feels women and the youth should be brought up to the same level as men who occupy key positions in decision making in an equitable manner.

Her focus will be to call for policies which encourage entrepreneurship for economic advancement of the whole country, infrastructure development which improves outlying rural areas, as well as proper decentralisation of services.

"For us to make realistic headway towards First World Status, we cannot carry on having women as the face of poverty. We also have to see the difference in the youth population having viable entrepreneurial skills to ensure equal distribution of wealth within urban and rural setting."

She says she will work towards ensuring infrastructure development is also spread throughout the country to ensure urban migration is not forced to occur due to opportunities not being found in rural areas.



"We have beautiful roads and buildings. Unfortunately, these are concentrated within urban settings which means those in the rural areas are left behind."

Calling for decentralisation of all government services, she says the improvement of infrastructure in the rural areas will bring fertile ground for skills to be used where people are situated.

Hlobsile Sikhosana (39)

She is a businesswoman with several qualifications to her name.

The Sigangeni Chiefdom resident is contesting for the Siphocosi Constituency seat.

Armed with business acumen favouring marketing, she wants to change the community she lives in by being the voice of all women who live in the area and beyond.

She is aware that Members of Parliament have a legislative role and she says she envisions constant consultation so as to assist in furthering her electorate's agendas.

"Legislatively, I have an idea on issues that affect people from my area and when the time comes, they will dictate what they want changed."

However, she has a passion towards youth, the disabled and the elderly. Also, she aims to work towards promoting laws which encourage business start-ups and enables youth to partake in viable ventures.

She says she wishes to foster a relationship with residents which will see consultations start from chiefdoms before being discussed at *Inkhundla* level so as to ensure that develop-



mental plans are as per everyone's wishes. Sikhosana is passionate about the youth and has been involved in projects such as the T55 SWAMA National Talent Search.

She also operates a pre-school in Sigangeni which she believes brings quality education for young minds; something that she believes should be replicated the country over.

Precious Nxumalo (50)

As an Early Childhood Care and Development practitioner, Nxumalo believes there is need to re-educate most emaSwati about making do with what they have in order to make money.

She is against the dependency syndrome which sees locals expecting handouts during hard times.

"When I see an empty milk carton, I automatically have means of making E100 from it."

She says there are a lot of ways of

making money, something which needs to be instilled in the unemployed so that they can have hope for their future.

She is interested in the elderly's welfare as she believes they hold a wealth of knowledge and solutions to persistent problems.

Nxumalo says due to her love for young girls, she wants to pursue a policy which will see the supply of pads made mandatory at all schools in the same manner food is provided.

Concerning constituencies, Nxumalo says there is need to improve the services provided at the *Tinkhundla* centres because that is where development should start. "Residents should get all services and access to finance within their constituencies to remove the gap between urban and rural areas."

She says she will champion for the formation of formal markets as well education centres to be within the constituencies so that production can be realised.



KING COMMISSIONS IMBALI



His Majesty King Mswati III commissioned throngs of Imbali to cut reed at Mpisi Farm and Kabhamsakhe on Wednesday. The Imbali successfully returned on Friday to rest in readiness to deliver the reed at Ludzidzini Royal Residence today. The ceremony attracts throngs of tourists from all over the world to witness the spectacular ceremony. The King's visitors also witnessed the commissioning. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



His Majesty joined by emazinyane and Bayeskhulu as they danced up a storm.



Mbuyazwe Dlamini, Thembinkosi Mngomezulu and Sijabuliso Ndzinisa in song and dance.



Emakhosikati LaMahlangu and LaFogiyane joined by emazinyane and Sigodlo in song and dance after the commissioning of Imbali.



Emazinyane leading the younger Imbali which was commissioned to cut reed at Kabhamsakhe.



His Majesty's guests also witnessed the commissioning of Imbali.



Former senator Bonsile Mngomezulu, Lubombo RA Sylvia Mthethwa, Minister Sibongile Ndlela-Simelane, Gciniwe Fakudze from Eswatini Mobile and Nonhlanhla Nsingwane were also at the ceremony.



Indvuna Nonduduzo Zubuko communicating the King's message as emazinyane Temaswati and Sikhanyiso look on.



ENCAC Board Chairperson Busisiwe Simelane and Culture Manager Thembekile Dlamini also joined the ceremony.



Lacwebetelako also came through to support the King on the special day.



A view of the throngs of Imbali who were commissioned by the King.



Buckswood School Principal Giles Sutton with other guests at Ngabezweni.

PROPHET ELIJAH FIRE PACKS OVER 2000 AT JUDGEMENT NIGHT

BY SIMON SHABANGU

...Prince Majaha graces the all night prayer

Over 2 000 congregants descended at Woodlands Restaurant auditorium for the biggest all night prayer service in Eswatini, the Judgement Night. The service, hosted by renowned Prophet Elijah Fire who is the founder of Hope Restoration Church, was held at Woodlands, Ezulwini on Friday night.

Prince Majaha is one of the guests, who attended the service. Others also spotted in attendance were businessman Polycarp Dlamini, the late businessman Victor Gamedze's wife Princess Lungile as well as pastors from other church-

es. People came far and wide to witness and be part of this historic service that is held annually by the church. "We are honoured to have Lizinyane Prince Majaha in our midst today.

Our friendship with him dates back over 10 years and we are always together when travelling outside the country," he said.

Known to perform miracles, Prophet Elijah Fire did not disappoint even this time around as he declared gold dust and oil to appear on people's hands and indeed they did.

Many, especially those who were

attending for the first time, were shocked by this display of power. "This is a sign of a visitation from above.

I am doing all this to boost your faith so that you know that God is in this place," he said, adding that the same way these signs were manifesting, is same way God will answer their prayers.

The prophet also went into intense deliverance where some of the congregants affected by demons were prayed for and delivered.

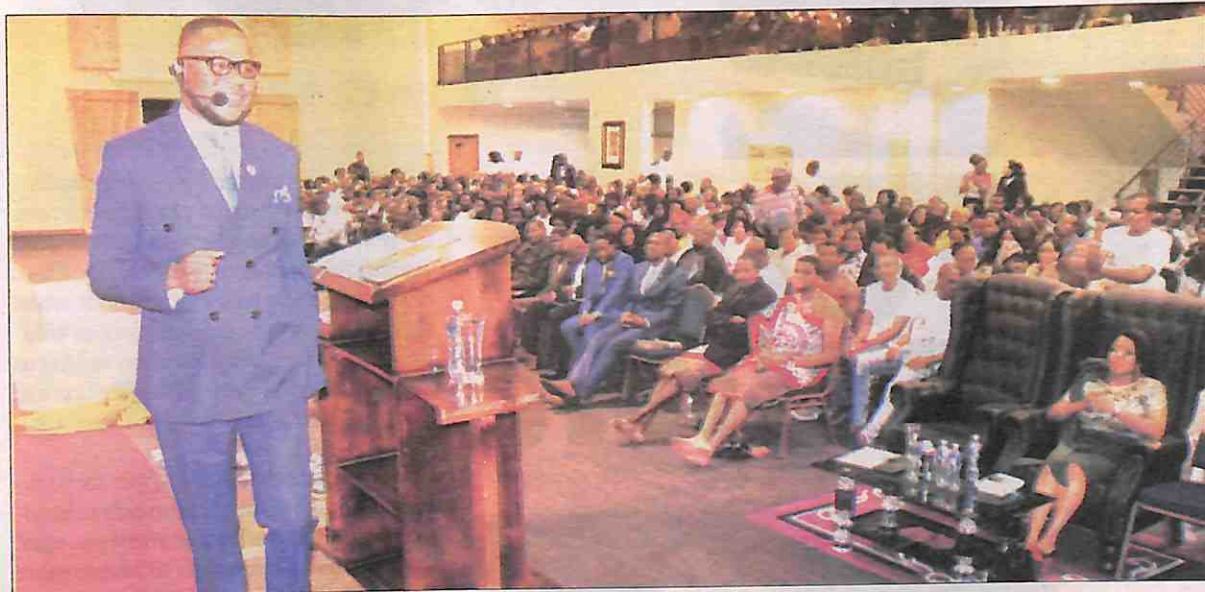
It could not have been a complete service without the prophet prophesying. He went into detail

prophesying to the different people he located as he moved around the auditorium. He prophesied to one lady and told her that her life is stagnant. "Yes Major, I have not been working for over 20 years now," she confirmed. The Prophet laid hands on her and told her to come back and testify after two months.

Elijah Fire also gave prophecy to an old man, whom he told that there was a problem with his job. The old man confirmed the prophecy, stating that his contract at work has to be renewed every three months. "God said I must tell you that He has sorted out that job issue," the prophet said.



Prophet Elijah Fire ministering the Word of God during the Judgement Night prayer service held at Woodlands Restaurant on Friday Night. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)



Prophet Elijah Fire in action during the service.



Prince Majaha listening attentively as the Prophet went deep into his sermon.



Prince Majaha deep in prayer during the service.



Thousands of congregants queuing to place their sacrificial offering at the Prophet's feet.



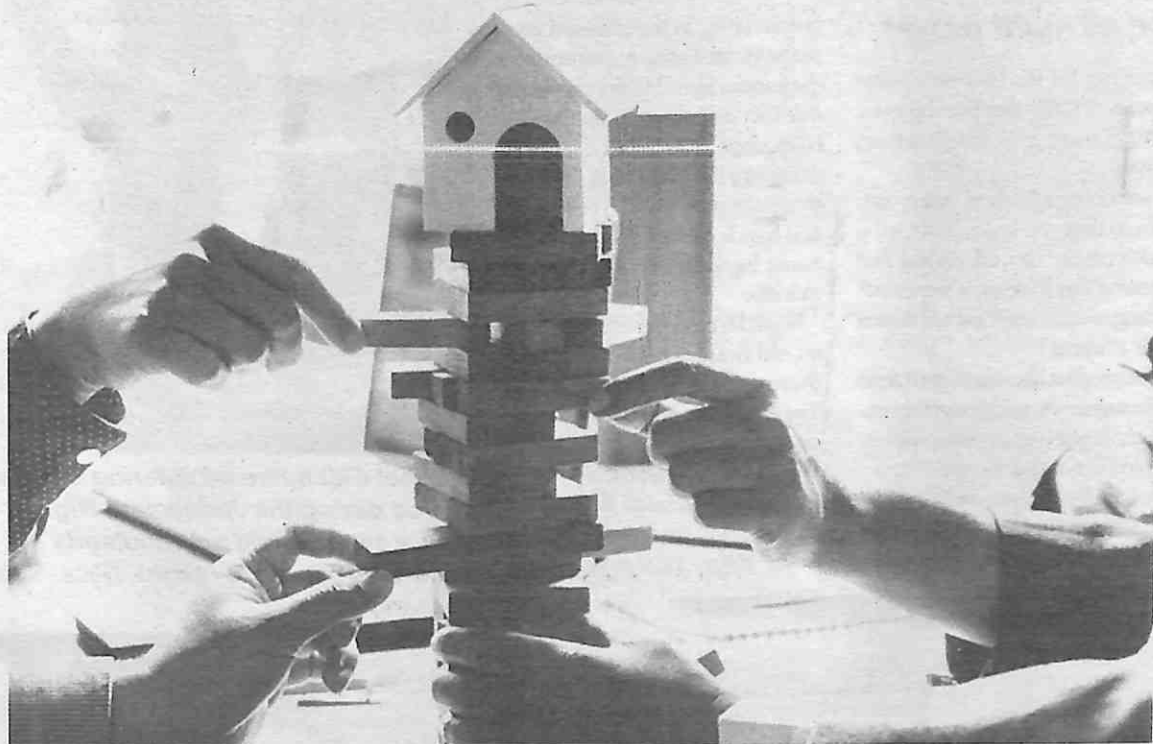
Nomcebo Khumalo testifying about getting delivered by the Prophet and further getting accepted at tertiary as well as receiving a scholarship for her studies.



Businessman Polycarp Dlamini (front row, second right) also attended the service.



Congregants lift up their hands in prayer during the service.



MINIMISE YOUR INVESTMENT RISK

Property investment is an inherently risky business: you're spending a lot of money on one single, immovable asset with lots of things that can go wrong, and then handing it over to a complete stranger to live in.

Perceived risk is a big factor too: even if in reality a meteor is never going to strike your property, if you're worried about it happening it will still affect your decision making. Here are the five most common property investment risks and what can be done to mitigate them.

BARGAIN

Type of risk: Capital values falling and putting you in negative equity

Solution: Buy the property for less than it's worth

The phrase "you make your money when you buy" is trotted out frequently for a reason: it's true. It also gives you some level of protection from a falling market. If you buy a property for 10 per cent less than it's worth and the market falls 10 per cent, you're back to where most people would have started.

On the other hand if you'd overpaid by 10 per cent, you'd now be 20 per cent down on the deal. If you can't buy a property for less than it is worth, an alternative option is to find a way to quickly add value.

Whether that's an extension, refurbishment, or change of use, you



can increase the value of the property and mitigate your risk.

MAINTAIN

Type of risk: Everything going wrong!

Solution: Buy new, or get everything expensive done at the start

A common landlord worry is a never-ending stream of phone calls from tenants complaining about things going wrong. There are two ways to protect against this one. The first is to buy a new or nearly new property, the other is to bring repairs forward by doing them all when you first acquire the property. If the geysers are ancient, roof tiles are slipping and the electrics

are a mess, don't wait for them to fail: get them all done at the start, and treat the cost as if it were part of the purchase price. You're still incurring the cost, but psychologically you could find it less painful if you're prepared for it, and it's happening at a point when you've budgeted accordingly.

INSURE

Type of risk: Leaks / fire / the end of the world

Solution: Insurance
Maintenance doesn't protect you against emergencies and a long list of truly horrible things that can go wrong, so get insurance! While fires and hurricanes don't happen

very often, they do happen and it is better to be prepared than to be caught unawares.

This is why insurance is a must. It will be a condition of any home loan anyway, but if you're particularly worried, you might want to opt for a policy that gives you a higher level of cover than the bare minimum you could get away with. Get quotes from as many different insurers as you can and see which one best suits you.

FIX

Type of risk: Interest rates rising dramatically

Solution: Stress-test, and/or fix for a long time

High interest rates are a very common concern, and you'd be right not to take low rates for granted: you can guarantee that rates will eventually be higher than they are now, and historically there have been periods when they've been very high. One obvious solution is to fix for a long time: fixes as long as 10 years are available, although of course rates will be higher than if you fixed for a shorter period.

The other drawback (apart from the higher rate) is there will usually be an early redemption penalty, so you'll incur a fee if you want to move to another lender to release more equity. So the other option is to stress-test your investment so you can reassure yourself that the property will still make money even if interest rates hit X% – where X could be seven or eight percent, or even higher if you're particularly cautious. To be even more cautious, you could even "pretend" that your interest rate is higher now and put the difference into a separate fund each month, and use that fund to cover your extra outgoings if your repayments ever go higher than the rent covers.

RESEARCH

Type of risk: Won't be able to find tenants

Solution: Research the market carefully, and look out for potential "shocks"

This is a very common one: what if you can't find tenants, and your property sits empty, costing you money? The main way to reduce this risk is through research: make sure the property you're buying is in an area with robust demand, which you can establish by checking listings in the newspapers and online, as well as speaking to local agents to see how many properties are available and how quickly they're snapped up. Also look out for potential future shocks to demand or supply. For example, what if a new housing estate is being built next door that's going to soak up the demand that you're currently enjoying? Or, if demand is a result of one big local employer, what would happen to that demand if they closed shop?

These are just five of the major worries that a new landlord will have, and the ways in which you can mitigate these risks. Remember, no investment is a guarantee, so invest wisely and always do your homework.

MAKE A HAND-PAINTED VINTAGE SIGN

Learn how to use an old board or a cabinet door to post your favorite message.

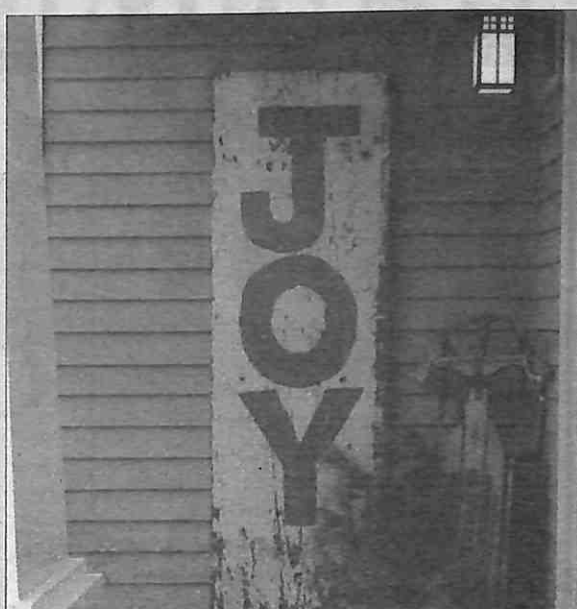
This vintage-theme sign will add a touch of glam to your home, and can be placed anywhere according to the message you want to display.

You'll need:

- Utility/craft knife
- Scissors
- Drill
- salvaged wood board or old door
- paint
- sealer
- face mask
- brown paper
- masking tape
- marker
- hand saw
- hand vacuum

Directions

Wearing a mask, clean the board to get any paint flakes off and then wipe it down with a damp cloth. Measure the board, and



plan out your design on paper. Create a template for the letters on your brown paper by drawing the letters in the sizes you will need, then cut them out and tape onto the board using masking tape.

Outline your letters with a marker, remove the templates and then use your craft knife to cut along the marker lines.

Go over them a few times to make the lines wider and deeper, then go over them again with a hand saw to create a rough-line look. Vacuum to remove all dust and wood chips from the lines.

Paint inside the lines, but leave some of the finish/paint underneath exposed. Let dry and if necessary, put on a second coat and let dry. Use sandpaper to scrape away the paint in some spots to give it an aged look. Seal the paint on the front and back two times before displaying your new vintage sign.

www.diynetwork.com

NO-BAKE CHEESECAKE

Sometimes you're in the mood for something sweet but don't have the wherewithal to actually bake. Cheesecake, especially, is tricky to make in the oven. This recipe cuts the effort in half by letting your fridge do the work, but be warned, it won't last very long in the fridge and everyone will be begging you to make another and another.

Prep time: 30 mins, make the day before

- 1 1/2 cups tennis biscuits
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 1/3 cup butter, melted
- 2 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese
- 2 tsp lemon juice
- 470ml whipping cream
- 1/3 cup white sugar
- handful chopped nuts and crushed biscuits

Tools

- Large bowl
- Wooden spoon
- Electric mixer
- 8 or 10 inch springform pan

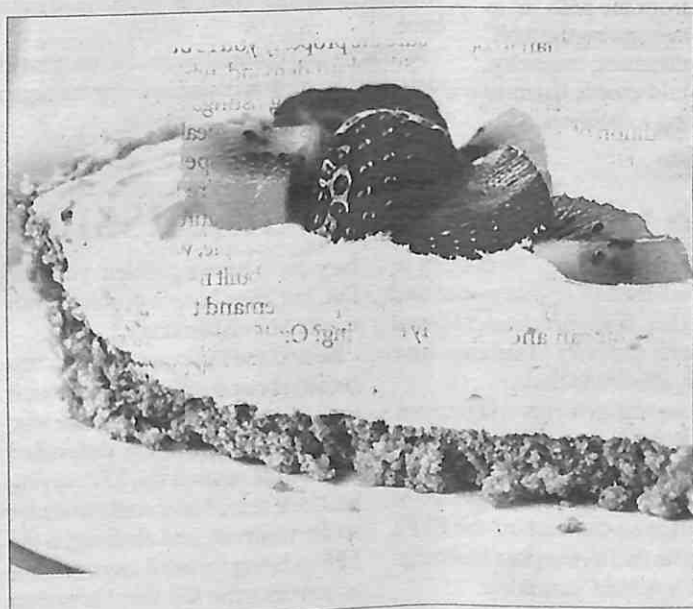
Directions

Step 1

In a small bowl, stir together the biscuits, brown sugar and cinnamon. Add melted butter and mix well. Press into the bottom of your springform pan. Chill in the fridge until firm, at least one hour.

Step 2

In a medium bowl, beat together the cream cheese and lemon juice until soft. Add whipping cream and beat with an electric mixer until batter becomes thick. Add the sugar and continue to beat until stiff. Pour into chilled crust and sprinkle a handful of chopped nuts and biscuits on top to decorate. Chill several hours or overnight. Just before serving, remove the sides of the springform pan and slice.



SAVORY BEEF SANDWICHES



The best way to make these is to start the day before, or in the morning before you leave for work.

The beef takes about six hours in the slow cooker, which is more than enough time to break it down completely and give you that tender, juicy sandwich filling that makes a beef sandwich such a treat.

Prep time: 15 mins **Cook time:** 6 hours

Ingredients

- 1 tbs onion powder
- 2 tsp salt
- 2 tsp garlic powder
- 2 tsp dried origanum
- 1 tsp dried rosemary, crushed
- 1 tsp dried marjoram
- 1/4 tsp cayenne pepper
- 1 1.5 to 2.5kg boneless beef chuck roast, halved
- 2 baguettes, sliced lengthwise and cut into six portions each

Tools

- Pressure cooker
- Bread knife

Directions

Combine seasonings and rub over your roast.

Place in a 5 litre slow cooker; there is no need to add water, it will come from the meat. Cover and cook on low for six to eight hours or until meat is tender. Shred the meat with a fork and serve on rolls.

EASY CHOCOLATE BROWNIES... FROM SCRATCH!

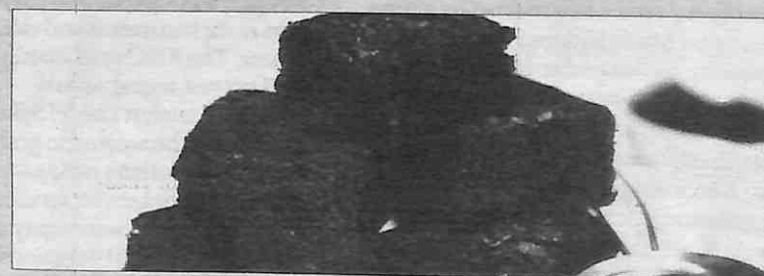
Not all brownies are created equal, so a good recipe that will stand the test of time is necessary in order for one to live their best life.

I like the addition of walnuts for some crunch, but you can add or remove them according to your preference. A good replacement for nuts is chocolate chips, which will make these even more decadent, and a light dusting over the top with some icing sugar will take these up another notch.

Prep time: 5 mins **Cook time:** 40-50 mins

Ingredients

- 175g plain flour
- 225g butter or margarine, room temperature
- 125g chocolate, at least 60% cocoa
- 325g caster sugar
- 2 tsp vanilla essence
- 4 eggs, beaten



- 80g chopped walnuts (optional)
 - Pinch of salt
 - 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- Tools**
- 25cm x 15cm brownie tin
 - Medium pot

Directions

Step 1

Preheat oven to 160°C and lightly grease an oblong brownie tin.

Step 2

Melt the butter or margarine

and chocolate together in a medium pot on the lowest heat setting. Remove from heat, add the sugar and mix well, and then add the vanilla essence, eggs and chopped walnuts.

Step 3

Sieve the flour, salt and baking powder together and gently stir into your chocolate mixture. Pour into the tin and bake for about 40 to 50 minutes, until crusty on top. Remove from the oven and allow to cool before cutting into brownies.



FOCUS ON SA SCENE

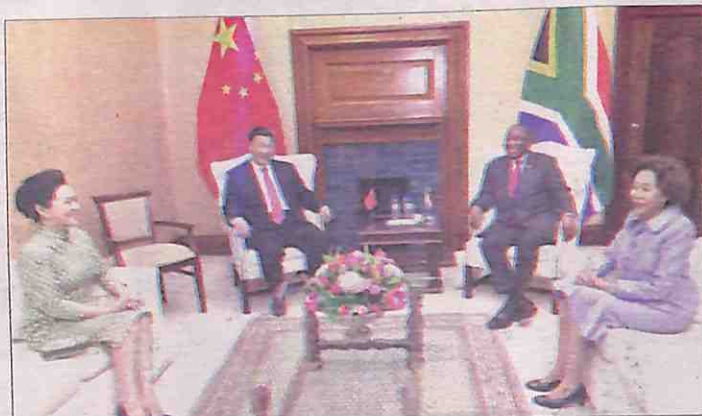


RAMAPHOSA TO STEP UP INVESTMENT DRIVE

JOHANNESBURG - President Cyril Ramaphosa on Friday departed for a State visit to the People's Republic of China (PRC), hosted by Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing.

"The President will position South Africa as an attractive destination for Chinese investors while facilitating opportunities for South African enterprises to engage in the Chinese economy through trade and investment," spokesperson Khusela Diko said in a statement early yesterday morning.

Ramaphosa's visit to the PRC was at the invitation of President Xi Jinping and reciprocates President Ramaphosa's hosting of his counterpart on a State visit on the eve of the Brics Summit in Johannesburg



President Cyril Ramaphosa, second right, and President Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China with their wives.

on July 24.

Ramaphosa would take the opportunity during his visit to step up his drive to attract investment in

the South African economy to stimulate inclusive growth and employment, Diko said.

During his visit, Ramaphosa will

also meet with Premier Li Keqiang and attend the welcome ceremony hosted by President Xi Jinping at the Great Hall of the People, as well as attend and co-chair the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation Summit on September 3-4.

Diko said the visit will commence with Ramaphosa laying a wreath at the monument of the people's Heroes in Tiananmen Square, in remembrance of those who lost their lives in the Chinese people's wars for independence and freedom.

The rand has been increasingly erratic over the last month, and faces a nine per cent drop during its worst monthly performance in over two years.

News24

ANC wants conferences wrapped up as it gets in election mode

CAPE TOWN - The African National Congress (ANC) says it wants all regional and provincial conferences wrapped up this weekend, so it can dedicate the next two months to drawing up candidate lists for the 2019 polls.

The party's national executive committee took a decision to disband the North West Provincial Executive Committee (PEC) at a meeting on Thursday but doesn't believe the move will impact on its election plan.

It says embattled former Premier Supra Mahumapelo was part of the decision to dissolve the provincial executive he chaired.

A provincial task team will assume all powers of the provincial executive in the North West as it prepares to go to the polls.

This includes overseeing the candidates lists. ANC Secretary General Ace Magashule says the party has given itself until the end of November to finalise these lists.

"We have agreed throughout the country that our energy will be spent on working together and we bring everybody together to refocus their energies on the election work around the country."

He says the party's new membership process launched this week will ensure that all members are allowed to participate in the nomination and election of candidates, amid previous claims of gatekeeping.

The South African Communist Party (SACP) in the North West says the ANC will still win elections in the province despite the dissolution of the PEC.

The North West SACP's Madoda Sambatha says despite recent challenges, which include residents calling for the removal of Mahumapelo, the ruling party still has a solid following.

"ANC has a greater support in the North West." He says no one individual can hold the party ransom.

"There should never be any person in the ANC who blackmails the ANC on an assumed influence."

Sambatha says those appointed to the provincial task team must focus on unifying the organisation.

Times Live



I signed off on Moyane's mysterious Russia trip - Gigaba

JOHANNESBURG - According to Moyane's request, there was an 'urgent need' for him to meet with the Russian Federal Tax Service boss to sign off on 'a tax matter'.

Former finance minister Malusi Gigaba told the Commission of Inquiry into Tax Administration and Governance at the SA Revenue Service (SARS) that he signed off on a mysterious trip now suspended SARS commissioner Tom Moyane took to Russia in 2017, even though the commissioner did not explain its purpose. It appears proper procedures weren't followed.

Gigaba said he usually did not ask for details when permission was requested, as he expected a report afterwards. If the information provided to him was wrong, disciplinary action would be taken. Details of Moyane's trip to Russia came to light when evidence leader Carol Steinberg read a submission by acting commissioner Mark Kingon. According to the submission, on November 18, 2017 Moyane requested urgent approval to go to Moscow from November 18 to 23. He signed the request on November 17 and Gigaba approved it the next day. According to the request, there was an "urgent need" for him to meet with the Russian Federal Tax Service boss to sign off on "a tax matter". Citizen

EFF-DA marriage of convenience was 'poorly conceived'

JOHANNESBURG - They are destructive and unproductive, but voters may have become so fed up that no party will be able to muster an outright majority in future.

Political experts have warned that as the ANC and Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) push to unseat the Democratic Alliance (DA) in the Tshwane and Nelson Mandela metro municipalities and other areas where there were coalition governments, they would have to ensure satisfactory service delivery or face an ouster similar to the 2016 electoral embarrassment.

The analysts have also cautioned of possible voter disgruntlement, apathy and even "protest votes" that may be caused by the ongoing power struggle among coalition partners in the two metros and elsewhere. The ANC would benefit if protest voting occurs.

Political analyst Daniel Silke said those who wanted to grab power from others needed to be super-efficient at service delivery or they would pay a high price in the 2019 elections. He said that if the ANC-EFF



EFF party leader Julius Malema (2nd l) flanked by DA party leader Mmusi Maimane (l), UDM leader Bantu Holomisa (2nd R) and Corne Mulder (r) of the Freedom Front Plus.

alliance finally unseated the DA in Tshwane and Nelson Mandela Bay, the nine months leading up to the elections in 2019 would be vital. "The voters could get fed up. Therefore, they would need to have their ducks in a row, be super-efficient and show critical ability at delivering services, otherwise the voters will remove them again," Silke said. Another expert, Susan Booysen, Head of Research at the Mapungubwe Institute for

Strategic Reflection, maintained that the political circuses in Tshwane and Nelson Mandela Bay had worsened political instability at local government level. Booysen said the infighting among the coalition partners would lead to many voters staying away from the polls or, as a sign of anger, giving the ANC an overwhelming majority, which would enable them to rule forming a coalition.

Citizen



Mayor Solly Msimanga.

Solly Msimanga's future hangs on DA, EFF discussion

PRETORIA - For now, Mayor Solly Msimanga's future as the political head of the capital City depends on the proposed talks between the EFF and DA regarding his running of the municipality.

This comes after the DA expressed their intention to reach out to the EFF after a failed bid to oust Msimanga from office through a motion of vote of no confidence.

The EFF and ANC tabled motions to remove Msimanga during a council sitting on Thursday, but speaker

Katlego Mathebe rendered the motion by the EFF invalid because it was devoid of a written motivation.

EFF councillors wanted to give an oral motivation, but she denied them that opportunity and they in turn staged a walkout in protest.

The ANC motion could not be heard after councillors walked out in solidarity with the EFF.

On Friday, regional DA leader Abel Tau said it was important for both parties to talk to each other in the interest of providing service delivery

to the people. "The DA is open to talks with the EFF so that we can find each other. Both party leader Mmusi Maimane and Solly Msimanga have already alluded to that.

"Those engagements will happen, but I do not believe that would happen today or tomorrow."

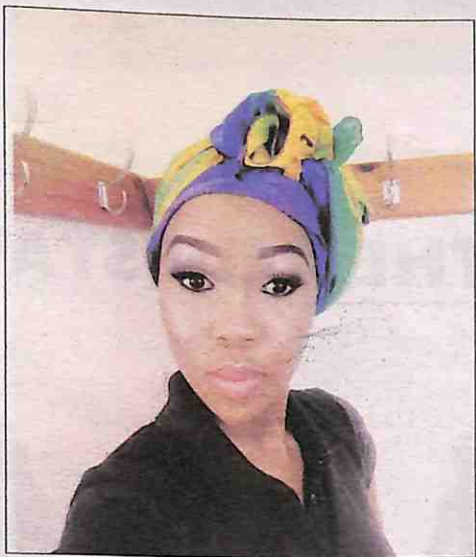
The proposed talks are expected to take place on the back of the EFF's demand to the DA to replace Msimanga with a "credible" candidate.

Tau said: "One of the things that was clear from the beginning was that

they don't have a problem with the DA, but they have a problem with mayor Solly Msimanga."

He said the DA was seriously concerned about the proposal because it rendered Msimanga as someone who was not credible. He defended Msimanga against the EFF, saying his track record as a credible leader spoke volumes, and challenged the EFF to bring forward any evidence to convince the DA that Msimanga was not a credible leader.

News24



WOMANDLA

SundayObserver
Scene
SWAZI RALLY ISSUE

SWAZI RALLY



WRITER'S NOTE:

Womandla, what does this actually mean, I think it is self explanatory. The name Womandla speaks for itself.

It's a combination of Women and Amandla, Xhosa and Zulu, for power/strength. The fist is a symbol of unity, strength and fighting the good fight. This word has been used quite a number of times this past months and SCENE was not going to miss out on an opportunity to look into it.

First let's get this out there August is not Women's Month well at least not in Eswatini, only South Africa has August declared as their Women's Month. Don't get me wrong that does not mean we as Emaswati cannot celebrate our women. We have seen a number of women celebrate women during the month of August and that is not wrong at all. Actually that should be motivation for more women to actually take up the idea and run with it.

This week we look at how Eswatini celebrates women, we discuss how Umhlanga and Lutsango lwaboMake are our way of celebrating women. We also discuss women being put on the pedestal, how that benefits the communities that we live in.

We continue to discuss the different events that local women have hosted over the years in celebration of 'Women's Month', we discuss what these events aim to achieve and why these events have changed the society.

On page 4-5 we look at the women behind these events and the women that work towards encouraging and lifting up more women.

We first speak to Sisusa Dlamini the founder of Semusa Networks behind the Women Empowerment Imbizo event. She explains how she started and how she has seen the changes that this event has made in the community. She also shares how she manages to keep the idea growing every year.

Next we speak to Lindelo Dlamini behind the one of the biggest women empowerment in the country, Power Clique. This event sets to empower women in every way, she speaks to us about what inspired the event and how she, in her everyday life, empowers women. Lastly we speak to Sonia Paiva a woman who needs no introduction, she has paved the way for so many women in the country and in her community by providing job opportunities and also just giving back to her community. Sonia talks to us about why she started a movement that will lift up women in her society. She also explains why she thinks women are important in lifting up a community. This week is all about the women of this country and I hope that in the future we make celebrating women an everyday thing.

Until next week
Read! Enjoy!

PUTTING WOMEN ON THE PEDESTAL

A decent woman will realise that being placed on a pedestal is unbalanced and unideal and will try to remove herself from the situation.

A manipulative woman will take advantage of the situation and exploit it to the full benefit. Unfortunately, in many cases, women are mistreated and very often the importance of women in the society is underestimated. Not so long ago, responsibilities in women's lives were being a good cook, an abiding wife, taking care of the kids and the household.

What else? Actually nothing! Women were not even allowed to vote in the past, there were very few female scientists because women's education was never encouraged. Meanwhile, men were taking leading positions in business, economy, science and were forming the image of



the society.

For a very long time, women were considered inferior to men.

However, the role of a woman in soci-

ety has significantly changed during recent decades. The first positive changes that connected and formed with the role of the women became especially obvious

WOMANDLA:
CELEBRATING THE POWER OF WOMEN

The name Womandla speaks for itself. It's a combination of Women and Amandla, Xhosa and Zulu, for power/strength. The fist is a symbol of unity, strength and fighting the good fight.

Despite the work that is still to be done for women's empowerment in Eswatini, a considerable amount of progress has been made. Think about it, a number of shows and events have been hosted this month and they were dubbed 'celebrating women's month'.

We all know or should I say most people know that August is South Africa's women's month where they celebrate women in every society.

I asked myself is this a cry from local women trying to say that they too need their own day dedicated for them except Mother's Day and International Women's Day.

Since the year started, a number of women celebrated women in different ways, since International Women's Month down to Mother's Day, local women have shown interest in celebrating the woman more than any other year.

I have seen probably more than five events hosted in commemoration of women. Let's discuss all these events that have lead to local women showing more interested in celebrating women.

If I remember very well it started with the passing of South African veteran Winnie Mandela. It all started on social media with the trend #IamWinnie, this was done by most South African women who celebrated the life of Mam Winnie saying that she did not die but she multiplied, and then everyone started to jump on it even Swazi women.

It was not wrong at all; don't get me wrong, Winnie Mandela was an inspiring woman who inspired every woman. From then more women took part in events that celebrated women, most of these events have been there but most women did not know about them or they just never attended.

So first I would like to discuss our very own #Vote4Women campaign for the ongoing elections.

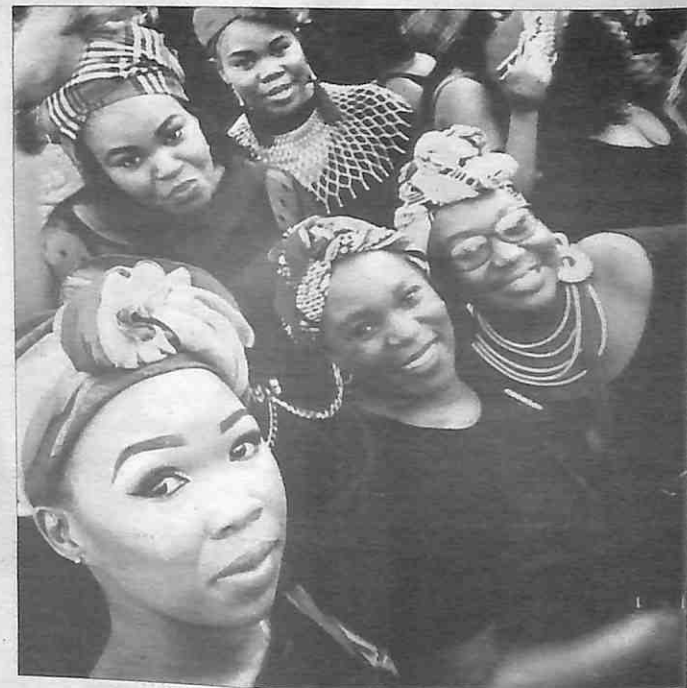
#VOTE4WOMEN

This was given to us by our very own King, King Mswati III.

The King saw the need for more women in Parliament and decided to encourage all women to not only vote in the election but also take part as candidates for the various positions that are available.

It was indeed a smart and intelligent idea from the King. We all saw a number of women joining the elections, and for me it was my first time seeing that number of women joining the elections, it was indeed inspiring.

It wasn't because it was the first time we saw women joining the elections but because it was the first time the public actually realized indeed we do need women in parliament.



WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IMBIZO

SEMUSA Network under the directorship of Sisusa Dlamini this year launched the third addition of Women Empowerment Imbizo.

after the World War I. Gradually people started realising the importance of women in the society as it is. It's safe to say that it didn't happen easily.

It took lots of tears, fights, struggle for many generations of women to, at least, get the right to vote. In Eswatini our very own King, King Mswati III even encouraged women to enter the elections in the country.

Not only does that say we have relevant leadership but it also proves that the role of women in today's society is more than what it used to be. The #Vote4Women campaign has indeed taken Eswatini by storm; with 14 per cent of women elected for the primary elections indeed the future is female.

With all that being said do I think that women now no longer face challenges of equality in the society? I'm afraid, I can't say that.

Yes we definitely still have a long way to go but as a country we should also acknowledge the fact that our country is

trying.

We might not have it all figured out but we definitely have done something good and worth celebrating. Today the importance of women in the society is beyond any suspicion. In today's world, women with their ambitions, intelligence and strength have proved that the word "inferior" has nothing in common with their gender.

The traditional and stereotyped approach towards women as wives and just reproducers of generation is extinct. It's not a secret, that besides being good mommies, cooks, and housewives, women are also as successful in all areas as men. Women have proven that they're not only a tool for bringing up children. They can also be full members of society having their influence on all areas unconditionally. Though there are still some issues connected with gender equality. Some people think that the role of a woman and a man is different in the society.

Defining the role of men and women and stating whether the roles are the same in the society or not is somehow complicated. If you want to know my opinion then, no other person can play the role of another one, but those roles should not be defined by gender for sure. I'll give you an example.

Let's imagine a married couple. The wife has better career opportunities at that point than the husband and they are well-aware of that. On the top of that, they just had a baby.

So, they think it'll be more efficient if the husband takes care of the baby and the wife continues her work. And all of a sudden they face a legal problem; there is only maternity-leave.

So, the husband can't take a paternity-leave and

take care of the baby while the wife is working for their family and building a career. In this case, we don't face a stereotyped thinking inside the society, but we face it in terms of laws and regulations. You may believe it or not, but there are many countries in the world, that don't have such gender-flexible rules. As they say 'Rome was not built in a day' it will take time for us to get to the point where we want to get, but in the meantime let us press on and continue to raise women higher and most importantly let us make it a point that we support the women who

are trying their best to encourage other women and let us support all the events that celebrate women in any way that we can and in couple of years we will realise that it was all worth it.

By Nokwanda Sibandze

Due to the yearly increase in the number of attendees, this year Semusa Networks hosted the educational and empowering seminar at Mavuso Trade and Exhibition Centre, Manzini.

This year's conferences saw powerful women such as Bishop Nash Shongwe's wife Zanele touching all challenges women face in society.

Gcebile Dlamini, a human resource practitioner serving for the Central Bank of Swaziland also empowered the women in attendance as she is well known for supporting the girl child initiative. Nosipho Simelane a Stellenbosch student who is in the male dominated industry (Engineering) also spoke at the conference.

Themed 'A woman's Emancipation Will Surpass Any Circumstances', this year the conference attracted a number of women; this proves just how much women need such empowerment platforms.

Sisusa also said that she wants to see this baby growing bigger and better. She also shared with us that she wants to see this initiative taking baby steps and grow.

Last year this conference attracted over 300 women and this year over 400 people attended.

Worth noting is that this conference has also attracted men as they are pleading for their own conference where they would be empowered as well.

This event has seen young women and older women walking out inspired by other women, which is what makes everything beautiful; women inspiring each other.

● WOMEN SHINING IN THEIR TITLES

As said that women empowerment has become one of the most important movements in the country nowadays. From His Majesty King Mswati III encouraging more women in parliament, women of Eswatini are now standing up to celebrate their careers. 'Women Shinning in Their Titles' is also another event that sets to celebrate women.

This one is brought to you by B.A.W.S.S, an events management company. The main initiative for the event is to help the Mawelawela women in making sure that they do not give up on their dreams and improve their skills.

Speaking to the organiser of this beautiful initiative Anele Shabangu, she said the event is basically about women empowering each other in different communities around the country.

She said they want women to experience how it feels to get together and share ideas on how to grow businesses and also be independent.

Women in these events go to get inspired by other women in the society, showing support to each other is also the main motive for this event. As women we support each other and by supporting each other we can achieve greater things.

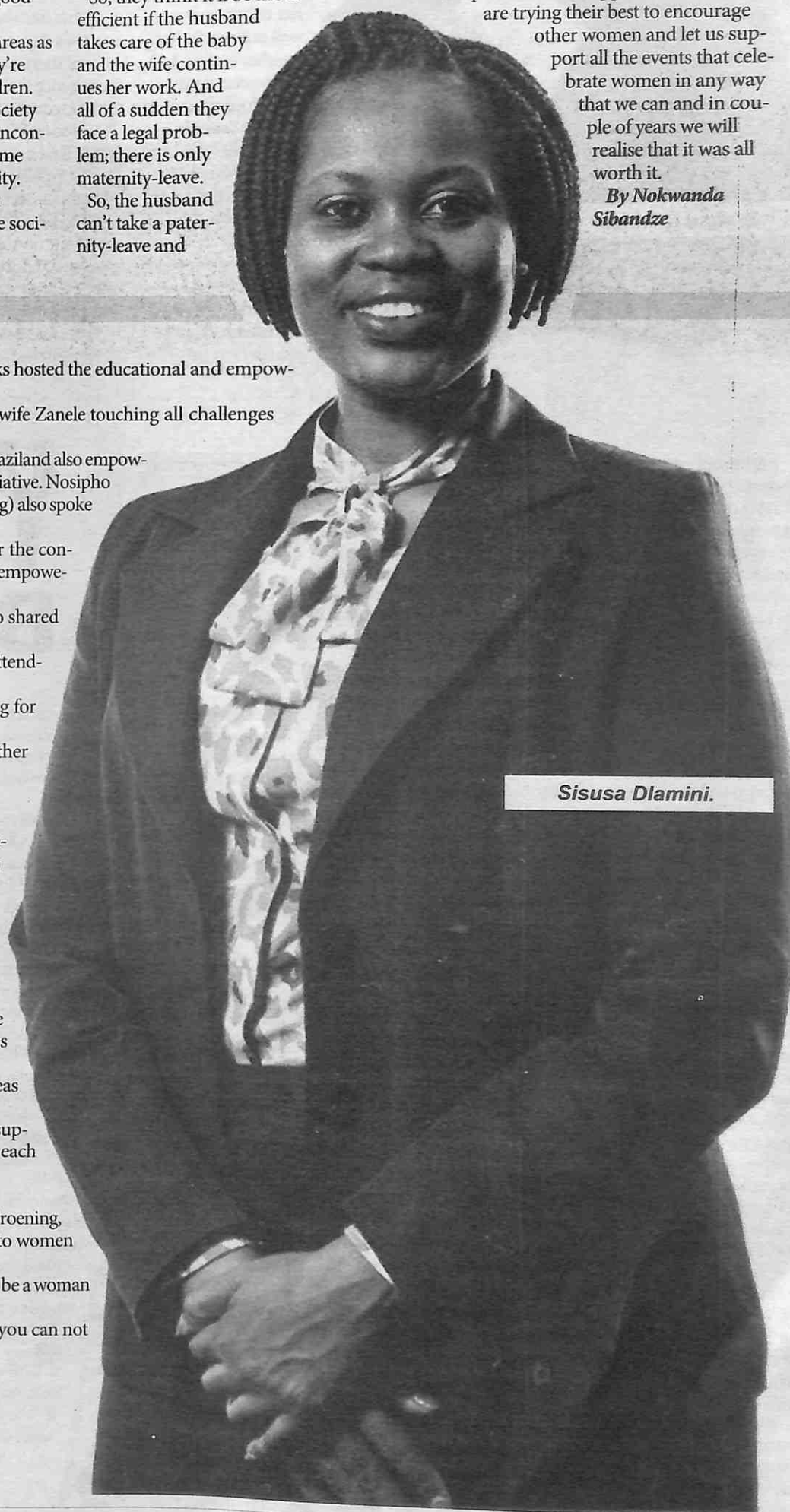
In this event the women that spoke to attendees were

Phumzile Mthethwa, Lindelwa Mafa, Sharon Maziya, Nomvuyo Shongwe, Sandra Groening, Pastor Ntsiki Malaza and Thuli Mdluli-Kuhlase. All these amazing women spoke to women that attended about business, life, family, relationships and money.

These women are striving in their fields and they all discussed how important it is to be a woman in society who also can take care of her home.

They also emphasized on the fact that being a career women does not mean that you can not be able to have a well balanced family.

By Nokwanda Sibandze



Sisusa Dlamini.



Sisusa Dlamini.

IMBIZO EMPOWERMENT

Sisusa Dlamini a woman dedicated to promoting other women.

It is rare to find women like her, a woman who plans an entire event for other women, well talking to her; you also realize just how passionate she is with encouraging and uplifting women in the country.

She says she did her tertiary education in South Africa, Pretoria to be precise and while studying there she was exposed to a lot of things and she learnt the diversity in their cultures and celebrations. But what stood out the

● "Well there are a lot of changes that I've seen and heard about. The transformation of mindsets has been tremendous through the testimonials I've received from the first conference to date. The feedback makes one to even want to work harder. But the cherry on top is hearing this from their partners/husbands speaking positively and the changes they have seen,"

most for her was August 9th which is their women's day. She says the women's struggles are real there and she could relate to some of them hence the introduction of it to this beautiful Kingdom of Eswatini.

"And so far it's going pretty well and I see more people have actually adopted the idea. The more people we have to celebrate this day, the more our women are inspired, encouraged and motivated to be the best, come out of their shells, speak out on their hardships, work hard and enjoy their femininity and in that way we breed not bitter and unhappy women but powerful and extraordinary women."

Dlamini says what inspired her to start such a movement was her personal experiences, her

mother's experiences, the women struggles in society and in their homes, the sad yet uplifting stories women shared with her.

"So this movement collectively capacitates the minds of our beautiful women. In so doing we are creating awareness too to women that are affected by various issues.

And I am currently working on helping the girl child and widows. Something is coming up, watch the space."

She says since she started she has seen a number of changes in other women and the country as well.

"Well there are a lot of changes that I've seen and heard about. The transformation of mindsets has been tremendous this has been identi-

Sonia Paiva, a Swaziland serial entrepreneur making an impact in the agribusiness and food processing sectors in the country.

She is not only making waves in the business sector but she is also making waves in empowering women in her society. Building one business is tough enough, but creating and running two successful, high impact businesses that both positively impact on society and the lives of those working in the agricultural sector is impressive. Sonia Paiva, founder of the Woman Farmer Foundation & Eswatini Kitchen (Pty) Ltd is proof that it can be done.

Woman Farmer Foundation (WFF) is an NGO whose mandate is to identify, recognise and develop a corps of 'Model' women and youth farmers across Swaziland who will inspire and capacitate their communities to mitigate the effects of rural poverty. They develop women from subsistence farming to intermediate farming and to commercial level of farming. Our main concerns are gender equality, agriculture and food security, and water and sanitation.

Over the past ten years WFF has developed more than 2 000 women farmers across Swaziland, through an annual competition dubbed the woman farmer of the year competition (WOFACO) which has been in existence since 2007 and which incentivises women farmers with inputs.

The competition is open to all women farmers who are on Swazi communal lands. Woman Farmer Foundation is grateful for the support it gets from various stakeholders from both the public and the private sector through sponsorship from the ministry of agriculture, Total Swaziland, Nedbank (Swaziland), Khuba Traders and Namboard, just to mention a few.

Sonia is the epitome of women empowerment, she is one of the most graceful and helpful people I know, she has given a number of women opportunities, but not only women, men too.

Eswatini Kitchen is a profit making company, whose members of staff comprise 100 per cent women. The business manufactures Swazi gourmet foods to include jam, sauces, marmalade, chillies, chutneys, and atchars. 10 per cent of Eswatini Kitchen's profits are donated to the Woman Farmer Foundation to contribute towards the development of woman farmers. It provides a sustainable market for small holder and intermediate woman farmers developed under Woman Farmer Foundation's programs.

In collaboration with the Woman Farmer Foundation, Eswatini Kitchen provides training on spraying, planting programmes,

business entrepreneurship and marketing. Eswatini Kitchen's aim is to make a world of difference through Swazi gourmet food. It is also a well known buyer and processor of honey in Swaziland.

Miss Paiva was inspired by a number of things to start her company. She

explored the world of opportunities and she managed to identify at least two; a business opportunity through agriculture and the opportunity to make a difference in the life of rural women through agricultural enterprises. With these opportunities in mind, she was determined to share the concept through a competition to all women in Swaziland, the first time back in 2007.

Her desire was to see women grow economically with a sustainable source of

income leading to improved livelihoods coupled with enhanced household food security. I held on to the statement, "If you know money, you know business". All women know money, and therefore she pushed aside all the obstacles illiteracy might have and I started entrepreneurship training in 2008 and I have observed women growing ever since.

Eswatini Kitchen was a project run under Manzini Youth Care and she was mandated to convert it into a self-sustaining business, so she grabbed the opportunity to create funds to sustain the Woman Farmer Foundation. She also loved the concept and principles of Fair Trade to which Eswatini Kitchen is a member under WFTO.

She has hard working women behind these projects and she has dedicated her life to help them get to where they want to.

The team is made up of seven members, including the programme's Manager and the programme's officer, the driver and the accounts department. We only have two departments - the Programmes office and the finance department. The programmes manager and the finance manager report directly to the executive director who is held accountable to the board of directors.

Their team is 100 per cent women, especially in the factory including supervisors, procurement supervisor, cooking supervisor, store supervisor and the honey supervisor. We have an accounts

department made up of four members including the finance manager. The production department is headed by a production manager who reports to the General Manager.

Paiva comes from a corporate world, the motor industry in particular. She was running the well-known Carson Motors in the city of Manzini (Swaziland) before moving to the NGO world and the food industry sector.

What gives this woman motivation and the power to soldier through is seeing her dreams and her vision coming to pass this brings maximum satisfaction as an entrepreneur, as a developer and as a woman in her society.

Her motivational words are 'Start, start and start'. She believes that people may find themselves starting many times but continue starting. This is called diligence. "The soul of the diligent is richly supplied" (Proverbs 13 v 4).

LINDELO DLAMINI

SOUTH Africa endorsed August as Women's Month to pay tribute to the more than 20 000 women who marched to the Union Buildings on August 9, 1956 in protest against the extension of Pass Laws to women.

Today even Eswatini and the world at large join in the celebration of women in August. Women are the pillars of society; Power Clique Women's conference has made a name for itself in the country.

RUNNING A 100% WOMEN BUSINESS



Sonia Paiva.



NATIONAL ICT FAIR 2018

The University of Eswatini (UNESWA) through the Department of Computer Science (CS) in partnership with the Royal Science and Technology Park (RSTP) and the Ministry of Information Communication and Technology will be hosting this year's

National ICT Fair on the 26-27 October 2018 at the UNESWA Sports Emporium, Kwaluseni Campus. Since the successful launch of last year's edition, this year's event promises to be even bigger and better as we now have established partnerships and connections with various ICT

companies and experts, locally and internationally. Similar as last year's event, our main objective is to raise ICT awareness in the country and help sensitize the entire Eswatini nation on the major role that ICT plays toward attaining His Majesty's Vision 2022.





APPLICATION OF MACHINE LEARNING IN FRAUD DETECTION

This new area of machine learning is ideal for Professionals who hold a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science, Statistics, Mathematics, Physics, Information Technology, Electrical engineering and other professionals with hands-on experience.

This field will capacitate professionals on how to apply machine learning techniques to detect the possibility of fraudulent transactions from historical data by using various training algorithms. It covers the use of data pre-processing methods for fraud detection (Normalization, missing values, outliers and so on), the use of both supervised and unsupervised machine learning algorithms to build fraud detection models such as Support Vector Machine (SVM), Artificial Neural Networks (ANN), Decision trees, Logistic regression, decision stumps, etc. (using an unlabeled dataset) and Supervised machine learning such as Clustering, Self-organizing Maps (SOM), etc. (using a labelled dataset). The supervised and unsupervised machine learning techniques can be applied across a wide variety of fraud applications, such as bank fraud, insurance fraud, Medical aid/health-care fraud, revenue fraud, pension fraud and telecommunications fraud.

Introduction

The definition of fraud is subjective, and it has evolved due to the proliferation of digital technologies. Fraud can have multiple meanings and be interpreted in different ways depending on its definition source. Fraud, in general, is defined in Oxford English Dictionary (2011) as "wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in a financial or personal gain." Following the same line, Black's Law Dictionary according to Garner (2009) defines fraud as "a knowing misrepresentation of the truth or concealment of a material fact to induce another to act to his or her detriment."

With the generalization of credit and debit cards as modes of payment, credit card frauds in e-commerce and other mail-order or distant transactions have become a major issue for all banks and card issuers. For instance, according to the 2011 annual Banque de France report, whereas the overall 2010 fraud rate in France is as low as 0.074%, corresponding to an amount of e 368.9 million, the frauds in domestic card-not-present payments (i.e. made online, over the phone or by post) represent 0.26% of this type of transaction, about three and a half times more. These frauds represent 62% of all fraud cases in terms of value.

As a consequence, the analysis and automatic detection of fraudulent trans-

actions have become a largely studied field in the machine learning community (Bolton & Hand, 2002; Phua et al. 2005; Laleh & Azgomi, 2009), in particular in the case of e-commerce.

From a machine-learning standpoint, two problems should be separated, namely fraud detection and fraud characterization. Fraud detection aims at predicting whether or not a given transaction should be accepted, so as to decline tentative frauds as they take place. The objective is, therefore, to differentiate fraudulent and genuine transactions and it is, thus, part of the supervised-learning framework. As such, it should be formulated as a discrimination task in a highly imbalanced two-class setting. This particular problem can use the card history to identify frauds transactions that differ from the card-holder habits. The second machine-learning problem, fraud characterization, endeavors to identify distinct fraudster profiles which can then be conceived as operational procedures and used as investigative tools in the apprehension of fraudsters or to assist in fraud detection.

Machine Learning directly addresses many business challenges that are time-consuming and expensive – For example, manual reviews and false positives alone account for almost 40% of the total cost of fraud prevention. According to LexusNexus "The Total Cost of Fraud Prevention" study, merchants allocate as much as one-fourth of costs dedicated to fraud prevention to manual review. Furthermore, new customer channels (e.g., mobile, social), new products and business lines present new risk vectors – fraud through remote channels is up to 7 times as difficult to prevent as in-person fraud. Financial fraud detection makes use of any of the machine learning techniques such as K-means clustering, neural network and so on based on the framework of machine learning techniques

Why Machine Learning

Machine Learning (ML) has the capability to self-learn. As more and more data accumulate, the algorithms get better resulting in an overall increase in efficiency and accuracy in detecting fraudulent activities. ML-based algorithms can read the subtle correlations between the user's behaviour and the likelihood

of a fraudulent action. It can read and analyze large data in seconds including images and texts. There are two types of machine learning used for financial fraud detection system: supervised and unsupervised. Supervised ML is fed historical data labelled as fraudulent or not-fraudulent and the algorithm then uses this data to recognize any fraudulent activity. Unsupervised ML is just fed with large data and it can recognize the anomalous behavior or any malicious attack by learning and building the data. These two types can be used independently or in combination to create a robust financial fraud detection system.

While detecting the possibility of fraud, the traditional system sometimes reads a normal transaction as fraud and stops it. This is called false positive. This decline is undesirable as it often results in a shift in customer loyalty. Because machine learning algorithms are more accurate, it helps to minimise the huge losses incurred by banks because of a false decline or false positives. Machine learning is a subfield of artificial intelligence (AI). The goal of machine learning generally is to understand the structure of data and fit that data into models that can be understood and utilized by people.

Although machine learning is a field within computer science, it differs from traditional computational approaches. In traditional computing, algorithms are sets of explicitly programmed instructions used by computers to calculate or problem solve. Machine learning algorithms instead allow for computers to train on data inputs and use statistical

analysis in order to output values that fall within a specific range. Because of this, machine learning

facilitates computers in building models from sample data in order to automate decision-making processes based on data inputs.

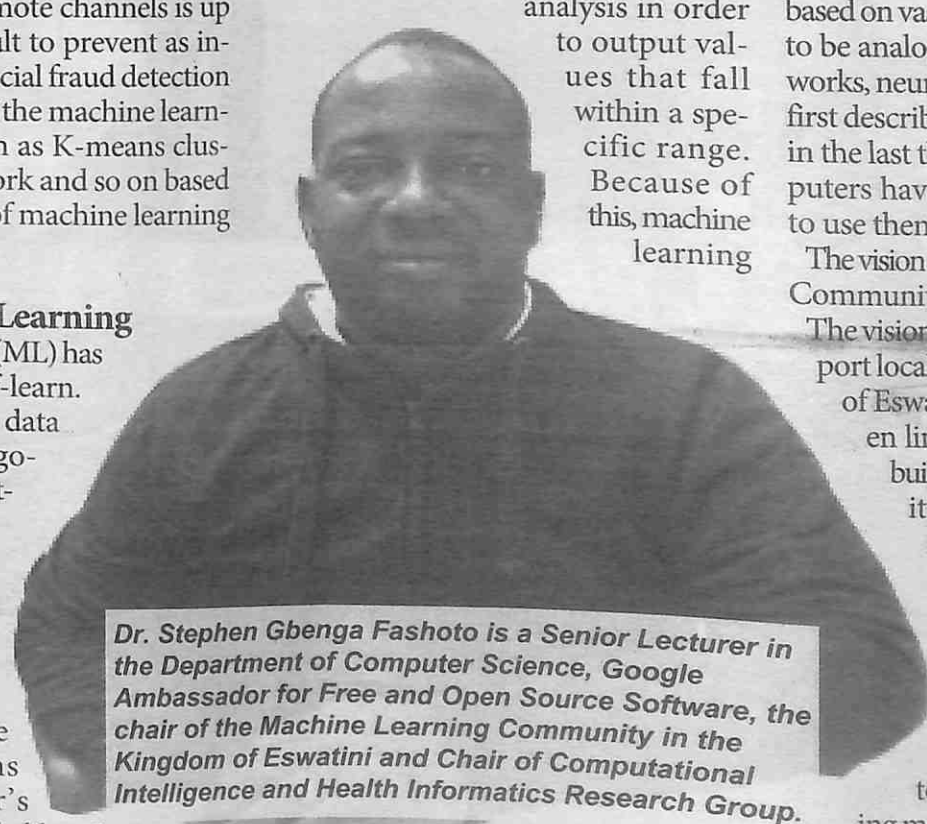
Any technology user today has benefited from machine learning. Facial recognition technology allows social media platforms like Facebook and WhatsApp to help users tag and share photos of friends. Optical character recognition (OCR) technology converts images of text into movable type. Recommendation engines, powered by machine learning, suggest what movies or television shows to watch next based on user preferences. Self-driving cars that rely on machine learning to navigate may soon be available to consumers.

Machine learning is a continuously developing field. Because of this, there are some considerations to keep in mind as you work with machine learning methodologies or techniques. The machine learning-based security system can also include face recognition. ML can analyze and remember the network of veins in the user's eyes. This can help minimize the possibility of misuse of user's confidential information. There is no doubt that machine learning is the weapon to fight increasingly sophisticated and intelligent frauds happening worldwide. As fraudsters are researching on new gimmicks and techniques to make our financial transactions vulnerable, adopting machine learning is the best way to move forward and be safe.

The most powerful form of machine learning being used today, called "Deep Learning", builds a complex mathematical structure called a neural network based on vast quantities of data. Designed to be analogous to how a human brain works, neural networks themselves were first described in the 1930s. But it's only in the last three or four years that computers have become powerful enough to use them effectively.

The vision statement of Machine Learning Community in Eswatini

The vision of this community is to support local researchers in the kingdom of Eswatini, enhance and strengthen links for future collaboration, build and improve research capacity in machine learning and improve the students and young researchers' career opportunities seeking meaningful knowledge through real-life problem solving techniques so that they would be able to contribute to the local content on existing machine learning applications in the kingdom.



Dr. Stephen Gbenga Fashoto is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Computer Science, Google Ambassador for Free and Open Source Software, the chair of the Machine Learning Community in the Kingdom of Eswatini and Chair of Computational Intelligence and Health Informatics Research Group.



PROGRESS OF ICT COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMME

The University of Eswatini (UNESWA) established a Centre for Community Services (CCS) to facilitate the provision of quality and relevant community services and the integration of community services as a core function of UNESWA.

The Department of Computer Science in collaboration with the Centre for Community Services support the integration of community service learning programmes and curricula in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

The two parties are using this ICT community outreach programme to support the country, teachers and schools (primary and high) by providing R-programming materials and state-of-the-art simulation environment (FNB Cyberspace). This effort aims to prepare teachers and students in the Kingdom of Eswatini to have a sound knowledge of R-programming by 2021 so as to participate in achieving His Majesty Vision 2022. For

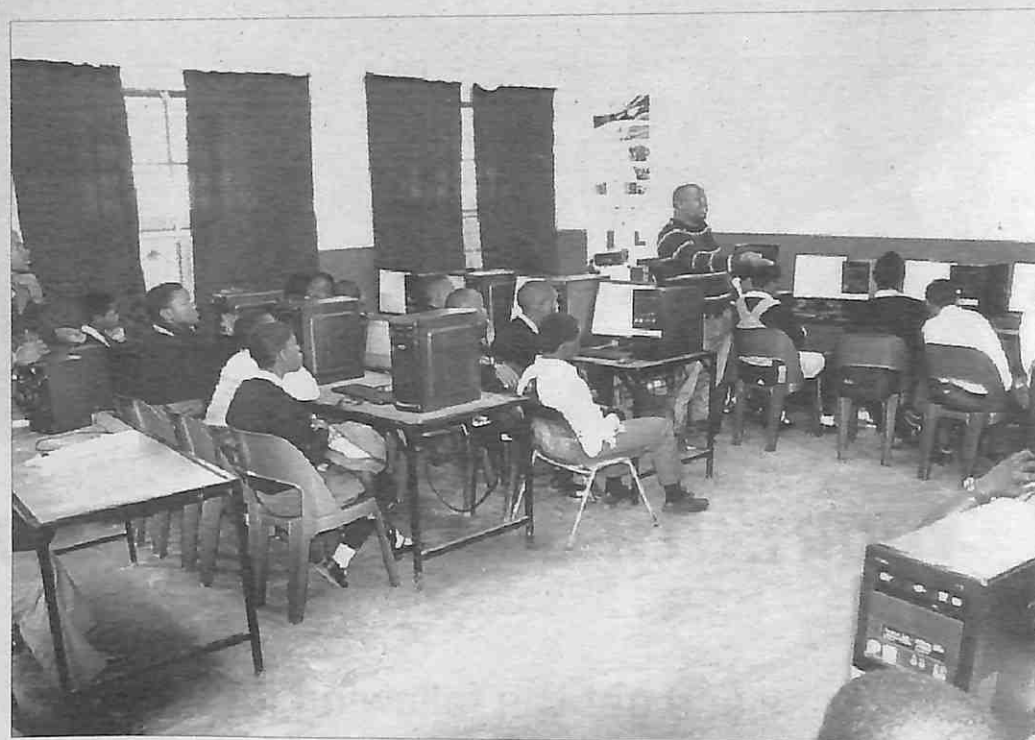
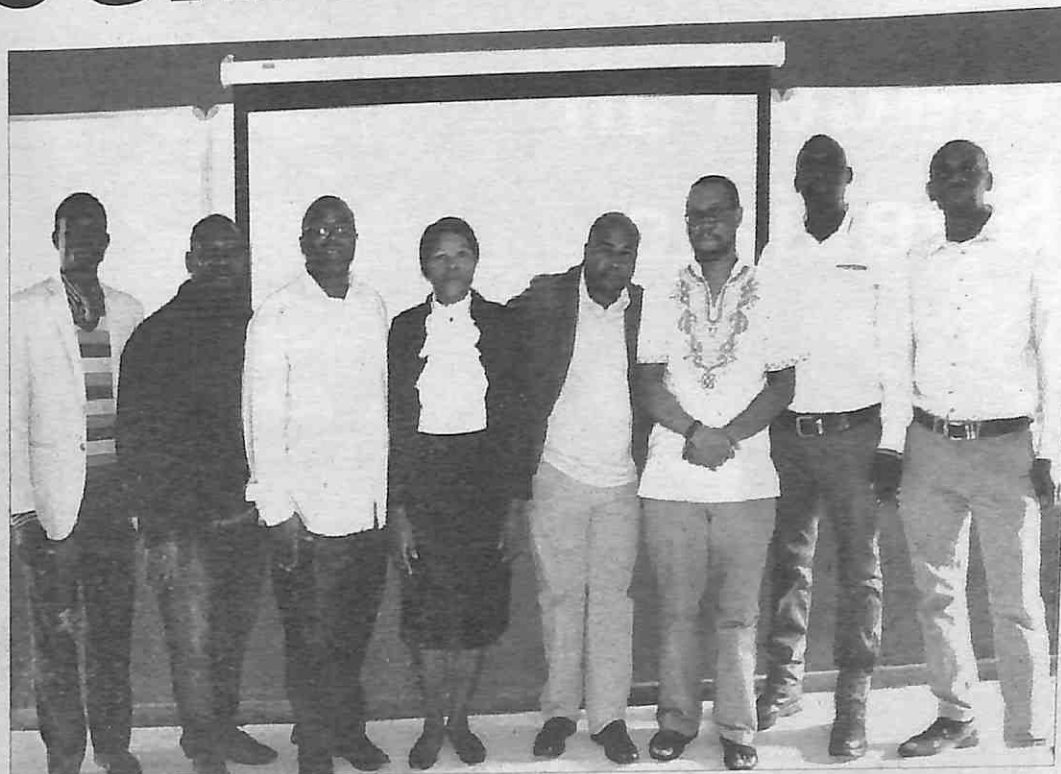
this reason, the duo kicked off an ICT community outreach programme practical workshop at the FNB Cyberspace laboratory with 50 students and 2 teachers from Lozitha primary school on the 2nd of August 2018.

Our ultimate goal is to introduce highly motivated primary and high school students to extra-curricular interest in programming despite the unavailability of computer laboratory at most public primary schools in the kingdom.

Outreach

We are also using this opportunity to educate high school students about our undergraduate programmes namely; B.Sc. in Computer Science (major and minor), B.Sc. in Computer Science Education and B.Sc. in Information Technology.

In addition to that, the ICT community outreach program team managed to train teachers and students in Form 4 and Form 5 at Sigombeni High School on the application of R programming to STEM subjects.



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ICT Fair 2018

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- Exhibitions
- IT Seminars
- Games for all
- Programming Contest
- Entertainment

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VENUE: UNESWA SPORTS EMPORIUM

THEME: ICT ACCESS4 ALL

SLOGAN: SIYAPHAMBILI NGE ICT

Partners

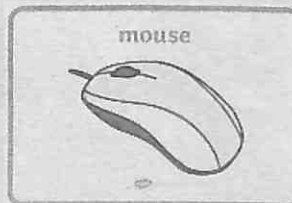
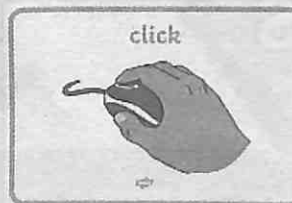
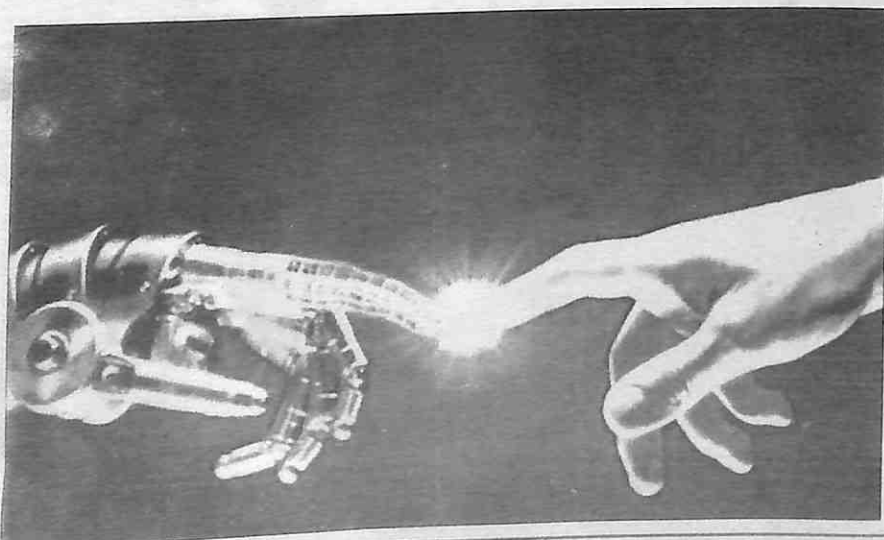
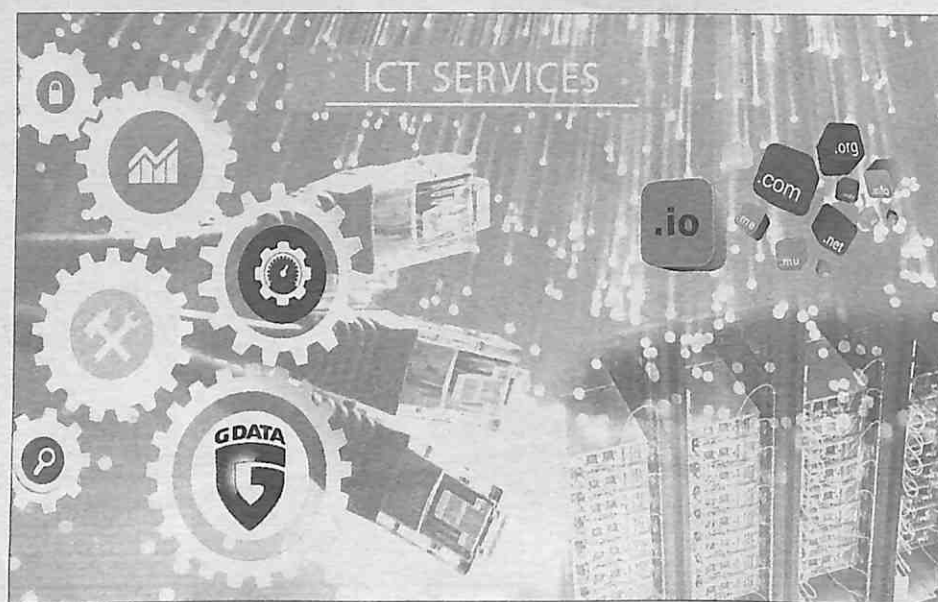
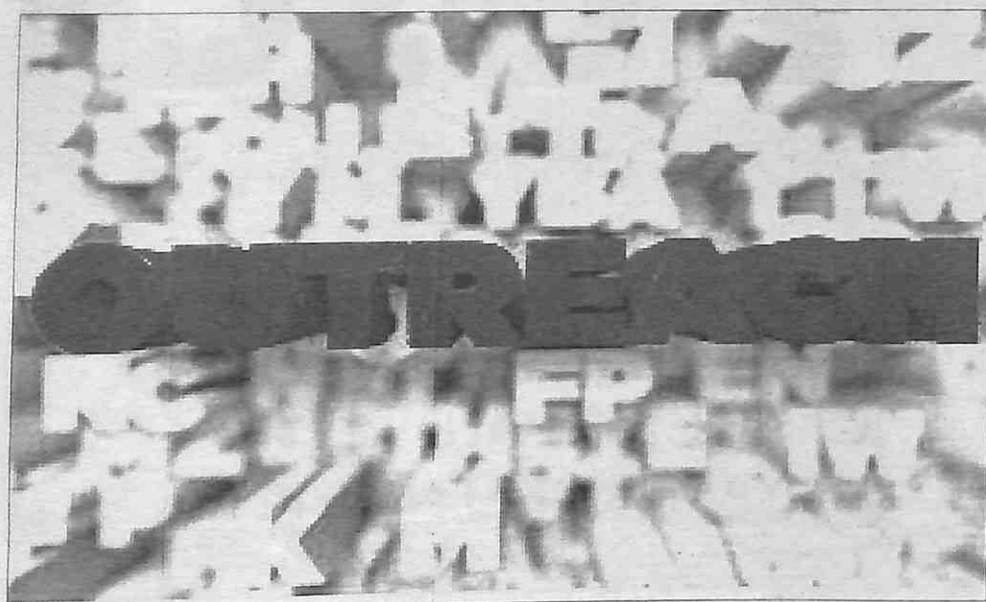
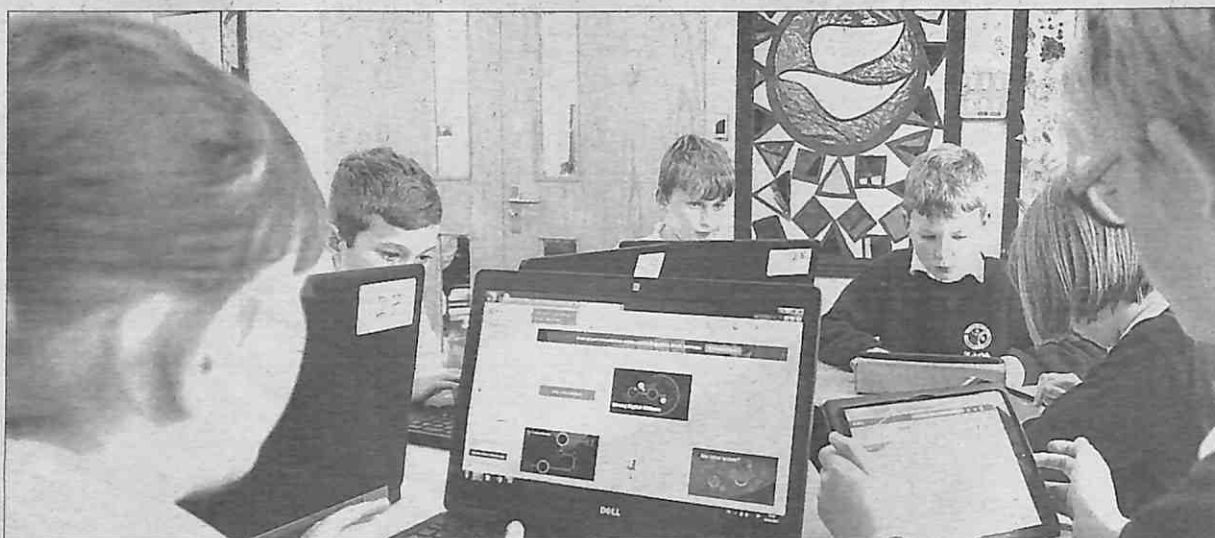


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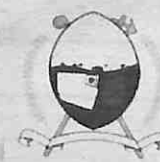
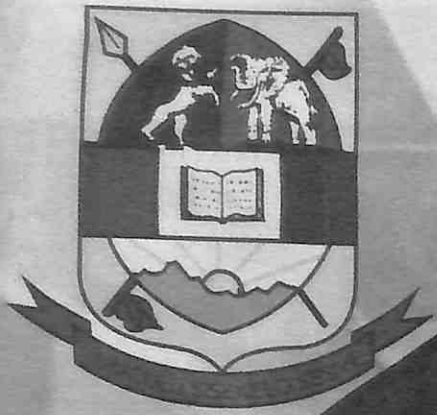




PROGRESS OF ICT COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMME



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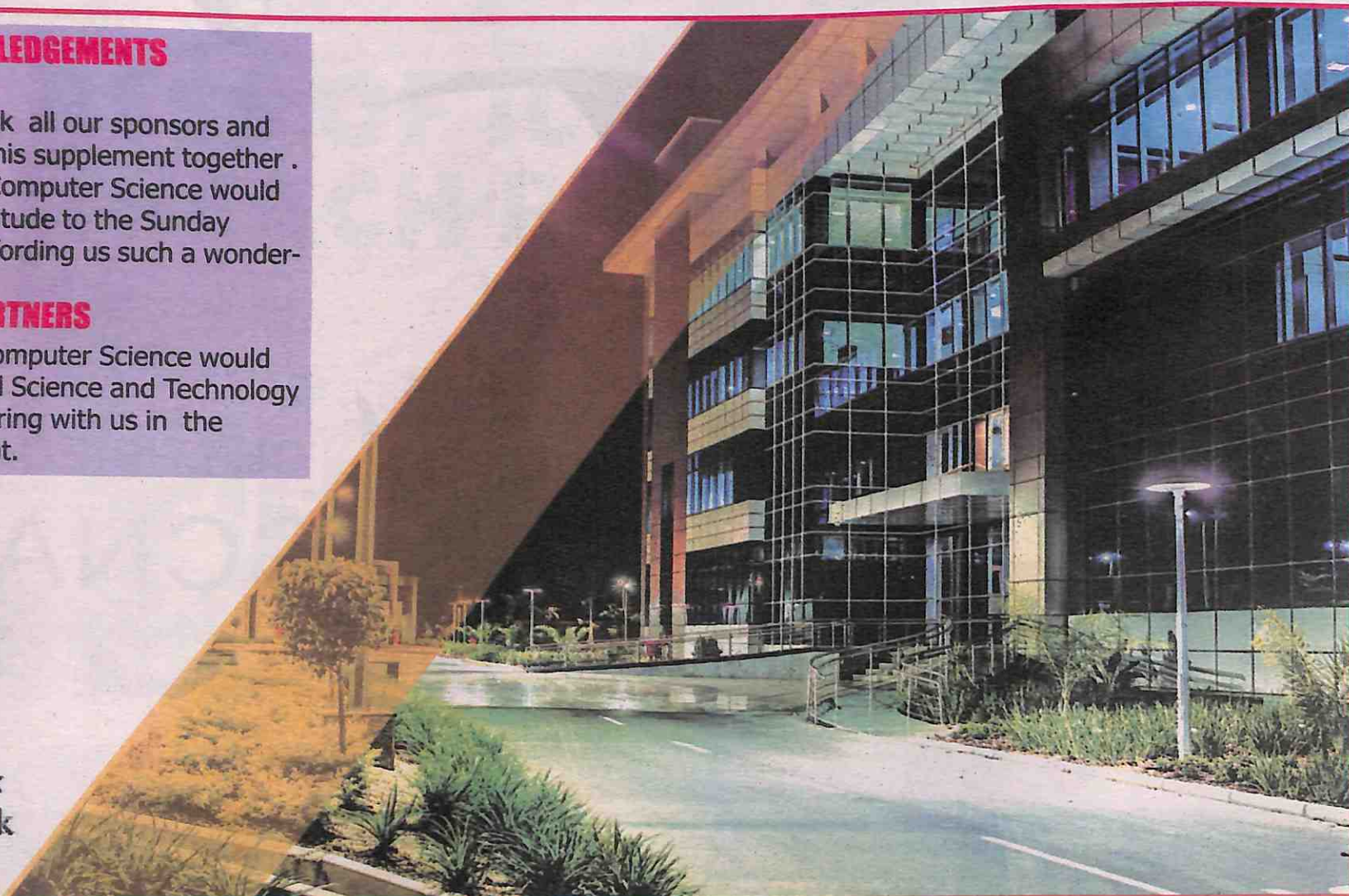
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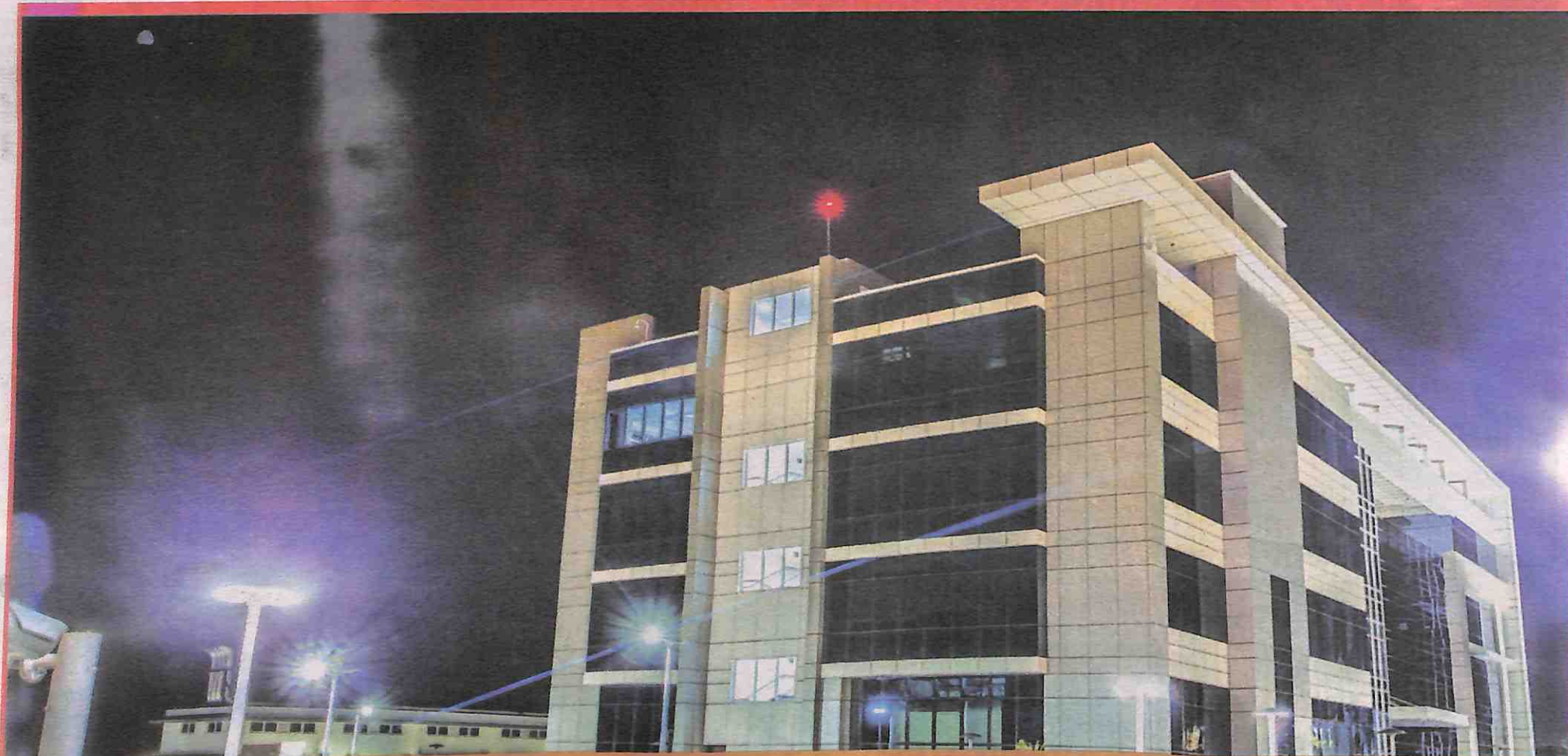
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fied through the testimonials I've received from the first conference to date. The feedback makes one want to work harder. But the cherry on top is hearing this from their partners/husbands speaking positively about the changes they have seen," says Dlamini.

Much to her surprise Dlamini says that some men even buy tickets for their wives and this is so humbling. This to her means when the women come back from these conferences they are renewed and refreshed to start all over again. To share a few the life changes some have bought land, houses, some have started saving, and some have taken the academic route and are studying once again.

With everything done to celebrate women in the country Dlamini still feels that there's a lot that still needs to be done. "I don't think

we are there yet but we do have the potential to do so. It's quite a tricky one so may I not discuss it any further except that we are here we can help those who would like to see this happen."

With Umhlanga and Lutsango LaboMake as one of our events that help encourage and motivate women in the country, Dlamini feels that these events could be used to motivate women.

"These two ceremonies are the most beautiful and sentimental ways of celebrating our culture and heritage."

When it comes to celebrating women the topic of 'Do men celebrate women the way they should' always comes up.

This lady says she thinks at this point she is still young to have a comment

about that, but she thinks they are trying but there's room to do better of course. She reckons we should give them a chance to do more.

When asked how women can celebrate each other in everyday lives she said firstly by loving themselves.

"Self love is important because it gives you enough confidence to tackle these little things that normally bother women. Secondly women need to learn to love, respect and support one another. Thirdly women should learn to complement each other and speak well of each other. You lose nothing from doing so. Lastly *sifundze nekutehlisa* (Humble yourself). Humble yourself enough to speak to any woman whether she's in 'your league or not'."

Putting women on the pedestal is also another issue that women deal with everyday as

some people feel women should not be put on the pedestal as they wouldn't be able to handle it. "It's a tough one. Look admiration is good as well as being respected but this means one has

got to have values and always stick by them because you are viewed as somebody who is faultless and always on point. But this tends to make one a goddess and putting pressure on them unnecessarily. And that is when you lose yourself. So that is why I feel like it's a tough one."

After discussing all these things with her the question still remained 'should the country have a month dedicated to just women and if so why?' "It would be nice to have that but that lies with the authority of our country to fulfil the need to do so.

"*Sakha kwetfu*". Women have shown interest in celebrating bomake and we would really appreciate that chance to formerly and openly commemorate this day *singemaswati*. Women are pioneers of great initiatives and make things happen. So their recognition will motivate them even better to keep on keeping on."

Helping others celebrate women should be everyone's goal, and according to Sisusa Dlamini there's quite a lot that people can do "but we have international women's day in March and perhaps we can do something around that time.

There's so much that could be done. Eswatini women are brilliant women. I'm sure there are a lot of ideas that can come up. I have my own already and for now it wouldn't be wise for me to speak about them prematurely least people become expectant."

In a quest to bring more women into meaningful dialogue with each other, PowerClique has partnered with Sisterhood to create a wider platform for women to empower each other.

The concept of women empowerment has in the past years become a very important one in the country, following a poor performance by women candidates in the 2013 national elections.

According to this movement there is a global need for women empowerment in order for women to participate economically, socially and politically.

Directors of Sisterhood and PowerClique, former Miss Eswatini Samukelisiwe Magagula and Lindelo Dlamini, have seen it apt for them to partner on a project, especially towards the upcoming national elections, not only because it is an event of national importance but also to create a platform for women to learn from and network with women leaders in politics, business and entrepreneurship.

The partnership became important for them because they each concentrated on different audiences.

PowerClique's target audience is women between ages 21 and 45, while Sisterhood concentrates on younger girls, so they wanted to bring the two concepts together to widen the landscape, for the conversation to be continuous and impactful. The ladies didn't want the future generation to be left out of the conversation, hence the decision to work together.

Sisterhood works with school going girls, while their counterparts works with the older ones.

They want the current crop of women to pass on the baton to the future generation so that five years from now they are not faced with the same problem they faced in 2013.

The two ladies are currently working on a project that would take place in September and their hope, amongst other things, is to remind women why it is important that they exercise their leadership abilities in politics, entrepreneurship and the corporate space in order to advance our kingdom.

By Nokwanda Sibandze

Lindelo Dlamini.





BEAT ON BEATS WITH MDUBASA



BEST KEPT SECRET

1. Briefly tell us about Secret Souls (Continuum)?

Well, thank you for all your kind words. It is an honour to be featured on such an awesome platform for the underground.

Your contribution is greatly appreciated. Long may you live. Just a brief introduction, Secret Souls is a group of friends who are connected by their shared love for music. We have five members that work seamlessly and tirelessly to shape up the brand. But also, we owe our existence to a lot of other people too. The people who create the best environment for us to succeed. They are too many to mention, but our core members are Qinis Motsa, Mpho Motsa, Simphiwe Dlamini, Samkeliso Dlamini and Sibusiso Sibandze. We are best defined by our signature sound, which is electronic deep house, minimal techno and anything experimental.

2. How did you meet?

We met all the way back in high school. It's funny how the love for music can bring people together, people who had no idea they would eventually have such a huge impact on each other's lives. That was the starting point for us. We used to love listening to the Deeper Shades podcast back in high school, way before all the cool kids did. And we used to want to be on the show so bad. This desire gave birth to what you know today as Secret Souls. After we decided to make our own music, we came across a lot more people who were into producing as well, and we all just gravitated towards one another. We spent so much time being creative together, it happened before we even knew it ourselves, but we were a group already.

3. Why the name Secret Souls?

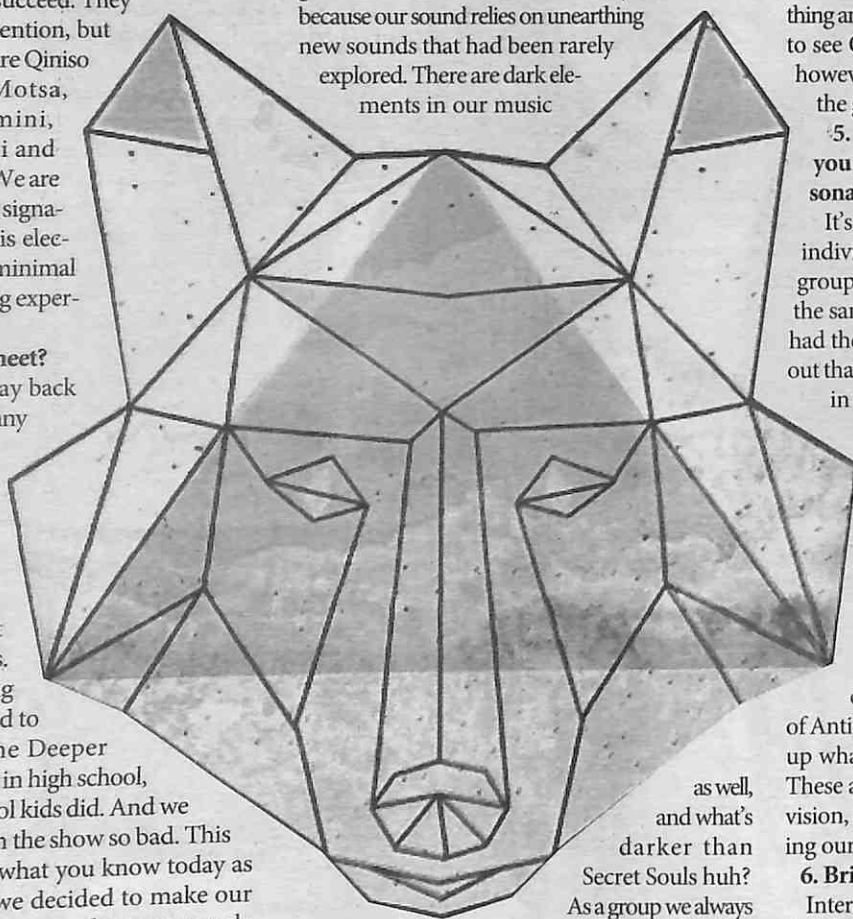
Haha! It's never an interview until this question comes up. Well, you'd have to ask Simphiwe about that one. But basically, we were brainstorming names, and we had come up with some pretty horrid stuff. We just couldn't agree on a name, and it was going to be a long afternoon. Then we heard the name Secret Souls, and it just fit. We thought about it a bit, and

Welcome to another Edition of Beat On Beats. On Friday night I attended the Deep House Connoisseurs party at Ronde Vu, Esibayeni Lodge.

What a night! I'd love to commend all the DJs who took part on the night.

we said it out loud a couple of times. Finally, we were all in agreement. Secret Souls was the name. and also, it saved us an afternoon. We caught the late game on TV.

But looking back in hindsight now, we chose well indeed. As we grew in our craft, we also grew into our name. This is mostly true because our sound relies on unearthing new sounds that had been rarely explored. There are dark elements in our music



as well, and what's darker than Secret Souls huh? As a group we always gravitated towards music

production more, eventually we realised that if we're going to be making music we also needed to perform and play the music. Secret Souls is birthed from the simple fact that for us it was always about the music rather than us being known not to say that isn't important to us, and believe it or not none of us wanted to be DJ's, and the name Secret Souls stuck with us because it introduced us to the people yet allowed us to keep our personal identities hidden so to speak.

4. Briefly share about your other moniker Continuum? Why the sudden change?

Continuum is actually the product of a beautiful mistake, but that's a story for another day.

The music played was out of this world and the attendance was amazing.

In next week's edition we will share pictures and also get comments from the people who were involved in making this event a success.

This week we had a chat with Secret Souls

who share their vision as a group, the collaborations they have done and their upcoming Constellation Lupus EP Launch which is slated for Friday at Republic of 94 in Braamfontein SA.

This proves to be one event not to be missed.

We have since turned it into a great asset, another outlet for our creativity. In essence, we decided to use this new moniker to experiment more with our own sound, without being bound to a single genre. We use it to branch out to different genres as well, helping us prevent stagnant growth within our music. You can expect absolutely anything and everything from Continuum. We choose to see Continuum as more of a creative space, however, rather than just a different name for the group.

5. As a group do you have what inspires you as a unit or it's a combination of personal inspirations?

It's a mixture of both to be honest, we all have individual goals that add a lot of value to the group. It would be a disaster if we all thought the same way, did things the same way, and all had the same aspirations. It just wouldn't work out that way. We appreciate our differences, and in actual fact, we use them to our benefit. Every differing opinion elevates our craft.

But also, collectively, we are mostly inspired by growth and being equal to the challenge of accomplishing our targets as a unit. We strive to be the best that we can be, always. And that keeps things fresh and exciting all the time.

But most of all keeping the right association and having the great mentorship of Antidote Music and DeepStitched has shaped up what Secret Souls is perceived to be today. These are the guys that do not only understand vision, but actually pave the way towards making our goals practical and achievable.

6. Briefly tell us about Xperiment?

Interesting and worth noting is that we made the first version of Xperiment in one week. Why seven days you may ask? One track a day was the plan.

They weren't supposed to be full tracks for release. The idea was to synthesise and arrange loops that are not quite common in a short space of time without the luxury of thinking too much about what is conventional or not for house music.

Ideally, that was going to produce a fresh sound for our house jams but due to the excitement of the discovery of this electric sound, we kind of just let the project circulate amongst our friends. We sent it to 2lani The Warrior of Deep Stitched after listening to it he hit us up and told us he liked the package, and wanted to release it. So we

polished it up, and added two more tracks to it with one with a vocal feature from SOLR which has become one of the most well received tracks from Xperiment.

7. Briefly take us through your song making process?

Due to our individual time requirements, we rarely ever spend time together as a whole. A couple of guys meet up here and there, but rarely ever the whole group. And even when we do, we can only squeeze in so much time for music production. As such, we created a structure that allows us to work individually, but towards a similar sound, or to try and complement one another. We have specific roles that allow us to be able to achieve that.

Writing our melodies, leads and basslines individually always gives our sound a level of freshness that producers working on their own cannot begin to achieve on individual tracks. You never know what the other will bring to the table, and that's always exciting. We circulate melodic loops, and MIDI stuff, or even project files among ourselves until a cool six to seven-minute arrangement is agreed upon. We then send it to our Head of Production, for those bells and whistles, and final mixing. We then master the tracks ourselves and send them to the label. However, we do send mixdowns to other engineers who may have been contracted by the label.

8. How do you combine your ideas to release the end product, which is fine deep house?

Our style is quite complex actually. 'Fractal', is what we've come to call it. Each of our releases starts out as more experimental projects. Either trying to capture a specific sound, or chasing a particular mood, or even trying to bring light to a specific element within the music. Most of the time, each and every one of us works on their strengths, all on their own.

One guy will submit a melody, someone else will pull up with a completely abstract sonic scape, probably, will maybe discover a unique way of arranging a drum loop. All these components are moved around, from project to project, until the right melody fits the right rhythm. Or until the record label tells us we are past due our deadline!

9. Working as a unit how long does it take for you to finish a song?

A song takes however long it takes. It can range from a matter of hours, to maybe weeks, months, and even years to complete just one song. We used to read that on interviews and think it's so

corny, but now we appreciate that it is also very true. We have songs that we have released recently that was first conceptualised in the very beginnings of the group as a unit. Way before 'Mysteries of The Beginning' even dropped.

The problem isn't that we are a group, that's the easy part. When you have your idea in a 1-minute loop, it becomes a huge task to extend it to a proper deep house or techno tune. It takes longer than we'd probably desire to arrange everything to taste. Apart from that, everything else is a breeze really.

10. It is rare to find a group that produces well and delivers stellar sets, how are you guys able to balance that?

We are quite blessed to be honest, because being in a group provides us with the comforts of having an efficient, structured work pattern. We are able to divide duties, specialise in certain aspects of the craft only, while collectively moving towards a similar goal. So, in whatever we do, we don't have to all try and do everything together, which is great because it allows one to be really good at one thing, which in turn benefits the group. So when it comes to conceptualising a set, there is a great deal of research that goes into the kind of event we will be playing, the kind of audience we will be playing for, the impression we want to leave with our audience, the atmosphere we want to create, the sound we want to achieve, and the all-round experience.

11. What genre can you classify your music?

Our music is basically a fusion of electronic music and deep house music. Recently, we have tapped into a much more minimal, dub techno kind of vibe.

12. What advice can you give to fellow upcoming producers especially those working as a group?

Well, you have to be in it for all the right reasons really. It makes the whole process a bit easier, and a lot more enjoyable actually. That would be the first advice we would give. But importantly, working in a group, you have to appreciate that you're working with different personalities, who have differing opinions. It is therefore important that you respect and appreciate other people's opinions, and try to understand where they may be coming from.

And although sometimes you may not agree, make them feel that you're hearing their opinion, and then respectfully weigh in with your opposing opinion. Finally, the creative space should not be a place for ridicule.

13. Tell us how you got your music to be released under DeepStitched?

When we started out, we needed someone established in the industry, someone we could share our ideas with and get feedback from.

This is essential for a young artist out there. You need to know that you're on the right path, and not stumbling in the dark.

For us, we found refuge in one, Sakhile Mkhonta of Antidote Music. He organised a quick fire listening session for us with the whole Antidote Music team, shortly before they started their studio session with Gruv Basement.

The guys listened to the music, and they were quite sincere with their response. They really loved the music, and had even decided to reach out to some house labels on our behalf.



ANTIDOTE MUSIC PRESENTS: CONSTELLATION LUPUS EP LAUNCH PARTY

!SOOKS & SECRET SOULS
DEEP HOUSE//MINIMAL TECHNO

After a few months had passed, they told us that there were a number of labels that were interested in signing in the music, and one such label was DeepStitched. 2Lani The Warrior had been an idol of ours for the longest time, and it was surreal that this was happening. Not only that, he had previously worked with The Antidotes, and they had a good working relationship. Everything just fell into place naturally from that point on. We were never really going to consider anyone else after that. It was 2Lani The Warrior!!!

It all worked out great also because the label embraced our music so much that it was actually our very first release. Both ours and the label's as well. Even today, we share a very special bond with the label because we both share birthdays in essence. You can say that we both bred life unto the other.

14. What is your take on Eswatini's underground music scene?

There has never been so much excitement around the underground music scene out here. New artists are constantly breaking out, and the older ones are improving exponentially. We have seen a number of artists release music on international platforms. Such one artist is Slotta, who is time after time delivering quality tunes through Deeper Shades Recordings and Antidote Music. Propper Ganda is releasing music with AfroMove Records, and is growing so much in the craft, it's almost unfair. !Sooks is taking over the world, which is awesome to witness. We can only hope !Sooks is not a supervillain. But also, there's more; Czar recently dropped some heat with Antidote Music. The guys at +268 Recordings, Neww Black are also doing the most.

Not only is this growth limited to house music, but we've also seen artists such as Rendition with one of the best releases of the year in Eswatini, as well as Tendances break out with a fresh new sound that Eswatini has never been known for.

I think moving forward, Eswatini is in very good hands with all the quality that's coming out, and the infrastructure to support them.

15. Amongst all your releases which can you say is your favorite as a unit?

Well, that's a really tough question because we love all of our releases, especially since all of them are given the same amount of energy and passion. They all come from a very sincere and honest place, and we're quite proud of all of them, for all that they are, and for all the doors they have opened for us.

However, what's really essential to you as an artist is growth and the ability to work in different comfort zones. For that reason, our latest project will always be our favorite because it is a measure of our growth thus far, and

we're always better today than we were yesterday.

And so, if we did have to pick just one, it would definitely be the !Sooks and Secret Souls - Constellation Lupus release that is going to drop this September. We also love the fact that we were all in a very good space while working on the project, and it was quite a humbling experience. And with this being our first ever collaborative effort, it truly is something we can be proud of. We had to bring it home.

16. Having played in different venues/gigs which has been your favorite?

The special part about writing and creating music is being able to perform it for people, and see just how much love and emotion it provokes in them. But to answer your question, it's difficult sometimes to pick specific favorite gigs because of the different energies you receive in different shows. However, we do have shows that have always been close to our hearts, like the DeepStitched Days, Groove Meditation Sessions and The Friday Sundowner, to mention but a few.

When it comes to venues, Solani's is always a jump. And of course, we would be remiss if we didn't mention Truth, which we believe is the stuff of dreams for every electronic artist.

17. Briefly tell us about your upcoming release with !Sooks?

We are very excited about this one! We have always wanted to work with !Sooks for a long time now, but we never really had a specific concept or idea. And so, over time, we just let things build up and occur organically. We didn't want to force issues and do things just because. We finally came up with a solid concept in the last quarter of 2017, where we started sharing ideas and projects.

The title of the project is called Constellation Lupus. Lupus symbolizes the 'Wolf' in Latin. And as stated by !Sooks in his recent interview with you guys, "The wolf represents resilience and perseverance, it represents courage and bravery. The wolf is the inner will to overcome whatever circumstance one is faced with".

The project comes out this September under Antidote Music. It will consist of hard copy discs, release merchandise, an EP launch and a tour of Johannesburg.

18. What can we expect from Secret Souls going into Spring?

A lot of good music. Some of which we would like to keep as a surprise to our fans.

But we definitely have a couple of remix projects on the way that people can look out for, as well as some original projects to be release on the last quarter of 2018.



BOGANDAGANDA TO INVADE ESWATINI TO CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE WITH THEIR FANS

The South African Mbhacanga legends, Soul Brothers affectionately known as Bogandaganda are headed to the country.

The group might have lost one of its pioneers in the demise of David Masondo, but the co-founding member of the group, Moses Ngwenya, aka Black Moses, did not let the group perish.

Thokozani Hadebe who has been with the group for some time took the position of lead singer and everything else fell to place.

The group has since recollected and is back on stage full force as they roped in Masondo's son as a backup singer and dancer and also converted to the lead singer position and the group is back full force. As part of their tour to promote themselves

The group will have a series of three shows the country next week to celebrate Independence with the Kingdom that has supported them over the years in their music career that spans over 40 years.

The first show of their Eswatini tour will be Wednesday at Pub'n Grill in Ezulwini, Gables where they will share the stage with His Majesty's Correctional Services Afro Jazz Band and some local DJs. The event organiser Roger Manyatsi said they have collaborated with the leadership of the entertainment industry to host this show which is set to be the best. He said they have decided to have this event for the locals on Independence Day.

He said since it is a holiday on Thursday they have planned an event which will last for the whole night for their beloved fans. The group will start off at Mawelawela to do social responsibility before coming back for the all night show at Gables.

The group will also have a show at Ocean Waves in Manzini on Friday night another show which is expected to attract the group's fans from around the country since Manzini is central.

Manyatsi said they are expecting people from all corners the country to pack the venue which he said is the perfect spot for the group as it boasts of a big and open stage allowing the group free flow to do what they known best.

"I invite people to join us in celebrating independence day. Those who know Soul Brothers know very well that they will be treated to the best of entertainment during these series of shows," he said.



WOMEN WHO SHINE

Celebrating powerful women is important in our modern day society, and this is exactly what this event aimed to achieve and achieve it did.

Women shining in their titles is an event that was hosted by women that aim to encourage and highlight women who are working hard in their lives. The event aimed to motivate, inspire and encourage women to shine in whatever they do.

The event was held at Royal Swazi Spa on August 26. This event saw number of successful women gathered together to share their knowledge on life experiences. Speakers at the event included Sharon Maziya, Sandra Groening who shared her experiences about health and gym, Pastor Ntsiki Malaza and Phumzile Mthethwa to mention a few.

The event hosted by B.A.W.S.S events management sets to also help out women who currently at the Mawelawela Centre in Malkens.

The theme of the event was all black with a colourful doek and all women stuck to the theme. Here are pictures from the day.

By Nokwanda Sibandze



A section of the ladies that attended the event listening to the proceedings of the show.



Speakers: Thuli Kuhlase, Sharon Maziya, Nomvuyo Shongwe, Sandra Groening and Pastor Ntsiki Malaza.



These beautiful ladies could not miss out on the event.



Anele Shabangu and Todwa Gwebu looking beautiful in their black outfits paired with colourful headwraps.



Wearing Black and red these ladies made sure to stick to the theme and look good while at it.



From left Anele, former Miss Eswatini Thembelihle Zwane posing with a friend.



Former Miss Eswatini Thembelihle Zwane in her all black outfit paired with a yellow doek.



Zonke Tembe and Anele having a selfie moment during the show.



The Honey Child stall was also there to showcase the various items that they have.

Theresa May's post-Brexit Africa agenda smacks of desperation

British ministers in 1948 discussed development investment needs for African colonial territories.

The focus was not on the needs of those countries, but on how colonial development might best support the British economy. There was also a political calculation to be considered.

Following the rebalancing of global power after 1945, ministers felt that only by strengthening Europe's African empires could an emergent Western European bloc compete with the US and Soviet blocs. Now, 70 years on, "Africa" remains a shibboleth for British politicians, only this time as the solution to the problem of how Britain can maintain global power and influence following its departure from that Western European bloc under Brexit.

Theresa May's much hyped and much reported visit to "Africa" (a trip encompassing South Africa, Kenya and Nigeria) has been sold as the means for deepening economic ties between Britain and the region. May announced aspirations for Britain to become the G7's largest investor in Africa by 2022. There is to be an additional £4 billion in direct British government investment, to be matched by private sector investment (a relatively modest ambition). The prime minister pledged to defend the level of British aid (against conservative and media critics who wish to see it cut), while positing a reorientation of that aid spending to support the post-Brexit British economy.

May is the latest in a long line of prime ministers who have evoked the potential of "Africa" for their own political purposes. From Tony Blair and Gordon Brown, who saw international aid as a mechanism for highlighting British global moral leadership, to David Cameron's 2011 visit (of which May's is an echo), when he called for aid to be used to create future consumers for British goods and services. What makes May's visit and proclamations different is the smell of desperation. There are many good reasons for deepening trade links across the region, and for establishing better relationships between Britain and African governments. But presenting this as the solution to Britain's likely post-Brexit economic woes seems misguided at best, deluded at worst.

May has been criticised for her promise to refocus aid in ways that are seen to reflect British domestic and diplomatic interests. She wants to downgrade short-term poverty alleviation in favour of job creation. She wants to increase security and support for fragile African states but her motive for doing so seems largely to be reducing migration to Europe and Britain. Now she is using aid as a tool for supporting the creation of trade deals with non-EU blocs.

Yet British aid has always been about British interests: political, economic and diplomatic. Indeed, the first act that established British aid, the 1929 Colonial Development Act, was passed as the world tipped into global economic crisis and depression. It was explicit in its aim to boost the British economy and jobs.

Aid for trade?

Subsequent iterations of British aid from the 1940s to the 1990s, under both Labour and Conservative governments, "tied" aid so that spending on equipment and experts was made in the UK. Aid has always been seen as a foreign policy tool as much as a moral obligation to help poorer world regions develop. Nor was Britain alone in this: "tied aid" requirements remain commonplace despite their poor record in reducing poverty. Blair's government made tied aid illegal in 2002, but it remained a core element in the UK's diplomatic arsenal – a means to ensure global influence (helpful, for example, in defending Britain's permanent membership of the UN Security Council).

Analysis & opinion

WHO OBSERVES THE OBSERVERS?



BY KENNETH DLAMINI

The past weekend saw the nation descend on polling stations all over the country in droves to cast their votes on their favourite candidates.

You cannot fault the public for showing great enthusiasm and determination in not just being part of this year's elections, but making sure that they cast votes for their preferred candidates.

This is quite commendable. All due credit and respect can be accorded to the Elections and Boundaries Commission (EBC) headed by Chief Gija. It can only mean that they nailed it with the national voter education exercises they hosted countrywide. With both the Nominations and Primary Elections stages done and dusted, we are now left with the big one, which is the Secondary Elections.

September 21 will be a day of reckoning for all those who made it past the Primary Elections stage.

With the Kingdom of Eswatini bracing itself for fiercely contested Secondary Elections, it's worth highlighting that we have seen many disturbing episodes along the way.

In fact, it would not have been national elections without any hindrances. But, what's more important is that those incidences which are obviously a spoilsport are kept at a minimal level to add to the credibility of the elections process.

After all, all we want is to see credible elections at the end of it all. The elections should be free from controversies of all sorts and the process must be as transparent as possible.

Candidates

We must be very proud of the candidates that we will produce as a country to lead the nation in the next five years.

More so, because these are the very people who will produce Cabinet ministers and both houses of Parliament.

Thus, we want to see a crystal clear process spearheaded by the EBC that will produce legitimate legislators.

We have seen many casualties fall by wayside in the process so far and there have been some murmurs from those who lost out in the race. In fact, apart from the murmurs, there are so far about four cases at the High Court con-

cerning the elections.

But that's what democracy is all about, because we must ensure that only deserved winners make it through.

Thus, the EBC is encouraged to provide an easy platform for people to voice their complaints should they be not content with the elections results. Such processes include lodging complaints via the EBC and also taking the matter to court, where a panel of judges was specifically appointed to listen to elections cases.

EBC

There have been many cases of disgruntled individuals, especially those who did not make it past the previous stages. Some of these incidents border on poor execution of the election laws by both the EBC and some individuals, and a blatant disregard of the laid down procedures.

These include incidents of people who were caught voting twice, some campaign managers grabbing people at polling stations and telling them who to vote for, some ballot papers being delivered at wrong places, some places closing way after the 7pm deadline and some places where the process was too slow people left without vot-

ing.

These incidents do not provide for good reading in as far as a fool-proof election process is concerned.

However, up to now we have been told by those entrusted with the job of monitoring that the elections from the Nominations to the Primary Elections that so far they have been incident free.

Fair

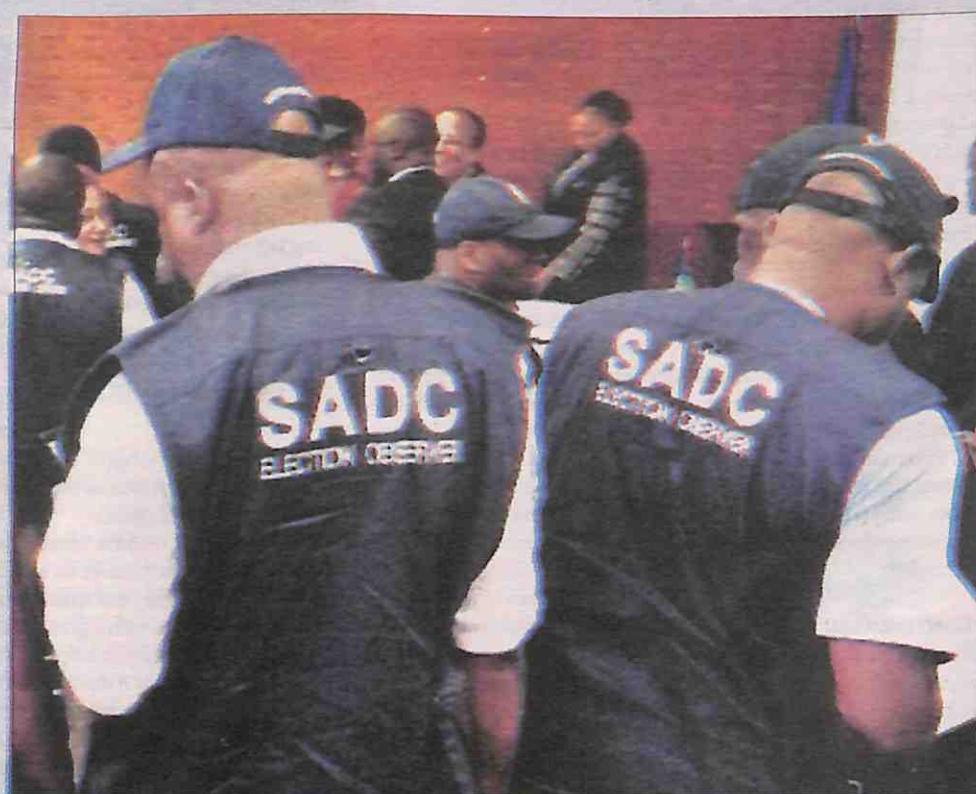
In fact, the elections observers have been quick to pronounce the elections so far as free and fair. Hard to believe if you asked me, but yes. Of course, this promulgation has come despite the many challenges that have been reported in the elections so far.

Whatever free and fair means according to the observers, but unfortunately, we have to trust their judgement.

One of the things witnessed in the past week was failure to conform to a number of stipulations in the rules and regulations.

This is what should concern the EBC the most, because they should not be found on the wrong side of the law.

It's well and good when the candidates challenge each other based on their indiscretions but not on the failures of the EBC.



● We must be very proud of the candidates that we will produce as a country to lead the nation in the next five years. More so, because these are the very people who will produce Cabinet ministers and both houses of Parliament. Thus, we want to see a crystal clear process spearheaded by the EBC that will produce legitimate legislators.

But none of these incidents have stopped the EBC from declaring the elections free and fair. Which makes me wonder whether they were observing the same elections or what.

This brings me to the next question, how competent are the observers to preside over the elections? Because we shouldn't just celebrate false starts by the observers and start thinking that we have organised the best elections ever, yet we still have a long way to go.

Thus my next question, who monitors the observers? From what I have seen, there have been too many glitches in election but perhaps these are too insignificant for the observers to even highlight.

But what's even more suspicious is the fact that the observers hardly wait even 24 hours before making their pronouncement.

This then makes me wonder if they give themselves time to digest the elections before coming up with their verdict.

I believe it's too huge a call to make on the success or failure of the elections in just 24 hours. But that's just me, I guess they are properly trained and equipped for the job they are doing.

I have to trust that.



By Comfort Mabuza

Last week I had an awesome experience visiting Yaoundé, the capital city of Cameroon in the Big Bend of West Africa.

I am attending an Inter-continental Civil Society meeting mapping a way how we can contribute towards influencing ideals of good governance and accountability in all levels in Africa. We are together with Japan Non-governmental entities and collaborating partners.

This is my second visit after attending African Union Civil Society entities representing CANGO then. So I think it is proper to raise my concerns after we had the same meeting before here, when we asked hard questions on Africa's failed leadership and the continued collapse and violations of human rights in the continent. I am supposed to remain optimistic that things will get better, but reflecting on what I am seeing obtaining currently, I am asking this very probing question, will Africa ever get things right?

CONTINENTAL THEMES TO RESCUE

Africa is a vast continent blessed beyond measure with natural resources. From minerals and clean water from our springs as well as wild fruits and natural forests we remain envy to the world. Instead, obtaining conflicts thrives here with millions living below poverty levels and they continue to rise.

We blamed it on colonisers but now our own are running the show. Look at the oil, gold, diamond deposits which the West wants to control and create tension, so that they can reap and benefit, while we suffer turmoil and endless conflicts. I seriously have issues why African leadership is not collaborating and ensuring we trade with one another as Africans. Instead the expatriates and foreign Corporations continue reaping and benefiting, while we fight and kill each other.

We have unresolved issues around weak democratic order where good governance is a far-fetched dream. Tribalism still dominates our relations and we can hardly relate because of being so suspecting of each other.

WILL AFRICA EVER GET IT RIGHT?

AFRICA'S FAILED LEADERSHIP DOES NOT INSPIRE HOPE

● Africa is a vast continent blessed beyond measure with natural resources. From minerals and clean water from our springs as well as wild fruits and natural forests we remain envy to the world. Instead, obtaining conflicts thrives here with millions living below poverty levels and they continue to rise.

Africanists must revisit major themes that could help usher a well thought through strategy towards a New Africa.

The conference I am attending is being led by non-Africans to help us discuss issues that we know best and are experts, but still can hardly engage each other. Do we always have to wait to have

our African agenda decided in Washington, London or even Taipei? There is an urgent need to document success stories and course this to be a resource for those who want to do business with Africa.

We continue to fight each other instead of joining forces to chart the maze.

Africa has lost highly skilled people, who are on demand in the West and Europe. Human resources that could be utilised to improve this beloved continent are being snatched because of poor retain of such needed skills. Something does not add up, and what could be done to invigorate the African dream to help rediscover that we actually are a blessed continent. There is great need to open louder the volume on things that work still, as part of contributing to global peace and stability which must be our preoccupation. Yet, we have these obtaining conflicts.

POOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

This trip I undertook to this country, I had to go via Ethiopia, Addis Ababa because of non-availability of flights to this place, a subject for another day.

● This is my second visit after attending African Union Civil Society entities representing CANGO then. So I think it is proper to raise my concerns after we had the same meeting before here, when we asked hard questions on Africa's failed leadership and the continued collapse and violations of human rights in the continent.

er day.

The airports in Addis Ababa and Yaoundé are not giving a positive picture that they are of International Standards. Toilets with no working ablution do not make travelling and touring a worthy experience and undertaking honestly.

The poor maintained surroundings

do not give an indication that we understand the basic maintenance principles.

I wonder what international visitors think of us as Africans.

The poor management of such projects with a great potential and supposedly to help us obtain first world status, I wonder if our third world status currently will eventual become any better. Let us just be brutal here, we are a sorry lot, that very few international funders will believe our story and lame excuses of the continued failure of maintaining some of these infrastructure development initiatives.

Poor roads network and dilapidated buildings paints a sorry sight and affirm my great fears about planning for such development in the Africa region.

We definitely do not have a master plan in some of these places, and one wonders if this is an African disease that seems to have paralysed us to think, plan and reflect accordingly.

I wonder what investors like African Development bank, World Bank make out of their on-site visitations and evaluation of the infra-

structure development.

The state of roads and buildings are just a sorry site to behold and do not reflect positively on me as a visitor. Who then discusses investment in such places, if we are portraying such lack of foresight and planning?

TRANSPORT CHALLENGES

I must admit that the Japan-imports have flooded the motoring industry. From yellow taxis that are used as mode of transport and motor bikes as mode of public transport city transport.

How the yellow cars actually outnumber other cars, transport within the CDB needs visitation and proper planning.

How do they survive operational costs, because almost three out of four cars is a yellow taxi?

We might be crying foul about kombis and taxis at Eswatini, but what is obtaining here is proving a nightmare indeed. As for their driving on the left side of the road, and the many motor bikers who do not have helmets, well this country needs help.

Perhaps a better city transport system needs to be given the attention and some order restored here. But I found it interesting that it is a booming business, I wonder if there is profit gained through what I call an interesting research theme, so we could draw lessons.

There must be a better transport system that could be supported and not risk people's lives.

As for traffic control and management, in the absence of Traffic lights, I wonder how they survive on daily travels.

Well to make matters interesting it's a European style of driving on the

right instead of left.

LANGUAGE BARRIER

If you have been brought up in an English speaking environment as a second language, when you visit this Francophone countries then you are stuck.

I must admit that I never previously thought of leaning French as a third language just in case I am stuck. Hey, this time around I realised my attitude about French must be addressed. I am finding myself in a fix, because the hotel we are staying they are struggling to communicate with us in English.

So sign language is becoming a mode of communication. Well while we remain proud Africans down south, poor attitudes we have against French speaking countries needs to be addressed really.

We cannot be speaking of a united Africa when there are nations we cannot communicate with because of language barrier.

French must become a language that must be taught in almost all the African states. Of course you then have Ki-Swahili and Arabic as major languages in the continent. The issue of communication in this great continent is an issue that needs urgent attention. It also boils down to attitudes we have about people from the northern Africa generally as Southerners.

Language is certainly a human rights issue because here we are unable to discuss with our fellow Africanists because of language barriers. Language has to do with attitude we have about those who do not speak a common language with us. Such attitudes then influence our perceptions and views about people, especially in a tense African continent with so many issues needing attention and collaborations, we cannot afford to fail to communicate at least the basics.

CORRUPTION'S UGLY FACE

Africa's biggest problem is corruption found in almost all public places that should be providing free of charge. Why must one pay an extra dollar to be issued a Visa at the airport here, when I need and was assured it would be issued? It was supposed to be 100 US Dollars, but because of the missing page in my passport I had to pay extra.

Why should I pay 100 US Dollars to a country in Africa? Corrupt tendencies certainly destroy Africa's dream and potential.

By Jaushieh Joseph Wu
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Republic of China (Taiwan)

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted at the 70th session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2015, set bold goals to shift the world onto a sustainable, resilient path.

Here was also pledged the formation of a revitalised Global Partnership for Sustainable Development including all countries, all stakeholders and all people, such that no one would be left behind.

Despite such a pledge, Taiwan's 23 million people have been left out of this global effort. This violates the principle of universality upon which the UN was founded and deprives Taiwan

UN GLOBAL GOALS-TAIWAN CAN HELP



MINISTER

Dr. Jaushieh Joseph Wu

Minister of Foreign Affairs

as well as the international community of opportunities to work

together for the common good. Taiwan, though not being allowed

to participate in the UN's meetings, activities and mechanisms,

has never shirked its duties as a responsible stakeholder. In line



JOY
NDWANDWE'S
LEADERSHIP
ZONE

The indigenous New Year begins with Umhlanga rooted within Ubuntu constitutive rules of self-preservation and ploughing rain traditional ceremonies. Umhlanga is indigenous dignity rooted within belief in Supreme Being, God, who blesses maidens blessed with visions and revelations. The Supreme Being, God, reveals and provides insights to those who preserve their sexual energy; hence, Umhlanga is for virgins as they communicate with God. Virgins honoured by their chiefdoms and the nation for preserving their sexual energy as this enables them to be vessels of God's wisdom and insights. Umhlanga is indigenous dignity, as the revelations and insights from God, are anchored through virgins the preservers of moral behaviour within communities and nationally. Moreover, when there are no virgins, this displeases God, manifesting in calamities, such as moral degeneration and drought. God will not release new souls, the future generation who will come to earth when the living have created an undignified environment.

FEMININE POWER EMBEDDED IN SELF-PRESERVATION

Feminine power is the source of dignity within all nations; hence, Umhlanga is indigenous dignity. Teaching girls and women on the value of self-preservation, which is rooted in nurturing within the home as a shrine and learning centre.

This learning centre is where the self-preservation, closely watched within the family, the first and most significant moral school. At this school, indigenous dignity is the principal course, and self-preservation closely monitored, hence, permission to attend Umhlanga, the Reed Dance.

Otherwise, parents have the right and responsibility to refuse the attendance of their child, when they are aware how self-preservation, has not been upheld.

Parents are the teachers of self-preservation; they have the right and responsibility to inform the chieftaincy on how their daughter is no longer eligible to attend.

Particularly the mothers, as they understand the significance of self-preservation when they have walked the path. They understand that the most important powerful tool blessed with is feminine power, requires self-preservation.

UMHLANGA IS INDIGENOUS DIGNITY

● Feminine power is the source of dignity within all nations; hence, Umhlanga is indigenous dignity. Teaching girls and women on the value of self-preservation, which is rooted in nurturing within the home as a shrine and learning centre. This learning centre is where the self-preservation, closely watched within the family, the first and most significant moral school. At this school, indigenous dignity is the principal course, and self-preservation closely monitored, hence, permission to attend Umhlanga, the Reed Dance.

Feminine power enables women to engage and maintain their sphere of influence as transformative agents, when practising self-preservation. As no man can claim to have experienced a dark alley moment with them, to women blessed with feminine power rooted within indigenous dignity. Rooted within the context of self-preservation, evidently many influential women have fallen along the way side due to dark alley moments, where they lost their indigenous dignity.

Many women and girls believe that being their dark alley moments signifies heroism and yet this moment eroded their own indigenous dignity. Africans, including eMaSwati in teaching the value of self-preservation they understood that there are many tricksters, BoChakijane, awaiting to compromise feminine power. Moreover, the most powerful tool of compromising feminine power is created through that dark alley moment, where women and girls are compromised, humiliated and dehumanised. Hence, our ancestors knew that self-preservation is taught within the home as a shrine and learning centre. This manifests in the celebration of maidens who have practised self-preservation, hence, today Umhlanga is alive in this kingdom.

PLOUGHING RAIN DANCE

The nation's maidens embarked on the pilgrimage to 'eSizidzini' to cut reeds, as Zulu's and eMaSwati

mythology the first person emerged from the reeds.

This mythology of origin affirmed annually by this pilgrimage by maidens who appease the source of origin. Singing 'Nagu Somanhla' a significant pilgrimage song affirming the Supreme Being as the Ultimate Source of All.

This symbolising how self-preservation, upheld by maidens until they are ready to experience that moment of rapture. This rupture when they lose their virginity as their bodies, which become ready for the birth rupture. As the reeds are the source of rapture, *indzabuko*, where the first person emerged in accordance to Zulu and Swati mythology.

These maidens pilgrimage appeases the Supreme Being to release the ploughing rains, as God communicates with maidens that have practiced self-preservation.

The Supreme Being, God, listens to maidens as they approach Him from a pure state of consciousness, with no ego.

As they have preserved their sexual energy, God listens to their plea for ploughing rain as these maidens have spoken. They sing like birds in quest for rain, with pure energy that has not experienced dark alley moments, and this pleases God to release rain because the nation has virgins.

This pleases God as moral degeneration displeases God, indicating eroded indigenous dignity. When there is no feminine power to pro-

tect children, signifying the tricksters *boChakijane*, roam widely across the nation and this displeases God.

According to African mythology when God, Supreme Being, gave us food, He also gave us hunger, so that we continuously prove to Him that we uphold Ubuntu Constitutive rules.

Umhlanga and Incwala are the rain dances that we uphold as a nation and this pleases God, as we make conscious effort to dance for ploughing and growing rain, respectively.

These dances humble us, as during this period, we are not in control but the constitutive rules of nature are in control.

The moon and sun are leading these ceremonies and we follow such that God comprehends our humility and provides us rain. When the ego takes control and we become bigger than God and the constitutive rules of nature, then God brings hunger. This is what our ancestors were taught and it is our responsibility to ensure that Umhlanga is not only danced, but continued in according to Ubuntu and nature's constitutive rules.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the integration of indigenous knowledge and modernity is critical considering indigenous constitutive rules were taken out of context.

Yes, we are a Christian country, but Christianity needs to integrate

our indigenous knowledge such that we have citizens rooted within their Ubuntu constitutive rules.

As the current lopsided approach towards life, has created intriguing and nerve racking challenges such as early childhood pregnancy. When SEPRAC invited me to critic their studies during the knocking on moral values for development lecture. I appreciated how they shared with me their studies before the lecture day, as I would have collapsed during this lecture.

When learning how early childhood pregnancy is prevalent in primary schools, information that ruptured my soul on how self-preservation is not practiced at tender ages.

I am a realist; primary school children are practicing sexual experimentation, 'emadlawane.' Nevertheless, it is shocking to learn that they are practicing penetrative sex, within their same age group such that this results in early childhood pregnancy and primary school dropouts. When scanning the environment in every square mile there is a church, thus, begging me to ask the question how far can religion go in terms of inculcating self-preservation?

Umhlanga and Incwala, the self-preservation for boys both considered demonic by majority within religious community, and yet indicators are such that Christianity failing us.

I scan the environment and there is drought, yes, climate change is here, but we no longer believe in nature's constitutive rules.

Looking around I realise the home is no longer a shrine and learning centre and feminine power has been reduced to domestic and sex work. My God, the Supreme Being where are you when feminine power has been eroded, such that the indigenous dignity of women is compromised, humiliated and dehumanised.

Evident in daily newspaper articles, hence, the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act seeking to restore dignity of women and children through laws. Indicates loss of feminine power and the value of self-preservation, and how we are no longer dancing for ploughing and growing rain; thus begging the question what are we now dancing for?

● These programmes aim to help countries in these regions to achieve clean energy, food security, food safety, sustainable agriculture, better education, health and well-being for all age groups, and disaster reduction and adaptation. Taiwan ICDF also works with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to assist countries in Central Asia and Central and Eastern Europe to develop market economies and a green economy.

with the Agenda's recommendation, Taiwan has released its first Voluntary National Review last year, detailing our whole-of-government approach to implementing the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The concrete results we have achieved include alleviating poverty, zero hunger, reducing the percentage of low-income households to under two per cent, cutting the maternal mortality rate to just 11.6 per 100,000 people and under-five child mortality rate to just 2.4 per 1 000, and improving our literacy rate to 98.7 per cent. All of these are well above

UN SDG standards.

Taiwan also provides development assistance to other countries. Through the International Cooperation and Development Fund (Taiwan ICDF), Taiwan's official development assistance organisation, we have launched various programmes in the Pacific, Asia, Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

These programmes aim to help countries in these regions to achieve clean energy, food security, food safety, sustainable agriculture, better education, health and well-being for all age groups, and disaster reduction

and adaptation. Taiwan ICDF also works with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to assist countries in Central Asia and Central and Eastern Europe to develop market economies and a green economy.

While Taiwan's valuable contributions have been widely acclaimed around the globe, the UN continues to ignore what Taiwan can offer. Taiwan's tourists, experts and professionals are denied entry into UN premises simply because the UN does not accept the Republic of China (Taiwan)'s passport, which is recog-

nised by almost every country in the world.

The UN has refused to accredit Taiwan's journalists covering its meetings and activities, yet the work of such people is in the interests of the people of Taiwan and the world.

We are extremely disappointed that the UN continues to misuse 1971's General Assembly Resolution 2758 (XXVI) to justify Taiwan's exclusion and isolation.

As we have pointed out before, this resolution neither addresses the issue of representation of Taiwan and its people in the UN system, nor defines the relationship between Taiwan and China.

The so-called one-China principle has been challenged by many UN member states. It is wrong for the UN, an organisation created to serve all of humankind, to unilaterally

define Taiwan's status.

Article 1 of the UN Charter proclaims that the purposes of the organization are to "achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, and humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights." At this critical juncture when humankind is facing multiple challenges, global cooperation that includes all countries, all stakeholders, and all people is ever more important. By excluding a willing and able partner like Taiwan, the UN not only violates the fundamental human rights of Taiwan's 23 million people but also greatly harms human welfare. To ensure the UN remains relevant to all people, the organisation should stand up to external pressures and open its doors to Taiwan.

Research is one of the key ways in which one is able to gather information that is able to stimulate thinking that has the ability to transform the environment.

My research this week lead me to a study conducted in Nigeria by a man known as Olantunji Fadeyi of the department of Business Management in Covenant University, Nigeria. Nigeria is one of the fastest growing economies in Africa. According to this study, this has been made possible by the nation placing priority in youth entrepreneurship. It became evident that the creation and development of a modern, flexible and knowledge based economy requires the growth of entrepreneurial firms. This is because of the capacity of such category of firms to boost entrepreneurial skills of youths. In addition, due to their capability to be dynamic and fast paced adaptation to a changing market and to generation of new employment for the citizenry.

The analysis of the study reveals that productive entrepreneurship is key to national economic development by enhancing employment creation, economic growth, adoption of new technologies and innovation capabilities.

Firstly, entrepreneurship becomes key in poverty reduction. If we are to consider the fact that a huge data base of the youth of Africa is unemployed, then it means that poverty levels are also high. However, if these young people are capacitated enough to identify entrepreneurship, it could serve as a veritable avenue to build sustainable livelihoods. Most young people have the skills that can be transferred into entrepreneurship, all they then require is capacity building to actually transfer those skills into productive entrepreneurship.

Entrepreneurship is perceived to be resources and processes that individuals adopt opportunities in the market through the creation of new venture firms. It usually enhances social identity of youths by providing them with a stronger sense of community where they are valued as well as of 'meaning' and 'belonging'.

There is ample evidence that reveal when jobs are scarce, young individuals particularly are generally likely to be unemployed. Entrepreneurship therefore provides young



MITC Campus
St. Michael's Rd
P.O. Box 2187
Manzini
Tel: 2505 6504 | 2505 8259 | 2505 6045
Fax: 2505 8216
e-mail: info@jaswaziland.org

IMPACT OF YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN NATION BUILDING



Young Entrepreneurs hard at work producing their cushions.

people with a space where they create their own employment instead of looking for that opportunity with someone else. Decision makers at government level, therefore have a responsibility to then create policies that will encourage start-up of small medium, enterprises.

Entrepreneurship is the most

effective technique for bridging the gap between science and the market place. This is done by creating new ventures and bringing new products and services to the market.

These entrepreneurial events substantially impact on the economy of an area by building the economic base and providing employments.

As it can be observed, young people are at the centre of science as they tend to understand better how to harness the use of such technologies for business.

This therefore means, if as countries we are to move towards bringing in science based technologies in the market place, then we need young people to drive the creative

process of putting such in place. If young people lag behind in such, it means that continuity and progress will not be possible.

Nigerian government supports the development of entrepreneurship. The government provides security to protect life and property maintaining law, order and the freedom to carry out business



By Lisa Mongelli

GETTING MORE DONE



We are living in a time where bigger is always better and more is essential.

Where does the greatest potential for happiness, peace and equilibrium actually lie? How many of us are really happy? We strive for the impossible stress ourselves to the brink of mental and physical exhaustion and still for most life holds little or no joy. The faster we live the less satisfaction life give us, and Happiness is just some far off notion left to be conjured in what we hope is a better future. Isn't it time to enjoy life now to appreciate and be grateful for the simple things? Isn't it

time to stop rushing around like a mad machine slow down and get more done?

Taking the time to reflect and focus on what you want and believe

ing you can attain it is really the key to manifesting your hearts desire. Projecting your intention with conviction and gratitude will bring it in even faster. Isn't it time

to get back to the centre of who you are to your core and get in touch with what you really want? If you know what you want then you are half way there to getting

it.

If you want to recalibrate and start something over September is certainly the month to do it. Eclipse season is now finished, and there is ample opportunity to retrace your steps and begin again. The energies are supportive this month for renewal so now is a good time to begin again.

With Mercury retrograde behind us interpersonal relationships definitely improve and become easier in September so if you've had misunderstandings with friends or family now is the time to clear them up. The energies are softer this month and a lot more benevolent than they have been in a while so reconnect and renew.

September is a good time to start a financial plan an exercise plan or food plan anything that takes commitment and focus. The energies are calm and steady this next month and that will definitely help you get off to a sure and steady start. September is a time to recoup and relax into what you want. Believe me things will fall into place much

activities. However, the role of government in developing entrepreneurial culture among the citizens became essential after the Nigeria civil war. Since the middle of 1980s there has been an increased commitment of government to entrepreneurship development particularly after the introduction of the Structural Adjustment Program (SAP) in 1986. Added to this is the establishment of the National Directorate of Employment (NDE), National Open Apprenticeship Scheme (NOAS) and, the Small and Medium Enterprise Development Association of Nigeria (SMEDAN). Fundamentally the Nigerian government promotes entrepreneurial culture through initiatives that build business confidence, positive attitude, pride in success, support and encouragement of new ideas and social responsibility. Evidently, the Nigerian government does try to put in place an enabling environment for entrepreneurs to thrive.

Shortage of finance affects the growth and development of entrepreneurship small ventures. High tax rate reduces the potential financial rewards in a business. It also appears that having the myths to entrepreneurship stifles entrepreneurial aspiration. It is agreed that access to finance is not a tool to the growth of entrepreneurship. It appears that many people actually agree with the fact that political instability is negatively related with entrepreneurial intentions. One most significant contribution is that competition is a factor that affects the growth and development of entrepreneurship.

Conclusion

Without taking into consideration the active participation of young people in economic growth, such things as development, progress and success will not exist.

As a nation that is thriving towards attaining first world status, our efforts therefore should be directed towards capacitating more young people to identify entrepreneurship as a catalyst for economic growth. Ultimately, as a nation, we can only have a future if we groom young leaders today. Personally, I believe in the premise that young people bring, we therefore have a responsibility, to drive policies that will support young entrepreneurs to thrive.

easier with a peaceful and balanced frame of mind. No good to push and impose yourself on these energies. The planets in September are asking us to slow down and enjoy the respite. I know I will.

Whatever particular business or line of work you're in the pervasive planetary influence this next few weeks could definitely see you into a marked improvement. There is only one condition you must not be impulsive, pro-active yes but not impulsive. No get rich quick schemes to recoup what you have lost otherwise you could be looking at disappointment and further loss. Keep it slow, steady and reasonable. This is a good time to add something new to your business look for a better job, and take up opportunity to make improvements in your line of work. Self motivation is really the key here; opportunity presents itself through self motivation and focus on intention, think about what you want.

New business associations and affiliations could also bring in that new business partner you have so long awaited. It is safer to sign contracts in September as the Mercury retrograde shadow period is over on the 2nd of September. I still advise seeking an expert opinion making sure any contract you sign



TOURISM & TRAVEL

BONGANI DLAMINI

STA Marketing Manager

Email: mm@tourismauthority.org.sz



The Eswatini Tourism Authority (STA) is hosting travel writers from top regional and international media houses, who are here to cover Umhlanga/The Reed Dance, the Swazi Rally, and the Eswatini International Trade Fair.

The hosted media arrived in the Kingdom on Friday, and will be leaving Tuesday.

Among the regional media that the STA is hosting are SABC News, Bike SA Magazine, Isolezwe, and IOL (which contributes to renowned publications like The Mercury, The Star, The Cape Argus, The Cape Star) all from South Africa; as well as The Culture Trip (from the United Kingdom) and Long Cours Magazine from France.

With approximately a combined readership of more than 40 million readers – both on print and online – the Kingdom of Eswatini stands to benefit immensely from coverage from the aforesaid media. Below are brief profiles on some of the media houses represented in this special FAM trip:

1. ISOLEZWE

Isolezwe is a Zulu-language newspaper launched in 2002 by Independent News & Media.

It is published daily in Durban, South Africa, in the tabloid format. In June 2004, Isolezwe launched their online edition; their fellow Independent News & Media publications described it as the first Zulu-language news website. In the five years after its founding, it performed much better than Independent's English-language South African dailies, growing from a circulation of under 30 000 to more than 95 000. The STA is proud to be hosting Isolezwe's Boniswa Caroline Mohale.

2. IOL AND INDEPENDENT MEDIA

Independent Media is one of South Africa's leading multi-platform content companies.

The Independent Media stable of fine, quality publications include 20 of South Africa's most prominent newspapers with The Star and Pretoria News in Gauteng, Cape Times and Cape Argus and several community newspapers in Cape Town and The Mercury and Daily News in Durban firmly entrenched in millions of households throughout South Africa. African Independent is the only title which serves the African continent and Isolezwe and Isolezwe lesiXhosa provides daily news in KwaZulu-Natal and Eastern Cape

is right for you. Being single minded and keeping your own counsel could see you making mistakes that could have far reaching consequences, and keep you locked into something that doesn't work for you. Better safe than sorry please check the paper work.

In regards to personal relationships emotions have been running high in both July and August fortunately things are beginning to settle down and become clearer in

SABC, ISOLEZWE, IOL, ET AL EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC OF DESTINATION ESWATINI



Umhlanga to get regional media coverage.

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respectively. Business Report is South Africa's largest business newspaper with 1.2 million readers. Independent Online, popularly known as IOL, is Independent's digital offering, and brings millions of readers breaking news as events happen in South Africa and around the world.

With a growing daily unique online audience, www.iol.co.za is one of the largest news and information websites in South Africa. The STA welcomes IOL's Nosipho Mngoma and Khumbuzile Mbuqe to the majestic Kingdom of Eswatini.

3. NEWSHORN MPUMALANGA

The Mpumalanga NewsHorn is an independent publication reporting on not only provincial and community affairs, but also serves

Mozambique..

NewsHorn has just been awarded the Entrepreneur 2017 trophy from the Kruger Lowveld Chamber of Business and Tourism – the first community paper ever to receive this accolade.

Locally-owned and locally-run with reporting focusing on mostly good news to ensure the continued growth of business and tourism in the Lowveld. From February 2018 NewsHorn started printing regional issues as well; Nkomazi, Bohlabela, and Mbombela.

The paper has a vested interest in wildlife and environmental conservation and has a strong social development drive. With regard to content, a heavy focus is placed on unbiased reporting, beholden to no inter-

est other than the voice of reason. As a FREE newspaper, the publication is essentially available to an audience covering the entire LSM range (all incomes). The STA welcomes the paper's editor Mduduzi Martin Nkosi to Eswatini.

The STA also welcomes Mthobisi Mkhaphi, Lungile Nongwane, Eric Bhejane, and Masilela Mveli all from the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC); Julien Blanc from Long Cours Magazine; George Portman from Bike SA Magazine; and Melissa Hobson from The Culture Trip. More importantly, the STA also welcomes throngs of visitors who are currently in the kingdom. Enjoy your stay, and have a true royal experience.

September. The planets have moved and are now aligned in such a way as to help us gain perspective and clarity in regards to our love relationships. It could be you need more transparency from your partner you may need to decide if your current relationship is taking too much from you, and you need to either revise or end it. It could also be that your relationship is on the brink of deepening and going to the next level. The planetary energies are assist-

ing in giving us a push in the right direction; so no matter how it seems ultimately it is for the highest good so have faith. The universe is always on your side the planets bring with them opportunity for growth and expansion. On the personal front you may find yourself looking at your past in order to clear the way for a better now. Letting go of old hurts and healing wounds gives one an opportunity to move into life with a new perception and a fresh

outlook. This shift in energy makes way for the possibility of attracting what we really want and the likelihood of a happier healthier life.

Life is actually a magnificent ride a gift. The more we enjoy it, and the more we accomplish, the better we feel about ourselves. Always be thankful for this wonderful thing we call life, it is precious and timely.

God bless you and enjoy your Sunday.

Evang. Wilton Mamba



Many will find it a bit discouraging to learn that true salvation is not possible as far as it depends on man's own ability.

I was thrown aback when I discovered that not even keeping all the commandments qualifies one for eternal life. This is because while salvation is a free gift, it is not cheap; and God would not give us something that we could attain through any other human means, such as keeping the 10 commandments in the manner the Pharisees did.

The other riddle is that while not cheap, salvation can only be received by the poor in spirit (Matthew 5:3). Yet again, the irony is that you are most likely to find the spiritually poor among the materially poor, than you would find them among the rich. In Mark 10: 17-27, Jesus, as He went about His earthly ministry, encountered a rich young man, who was a ruler – and took the opportunity to demonstrate to His disciples that salvation is a gift that comes by God's grace – and not by might nor by power. Mark recounts, 'As He was setting out on a journey, a man ran up to Him and knelt before Him, and asked, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good except God alone."

Jesus knew already that this young man believed his deeds qualified him for salvation, and he wanted to deal with this misconception on the outset. It is important that teachers of the gospel emphasise 'right believing', without which salvation is not possible. Now Jesus finally brought Himself round to addressing the issue at hand: "You know the commandments, 'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not bear false witness, do not defraud, honour your father and mother.'" And true to form, the young man in his self-righteousness, plunged headlong into the trap where the best of us have also fallen prey; "Teacher, I have kept all these things from my youth up."

It is shocking how many people out there believe growing up in a church environment and adhering to its culture qualifies them for eternal life.

This is wrong believing, at the least, and believing in a lie at worst – and it profits nothing, but eternal torment. 'Looking at him, Jesus felt a

A SINNER'S GUIDE TO SALVATION

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love for him and said to him, "One thing you lack: go and sell all you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But at these words he was saddened, and he went away grieving, for he was one who owned much property.' Now, as already pointed out, it did turn out that the rich young ruler was not alone in this predicament, as it later emerged that the Lord's disciples themselves were none the wiser. This became apparent as Jesus commented: "How hard it will be for those who are wealthy to enter the kingdom of God!" It is written that the disciples were amazed at His words. 'But Jesus answered again and said to them, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." They were even more astonished and said to Him, "Then who can be saved?" 'Looking at them, Jesus said, "With people it is impossible, but not with God; for all things are possible with God." Because all things are possible with God, He has made salvation possible for all people, irrespective of social status. The Spirit of Truth has impressed upon me to share with the

reader, in some graphic detail, the steps to true salvation.

Step 1: Acknowledge that, like all other people, you are a sinner. 'For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God'.

(Romans 3:23). In Galatians 5:19-21, Apostle Paul gives us a sinner's profile of sorts. Here we make the distinction that sin is of the flesh, and salvation of the spirit. "Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God."

In light of this statement, you must find it interesting, even confusing that keeping the law still gives one no guarantees of eternal life. Jesus' disciples felt the same way. But in Galatians 5:18, Apostle Paul makes an important statement that should settle the matter, as well as shed light on the issue of the rich young ruler: "But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law." Because we are sinners, we are separated from God. 'For

the wages of sin is death'. (Romans 3:23a). We must know that God does not want to be separated from His people. He created us and loves us. So He sent His son, Jesus Christ, to die for the whole world. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16).

Step 2: Acknowledge that God's salvation is a free gift for you to accept. "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Step 3: Accepting Jesus is the only way to be saved and have eternal life with God. Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going, how do we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me." (John 14:6).

Step 4: Follow the example of Jesus and get baptised. Both John the Baptist and Jesus Christ preached the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sin.

When they said: "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is near", they were commanding us to be baptised in

Wilton Mamba is now an Evangelist and founder of David Goliath Spiritual Solutions, a sanctuary that provides spiritual solutions to practical problems, counselling and life coaching, cutting-edge Bible study and spiritual exercises through works of faith.

If you have been blessed by reading this article, or seek clarification on some of the issues raised here, contact Evang. Wilton Mamba on 7677 9312 or 7977 0952 or 2404 5284.

You can send an email to mambawiltonmultimedia@gmail.com. Better still join our faith-building sessions every Wednesday from 5-6pm and Saturdays at 11am – 1pm at Multimedia, Corner Somhlolo Road and Mbililibi Street in Mbabane opposite ICAP.

order to receive the Holy Spirit. Now this is why it is written that Jesus, who is 'the way, the truth and the life', came by the water and the blood. To receive Him in full we must observe the ordinances of water baptism, spirit baptism and the blood of the Lamb (Lord's supper), which atones for all sins, thus bringing about complete forgiveness, rendering Satan powerless over us.

It is the water and the blood that enables us to believe that Jesus died for our sins, and only then can we ask Him to come into our lives and allow Him to make us a new creation. "That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

(Romans 10:9). Here is a point to note; receiving Jesus is not merely a case of lip service, as this verse may seem to suggest. Many who have merely recited the words and hoped things would change, have been frustrated to see no change in their lives whatsoever. This is because believing itself is of the Spirit, and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except he does so by the Spirit.

This is a hard concept to understand, and do allow me to borrow from the writings of Richard Ing who, in his book 'Spiritual Warfare', recommends fasting to aid spiritual growth. Fasting enables the spirit to be master over the physical body and soul, making it possible for the believer to be on the same wavelength with God, who is a Spirit.

LET'S MEET AT THE TRADE FAIR



UNITED HOLDINGS

We have a very exciting week ahead of us seeing the Eswatini International Trade Fair (EITF) has just begun.

As is the norm every year, all our subsidiary companies will be represented and will be providing all products and services that are normally accessed at Dups Holding offices. Products you can expect include health and legal insurance, funeral plans, family support plans, loans, and our popular herbal remedies.

The EITF is a great environment for you to unwind with your family, seeing amazing things being exhibited by different entities, and basically just have a wonderful time. It is also a good platform to be inspired by what you see, shop around and make important decisions about certain things that you see there. We would like to extend an invitation to our valued customers and all in attendance to pay us a visit in Hall 1 at the Mavuso Exhibition and Trade Centre.

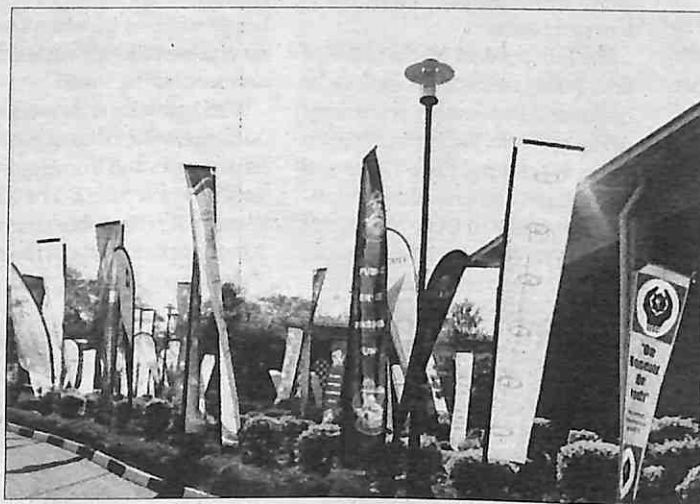
It will be a great opportunity to get all the services that you would otherwise have to come to our offices for. You will be able to pay your premiums, register for new policies, make inquiries about Dups products, and even upgrade policies that you already have. Speaking of upgrades, in case you missed some of our communications in the past weeks, we are currently running a promotion encouraging our customers to upgrade their policies.

It always feels good when you raise the bar for yourself and move a step up the ladder.

We all celebrate progress. A policy with Dups, whether a funeral policy, family support plan, health insurance or legal insurance, is a very good thing as you are always assured of good service all around. Our payouts are processed in record time and we always deliver on all our promises.

However, we would want our customers to not just register for policies where they get the barest minimum.

Don't just get a policy for the sake



of it. Please come over to our stall, sit down with us and discuss exactly what kind of services you think would make a funeral easier on the shoulders of those left behind, and we will point you in the right direction. Funerals are never meant to be easy.

They take such a huge toll on the emotions before you even factor in other matters arising. The toll gets much worse if you have to handle

such a delicate situation while struggling financially. It is, therefore, advisable to have a solid plan in advance so that when the time comes, all you are grieving for is your dearly departed, not your empty pockets as well.

As we have mentioned before, the urge for most people to settle for the cheapest product on the shelf is quite strong, usually without much consideration for how far it can take you. The cheapest shoe will go for a few

kilometres before the tips come off, and you have to start looking for more money to go shopping again. The same goes for funeral policies. You would be assured of good service, that is guaranteed, but the kinds of benefits you are entitled to will depend on how much you have contributed to that policy.

What you do not want is to get a small pay-out and still be scratching your head with stress wondering where to find more money to top up for more expenses that you still have to take care of. Upgrading your policy won't cost you an arm and a leg. The margin between the premium you would have to pay and the old one is minimal. We hope to see you at the Trade Fair.

If you are not attending, please get in touch with us on 2505 2028 to upgrade your policy.

You can also send queries to info@united.co.sz, United Holdings Swaziland on Facebook or on Twitter @UnitedHSD or pay us a visit at our offices in Manzini, Matata, Matsapha, Simunye, Nhlangano, Mbabane, Pigg's Peak and Siteki.

Ultimately, winning elections is about numbers – how many voters can a candidate convince they are the best person for the position.

In Eswatini's election a candidate for MP or *Indvuna yeNkhundla* competes for numbers within their chiefdom during primary elections. In the secondary election, the competition is for numbers from all chiefdoms within an *inkhundla*.

Eswatini's electoral system is basic first-past-the-post where the candidate with the highest number of votes wins.

The system itself has its own gender implications and makes its own contribution to lower numbers of women elected, not just in Eswatini but also in many other countries where it is used. The numbers from the primary elections are already outlining a picture of what the results will look like. It is not looking good for women.

LOW NUMBERS OF WOMEN CANDIDATES AND VOTES

About 50 women as opposed to 286 men throughout the country successfully contested primary elections for Member of Parliament. This number comprises 17 women from 79 chiefdoms (Hhohho); 14 women from 102 chiefdoms (Manzini); five women from 56 chiefdoms (Lubombo) and 13 women from 99 chiefdoms (Shiselweni). (The use of "about" is due to errors noted in the EBC's gender classification of some candidates).

Not only are women MP candidates few, the votes they received are also on the low side – only one candidate received more than 1 000 votes and about half the candidates received below 300.

The highest number of votes for a winning candidate was 2 200 in Shewula (Lomahasha *Inkhundla*) while the lowest was 74 in Nthuthwakazi (Somtongo *Inkhundla*). The highest number of votes for a winning woman candidate was in Mafutseni (Mafutseni *Inkhundla*) with 1414 votes, while the lowest was in Nsubane (Somtongo *Inkhundla*) with 80 votes.

MORE THAN ONE WOMAN CANDIDATE IN AN INKHUNDLA

In some *inkhundla* there is more than one woman candidate: in Hhohho, this affects Madlangemphisi, Maphalaleni, Nkhamba, Piggs Peak, Siphocosi; in Lubombo, Lubulini; in Manzini, Ludzeludze, Mafutseni, Mahlangatsha, Mkhweni; and in Shiselweni, Hosea, Nkwene, and Somtongo.

Since only one candidate is chosen at secondary elections, this automatically eliminates 14 women candidates.

A LESS THAN 30 PER CENT RESULT? REGIONAL ELECTIONS FOR WOMEN

We are all hoping for the best from the hard work candidates and others are investing into campaigns. Nonetheless, the primary election results suggest that we will once again have less than 30 per cent women members.

The Constitution states, "where at the first meeting of the House after any general election it appears that female Members of Parliament will not constitute at least thirty per centum of the total membership of Parliament..." four additional women will be elected, one from each region.

In both the 2008 and 2013 elections, this condition was fulfilled but the election of the four women was not conducted.

There is debate about the reasons why: government points to the absence of legislation governing the process, while civil society actors see lack of political will since the Constitution is sufficiently clear. In April 2018 parliament passed the previously entitled "The Election of Women Members to the House of Assembly Bill" which purportedly seeks to operationalise the constitutional provisions.

BEYOND 59 TINKHUNDLA, WOMEN COULD STILL FILL 42 SEATS

Even if zero women are elected from the 59 constituencies, there are still 42 seats in Parliament that could be filled by women. In this year of a

SDG 5: GENDER EQUALITY - MAKING THE PROMISE A REALITY

2018 AN OPPORTUNITY FOR 50/50 ELECTIONS HISTORY: THE NUMBERS GAME

(A HURISWA initiative supported by UNESCO to promote gender equality in Swaziland)



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50/50 double jubilee, there is a chance to make more history here too.

• Elections and appointments: minimum 18, maximum 40

The secondary elections on September 21 will yield 59 representatives in the House of Assembly and will mark the end of the constituency-based stage of populating Parliament.

The remaining complement of 10 members of the House will be appointed by King Mswati III. In the case of Senators, 10 will be elected by members of the House, while 20 will be appointed by the king.

Within each category of election and appointment, the Constitution gives direction in terms of women's representation. Section 94(2) states "Ten Senators, at least half of whom shall be female, shall be elected by the members of the House..." and section 94(3) that "Twenty Senators, at least eight of whom shall be female, shall be appointed by the King..." In terms of the House, "not more than ten members nominated by the King..." (s95(1)(b)), who, "shall be appointed by the King so that at least half of them are female" (section

95(2)(a)).

"At least" means that it would be possible to appoint women into all 40 positions. If done, this would provide a significant counterbalance to what will be a secondary election result dominated by male winners.

• President of Senate and Speaker of the House

Elections for these two positions presents another opportunity to include more women.

The first item at Senate's first meeting will be the election "...from within the Senate or outside the Senate, a person to be the President of the Senate..." (section 100(1)). Similarly with the House of Assembly, before any other business, "it shall elect a person from within or outside the House to be the Speaker of the House of Assembly..." (section 102(1)). There is potential for women to hold both offices.

TEMPORARY SPECIAL MEASURES

When women have performed poorly at *inkhundla* level, there are usually complaints about adding women's numbers as suggested,

expressed through questions such as, "Why should women be 'wheelbarrowed' into office? If the electorate has rejected women, why place the burden on the king? Why are women being allowed into Parliament by the 'back door'? Is reserving seats for women not discriminatory against men?" These sentiments show that there is still need for education on gender inequality, including the role played by temporary special measures, also referred to as affirmative action, in rebalancing the scales.

Affirmative action neither unfairly advantageous to women nor discriminates against men. It also does not "prove" that women are weaker and thus need "help." It simply acknowledges the historical preferential treatment of men over women in all spheres of life that has been passed down over generations. It is a way of accelerating equality while simultaneously trying to address factors that contribute to discrimination. Importantly, it is not intended to be tokenism simply concerned with quantity and is inherently temporary because the idea is to level the playing field; thereafter such measures are unnecessary.

From a reading of the law, the possibility of more numbers is real. The question, however, is probability. That depends on political will...

WHILE WE WAIT...

The hard work of canvassing for votes continues. Of course money and other resources will continue to influence voter behaviour. However, the remaining women can be successful by distinguishing themselves from this vote-buying culture and conducting issue-based campaigns that engender confidence in their ability to do what they promise. Any capacity building at this stage should therefore, at a minimum assist candidates:

- Analyse their constituencies in terms of issues as well as numbers, asking critical questions such as who are the voters, where are they, what are their concerns?
- Frame their central message(s) for clear articulation by the candidate orally at campaign events or through different campaign materials and in the media;
- Understand campaign law to avoid disqualification and ensure compliance.



WRITER'S NOTE...

Good day dear readers and a very warm welcome once again to your favourite youth section on the land ASPIRE whereby we aim to INSPIRE young people to the best version of whatever they ASPIRE to be.

In today's read, we have Sharon Maziya as our cover. In the main interview, Sharon takes us back to her childhood, her love for journalism and how she is using public speaking to impart knowledge, INSPIRE and motivate young people, especially the girl child. It was a really great interview as we got to learn a lot about what stalls progress in young people's lives or how they aren't taking the right direction that will lead them to where they ASPIRE to be. All that and more in the next page. On the following page, we have the Sunday Podium by yours truly.

I opine on the on-going elections and how I feel we are completely missing the plot regarding what the whole activity should be about. Ladies and gentlemen, my dear readers, these are national elections and we are supposed to elect our representatives in government. Now voting because they buy you alcohol is not logical, as a person is going to pass laws that will have a direct effect to you and probably your next generation even. Now, we as young people are the future of this country and if we fail to understand the power we have as a collective, then we are as good as doomed. Read that on page 30. We conclude this week's read with a feature by regular guest writer Mukelo 'Mookies' Tembe.

She returns after a two-week break and discusses the issue of following your heart when you choose a career path. Hope you will take her advice. Trust me, there's nothing worse than waking up every day to something that you hate.

I can imagine how taxing and heart-breaking it must be to ignore your passion. For comments and feedback, let's continue the conversation at sbusisod-laminitheg@gmail.com or at [pene-diction on Instagram](#). Until next week, Have a good read and a blessed week Sbudathepenaddict.



GET YOURSELF A MENTOR - SHARON MAZIYA

MAIN INTERVIEW

GET YOURSELF A MENTOR - SHARON MAZIYA

● Do what you love and most importantly get a mentor. That's one thing that young people aren't doing these days. Look, even Serena Williams and Usain Bolt have coaches, so who are you to think that you'll manage on your own?

BY SIBUSISO
DLAMINI

Sharon Maziya grew up in the Lubombo region and did her primary school education at Ubombo Primary school in Big Bend. She describes herself as a 'very active' child during her childhood.

"My childhood was wonderful. I did my primary school education at Big Bend primary and I was greatly exposed to a lot of activities, both academically and extra-curricular. I played nearly all types of sports, from netball, hockey and even tennis. I even went to as far as representing the country in tennis," she says.

Maziya then moved on to St Michael's High School for her high school where she says she was trying to get away from her parents.

"Moving to St Michaels was a great move for me, and I enjoyed it. I had been with both my parents for the longest time and all I really wanted to do was get away from them, and be myself. I enjoyed it and this is where I met most of the people I call friends today. To be honest with you, I don't have new friends. All the people I call my friends today are the people I met when I was doing my high school at St Michael's. They still challenge me to become the best version of myself which is why I still have them around," she explains.

Sharon then moved on to Sisekelo High School for her Form Five and says this was due to the fact that her father wanted her closer to home.

"I completed my high school at Sisekelo because my father wanted me closer, maybe to feel more in control (laughs), I don't know. I then returned back to Big Bend and my favourite subjects were English, Geography, History - all the arts and then my major dislike was Mathematics (sighs). I swear I loathed it with all my heart, just that it was one subject you had to do, so I worked extra hard in making sure that I passed it," she says.

Maziya says she always ASPIRED to be a journalist.

"The one thing I always wanted to be was a journalist. I always imagined myself working for publications such as BBC and CNN and covering war in Afghanistan or anywhere across the world. The whole idea of disseminating news excited me and that's why I loved journalism wholeheartedly," she says.

Upon completing her high school, Maziya was forced by her parents to study accounting since her marks allowed for it.

"My parents were both accountants, so when I got my results and they discovered that I had qualified for the accounting course, they forced me into studying AAT level 1. I hated that course, so that year was the worst in my life. Luckily enough, I had also applied for communications at the University of Eswatini (UNESWA) which was called the University of Swaziland (UNISWA) at the time,"

She says because of her love for communications, the course was an absolute breeze.

"Studying communications was like a calling to me, hence I never felt under pressure. Everything was just falling into place and I never felt under pressure. Every time I was writing an exam or an assignment, I always looked at the bigger picture - which was being attached to CNN or BBC of course.

I studied communications and then when it came to picking, I went for broadcast and got attached to SBIS where I was to later get my first job. She later quit media though because of the meager pay and went for teaching which paid much better at the time.

"I enjoyed my time at SBIS. I learnt a lot especially because I worked with gifted people such as Phesheya Dlamini, Thembi Hlophe, Veli 'VV' Simelane. I learnt a lot and enjoyed every moment, but at the time, journalism paid less than teaching and I wanted more money so I quit SBIS and to be a teacher at St Phillips," she says.

It was during her time as a teacher where she discovered her love to impart knowledge to people but more matured people instead of children.

"As a teacher at St Phillips, I discovered that I enjoyed passing on knowledge to the next person, and I also discovered that I wasn't a children's person. I preferred much more matured people - hence I went to study Human Resource Management. It has been super fulfilling.

I learn new things every day and that's what keeps me on my toes every day. I really love what I am doing," says Maziya.

We then quizzed her on how she started with



public speaking.

"I think public speaking comes naturally to me. I read a lot, so that's how I'm able to speak freely whenever I am given the task. Even before I took it upon myself to do public speaking, I would always be invited to speak in different events - be it events and even during a time of death, so I learnt from this and knew that this was something I had to learn from," she says.

ASPIRATION

Women who overcome adversities and go on to do great things. For me, public speaking is an opportunity I get to empower women and young people as a whole. A woman should know that they can do whatever they set their minds on and my mission is to get them to know that and to try give them words that will lead them towards that path.

The feedback I have been getting has been humbling. I get young girls who are on the verge of giving up getting back on their feet and raring to continue with the fight. That's what keeps me going; knowing that I have the potential to change a life makes me want to do more of it every day.

ADVICE TO YOUNG PEOPLE

Do what you love and most importantly get a mentor. That's one thing that young people aren't doing these days. Look, even Serena Williams and Usain Bolt have coaches, so who are you to think that you'll manage on your own?

The answer is you won't. You need someone who has faced the same challenges to tell you how they've managed to overcome them and also give you advice on how you need to handle them along the way. You don't know everything, so don't make that mistake. Don't be scared, approach someone who is doing what you ASPIRE to do, talk to them and ask them for guidance, you have nothing to lose but everything to gain.

THE SUNDAY PODIUM

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

One of the benefits of being a journalist is that you get to travel the country extensively and meet different people faced with different and diverse challenges – from the PM to the most impoverished elder or young person in the rural areas.

You get a different perspective on everything and anything that happens in this country and if there's one thing that pains me the most during the visits, it has to be the poverty that you get to see in the rural areas. It is throbbing to the heart and makes you wonder how heartless those who claim to be legislators are.

Last week, I was sent to cover the primary elections in one of the constituencies in the Lubombo region and one thing that impressed me was the number of young people I saw in the polling centres. It is pleasing to see that young people in this country are finally taking voting seriously and that they now know that they have a potential of shaping this country into what they want it to be. Again, young people's influence can be proved by the number of those who are seen as front-runners in the different constituencies.

Let us take a look at Mbabane East' Harris 'Madze' Bulunga, Matsanjeni's Phila Buthelezi, Siphofaneni's Mduduzi 'Magawugawu' Simelane just to name a few. Those are the new bloods that are vying for seats in Parliament and whilst I do wish them all the best, I have to state that I have a huge problem with the motivation of not just only these aforementioned candidates, rather the whole lot that is campaigning for Parliamentary seats.

The motivation is wrong!

Ask any journalist and they will tell you how their mobile phones are turning to be 'hotline-blings' of late from candidates who are demanding for their pictures to be published. My thinking is that perhaps these candidates need to also let us know why they should be voted into office and how they are going to influence the lives of the people in their constituencies with legislations. They owe the people that.

As is, over two thirds of the candidates

ELECTIONS HYPE IS MISCUED!



Mduduzi 'Magawugawu' Simelane.



Harris 'Madze' Bulunga (centre).



Phila Buthelezi.

are vying for the seats because they want jobs, because they want to be celebrities, because they want to line their pockets and because they also want a piece of the cake. Very few of them are concerned with putting others first, very few of them are concerned about making other people's lives better and very few of them are concerned about making a change in the country.

How many of these candidates can boldly state that they appreciate that the job at hand is to put the people first?

If let me just say 40 of the 59 legislators are going to buy votes, then how are we going to get a Cabinet? If so, then does it shock you that those very people are capable of selling Senate seats to the highest bidder and most of all; isn't it just clear that we will have a corrupt government which will sell this

country to the highest bidder – simply because they are more concerned about their stomachs.

Decisions

But, I also have a problem with the way we as the voters are conducting ourselves and the decisions we seem to be taking. If we are going to vote for someone simply because they bought us alcohol or simply because they have brought us food! It's ludicrous. So, how then do we complain during their term that these people aren't doing their jobs when they never even promised to do it in the first place? I am convinced that some are innocently naïve as to what a parliamentarian's duty is.

For example, and I hope I don't get misinterpreted to be de-campaigning 'Madze' because I have the outmost respect for the soft-spoken mentor and wish him all the best.

However, I am concerned about the motivation of his running to be an MP. So, I had a conversation with some Mbabane East voters and most of them proudly stated that they wanted 'Madze' in simply because they were sick and tired of Easter.

It is not because 'Madze' has proven himself as a leader in the constituency. It is not because 'Madze' has a dream for his constituency, if anything the man is just there because he seems to be a better choice.

This is then what worries me? And I will not go into Madze's record as a coach, because whilst some may argue its irrelevancy, for me, it's a sign of his leadership, but hey that's a story for another day. I will put that aside today.

Politics is a game that needs to be understood by those who are in it to benefit the people. Otherwise,

we the people will end up as the losers and we will have no one to blame but ourselves.

We are all still gobsmacked by the mediocrity of our Cabinet, but something tells me that with the kind of thinking we have heading into the secondary elections, we might actually choose worse candidates. But, my main point I was trying to drive in today was that a lot of young people are voting, but unfortunately they are voting for the wrong reasons and subsequently the wrong people. We as young people need to understand that we are the future; we have the power to influence this country's next direction and that no one else will change our fortunes if we let things slide. Voting for people with no regard for us will only result in a country that will head for the don-gas and we will have no one to blame but ourselves.

THE HEART'S INTENTIONS

Choose a career in-line with your passion



With Mukelo Tembe

For the past few weeks I've discussed the topics about of self-love, self-actualisation, family affairs, friendships, relationships all those 'affairs' close to our hearts.

Maybe I haven't covered it entirely but pretty much most of it. How to focus and maintain peace, happiness and mental health. Today I want to touch on something different. Switching it up to the next level so to say.

Before I do that, I would like to celebrate a few people who are doing it big in Eswatini. Young, brilliant people who have embarked on a journey of establishing their own businesses or projects that have 'wowed' us. I would like to celebrate the incredible growth I have noticed from the people around me, for example. A big shout out Swazi Kota Joint-The First And Best Swazi Culture Kota @ (swazi_kota_joint), a range of the latest clothing designs by All Access Trendz @all_access_trendz and last but not least, a major shout out goes to Mbulelo Ndlovu

@(mbulelo_photography), he is also doing an amazing job with his faces. Props to all of you out there, not only are you raising the Eswatini flag but yourselves too. The people behind the scenes are humble and are destined for greatness. To every young person out there trying and putting in the work. You are doing great keep going. I celebrate people like you.

If there's one thing I've noticed is that, if you're going to choose a career

in life, firstly you need to make sure it's in-line with your passion, skills, drive and talent. It makes it worth working hard for. It reduces the capacity of one getting tired and giving up on.

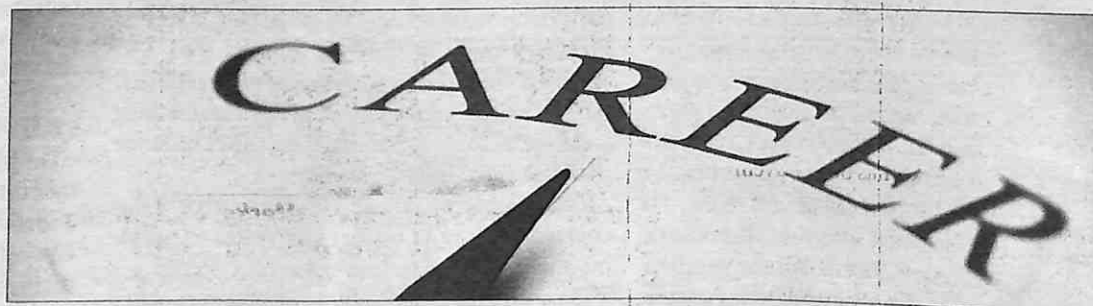
Idea

Most of the times when we were growing up we said we wanted to be a lot of things that when we think about it now we simply frown up the idea. Or just understand that at that

time we didn't know better. Point is there's something out there for everyone. Each one of us has a talent that has been given to us to touch other people's hearts and make a difference in their lives. What we need to do is put it in good use and give it the best we've got. Just like the examples of people I've made above. I've been doing some research and it's obvious that people change courses in the middle of a year or two for another course.

Sometimes, worst case scenario, when they are about to finish. Most of the time it's not even about them but someone else, imagine how much time and money has been wasted. For those who are completing high school.

Do your research, consult, take note of your strengths and weaknesses (write them down if you have to). Watch and read programmes that interest and teach you more about life. Don't be afraid to ask. Be willing to know the unknown. Commit to your decision about your long-term or lifetime investment, dig deep in it so you can grow and find pleasure, in whatever you have. Also stand for what you believe in with no doubt; otherwise you'll fall for anything along the way. For comments and feedback, get in touch with Mukelo at tembe-mukelo@gmail.com.





SUNDAYOBSERVER WORLD NEWS

The right place | The right Sunday

BRITON JAILED FOR LIFE OVER PLOT TO KILL PM MAY

LONDON - A British man was sentenced to life in prison on Friday over a plot to kill Prime Minister Theresa May by first detonating an explosive device to get into her Downing Street office and then using a knife or a gun to attack her.

Naa'imur Rahman, 21, of north London, planned to detonate an improvised explosive device at the heavily guarded gates of Downing Street and gain access to May's office in the ensuing chaos and assassinate her, according to police.

He was convicted last month of preparing to commit acts of terrorism and at London's Old Bailey court on Friday was given a life prison and will serve 30 years behind bars.

"Rahman's target was the prime



Britain's Prime Minister Theresa May.

minister but he had no qualms about killing innocent bystanders in the process of reaching her," said Dean Haydon, the UK's Senior National

Coordinator for Counter Terrorism. "At one point he told a covert counter-terrorism officer that even if he could not reach the prime min-

ister, he just wanted to strike fear into people." As he put the plot together, Rahman believed he was corresponding online with members of the Islamic State (IS) militant group. However, he was actually talking to undercover officers from the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Britain's MI5 domestic spy agency.

He was arrested last November shortly after unwittingly meeting an undercover police officer and collecting what he believed was a homemade bomb but was, in fact, a harmless replica.

After his conviction in July, police said Rahman had been in contact with an uncle who had travelled to Syria and joined IS and who had encouraged his nephew to carry out attacks in Britain. **AFP**

Ebola control measures seem to be working in Congo - WHO

GENEVA - Efforts to halt an outbreak of the deadly Ebola virus in the Democratic Republic of Congo appear to be working, but substantial risks remain, the World Health Organisation said on Friday.

The outbreak has so far killed 77 people in Congo's North Kivu and Ituri provinces among 116 cases. Fifteen of the cases were health workers.

"Recent trends suggest that control measures are working," a WHO statement said, citing improving figures for tracing patients' contacts, rapid treatment of Ebola patients with therapeutic drugs and vaccinations of people at risk.

Previous

A previous outbreak in Congo this year was swiftly stopped, despite the remote location and difficult terrain.

The latest outbreak presents a different challenge, occurring in a more densely populated area with dozens of armed groups. Some areas are off-limits to health workers due to the security risks, making it more difficult to ring-fence each Ebola case by vaccinating all the patient's contacts.

On Wednesday WHO Chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said it was too soon to say whether the outbreak was stabilising due to the difficulty of identifying new cases near rebel-controlled areas.

"Substantial risks remain, posed by potential undocumented chains of transmission," Friday's WHO statement said, adding that four of the 13 new probable and confirmed cases in the past week were not known to have had contact with any Ebola patients.

Risks

There were also risks from unsafe burial practices and people's reluctance to accept contact tracing, vaccination and health-care, as well as poor standards in some health centres and delays in getting patients to treatment. **AFP**

Lula da Silva barred from running for presidency

BRAZIL - Brazil's top electoral court has barred jailed former president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva from running in October's presidential elections because of his corruption conviction.

In a session that stretched into the early hours of yesterday, the justices voted 6-1 against the once hugely popular leader, who has been incarcerated since April for accepting a bribe.

Supreme Court Justice Luis Roberto Barroso cast the first vote against Lula, saying the ruling was "very simple" because the law forbids candidates whose conviction has been upheld on appeal.

"There is no margin here for the electoral court to make any other evaluation but the one showing there is a conviction,



Former president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

and that conviction matters in the candidate's eligibility," Barroso said.

Justice Edson Fachin disagreed, citing a recent call by a UN human rights committee calling for Lula to be allowed to run while he further appeals his conviction. Brazil election - What to expect from October's presidential poll (2:17)

Moments later, his Workers' Party vowed to "fight with all means to secure his candidacy." "We will present all appeals before the courts for the recognition of the rights of Lula provided by law and international treaties ratified by Brazil," said the party in a statement. "We will defend Lula in the streets, with the people." **Al Jazeera**

MERKEL WRAPS UP AFRICA VISIT IN NIGERIA

LAGOS - German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Friday was wrapping up a three-day Africa visit in Nigeria with a meeting between the leaders of Europe's and Africa's largest economies focusing on migration.

Merkel has been traveling with nearly a dozen German CEOs in Senegal and Ghana, two of Africa's fastest-growing economies. The tour aims to boost investment in a region that is a major source of migrants heading toward Europe, even as migrant arrivals across the Mediterranean are at their lowest level in five years.

Some in Europe hope that investing in West Africa will keep people in a region plagued with unemployment, rising



German Chancellor Angela Merkel, foreground left, is welcomed by Nigeria's President Muhammadu Buhari.

extremism and the effects of climate change from leaving. Merkel's visit comes two days after that of British Prime Minister Theresa May, who announced a project with France to help Nigeria, the region's powerhouse, and neighbouring Niger improve border cooperation along a key migration route. The international com-

munity also has interest in sub-Saharan Africa's economic potential and its booming population, which is expected to double by 2050. Nigeria is among several West African nations that in recent months have brought home thousands of citizens stranded in squalid camps in Libya on their way toward Europe. **AP**

BRIEFS

1.1 million Zimbabweans will need food aid, warns WFP

HARARE - The World Food Programme warned on Friday that 1.1 million Zimbabweans could need food aid before the next harvest in 2019, with rural smallholders most at risk of food shortages. Growing food prices and the country's dire economic state could also affect those living in urban areas, the UN food agency added. "WFP plans to address the most urgent food security needs of 1 135 500 people during the peak of the 2018-19 lean season," said the agency's Zimbabwe spokeswoman Ashley Baxstrom in a statement. "Vulnerable groups are always disproportionately affected by adverse conditions (and) shocks." The WFP said that \$71.2 million would be needed for the planned response, with \$22 million already raised - largely from USAID. **AFP**

UK minister holds talks in Iran in first visit

DUBAI - Britain and other European signatories are trying to keep the nuclear deal alive, despite Trump's reimposition of sanctions on Tehran. Junior Foreign Minister Alistair Burt met Deputy Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi, the state television reported. "The talks mainly covered economic cooperation and mechanisms of financial and monetary dealings between the two countries after the US withdrawal from the nuclear accord," the television report said. A junior British minister held talks with his Iranian counterpart in Tehran yesterday, Iran's television reported, the first visit by a UK minister since US President Donald Trump withdrew from Iran's nuclear deal with world powers. **Reuters**

US accuses China of 'super aggressive' spy campaign on LinkedIn

WASHINGTON - The United States' top spy catcher said Chinese espionage agencies are using fake LinkedIn accounts to try to recruit Americans with access to government and commercial secrets, and the company should shut them down. William Evanina, the US Counter-intelligence Chief, told Reuters in an interview that intelligence and law enforcement officials have told LinkedIn, owned by Microsoft Corp., about China's "super aggressive" efforts on the site. He said the Chinese campaign includes contacting thousands of LinkedIn members at a time, but he declined to say how many fake accounts US intelligence had discovered, how many Americans may have been contacted and how much success China has had in the recruitment drive. **Reuters**

'Lawmaker critical of President Museveni flies out of Uganda'

NAIROBI - Prominent Ugandan opposition lawmaker and popular musician Robert Kyagulanyi who was charged with treason has left Uganda by plane, his lawyers said. Kyagulanyi, 35, known by his stage name Bobi Wine, was elected to Parliament last year and amassed a large following among youth electrified by his scathing criticism of President Yoweri Museveni, sometimes delivered in his songs. "I can now confirm that Hon. Bobi Wine ... is on a KLM flight out of Entebbe Airport," lawyer Nicholas Opiyo wrote on Twitter late on Friday, without giving his final destination. Another lawyer, Robert Amsterdam, wrote: "Now that Bobi Wine is finally safely en route on a flight, we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to his local lawyers, his family, friends, and supporters who refused to back down in the face of extreme pressure and intimidation." **Reuters**

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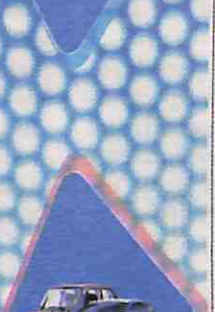


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JACKSON BACK SUNDOWNS TO END GOAL DROUGHT IN MTN8

PRETORIA - Ex-Bafana Bafana defender Willem Jackson says he expects a thrilling MTN8 Cup semi-final encounter between Mamelodi Sundowns and Cape Town City.

The Brazilians are set to host the Citizens today at the Lucas Moripe Stadium and Jackson believes Pitso Mosimane's men are not under pressure to find the back of the net and reach the final.

"Yeah, look I don't think Sundowns are under pressure to win something after their exit in the Caf Champions League," Jackson told Goal.

"I hear the talk that they are not scoring goals, but I don't think that should be a concern for them because they have good players who can solve their problems anytime," he added.

"Once they start scoring, goals

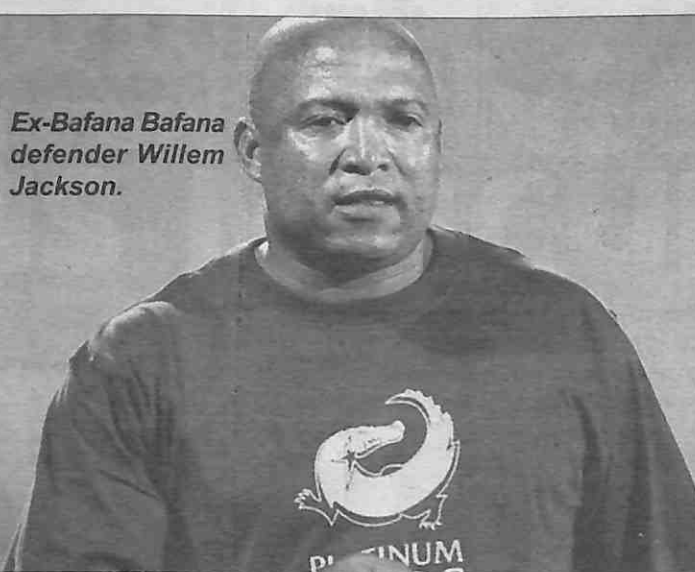
will come and I am sure the players and coaches are working very hard to solve their problems upfront," he continued.

"What is good is the fact that they create chances, but they are just unfortunate not to score and I am sure they will solve this," said the former Bucs defender.

Although the Brazilians have not scored since their 2-0 win over Golden Arrows in the MTN8 quarter-final, they were guilty of missing several chances in their final CAF Champions League Group C clash against AC Horoya on Tuesday night.

They have missed the target in four consecutive matches in all competitions, but the former Bloemfontein Celtic centre back believes this is hurting many clubs in the Premier Soccer League (PSL).

"Sundowns have been travelling



Ex-Bafana Bafana defender Willem Jackson.

a lot and these factors could hurt their ability to play their normal game you know," he added.

"On the other hand, the defensive pairing from their opponents

also deserves credit, teams have improved in their defending and I know this from myself, I do not want to concede against any opponent," he revealed. **Goal**

Anderson takes 6-1 win-record into clash with Thiem

NEW YORK - Kevin Anderson will be confident heading into his US Open round of 16 encounter against Austria's Dominic Thiem today.

The fifth-seeded South African reached the fourth round after a thrilling five-set win over rising Canadian teenager Denis Shapovalov on Friday.

Anderson now takes on the ninth-seeded Thiem for a place in the quarter-finals.

The tall South African lost the pair's most recent encounter at the Madrid Masters 6-4, 6-2 on clay, but will be confident as he boasts a 6-1 win-record against Thiem in matches played on the ATP World Tour.

Crucially, Anderson's six wins over Thiem all came on hard courts which could tilt the scales in the South African's favour.

Thiem is an accomplished clay court player - he reached the French Open final earlier this year - but is yet to truly convince on other surfaces.

Thiem on Friday made the last 16 for the fourth time in five years with a 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7/5), 6-4 victory over American Taylor Fritz. Thiem has now put together three wins in a row for the first time since finishing runner-up to world No 1 Rafael Nadal at Roland Garros. **Daily Mail**

Raikkonen stuns Vettel, Hamilton in Italian Grand Prix qualifying

LONDON - Kimi Raikkonen produced Formula One's fastest lap ever to take pole position for the Italian Grand Prix to the flag-waving, hollering delight of the home faithful.

He pipped his team-mate Sebastian Vettel by 0.161sec, with Lewis Hamilton, the championship leader, 0.175sec off the pace to set Ferrari up perfectly for back-to-back wins, having triumphed through Vettel in Belgium last week.

It was Raikkonen's first pole position since Monaco last year and only his second in a decade, and a timely reminder of his lingering powers with his contract up for renewal. Ferrari have not locked out the front row at Monza since 2000.

Modern history says Raikkonen is likely to grab the victory, with race winners at Monza having come from pole on 14 occasions this century.

Hamilton, leading Vettel by 17 points, may have hoped for rain but, despite some drops falling before the start and grey skies threatening more, it



Kimi Raikkonen with Sebastian Vettel and Lewis Hamilton.

remained dry for the one-hour session.

Valtteri Bottas, of Mercedes, was fourth.

Raikkonen's speed of 163.785mph over the lap eclipsed Juan Pablo Montoya's old mark of some 163mph set in 2004.

Credit to Lance Stroll, the much-maligned Williams driver, who was 10th, an echo on his fine qualifying performance here last year when he put his car on the front row.

The Sauber pair of Charles Leclerc and Marcus Ericsson, survivors of horrific-looking

crashes in recent days, did not make it out of Q1. Ericsson was second slowest, in front of McLaren's out-of-confidence Stoffel Vandoorne, and Leclerc was fourth slowest.

But they were lucky to have even been on the track at all. Leclerc was saved by his halo when Fernando Alonso's McLaren flew through the air during last weekend's Belgian Grand Prix.

Daily Mail

Arsenal missed out on Shaw deal

LONDON - Arsenal could have beaten Premier League rivals Manchester United to the signing of Luke Shaw had they heeded transfer advice offered to them by Martin Keown.

Back when the England international was making his way through the academy ranks at Southampton, the highly-rated left-back saw his potential noted by a Gunners legend.

Keown urged those at Emirates Stadium to make a move, with it obvious that the talented teenager was destined for big things.

Those calls fell on deaf ears and Shaw eventually joined United for £30 million (\$39m) in the summer of 2014.

The 23-year-old has not enjoyed the easiest of rides at Old Trafford, but he has returned to form under Jose Mourinho this season and is back in the England squad. Keown told

the Daily Mail when asked if that recall was deserved: "100 per cent. I actually would have taken him to the World Cup in Russia."

There was enough time at the end of the season for Gareth Southgate to work with him, get him fit and help rebuild his confidence.

"We took him to the 2014 World Cup with a view to developing him into England's first-choice left-back for 2018 but that did not materialise."

"I first watched him as a 16-year-old playing on a training pitch for Southampton against Reading. In the first 10 seconds, he whipped a ball across the box with such power and precision that I just thought, 'Wow'. 'I was standing next to an Arsenal scout and I immediately said, 'You've got to sign him'."

Goal

Nadal survives scare to reach US Open last 16

NEW YORK - World number one and defending champion Rafael Nadal came back from a set and break down to defeat big-hitting Karen Khachanov 5-7, 7-5, 7-6 (9/7), 7-6 (7/3) and reach the US Open fourth round on Friday.

The top seeded Spaniard triumphed after an epic 4 hour 23 minute struggle on Arthur Ashe Stadium in a match where the 22-year-old Khachanov had served for two sets to love lead in the 10th game of the second set and had a set point in the fourth-set tiebreaker.

Nadal, seeking a fourth US Open title and 18th major, will face Georgia's world number 37 Nikoloz Basilashvili for a place in the quarter-finals.

Basilashvili reached the last-16 of a Slam for the first time by seeing off Argentina's Guido Pella 6-3, 6-4, 1-6, 7-6 (7/4).

"Karen played well. He's improving always. He's young. He has everything. I really see him winning a lot of matches in his career," said Nadal who has now reached the fourth round in New York for the 10th time.

"For me personally, it was a physical, demanding match. It was mentally demanding."

Khachanov, 22 and bidding to make the last 16 of a Slam for the third time this year, took the opener while Nadal, who converted just one of five break points in the set, needed strapping to support his right knee in the changeover.

"I am going to be at 100 per cent for the next match," explained Nadal.

The top seed was quickly down 3-1 in the second set before battling back to 4-4.

Khachanov cracked when serving for a two sets lead in the 10th game.

AFP

Serena crushes Venus in flat family US Open showdown

NEW YORK - Going head-to-head with sister Venus for the 30th time brought out the best in Serena Williams as she hit top form at the US Open.

Just before the match, Serena shared a video on Instagram from exactly a year ago when she was in labour preparing to give birth to daughter Olympia.

There will be further tests to come that will show whether she is totally back to her best, but there was little to fault as she raced to a 6-1, 6-2 victory in just an hour and 11 minutes, equalling the most one-sided match in their long history. The sisters shared an embrace at the net before a muted wave to the crowd from Serena, who will next face Estonia's Kaia Kanepi. 'It's not easy,' said the 36-year-old.

'She's my best friend, she means the world to me and she's so supportive of my career and I'm extremely supportive of her career. Every time she loses I feel like I lose. I love her with all my heart and she's the only reason I'm still out here. I owe everything to her.'

Daily Mail

Venus and Serena Williams embrace at the net after the latter won the US Open.



ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



Liverpool preserved their 100 per cent start to the Premier League season as first-half goals from Sadio Mane and Roberto Firmino proved enough for a 2-1 victory at Leicester City.

LIVERPOOL MAINTAIN PERFECT START

LONDON - Liverpool maintained their perfect start to the Premier League season with a 2-1 victory over Leicester City at the King Power Stadium.

Jurgen Klopp opted for one change from the win over Brighton & Hove Albion, as Guinea midfielder Naby Keita made way for Jordan Henderson.

The surprising change did not disturb Liverpool's rhythm as they broke the deadlock on nine minutes when Andrew

Robertson's cross deflected into the path of Mane, who drilled the ball past Kasper Schmeichel. The Foxes, meanwhile, did see a bit of the ball as the first half went on but they struggled to carve out a chance in the box without a recognised striker. The Reds doubled their lead on the stroke of halftime, with Robert Firmino rising well to head home James Milner's corner.

Leicester came out a livelier side in the second half and they were rewarded in

the 63 minutes when Kelechi Iheanacho dispossessed Reds goalkeeper Alisson Becker before picking out Rachid Ghezzal, who slotted into an empty net.

Klopp responded by introducing Xherdan Shaqiri and Keita for the ineffective Mohamed Salah and Henderson for the final 20 minutes. The Foxes pushed for an equaliser in the closing stages of the second half, but Klopp's men were able to hold on for three points.

Daily Mail

Alisson will learn from mistake, says Klopp

LONDON - Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp said keeper Alisson would hopefully "learn from his mistake" after gifting Leicester City a goal in the visitors' 2-1 win at the King Power Stadium yesterday.

With Liverpool two up and apparently heading for an easy win in the Premier League game, the Brazilian refused to take the easy option of just clearing his lines when put under pressure by a poor Virgil van Dyke back-pass after the break.

Instead Alisson tried to beat Kelechi Iheanacho with a step over but was robbed of the ball by the striker who centred for Algerian Rachid Ghezzal to find an empty net and spark a Leicester fightback.

The mistake was eerily reminiscent of previous keeper Loris Karius's performance in the Champions League final and clearly not what is expected of the 66-million-pound (\$85.54-million) newcomer.

"He knows it was his mistake but I told him the best game to do this was in a win," said Klopp.

Less than a week earlier, Alisson had been praised for his outrageous dink over Anthony Knockaert in the 1-0 win over Brighton & Hove Albion, a piece of skill that was loudly cheered by sup-



The Liverpool goalkeeper was tackled by Kelechi Iheanacho after trying to turn the striker leading to him falling to the ground.

porters on the Kop.

Klopp had reacted to that by saying: "That's not too cool for a manager. If it works then it's cool." He is unlikely to be so forgiving this time, having struggled so long to identify the right keeper to bring stability at the back. "It was clear it would happen after last week but I didn't expect it to happen in the next match," joked Klopp.

"We all have to learn from this," he added in reference to the casual defending that put Alisson under pressure in the first place. Last week Alisson said he would carry on dribbling after being

questioned about his unorthodox piece of skill against Brighton.

"Sometimes when there is a situation where there is dribbling, I do it carefully," he said. "It could be too risky but it's part of the game, we are a team that plays from the back with the ball on the ground. Mistakes may happen, but we work hard during the week to do everything correctly during the matches."

Klopp said he was delighted with Liverpool's latest win which makes this the first time they have started with four successive victories in the Premier League era. *Daily Mail*

Jose defends record amid UTD struggles

MANCHESTER - The Portuguese is under increased pressure this week after suffering a 3-0 defeat to Tottenham Monday.

There have been suggestions that Ed Woodward is considering his options as he looks to return United back to the Premier League's elite. But Mourinho insists he is still one of the world's best managers.

"I am the manager of one of the greatest clubs in the world, but I am also one of the greatest managers in the world," said Mourinho. "I had last season great success. I had great success last season, that's what you probably don't want to admit. 'I analyse my performance myself, and for me it's more important what I think than what you think. 'I repeat that two seasons ago we had a fantastic season by winning the Europa League,

"Everybody thought Atletico Madrid were amazing because they won the Europa League after being knocked out of the Champions League."

Jose Mourinho.

"We won the Europa League because that was our level. We are the last team in England to win a European trophy. 'And, I repeat, I won eight titles. I am the only manager in the world that won in Italy, Spain and England, and by winning eight titles, not small titles or countries."

"My second position last season is one of my greatest achievements in football. I think."

United are expected to challenge Liverpool and Manchester City for the title this season. And Mourinho has aimed a dig at Reds boss Jurgen Klopp, pointing out his lack of silverware. "Did you read any philosopher or in your formation you never spent time reading Hegel," he added.

"Just as an example, Hegel says the truth is in the whole, is always in the whole."

Daily Mail

Give Mourinho respect, insists Guardiola

MANCHESTER - Pep Guardiola says his old rival Jose Mourinho deserves respect despite Manchester United's troubled start to the Premier League season.

Mourinho is under pressure following consecutive Premier League defeats to Brighton and Tottenham, with speculation mounting about his future at the club.

The United manager demanded respect from journalists following the 3-0 loss to Tottenham, pointing to his success with Chelsea, Inter Milan and Real Madrid.

Guardiola was involved in a series of spats with Mourinho when he was in charge of Barcelona.

But, asked about Mourinho's problems, Manchester City boss Guardiola said: "The history, the

way Jose did in all the places he was - it's hat's off. There is no doubts about his quality."

"You need players, good clubs that sustain you and support you. 'Our position is results. Every manager what he believes, what he likes, tries to get results in his own style and the way he trains. We are judged on the results we get.' Only the players know exactly how you are as a manager because they know you and see you every day. They have more information than the rest of the world - the fans, the media, everybody. 'Only the players know exactly who we are and normally even then we are judged - if they play, the manager is good, if they don't play the manager is not good.'"

Daily Mail

Son avoids military service

SON HEUNG - has won gold with South Korea at the Asian Games, making the Tottenham winger exempt from military service.

South Korea beat Japan 2-1 in the final yesterday thanks to extra-time goals from Lee Seung-woo and Hwang Hee-chan to finish first place for the first time since 1986. The Tottenham forward was apologetic for missing the start of the Premier League action to feature in the Under-23 tournament in Indonesia, but the club gave him

permission to go knowing a gold medal would seal his release from mandatory service for his country. Athletes who win gold at the Asian Games - silver or bronze is not enough - are exempt from the service, which lasts at least 21 months, meaning it was a narrow escape for captain Son and his team-mates. Round by round the pressure has increased for Son and his team-mates and it showed in the final as they took their time to break down Japan.

Daily Mail

Huddersfield claim valuable point at Everton

LONDON - Everton and Huddersfield Town's stuttering starts to 2018-19 continued with yesterday's 1-1 Premier League draw at Goodison Park.

A largely dull affair briefly threatened to spark into life late in the

first half with two goals in as many minutes, although that short burst of entertainment was never replicated in a scrappy second period.

The Terriers edged into the lead as Philip Billing nodded in from a set-piece for his maiden Premier

League goal.

But less than 90 seconds later, Dominic Calvert-Lewin got on the end of Lucas Digne's centre to net with a header of his own - unfortunately for the paying spectators,

the last action of note as neither side could force a winner in a contest high on industry but low in quality.

The point was arguably a better one for Huddersfield, who, aided by the strong base of a five-man

defensive line, had few troubles inside the first half an hour and, following a brief period of pressure of their own, edged ahead in the 34th minute.

Chris Lowe's corner was inadvertently flicked on at the near post by Calvert-Lewin and Billing was free to head home from six yards.

AFP

PEDRO, HAZARD ON TARGET

LONDON - Maurizio Sarri's impressive start to life in the Premier League gathered pace as Chelsea maintained their perfect start to the season with a 2-0 win over Bournemouth yesterday.

Sarri's side appeared to be in danger of dropping their first points of the season against opponents who were also unbeaten coming into this game.

But everything appears to be going right for Sarri at the moment and his decision to introduce Pedro in the 65th minute was rewarded when the Spaniard struck the opening goal just seven minutes later.

Eden Hazard wrapped up the win in the 85th minute at Stamford Bridge to make it four wins from four league games since former Napoli boss Sarri replaced Antonio Conte.

Having seen Liverpool win earlier in the day, Sarri could be satisfied with the way Chelsea responded as they kept pace with Jurgen Klopp's side at the head of the Premier League table.

This game provided more evidence that Chelsea are quickly buying into 'Sarri-ball'.

Eddie Howe studied the Italian's



methods when Sarri was at Empoli and the Bournemouth manager must think he was handed another lesson after his side paid the price for a number of missed chances.

Sarri had warned before the opening game of the league campaign that his side would face a difficult start as he attempted to implement a very different approach to that employed by Conte.

Early results have suggested otherwise, however.

Already Chelsea have demon-

strated an ability to overcome different kinds of tests, recovering to claim victory after squandering a two-goal lead against Arsenal in the previous home game and finally breaking Newcastle's resolute defence last weekend.

The visit of Bournemouth was always going to provide another significant challenge with Howe's side having won at Stamford Bridge twice in the last three years.

- Dominant Chelsea -
Howe included Jefferson Lerma, the Colombia World Cup player

signed for a club record fee of 25 million (\$32 million) from Levante, and left-back Diego Rico for their Bournemouth debuts and switched to a back three to contain Chelsea's threat.

The move had only limited impact during a first half that was dominated for long periods by the home side.

Yet while Chelsea enjoyed plenty of possession they created only a few chances and could easily have found themselves trailing at the interval. AFP

Super-sub Traore stuns West Ham

LONDON - Adama Traore came off the bench to score an injury time winner as Wolves recorded their first win of the season, beating West Ham 1-0 at the London Stadium yesterday afternoon.

Both goalkeepers had a busy opening 45 minutes as Rui Patrício kept out Felipe Anderson and Michail Antonio while Lukasz Fabianski made a great save to deny Matt Doherty.

West Ham had their chances in the second half, but it was to be Wolves' day as Traore came off the bench and beat Fabianski with a great finish to bag all three points.

Felipe Anderson almost got West Ham off to the perfect start as the summer signing beat a clutch of defenders before firing a low shot that forced a good save out of Patrício.

Fabianski then had to be alert to make a good save after Doherty



Adama Traore (left) scored a stoppage-time winner as Wolverhampton Wanderers won 1-0 at West Ham United yesterday.

almost managed to blast Wanderer Costa's pass into the top corner, but Fabianski tipped the effort over.

West Ham grew increasingly frustrated as they struggled to keep hold of the ball and Ryan Fredericks went into the book in the 25th minute after a poor challenge on Diogo Jota.

After the 30-minute mark, a poor header from Willy Boly

gave Robert Snodgrass a chance to have a go from inside the box, but the midfielder could only find the side netting.

Just before half time, Wolves had a rare chance as Raul Jimenez tried to find Jota before the ball fell back to the striker who then attempted an ambitious volley which went wide as the teams went into the break with the score line level at 0-0. AFP

Saints take advantage of Zaha absence

LONDON - Southampton secured their first win of the season as second-half goals from Danny Ings and Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg saw off a Crystal Palace side desperately missing Wilfried Zaha.

The 25-year-old was a surprise omission from the Ivory Coast squad in midweek and was absent from Roy Hodgson's squad as the Eagles looked to get back to winning ways after two straight defeats.

Claimed

It was Southampton, though, who claimed all three points with a 2-0 win to kick-start their season after picking up one point from their opening three games.

Ings looked sharp throughout and took advantage of hesitant defending from the hosts to latch onto Cedric Soares' right-wing cross and coolly slot between the legs of the onrushing Wayne Hennessey two minutes into the second half.

That goal woke Palace from their slumber and they came close to levelling soon after through Christian Benteke and James McArthur, who were denied by Alex McCarthy and the woodwork respectively.

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DOC:17155 Dn 21 AUG 2018

RAPTORS FIRST TEAM TO CRASH OUT OF EITF

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

BASKETBALL – MBABANE Raptors was the first team to crash out in the elimination round of the on-going Eswatini International Trade Fair tournament.

The games were played at the Coronation Park yesterday.

Raptors started the day with a tough match against Mbabane Jazz in what was a thriller. The team started off well and gave Jazz a hard time – with many fans even expecting the shocker result that was in the league where the team beat Jazz. The Sifiso Sibandze led-charges showed their experience though with the likes of Lwazi Mchobokazi and Jordy Shiba pitting to the party, Jazz eventually managed to win the match in the dying seconds with a 55 – 51 win.

The team then went on to face-off against Superstars who had won their opening match against RSSC Tridents with an emphatic 75 – 52 win. Superstars had an easy strategy in the match, to press Mbabane Raptors hard and it worked like a charm as Raptors looked tired in the match and Superstars easily walked away with the 52 – 31 win.

Emphatic

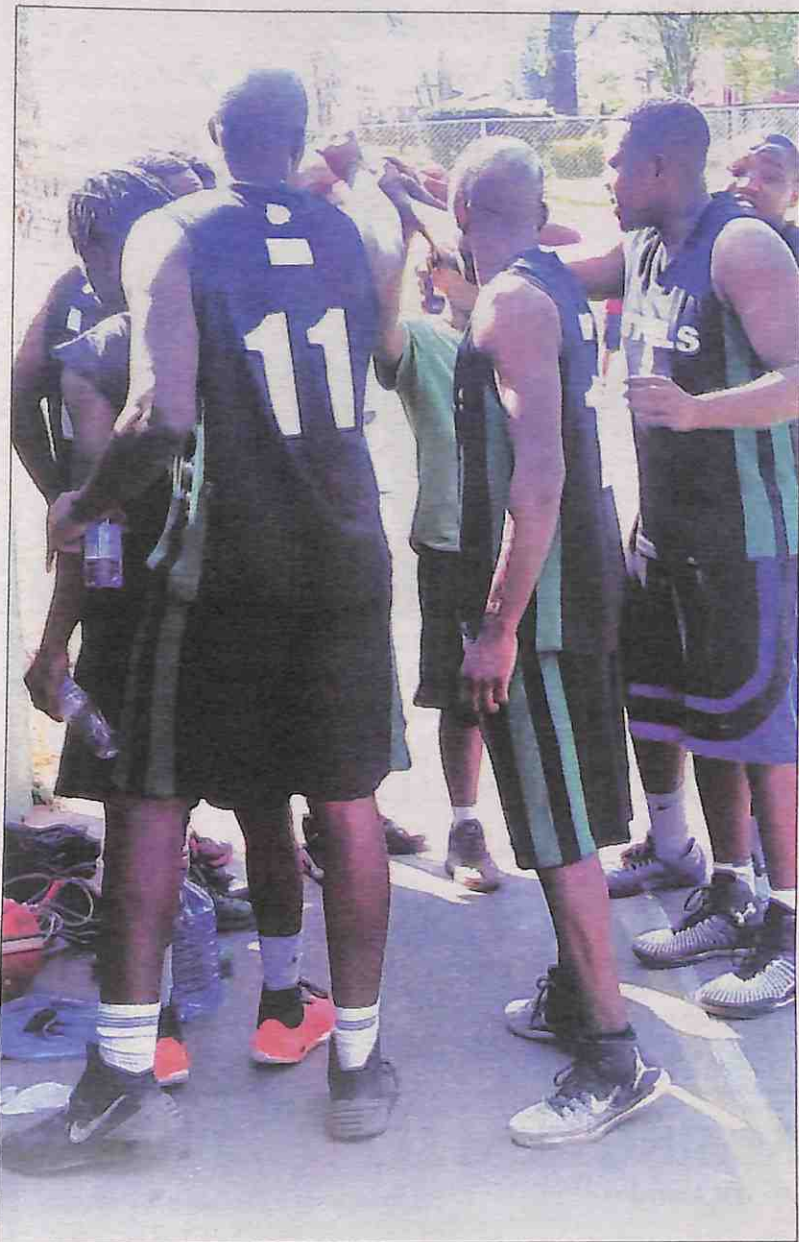
This then made Superstars and Jazz the top two teams in Pool A by the time of going to print even though they were still to play each other to determine which team was going to finish on top of the table.

In Pool B, Steels played the first match against Titans and won the encounter, with an emphatic 45 – 16 win.

The Andile Hlophe led –side was then pitted against Chase Basketball for the second encounter and the team won 32 – 23 making it two wins in two matches.

They were still to face-off against Imbumba in the last match.

When interviewed, Mbabane Raptors



Steels coach Andile issuing instructions during their game against Chase Basketball. Steels won the match 32 – 23. (Pics: Sibusiso Dlamini)

player-coach Andiswa Matsebula said the first match against Jazz was a tight match which could have gone either way, unfortunately they drained themselves and ended up not pitching to the party in the second game.

“We gave Jazz a torrid time, this they can also attest to. I think it

could have gone either way, but then we lost in the fourth quarter.

We didn’t have the energy they had and didn’t match them in any department therefore we ended up losing the match. However, we still have our heads held high, this is no train smash,” he said.



Chase Basketball players relaxing after their match.

...KNICKS PULL OUT AS PLAYER’S DAD PASSES AWAY

BASKETBALL – KNICKS pulled out of the Eswatini International Trade Fair tournament after one of their senior player’s Sifiso ‘Sutha’ Ndlovu’s father passed on.

The team which was scheduled to be in Pool B alongside Chase Basketball, Steels and Titans ended up not participating in the tournament as all his teammates were away to support him at the vigil which was held last night.

Superstars coach Size Nxumalo passed their condolences to ‘Sutha’ and the Knicks family.

Condolences

“We would like to pass our sincere condolences to ‘Sutha’ the Ndlovu family, and the Knicks team as a whole. Losing a relative is one of the most painful things that a human being can experience. We are with them through prayer and we hope the good Lord comforts them during this trying time,” he said



Superstars in action against Raptors. Superstars won the match 52 – 31.

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FORCES SIDES, BOB CATS ADVANCE IN PSI VB CUP

STORIES BY JONGILE XUBA

VOLLEYBALL - Forces sides Correctional and Umbutfo Eswatini Defence Force (UEDF) have both qualified for the semi-finals of the Eswatini International Trade Fair (EITF) /PSI Cup.

The cup games were played at Police College Academy in Matsapha yesterday.

The teams competing in this tournament were divided into two groups A and B and played in a knockout format where the top two teams advanced to the semi-final.

Rolling

Correctional got the ball rolling in group A with a victory over their first opponents on the day Mahlanya, beating them 2 - 0 s.

The green and white side seemed to be in control of the match but did



Correctional posing for a group pic during one of the tournaments.

not have it easy as their opponents gave them a run for their money.

UEDF, on the other hand, played a tightly contested affair but both sets went to the army side.

Correctional and UEDF then played each other in the second match of Group A and it was Correctional that won with straight sets to guarantee themselves qualification and bragging rights in the group.

Match

UEDF played their last match against Mahlanya and won to ensure that they joined Correctional in the next round of fixtures.

Group B saw Customs Bob Cats and Royal Eswatini Police (REP) also qualifying for the next round.

REP put aside Mshinande in the first group clash while Customs thrashed Ludzeludze 2-0.

Speaking after the games, Eswatini National Volleyball Association (ENVA) Secretary Eric Zwane said they were happy with the outcome of the games.

Good

"We had a good round of games played today and the teams really displayed quality in the courts.

The games will continue next Tuesday and Wednesday with the semi-finals of the competition and we will announce the times and venue in due course," said the secretary.

Our momentum can take us all the way - UEDF coach

VOLLEYBALL - UEDF Coach Ronnie Sibandze believes his side has the potential and the spirit to win the cup.

Interviewed after his team qualified for the semi-finals of the EITF/PSI Cup following a 2-0 victory against

Mahlanya, the coach said he was confident that they would win the tournament.

"We have a good team here and based on our performances today I believe that we can win the cup. It will require a combination of factors com-

ing together but it is possible for us to achieve this," he said.

The coach added that despite all the challenges they face as team they would not let that affect their performances.

"As a team we don't really have enough time to train together and gel

like the other teams in the competition.

But we will not let this hinder our ambition and also won't use that as an excuse not to do our best. Meanwhile Correctional Central Blocker and star man Musa 'Detector' Msibi said they

managed to play their usual game and win their matches. "I think the team played very well given that we were playing outdoors. This did not change their game plan and im happy that it was business as usual for us as we won the games.

We will use this form going into the semi-finals and other teams must be on the lookout," said Msibi.

Enzo Motsa linked with Wanderers move

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER - Manzini Sundowns midfielder Enzo Motsa has been linked with a move to town rivals Manzini Wanderers.

A source close to the matter asserted that the former Mbabane Highlanders and Red Lions player was expected to complete a switch to the hub giants after falling out of favour with the 'Kappa Boys.

"The player is headed for Wanderers after being deemed surplus to requirement at Sundowns.

The two teams have already started talks and are expected to finalise negotiations before the new season kicks off next in two weeks' time," said the source.

Manzini Wanderers Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Pat Mahlalele neither confirmed nor denied the matter when reached for comment yesterday. "Yes we have shown interest in the player's services but nothing has been finalised with regards to the matter you are asking," he said.

Meanwhile Manzini Sundowns Public Relations Officer (PRO) Muzi Matsenjwa could not be



Manzini Wanderers CEO Pat Mahlalele.

drawn for comments as his mobile phone rang unanswered when contacted yesterday.

Motsa is the fourth player set to be on the verge of leaving the 'Kappa Boys ahead of the League campaign after Melusi Mkhwanazi, Sandumuzi Zwane and Senzo Shongwe.

The team will also be minus trusted attacking midfielder Justice Figueiredo who has been cleared to ABSA Premiership side Maritzburg United.

SWIMMING AGM SEPTEMBER 22

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

SWIMMING - The Swaziland Swimming Association (SSA) will hold their Annual General Meeting (AGM) on September 22.

This was revealed by the association's President Berger Nxumalo yesterday.

Nxumalo invited all clubs and stakeholders to attend the meeting slated for the Olymp Africa Centre without fail. "We will be having our AGM on the 22nd of this month. It is that time of the year once again and I would like to invite all teams and stakeholders to come in their numbers to the meeting and keep time as we want to begin at 9am sharp," he said.

On the agenda is to change the association's name to suit the country's change of name to the as announced by His Majesty King Mswati III, the President's report and the treasurer's report who will be giving the financial report.

When asked to give a general view on the past season, Nxumalo said he didn't want to pre-empt the agenda, but stated that he was happy with how the season went.

"Well, my views on the season will be in my report which will be presented during the AGM. All in all though, I am pleased with the way the season has gone and I can only hope that the sport grows and develops from here," he concluded.



SSA President Berger Nxumalo.

EXTRA

Walker blasts through Benitez's wall

MANCHESTER - Kyle Walker's scored his first Manchester City goal in sensational fashion to hand the Premier League champions a hard-fought 2-1 win over Newcastle United.

Raheem Sterling's clinically taken opener in the eighth minute suggested a romp in line with City's 6-1 thumping of Huddersfield Town in their previous home game. But Pep Guardiola's side switched off defensively and DeAndre Yedlin was rewarded for a lung-bursting run when Salomon Rondon picked him out to level with half an hour played.

It fell to England right-back Walker, who failed to find the net as City racked up points and goals records last season, to step forward with long-range stunner and ensure the 10th anniversary of Sheikh Mansour's takeover was celebrated with a victory. Newcastle



undermined their bid to stifle City during the opening stages by carelessly coughing up possession in dangerous areas. Riyad Mahrez was unable to punish Salomon Rondon's slackness but, when returning Magpies captain Jamaal Lascelles passed straight to Benjamin Mendy, the full-back found Sterling to cut

inside for an emphatic finish. Gabriel Jesus passed up two clear chances to increase City's advantage and there was an air of complacency when their disorganised backline allowed Rondon to slide a fine cross into the path of the rampaging Yedlin to equalise.

Goal

BULL PUTS 'FASH' ON ICE

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

SOCCER - Barely a month after being given another chance in the team, Mbabane Highlanders forward Mfanfikile 'Fash' Ndzimandze has been suspended from the club for bad behaviour.

According to close sources within the 'Black Bull' side, the striker, who is still yet to play an official match for the black and white ensemble this season since his return from South African National First Division (NFD) side Mbombela United, was slapped with the suspension on Wednesday.

This was after he was said to have conducted himself in an ill-manner when reporting for training on Monday. "The player has been put on ice by the team's Directors following his conduct on Monday.

His behaviour didn't go down well with the officials and he was told not to come to training until after a month," said the source.

Worth noting is that 'Fash' was



Mbabane Highlanders striker Mfanfikile 'Fash' Ndzimandze.

shown the exit door from his former employees because of bad behaviour and he has a long-recorded history of behavioral issues.

When sought for comment, Mbabane Highlanders Board of Directors Chairman Zweli Jele said he was not aware of the suspension, but acknowledged a meeting the team was planning to have with the player.

"I am not quite clear about him being

suspended but I do know of a proposed meeting the team will have with the payer after the technical team reported something about him," he said briefly.

Contacted yesterday afternoon, the player, who has a long record of behaviour issues, asked not to comment on the matter. "I have no comment. I really don't want to say anything," he said, before abruptly hanging up.

HIGH PERFORMANCE CENTRE FOR BIRDS

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER - After a hectic season, capital city giants Mbabane Swallows will undergo rehabilitation at the Tshwane High Performance Centre.

This was disclosed by the club's General Manager Sandile Zwane who said the move was aimed at helping the players recover from the taxing CAF Champions League.

The local giants crashed out in the group stages of the continent Premier Club competition after losing their last game to Premeiro de Agosto in Angola last Tuesday.

"We are planning to take the team to the High Performance Centre to try and help them recover from the Champion's League journey.

The players have played a lot of matches within a short of space of time and that resulted in a number of challenges for us including the numerous injuries on most of our players

"We believe the rehabilitation will help the team recover ahead of kick-off for the domestic season," he said.

The capital city side currently has three of their players out on injuries in strikers Sandile Hlatjwako, Simanga Shongwe and defender Mandla Palma.

It will however be a short rest for the red and white glamour side as they will return to Africa for the Champion's League by virtue of being the champions of the 2017/18 MTN Premier League.

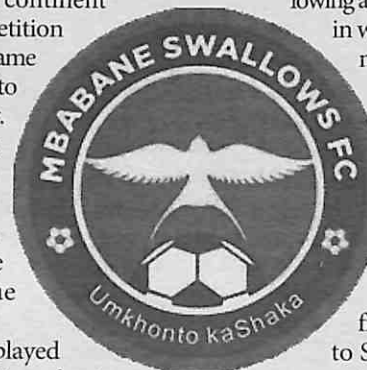
The next campaign is expected to start in November this year following a change of dates

in which the tournament will now be played by

the Continental football mother body.

Swallows have lost their five key players to South African

teams in Banele 'Pupu' Sikhondze (Polokwane City), Felix 'Fela' Badenhorst, Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza (both Mbombela United), Sanele Mkhewi (TS Sporting) and Stanley Umukoro who recently joined South African National First Division side Jomo Cosmos.



Peacemakers to sign Jomo Cosmos stars

STORIES BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER - Mhlume Peacemakers are expected to sign players from South African National First Division (NFD) side Jomo Cosmos ahead of their MTN Premier League quest.

This was revealed by the club Chairman Sibusiso 'Scorpion' Nxumalo when addressing over 30 supporters during a meeting held at the Hambanathi Hall at Mhlume yesterday.

Peacemakers will this season pay their trade in the elite league after buying the status of Matsapha United a few weeks ago.

"We are expecting a couple of players from Jomo Cosmos and they will hopefully be here next week for assessment. We need to beef up our squad because the main objective is to compete effectively in the premier league.

"We do appeal for support from our supporters and the Mhlume community in order to make our vision of bringing the sport in the area successful," he said.

Nxumalo also mentioned that they would play few matches in the Lubombo Super League as a way of showing sol-



Mhlume Peacemakers officials and players posing with attorneys Martin 'Internash' Dlamini and Zakhele Dlamini. (Pics by Sibusiso Masilela)

idity to Mhlume Highlanders, who will be campaigning in the third tier division.

"We have decided to assist Mhlume Highlanders while we are still waiting for the start of the MTN Premier League," he said. Peacemakers recently lost the services of three players in Banele

Ndzabandzaba who joined SA outfit Mbombela United, Siyabonga Ginindza now with Manzini Sundowns and Mzwandile Mabelesa who joined Moneni Pirates. Also present during the meeting were Peacemakers Director Musa 'Zane' Luhlanga and attorneys Zakhele Dlamini and Martin 'Internash' Dlamini.

E5 000 boost for Mhlume Highlanders

SOCCER - Revived Mhlume Highlanders have received financial backing ahead of their journey in the Lubombo Super League.

The team which is part of the consortium that bought the Premier League status was offered E5 000 cash incentive by aspiring Mhlume Member of Parliament Dumisani Dlamini. This was during Mhlume Peacemakers supporters meeting held at Mhlume yes-

terday.

Making the pledge, Dlamini said the money was to help the team in their mission in the Lubombo Super League.

"I am happy that football has returned to Mhlume through the revival of Peacemakers and Mhlume Highlanders. I believe that the money will motivate the team to do well in the Super League," he said.

Accepting the pledge was Mhlume

Highlanders Elder Sonnyboy Magagula who thanked Dlamini for the kind gesture.

"We are very excited that football is back in the area.

We are also grateful to Dumisani Dlamini for the kind gesture which will assist the team and we further thank the two lawyers that assisted during the entire process of bringing football back here," he said.

Peacemakers to host Sihlangu in friendly game

SOCCER - New MTN Premier League side Mhlume Peacemakers will today host the national team Sihlangu Semnikati in a friendly match at the Nsukuwansuku Stadium.

The tournament will also feature capital city giants Mbabane Highlanders and premier league returnees Manzini Sea Birds. This was announced by Peacemakers Board of Directors Chairman Sibusiso 'Scorpion' Nxumalo during the team's meeting held at the Hambanathi hall at Mhlume yesterday afternoon.

The national squad is currently in camp for the 2019 AFCON qualifiers clash against Tunisia to be played at the Mavuso Sports Centre next Sunday.

Nxumalo said entry fee to the games would be E20 and he invited supporters to attend in great numbers.

"We will have a series of friend-

ly matches tomorrow (today) at the Nsukuwansuku Stadium starting from 2.30pm and supporters are invited to come and see their teams in action," he said.

On another note, Nxumalo noted that they were still scouting for a new coach to lead the team as they prepare for their journey in the elite league. "We are still looking for a new head coach who will lead the team in the Premier League and are confident that everything will be concluded early next week," he said. The Lubombo side which recently brought the status of the now defunct Matsapha United parades three former premier league players, in ex Mbabane Highlanders stars Sifiso Dlamini, Mancoba Zwane and Clement Sibandze formerly with Green Mamba and Manzini Sundowns.

Also in their squad is former Manzini Wanderers goalkeeper Nkosenhle Dlamini.



Mhlume Peacemakers boss Sibusiso 'Scorpion' Nxumalo addressing the supporters during the meeting held at the Hambanathi Hall at Mhlume yesterday.

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RESULTS

Yesterday

PREMIER LEAGUE

Leicester	1-2	Liverpool
Chelsea	2-0	Bournemouth
West Ham	0-1	Wolves
Brighton	2-2	Fulham
Everton	1-1	Huddersfield
Crystal Palace	0-2	Southampton
Manchester City	2-1	Newcastle

MTN8 SEMI FINAL

Kaizer Chiefs	0-1	SuperSport United
Agg: 2-3		

FIXTURES

Today

14:30 Cardiff City	vs	Arsenal
17:00 Watford	vs	Tottenham
17:00 Burnley	vs	Manchester United

MTN8 SEMI FINAL

15:00 Mamelodi Sundowns vs	Cape Town City FC
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GROBLER SENDS CHIEFS PACKING

JOHANNESBURG - SuperSport United secured a spot in the MTN8 final for the second successive season after defeating Kaizer Chiefs 1-0 in the semi-final second leg tie.

Chiefs handed a debut to new signing Godfrey Walusimbi at left-back, with Itumeleng Khune returning in goal ahead of Bruce Bvuma.

The Amakhosi didn't have to do much given their two-goal advantage from the first-leg last weekend, but that was not going to prevent them from putting their best foot forward.

Allowed

SuperSport had the first chance from a free-kick whipped in by Aubrey Modiba which allowed Clayton Daniels to race ahead of the defence and head against the left-hand post in 14 minutes.

The Soweto giants were being over-run by an on-form United, who made them sweat for every challenge in all departments.

SuperSport appeared more threatening, moving around the Amakhosi defence with ease through their short passing movements.

Kick-Off

SundayObserver SPORTING

September 2, 2018



9

ON ICE:



BULL'S 'FASH' SUSPENDED

... Barely a month after rejoining the capital city side, the striker has been slapped with a one month suspension for misconduct



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