



The Right Place

The Right Sunday



APRIL 8, 2018

PRICE: E6.50 (VAT INCLUSIVE)

The accident scene where two people were seriously injured after being involved in a collision along Malagwane yesterday. (Pic: Lucky Simelane)



Politicians to get packages after elections

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Govt investigates top officer for missing car

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'No new vehicles for 50/50 celebrations'

PAGE 6

BAYAHAZA NJE ...

HILLARY WANTS ACC PROBE STOPPED

● Minister bypassed as probe team directly approaches ACC staff

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VAT woes: Frustrated hawker suffers stroke at border

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CLARIFICATION

BAYAHAZA NJE! MINISTER WANTS PROBE STOPPED

- Minister against the manner probe is being conducted and the terms of reference
- Independent sources say minister should not dictate terms as he is also set to appear before the probe team
- Deputy commissioner interviewed and commanded to facilitate attendance of officials

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) probe committee Chairman Jan Sithole and Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs Edgar Hillary do not see eye to eye on the commencement and the manner the probe is being conducted.

Firstly, the minister believes that the committee should have informed his office as opposed to directly approaching the ACC and serving a summons without the knowledge of his ministry. Secondly, the minister said the committee does not have a blank cheque to investigate the entire covert operations of the commission, just two items.

"The probe has not begun because I have not been informed, all I know is that if there is an investigation in a department of the ministry they ought to write to the ministry *hhayi kuhaza nje*," said the minister meaning they should not just budge in.

When contacted about the issue, ACC Director Jabu Shiba referred questions to the ministry of justice and constitutional affairs.

"ACC does not communicate on

matters of Parliament directly, it does so through the ministry which then communicates on our behalf," she said.

On the other hand Sithole said the minister should voice out his concerns in Parliament since the matter was discussed there and declined to respond on it outside Parliament.

Sithole revealed that the probe had begun and will continue this week while the minister is of the view that the probe should not proceed as it is not being carried out properly.

Probe

He pointed out that the probe commenced last week where they interviewed the ACC deputy commissioner administrator and commanded him to facilitate and release his staff to appear before the committee as of tomorrow morning.

"We have started, on Monday (tomorrow) we will begin by announcing the terms of references and also the programme of the people and institutions who are invited to talk on this issue and we will open the floor to interested parties. This is because you may find that there are people who were affected as they may have been unfairly dismissed, or been wrongfully arrested while

they were innocent," he said.

Sithole said the interviews will continue tomorrow where there will be a media launch for the terms of reference to be shared.

Sithole did not want to share the terms of reference saying it would pre-empt the content of the press briefing tomorrow.

Confirmed

The following are the terms of references of the probe that Sithole had confirmed; alleged maladministration, the controversies surrounding fleet management at ACC; alleged corrupt practices in the recruitment and promotions, alleged misappropriation of government funds through the ACC's special account and incidental matters there to.

The minister said these were too broad and were not what the House had mandated the committee to probe as he said the Parliament records would reveal only two issues, one being that of the cars and money.

"In Parliament they were two things that were discussed; they don't have a blank cheque to investigate everything and every file. There were only two things that were discussed in Parliament, these were the vehicles



Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs Edgar Hillary.

and money worth E2 million that I am aware of," he said

Independent sources revealed that the committee was of the view that by virtue of being mandated to investigate corruption within the institution they were empowered to root out all acts or forms of corruption that may be found in the ACC.

When asked to respond on the matters raised by the minister, Sithole said the matter was discussed in Parliament therefore he could not comment or respond to the minister via media.

"I am not going to respond because this is a matter that was discussed in Parliament. Since he is also a member of Parliament has a right to raise it in Parliament. He also has a right to approach the committee and say whatever he wants to say it. We are not going to engage on this issue in public," he said.

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RFM report on the way as investigations at advanced stage

STORIES BY
ZWELETHU DLAMINI

Director of Health Services Dr Vusi Magagula said the report on the investigation of the incidents that had been reported about the Raleigh Fitkin Memorial Hospital were at an advanced stage and a report will be released soon.

Magagula said they had all parties submit their sides of the allegations of negligence at the hospital and were yet to compile a report of their findings.

He said it was necessary that thorough investigations were made to establish facts on what transpired before judging or concluding



One of the hospital wards.

ing the matter. Magagula said they were also engaging in superviso-

ry visits to the hospitals around the country but were yet to con-

duct one at the hospital.

The administration of the hospital also shared similar sentiments assuring the nation that the matters was given due diligence including that of the higher number of people in the maternity ward.

"The incidences reported are being investigated and will be addressed.

The hospital is doing everything possible to manage the high number of maternity ward patients and would like to thank the ministry of health, Mbabane Government Hospital, Central Medical Stores and other organisations for the support we have received and continue to receive in managing the situation," said the RFM CEO Ben Simelane in an interview.

SENATOR SAYS SOMEONE OUT TO DISCREDIT HOSPITAL

A senator from Manzini has come to the defence of the hospital saying it appears that someone was out there to paint a bad picture of the hospital by focusing on the incidental cases.

The senator said there was a lot

right with the hospital that was not brought out citing a few wards that are "top notch".

Institution

"There is a lot of good in that institution but clearly someone is out there to bring up the incidental cases.

The male surgical ward and the renal ward are among the best.

Private clinic

I once hurt my toe and went to RFM and I was treated well now I prefer to go there whenever I'm sick instead of private clinics even though I am on medical aid,"

said the senator.

The senator said the bad publicity of the hospital was standing in the way of the institution raising pertinent issues that affected the day to day running of the institution.

VAT WOES: FRUSTRATED HAWKER SUFFERS STROKE AT BORDER

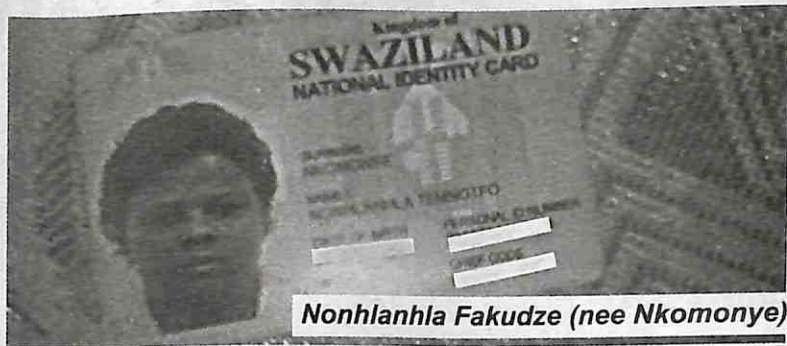
STORIES BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

A bedridden 45-year-old hawker who suffered a stroke while at Lavumisa border post blames it on the value added tax (VAT) imposed by the Swaziland Revenue Authority (SRA). This comes at a time when government wants to hike VAT from 14 per cent to 15 per cent, as announced by Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini in his budget speech 2018.

Nonhlanhla Fakudze (nee Nkomonye) of Siweni around Malindza, who resides at New Village in Manzini, said she suffered a stroke on her return from Durban in South Africa, after being frustrated by a SRA officer at the border post over the payment of VAT.

The incident happened on March 24 at around 21:45pm. Fakudze was in the company of other hawkers under Butimba BemaSwati Hawkers Association on the fateful day. She and the other hawkers who were travelling in a 64-seater bus had visited the neighbouring country to purchase goods they sell at the Manzini Market. The stroke has crippled the left side of her body and also resulted in loss of speech for three days. Fakudze has not fully recovered as her speech is still slurred.

When visited at her parental home at Siweni on Friday evening, Fakudze was found in the company of her mother, sister and niece. Narrating her plight, she said when they arrived at Lavumisa Border



Nonhlanhla Fakudze (nee Nkomonye).

Post they were attended to by one officer who introduced himself as a Magagula. Fakudze alleged that Magagula said he came to the border post strictly to deal with the vendors.

"He ordered us to take our goods from the bus so he could verify if we had declared all the imports," Fakudze slurred. She said the order to offload the goods was a first, since normally, the SRA officers would just demand to see receipts of the declared goods.

Verify

However, on this day that was not the case as Magagula was said to have searched every bag to verify if all the goods had been declared.

The search lasted until the border post was closed and the vendors were forced to spend a night there as some had not declared their belongings. Fakudze said she had declared goods worth E2 000.

However, Magagula's search established that Fakudze did not declare some of the

goods she had bought in South Africa. For that offence, she was allegedly slapped with a E2 400 penalty, which she successfully paid after getting assistance from a friend. It was after the additional E2 400 tax that she suffered a mini stroke.

The tearful Fakudze said this frustrated her too much, such that her blood pressure (BP) levels shot up, which she said was a condition she usually has treatment for. Unfortunately, on this day she had finished all the pills she had taken with her on the journey. She said this was because she had calculated that on the fateful night she would be back home where she had more of her medication. Worth noting is that she also takes medication for another illness that will not be disclosed for ethical purposes.

Despite not feeling well, Fakudze said she was forced to wait until the morning to get medication as the border post was closed while the SRA officer was still searching for undeclared imports. She

Stay away from under-declaration - SRA

Swaziland Revenue Authority (SRA) Director Communications Vusile Dlamini has pleaded with hawkers to stay away from under-declaration.

He neither confirmed nor denied whether Nonhlanhla Fakudze used the border post on the night in question. Dlamini added that it was against SRA policies to talk about the matters of taxpayers in the public space.

Additionally, he said it was important for the parastatal to mention that it had observed a

number of goods smuggling and under declaration incidents with an intention to evade tax. "Tax evasion is a criminal offence as it robs the country of needed revenue. As such, the consequences of such evasion are drastic and if found to have evaded tax at the border, an importer may be charged a penalty of up to three times the value of the goods," he explained.

Dlamini advised importers to stay away from this kind of behaviour as SRA officers had become more and more vigilant at the country's borders.

felt it was going to be risky to leave her items in fear of losing them. Lavumisa border post opens from 7am until 10pm.

In the morning when the border post re-opened and all the hawkers had declared their imports, Fakudze rushed to hospital, where a doctor informed her that her BP read at 209 systolic pressure. Readings above 180 systolic pressure or above 110 diastolic pressure usually indicate a hypertensive crisis. The doctor was said to have informed Fakudze that she had suffered a mini stroke. She was treated and discharged.

On the week leading to the Easter weekend, the stroke got so severe that she was admitted at Good Shepherd Hospital on Tuesday. Since then, she has been bedridden and has been in and out of hospital seeking medical attention.

Fakudze went on to allege that SRA officers usually gave hawkers a hard time over the prices they paid for some of the items. She said the challenge was that most of the items were bought from flea markets so they would not have receipts for such goods.

When contacted for comment, SRA Director Communications Vusile Dlamini said it was unfortunate if it was indeed true that Fakudze suffered a stroke after she had interacted with the SRA's process of checking compliance with legislation.

"Actually such incidence of the stroke was never brought to our attention. Natsi siyayiluma nje ngani baka Observer (we are hearing about it for the first time)," he said. "We sincerely empathise with her reported situation."

SRA accused of ill-treating informal sector entrepreneurs

Chairman of Butimba BemaSwati Hawkers Association Isaac Masombuka has expressed disappointment in the way hawkers are treated at the country's border posts.

Masombuka, who was present when Nonhlanhla Fakudze and crew were allegedly frustrated by the SRA officer, went on to allege that on the day Fakudze suffered a stroke, a lot of things were not handled with caution.

He said it was wrong of the officers to harass defaulters. The chairman said as much as he discouraged hawkers from not declaring all of their imports, it was important that officers do not harass those who have failed to declare some of their items. He said the officers would sometimes use every trick to frustrate defaulters while uttering offensive names at them (hawkers).

"The officers are only supposed to

seize undeclared imports. An arrangement should then be made on how a defaulter can pay for the seized items," he said, adding that it was wrong of the officers to hold hostage all the hawkers who were travelling in the 64-seater bus on the fateful night.

Masombuka said this was particularly so because some of the hawkers were on medication for various illnesses. He said in most instances, when people travelled they only brought with them medication they thought they would need for the duration of their trip away from home. He viewed the frustrations caused by the tax agency's officers as cruelty at its best. "This means government does not care about its people because SRA should give the infor-

mal sector a grace period to pay for undeclared goods," he mentioned.

He said what happened on the night was an abomination as most hawkers who had run out of their medication collapsed while others collapsed because of hunger. He mentioned that the scene that played itself out on the night annoyed them. Masombuka insisted that government should protect hawkers as they contribute to the economy.

The chairman further disputed claims that hawkers always arrived at the border at the eleventh hour to avoid being 'raided' by SRA officers.

Masombuka said they had had a puncture on their way back, hence their late arrival at the gate.



Hawker pleads for wheelchair donation, debt bail-out

The bedridden Nonhlanhla Fakudze (nee Nkomonye) is appealing to Good Samaritans for a wheelchair donation and a debt bail-out.

Fakudze said she secured a loan of E6 000 (at a monthly interest rate of 30 per cent) from a shylock to buy stock at the Durban flea market. She went on to add that she needed help in settling the debt as she feared the interest would escalate to an amount she would never be able to settle.

She added that she borrowed the E2 400 from a friend who runs a Mobile Money business in Manzini when the SRA officer demanded that she pay the penalty for failing to declare all her imports. Adding, she stated that she feared that her friend's business would soon crumble because the money loaned to her was for

operations.

Fakudze said she lost her husband in 2009 and she was now taking care of their six children on her own. Two of the children are in a primary school in Manzini while the other four dropped out because she had no money for school fees.

Transport

"I am also running out of money to hire a taxi to take me to hospital as I spend E500 a day on transport," she said, further pleading with members of the public and organisations to donate a wheelchair to make it easier for those taking care of her.

Those willing to assist the family can contact Nonhlanhla on (+268) 7647 2703 or the Swazi Observer at (+268) 2404 9600, fax to 2404 6463 or send an email to sunday@observer.org.sz.

INCIDENTS OF HAWKERS' UNDER-DECLARING

Lavumisa Border - March 17

On March 17, while performing random physical inspections, Lavumisa officers found discrepancies between documents and the physical imports from two passengers aboard a bus from Durban. These were mainly hawkers. This prompted a total search on all the passengers to ensure that all movements of goods were legitimate. The two were discovered to have failed to declare imports amounting to E4 000 and E3 000 respectively.

Physical examination requirement

Imports and exports are subject to various national laws and customs regulations. Following the

detection of elements on non-declaration on two of the passengers, the SRA and police had to conduct a thorough search on the entire bus load of passengers to check the accuracy of the customs declarations they had already made. It is perhaps an unfortunate fact that due to time and the extent of the earmarked exercise, the passengers could only be properly attended to the next day on Sunday, which inevitably caused delays.

Outcomes

During the physical verifications, a total of 43 passengers were found to have under-declared their imports with amounts ranging between E1 114 and E6 490.

Of these, a total of 38 cases were classified under the minor offences category (below E2 500) and consequently not charged any penalties but forfeited VAT exemption allowance and charged full VAT instead.

The remaining five cases were categorised as major and consequently, penalties were charged at 25 per cent which itself is lenient considering that the SRA could charge up to three times the value of the goods.

Lomahasha border - March 23

A client (name withheld for ethical purposes) came to Lomahasha Border driving a sedan and declared 14 new bags. She paid E210 for the bags. When conducting a physical check together with a police

officer on the car, it was discovered that she had hidden some bags and shoes in the panels of the car.

Below is the list of the goods and where they were found in the car:

- Bonnet - Four new pairs of sneakers and one new bag
 - Back Right Door - 17 new pairs of sneakers
 - Back Left Door - 16 new pairs of sneakers
 - Dashboard cabin - 12 new bags
 - Boot Sides - Six new pairs of sneakers
 - Under the back seat chairs - Five new bags
- The total value of the items which were under declared was E4 600.

Mhlumeni border - February 2

A red Swazi registered Toyota Hi-Ace kombi driven by a Swazi was found with 26 concealed volumes of GT cigarettes in the side panels of the kombi. The discovery was made by SRA officers doing routine checks at the entry boom gate. The driver of the kombi had finished stamping his passport at the immigration side entry to Swaziland from Mozambique and he was heading for Manzini. He did not go to SRA Customs to declare that he had cigarettes in his vehicle but only paid the road toll for the kombi. It was when he reached the boom gate that the cigarettes were discovered by a team doing physical checks after the passengers had all declared their goods and a thorough search of the vehicle was done, only to discover more of undeclared and hidden cigarettes on all the side panels of the vehicle.



Throng of people queuing to be tested at Prince of Wales Stadium.

HYPERTENSION, CANCER, DIABETES AMONG LEADING DISEASES IN SD

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

The World Health Organisation (WHO) said hypertension, cancer, and diabetes are among the common non-communicable diseases in Swaziland.

HPR Officer Dr Kevin Makadzange encouraged Swazis to screen regularly for these diseases to avoid complications caused by late diagnosis. This was during the commemoration of World Health Organisation Day held at Prince of Wales Stadium yesterday, where over 1 000 people from different parts of the country were in attendance.

Dr Makadzange encouraged people to have regular check-ups and to adopt healthy lifestyles to prevent non-communicable diseases, which he said were becoming a problem in the country.

"Screening early helps prevent complications, which are very expensive to manage because they result in death, dialysis and amputation among other consequences," he said. The doctor said the good news was that the diseases were preventable and if diagnosed early, they were curable.

He said the theme for this year is 'Universal Health Coverage' and 'Sustainable Development

goal number three, which focuses on ensuring good health and well-being for everyone.

"We are promoting access to good quality health services for everyone regardless of where you come from, age and social background. In Swaziland, collaborating with the ministry of health and other partners, we decided to commemorate the WHO's 70th anniversary through a health market focusing mainly on disease prevention," he said.

Director of Health Services Dr Vusi Magagula also shared similar sentiments, saying the day marked the 'birthday' of the WHO which was established on April 7, 1948. "We are encouraging people to know their health numbers and keep track of them till 2022. These include

weight, cholesterol level, blood pressure, eye tests and others. Here people are testing for HIV, TB, prostate and cervical cancer for free," he said.

Dr Magagula said the ministry was encouraging people to monitor their health through a health card that people should have to keep track of their health status, adding that they had produced over 1 000 copies of the cards.



Umbuto Swaziland Defence Force leading the march.



Members of the public joined the march of commemorating WHO Day.



Director of Health Services Dr Vusi Magagula and Deputy Director Rejoice Nkambule also participated in the commemoration.



Some of the information centres and testing points.

ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER ACCIDENT AT MALAGWANE

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

The Malagwane Hill continues to prove to be one of the most dangerous roads in the country, with yet another accident occurring yesterday.

The accident happened by Mnyamatsini at around 1:30pm. Two vehicles, a white Corsa and a grey Mazda crashed into each other, with the latter going ramming into the bumper of the Corsa. A witness said a black

BMW had been speeding and moving recklessly, which was said to have interrupted the drivers of the Mazda and the Corsa, who were trying to swerve out of the way. "There was this BMW which was really speeding and I think the Mazda driver was trying to veer from it, but he ended up bumping into the Corsa. The BMW driver did not even stop when he saw all this, instead, he just accelerated further down the hill. People have really lost their

morality. How do you do something like this?" the witness wondered. Three victims were found screaming in pain, these being the two motorists and a passenger who was travelling in the Mazda. They were all rushed to hospital by the Emergency Services. Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba confirmed the accident and said investigations were still ongoing.



Paramedics rushing an injured woman to an ambulance for first aid before she was rushed to hospital, after being thrown from a Corsa bakkie which was hit by another car in Mvutshini along Malagwane Hill yesterday. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



Other motorists passed the accident scene where two people were seriously injured.



Arrival of paramedics at the accident scene.



INTEREST RATE CHANGES

In accordance with the Central Bank of Swaziland's interest rate change of 29 March 2018, Nedbank (Swaziland) Limited announces new interest rates as per below:

- Prime Lending Rate 10.25%
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GOVT INVESTIGATES TOP OFFICER FOR MISSING VEHICLE

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

The ministry of public works and transport has launched a probe into a missing government vehicle that was last authorised to a senior government official within the ministry.

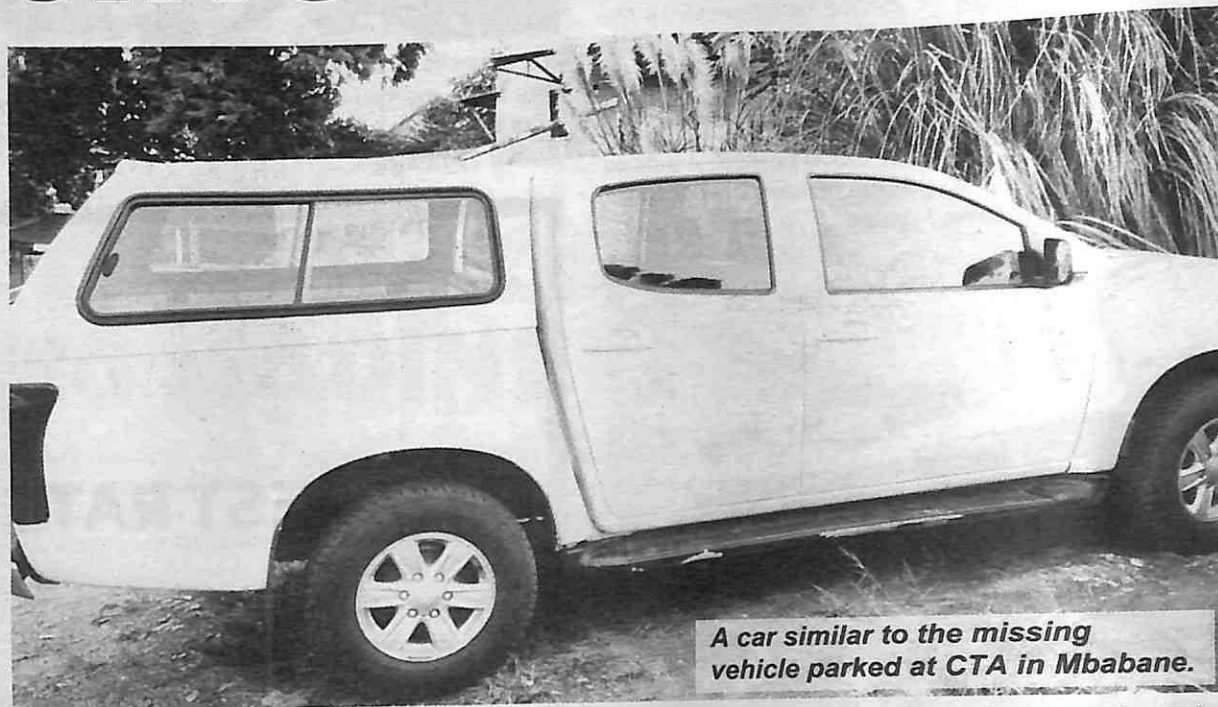
CTA General Transport Manager Washington Khumalo has since received a letter from the principal secretary, requiring him to explain how the vehicle disappeared. The manager confirmed the matter on Friday, saying he was yet to launch investigations on how the vehicle vanished.

"It is a fact that the vehicle has disappeared and I recently enquired about it. I just received the letter from the principal secretary seeking clarity and facts on the matter," he said.

Khumalo stated he was out of the country on the day the vehicle was released and as such he was not aware of the officer who had requested the car but gave assurances that by the following day, the investigation would be concluded.

"I was in South Africa and I had left someone in my place. I will have to launch my own investigations and I think by three or four after lunch, I would have established what really took place on the 15th of February or thereabout as the date is subject to confirmation," he said.

Khumalo said the probe would provide clarity on who was the last to get authorisation to use the vehicle, to which destination and its mission wherever it was, as well as who had



A car similar to the missing vehicle parked at CTA in Mbabane.

authorised it. The senior officer being probed is alleged to have on February 15, requested for authority to cross the border to Mozambique, though it is unclear whether the trip was for official work or not.

The ministry has been without the vehicle registered GSD 129 CT since mid-February to this day, after it was allegedly authorised by the deputy general transport manager who was standing in for Khumalo when he was out of the country. The vehicle was reportedly involved in an accident while in Mozambique, and the officer and his driver allegedly sustained minor injuries.

Before it disappeared, the vehicle had

made several trips in and out of the country as records indicate that it had crossed to South Africa. "On the 2nd of February it was driven by Sibuyani Magagula and returned on the 4th through Sicunusa Border Post, and then it crossed and came back through Lavumisa on February 9, driven by Titus Dlamini. It was then driven by Mandla Shongwe," reported one officer.

"The challenge now is that the vehicle has been gone for over two months. It has neither been officially reported missing nor that it has been involved in an accident, even though it is allegedly now beyond repair," said one of the officers.

The officer who was authorised to use the vehicle was said to have violated the stores regulations which require that the vehicle should have been reported within 24 hours. The procedure involves filling in an accident form accompanied by a police report. However, in this case all of these documents are not available.

Chief Police Information and Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba said the vehicle had not been reported to the police, either as missing or being involved in an accident. He confirmed that the procedure required a government officer to report an accident and fill in an accident form.

Mamba said it would be easy to establish and identify the officer who last used the vehicle as there were records at the central transport administration office.

Sources are of the view that the flouting of the procedure was deliberate, as there were allegedly moves to replace the vehicle with another one within the ministry of public works and transport.

"There are rumours that there are moves being made by the officer to bring in another vehicle from the ministry to replace the damaged one. This was going to be done by registering the other vehicle with the same registration details as the damaged one, and also append its tax details. This would be foolish of them because the deputy had verbally reported the matter to the general manager," said one of the sources.

Principal Secretary Makhosini Mndawe said the matter has since been brought to his attention and he has already instituted a probe to establish the merits and demerits of the matter.

"I have gathered that there is vehicle that has disappeared and have since launched an investigation to ascertain the whereabouts of the vehicle and the officer who was last authorised to use it," he said.

The PS said they always made sure that government vehicles were monitored and taken care of. He said it was unfortunate that a government vehicle could just disappear or be taken illegally and emphasised that he would only have facts on the matter once the investigation has been completed.

"Nothing has been formally reported to my office since it is being talked about along the corridors, but it is our duty to investigate such matters. This was an internal matter; how did you get hold of the information?" he wondered.

Meanwhile, when sought for comment, the officer implicated in the matter said nothing had been formally reported to them and the suspicion was that the matter was being kept under wraps. The officer then referred further questions to the PS.



Ministry of Public Works and Transport Principal Secretary Makhosini Mndawe

NO NEW VEHICLES FOR 50/50 CELEBRATIONS

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

Ministry of Public Works and Transport Principal Secretary Makhosini Mndawe says government has not purchased new vehicles for the upcoming golden jubilee double celebrations.

The country will next week celebrate 50 years of independence and His Majesty King Mswati III's 50th birthday during an event scheduled for Mavuso Trade and Exhibition Centre.

Mndawe said dignitaries would be chauffeured in the top-of-the-range BMW 740i sedans that were purchased for the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Summit held in 2016.

This is contrary to allegations that have been circulating on social media suggesting that government has purchased luxury vehicles particularly for the upcoming celebrations, which most people view as a waste of resources considering that the country has an idle fleet that was purchased for the SADC summit.

"The ministry has not purchased any vehicles for the 50/50 celebrations. Invited heads of state will be ferried in the vehicles that were used during the SADC summit," he said, adding that these vehicles were still in good condition as they were well-kept and serviced.



Officers from the ministry also confirmed there were no new vehicles for the celebrations. "The picture was taken near the first traffic light on the way to Nelspruit where they were headed for service," revealed one of the ministry's

officers.

The source said it was suspected that the picture was taken by one of the government drivers or other motorists who then posted it on social media.

TRIBUTE TO WINNIE

NOTHING COULD EXTINGUISH THE INTENSE FIRE THAT BURNED IN WINNIE-MANDELA

JOHANNESBURG - Former president Thabo Mbeki has penned a letter of tribute to Winnie Madikizela-Mandela. It is published here in full.

Once again we the people of South Africa are compelled by our own deep sense of gratitude and appreciation, our very own human values, to lower our revolutionary banners in respect and in honour of a fallen icon of the revolutionary struggle of the people of South Africa, Comrade Winnie Nomzamo Madikizela-Mandela.

In the words of the English poet, Thomas Gray, "full many a flower is born to blush unseen, and waste its sweetness on the desert air".

And so the architects of racial oppression so foolishly believed that the strong and captivating fragrance of freedom and justice that burned in Winnie Madikizela-Mandela would "blush unseen and waste its sweetness" in the "desert air" of banishment in Brandfort.



Thabo Mbeki and Winnie Madikizela-Mandela

This was nothing more than the wishful thinking of a regime intoxicated by the fading illusion and the mirage of permanence created by the sophistication of its weapons bought to support what

was temporary power.

It is a matter of proud historical record that no amount of repression and brutality could extinguish the intense fire of freedom and justice which burned inside Madikizela-

Mandela.

In comrade Winnie Mandela the people of South Africa have lost yet another giant and icon of the liberation struggle.

Even death itself cannot claim victory.

It is shamed because it does not have the power to erase from memory, the dedication, the commitment, the willingness to sacrifice and strength of the human spirit to fight for the cause of freedom and justice which she represented.

To the people of South Africa we say - listen very carefully, pay attention and you will hear the waves beating against the wharf at the Cape Town harbour whispering the name of Winnie Mandela in solemn condemnation of those who sought to wreak havoc in our country by keeping the leaders of the people incarcerated on Robben Island.

Times Live

'Winnie hated for being a woman'

JOHANNESBURG - Criticism of Winnie Madikizela-Mandela is due to patriarchal hypocrisy, EFF leader Julius Malema said in Thembalethu, George, in the Western Cape on Friday.

"They hated her because they hate African women," said Malema while addressing a crowd gathered at a party rally.

"They say all manner of nonsense about Winnie... they accuse her of many things."

He said the actions of which she was accused, were actions committed by many men, but they were never condemned for them like she was.

"Let me give you one example: they say Winnie Mandela killed Stompie Seipei."

He said that Madikizela-Mandela had never done so, and police had declared there was no evidence against her in the case of the 14-year-old boy who was murdered in 1989.

However, he said that even though Madikizela-Mandela was innocent of the accusation, the crowd should hypothesise on the gender bias in the situation.

"Let's say for a second that Winnie Mandela killed Stompie Seipei. Why are they destroying her and saying all sorts of things because of this one child when in exile a lot of people were killed?"

He said in exile "impimpis (informants)... sellouts were taken to a firing squad".

"They were killed under OR Tambo... Joe Modise under Chris Hani's watch. They were commanders of uMkhonto weSizwe."

Yet, he said: "Today they are not saying you must hate OR Tambo because people were killed in the camps in his name."

"Because he is a man; because he is a soldier; because he is a commander - and it is understandable that there will be casualties. But when it happens under a woman, it's a problem because a woman must not do what is supposed to be done by a man."

"They say Winnie Mandela was sleeping with young boys when Mandela was in prison."

This was "something she has not done", asserted Malema. Then he pondered: "Who has not done that?" Malema continued: "When it's a man sleeping around: 'no, it's understandable...' but when it's a woman: 'hey, she is useless, she can't be a leader; she has hurt Mandela'." Malema then made reference to Jacob Zuma's first wife, Gertrude Khumalo.

"What about MaKhumalo: How many times was she hurt?" News24

eNCA to broadcast award-winning Winnie documentary

CAPE TOWN - Pascale Lamche's Winnie, the documentary on South Africa's Mother of the Nation will premiere on eNCA (DSTV 403) on Wednesday 11th April 2018 at 21:00.

This illuminating work brings fresh perspective and insight into the life of anti-apartheid activist and human rights advocate Nomzamo Winnie Madikizela-Mandela. The documentary won a Sundance Award in 2017. Winnie explores Madikizela-Mandela's contribution to the struggle against apartheid from the inside country. The work includes interviews with Madikizela-

Mandela herself, those who were closest to her, and those who sought to extinguish her radical capacity to shake up the order of things. Lamche's account of the political life of Winnie includes fascinating archival footage, extensive interviews with her, her daughter Zindzi, and those who sought her downfall. Though firmly on the side of Winnie, this film, nonetheless, offers a unique perspective on recent South African history. In the process, it restores Madikizela-Mandela as a key figure in the liberation of South Africa. "With acquisition of the rights to Winnie, the eMedia Group is proud to contribute to the collective

understanding of our history, as we continue to do every day in our various media properties. We are particularly excited to be able to offer this award winning production to our OpenView viewers as part of our commitment to bringing high quality content to our free to air satellite platform. We have also made a library of our key Winnie Mandela interviews and stories available on our YouTube channel so that our viewers are able to watch these enlightening interviews at their convenience" says Andre van der Veen, eMedia Holdings Chief Executive Officer. News24

My mom and Albertina Sisulu will welcome Winnie into heaven

JOHANNESBURG - Winnie Madikizela-Mandela will be welcomed into heaven by other struggle heroes such as Adelaide Tambo, Albertina Sisulu and Lillian Ngoyi.

This was the view of Dali Tambo, who came to pay his respects to the late struggle hero at her house in Vilakazi Street, Soweto.

"There is a lot of emotion in me, because I know also, she is going up to heaven. My mother, Albertina Sisulu, Lilian Ngoyi, they're all up there, and they will greet her. They will give her a standing ovation and they'll say, 'That was a life really well lived, congratulations,'" Tambo, the son of struggle heroes Oliver and Adelaide, said on Friday.

After leaving the house, he described

Winnie as a "rare tiger" who should be celebrated for what she did.

"I think it is sad, but we must celebrate, because you don't get a lot of Winnie Mandelas, regardless of what country you are, you don't get a lot of Winnie Mandelas."

We have seen the passing of an era," he said.

"She was like a rare tiger that is almost a symbol of the extinction of that tiger species, in that what follows after the Winnie Mandelas, the Albertina Sisulus, follows in a democracy and not in a field of struggle."

"I think the most important thing is, we must never forget her. We must celebrate her life and we must use her example to, not only strengthen ourselves, but our children. They



Albertina Sisulu.

must grow up knowing they are the product of women such as these lionesses, warrior queens, the type we may never see again," Tambo said.

He said he was planning on having a statue made of Madikizela-Mandela, with her fist in the air and dressed in traditional isiXhosa wear. News24



Police spokesperson Kay Makhubela.

Police probe 'incident' outside Madikizela-Mandela's home

JOHANNESBURG - Police are investigating an incident that apparently took place outside struggle stalwart Winnie Madikizela-Mandela's home last night.

There was a strong police presence outside the home yesterday morning.

Asked for details around the incident, police spokesperson Kay Makhubela told News24, "I must first brief national and they will get back to you."

Later, Makhubela confirmed that there had been an incident outside the premises on Friday night, where shots had been fired, but said no one had been injured.

"We had forensic investigators on the scene to collect evidence, including spent cartridges, which will be sent for further analysis," he said.

Makhubela said there had been no arrests, but a case had been opened and investigators were investigating the illegal discharge of a firearm in a residential area.

Police Minister Bheki Cele was also reportedly seen at the house.

News24

USUTU FOREST HOSTS MASSIVE FAMILY DAY

BY FORTUNE NDLANGAMANDLA

Over 400 people including children, parents and guardians of pupils at Usutu Forest School yesterday participated in the school's annual family fun day.

The event kicked off at 9am with a three-kilometre walk in the forests. The family fun adventure walk, which was organised by the parent-teacher association (PTA), featured six obstacles including one where participants were splashed with water.

The annual event started five years ago to commemorate the school's 50th birthday.

According to the school's Principal, David Jennings, all classes and teachers got an opportunity to set up food stalls, game stalls and a whole lot of other fun activities.

"It's just a day where we get together, an opportunity to get all our families together because our pupils travel together from town," he said.

Jennings further mentioned that the funds raised at the event were used to upgrade certain areas of the school and for the teachers to purchase items that were not catered for in the school budget.

He said these include items used to

...The event kicked off at 9am with a three-kilometre walk in the forests. The family fun adventure walk, which was organised by the parent-teacher association (PTA), featured six obstacles including one where the participants were splashed with water

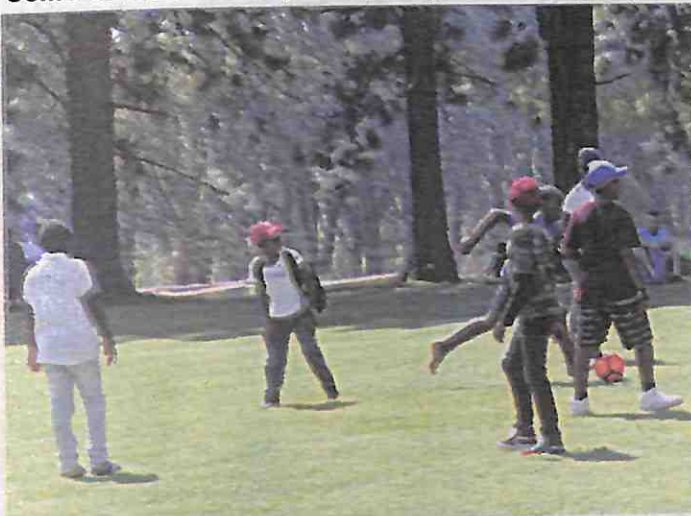


A participant trying so hard to pass Naylor (R) without being splashed with the water. (Pics: Fortune Ndlangamandla)

make the classrooms jazzy. Some of the games available for children on the day included soccer, a jumping castle, darts, and long jump.



Some of the children participating in the long jump.



Some of the children playing football during the family day.



Swazi Mobile had a stall at the event.



Kwandzi Dlamini playing darts during the family day while Sally Erasmus watches on.



Some of the people who attended the event.



Qedo Xaba being coached by Samukelisiwe Manana as he attempts to hit the chocolate.



Usutu Forest School Principal David Jennings and Spiderman of the day Peter Park.



US President Donald Trump's paper statue pinned near one of the stalls.



Bheka Matsebula enjoying himself.

MAKHABANE AND FRIENDS HELP OUT AT SITHOBELWENI



Gospel Artist Sipho Makhabane aka Big Fish and friends took a trip to Sithobelweni in the Lubombo Region where they got their hands dirty and painted Eluhlanyeni Primary School. This was a charity event for the award winning gospel star and his friends. The school Principal Sabelo Ngwenya, residents and pupils also joined activities of the day. (Courtesy pics)



Sipho Makhabane trying his hands on the paint brush. RIGHT - Work in progress during the painting of the school.



'Big Fish' and friends joined by the teachers and residents as they posed for a picture.

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DA adopts diversity clause, but rejects quotas, at congress

TSHWANE - The Democratic Alliance has rejected replicating a quota system in its ranks during a discussion on Constitutional amendments at its federal congress in Tshwane.

The party started debating the first of 105 amendment suggestions yesterday, proposed by leader Mmusi Maimane.

Maimane wanted diversity to be added as the party's fourth pillar, along with freedom, fairness, and opportunity, and to "replicate diversity in its own ranks".

The amendment sparked heated debate in the run-up to the conference, with some, including MPs Gavin Davis and Michael Cardo, rejecting diversity on the basis of race and gender, arguing for diversity of thought.

Yesterday, delegates were told that an amendment was made at the outgoing federal council's last meeting the night before on Friday, to change the wording of Maimane's suggestion.

Rather than "replicate" diversity in its ranks, it would rather "promote and advance" diversity in its ranks.

More importantly, an extra point was added to reject "rigid formulae or quotas" when promoting diversity, which would sit under section 1.3 - a different section - of the DA's Constitution.

This was proposed by DA MPL in Gauteng Makashule Gana, and justified by Cardo on the stage, who argued that the party needed to reject appointments on the basis of race or gender.

There was a smattering of applause when Cardo justified the need for the rejection of quotas.

Delegates ultimately voted for both proposals, meaning Maimane's diversity amendment passed, but so did the clause rejecting a rigid quota system in the party.

Later in the debate, some delegates raised the issue that amendment suggestions were changed overnight by the federal council. Congress was meant to be the highest decision-making body in the party, they argued.

Western Cape DA leader Bonginkosi Madikizela explained that, for the sake of practicality, there was nothing wrong with the federal council making suggestions, as it was the highest decision-making body in between conferences.

However, Congress had the final say during a congress, and it was up to delegates, he said to applause.

The amendment suggestions continued yesterday.

The full diversity principle under section 1.2 reads:

"South Africa is a richly diverse society. Though our people come from different origins, worship in different ways and have different cultures and customs, we are all unique individuals;

"Diversity is one of South Africa's greatest assets. The party celebrates diversity, and recognises the right of each individual to be who they want to be, from domination by others;

"The party solemnly subscribes to the preamble to the Constitution of South Africa which recognises the injustices of the past, and affirms that South Africa belongs to all who live in it, united in our diversity;

"The Party will continue to take active steps to promote and advance diversity in its own ranks." The rejection of quotas, under section 1.3.2, reads:

"...the rejection of unfair discrimination on any grounds and the redress of past discrimination; without recourse to rigid formulae or quotas."

News24

MAN FEARS FOR HIS LIFE AS HIJACKERS RELEASED WITHOUT TRIAL

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

A man, whose Ford Ranger was hijacked in 2015, is now living in fear for his life after the suspects who robbed him were allegedly released without trial at the Siteki Magistrate's Court.

The survivor was told that the case had been struck off the roll because the director of public prosecutions (DPP)'s house was not in order. According to a report from Big Bend police station, the robbers were arrested and charged with the crime in December, but the car was never recovered.

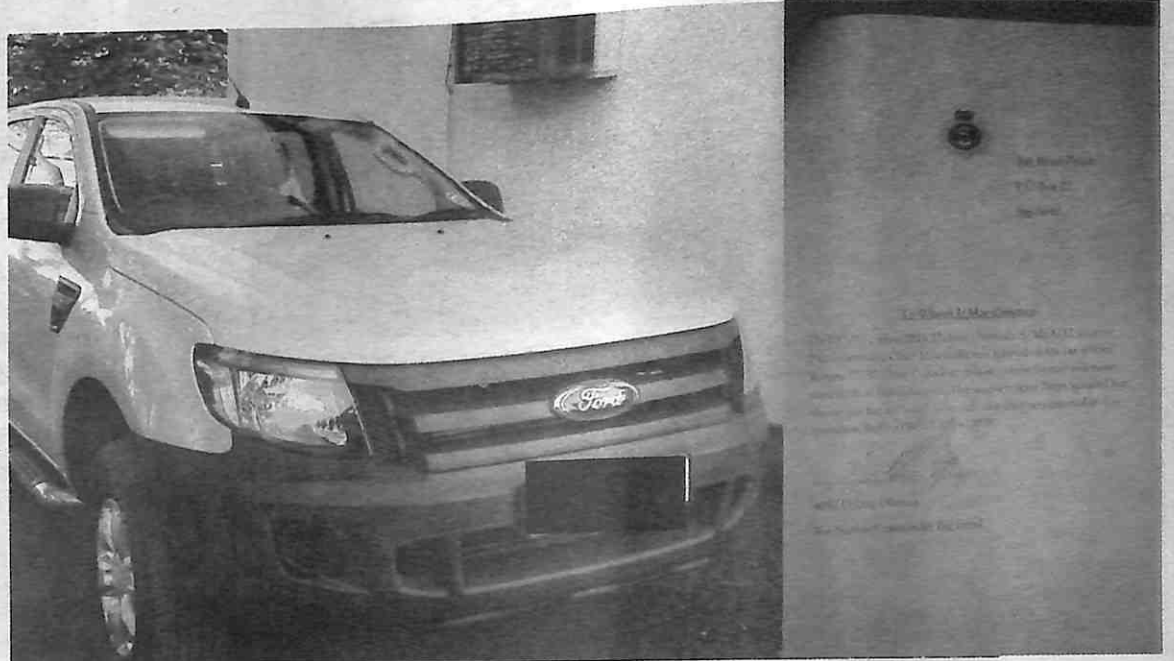
Report

"On December 9, 2015, *Sandile Maziya, a Swazi male aged 32, of Phonjwane area under Chief Mawandla, was robbed of his car, a Ford Ranger 2.2 XL Crew Cab, silver grey in colour, by two unknown men while in the Mayaluka area. The suspects have been arrested but the car has not been recovered," states the police report.

Maziya's vehicle valued at E350 000 was hijacked in December 2015 at gun point by suspects who were later apprehended in the same month and kept in custody but later released before the end of the trial.

The vehicle owner said he now lived in fear for his life, as he was asked to identify the accused persons who are now roaming the streets freely. Maziya said of concern to him was how the suspects were released as the Magistrate had initially denied them bail but all of a sudden, they were released yet the matter has not been concluded.

He opined that the DPP had undermined the efforts made by the police



The car that was stolen at gun point by the free suspects parked outside the owners home before he was robbed.

to apprehend the suspects, as they had failed to do their job, which had now led to the premature release of the suspects, which he said put him at risk of being attacked in retaliation.

System

"The justice system is either dysfunctional or corrupt. How can they let them off when they confessed to committing the crime?" he wondered.

Maziya said he was afraid that the suspects may want to get the case dismissed by getting rid of him before the DPP was ready to present the case in court. He added that what hurt him the most was that the police had not been able to recover the car because the case was removed from the court roll.

Chief Police Information and

Communications Officer Superintendent Khulani Mamba said the police had the right to recover the vehicle but in this case since it was reported to be in another country, it would take them longer.

"There are processes involved, if the vehicle is in another country it is not easy because there are procedures to be observed as per the agreements that Swaziland has with the other country. We have to work with the police from that country," he explained.

A senior officer in the DPP's office said Maziya should report to their offices where he would get clarity on the way forward and an explanation on what had transpired. The officer said he was surprised that such had happened.

Similarly, DPP Phila Dlamini

advised Maziya to visit his offices and bring with him the case number so they may investigate the matter to ascertain what really transpired. He said he would not be able to comment on the matter pending findings of the investigations, which he said would commence as soon as Maziya provided their office with the case number.

"The challenge is that their supervisor will be out of the country for a week. Meanwhile, we can request the record to identify what really happened.

This is shocking to me, but I cannot speculate on what transpired until we get the record to see if there is a chance to reverse the case or not because in some cases there is a chance to reverse it," he said.

SD failing to meet Vision 2022 targets

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

Contrary to the targeted minimum of five per cent growth per annum, the country's economy has significantly slowed, from a peak of 6.4 per cent in 2013 to a low of 1.4 per cent in 2016.

The economy was however, projected to pick up to 1.9 per cent growth in 2017. This is much lower compared to the global economy which continues to be firm owing to an expected impact in US tax policy changes that have been recently approved. The world economy has expanded since 2015,

with mixed performance in the regions after remaining subdued in the aftermath of the 2008-2009 fiscal crisis.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF)'s World Economic Outlook (January 2018), estimates that the world output expanded by 3.4 per cent in 2015 and by 3.2 per cent in 2016 while last year economic activity grew by 3.7 per cent.

Economic activity in sub-Saharan Africa was lower than expected during the last three years. This decline was attributed to the drop of oil and other commodity prices, as well as geopolitical and domestic tensions, especially in Nigeria and South Africa.

Swaziland's projected growth rate increase is lower than South Africa's, which has firmed from

2.3 per cent in the third quarter of 2017 to 3.1 per cent in the last quarter.

Following an estimated growth rate of 0.4 per cent in 2015, economic activity picked up slightly to an estimated 1.4 per cent in 2016 while last year, it showed an improvement and grew to 1.9 per cent.

However, this is far below the five per cent annual growth rate the country had expected to maintain during the period, as per Vision 2022. The drought conditions and fiscal challenges, both in the country and in the region, are said to have accounted for the sluggish economic growth.

"The slowdown in economic activity during the period was largely due to lower output in the primary sector, which saw a decline in crop production and mining activity. On the other hand, output was positive for the secondary sector, supported by increased manufacturing activity, growth recovery of the textile industry and greater construction activity despite the fiscal challenges faced by government," states the Economic Review Outlook

2018 report by the ministry of economic planning and development.

The slow growth has also resulted in the country's failure to meet the economic targets set in government's programme of action plan 2014-2018. Notably, economic prosperity is the first focal area in the Swaziland Development Index, with the main indicators being gross domestic product (GDP) per capita, extent of poverty, level of unemployment and income inequality (Gini coefficient).

The key to achieving the desired outcomes was identified as accelerated economic growth that will create jobs, raise incomes, reduce poverty and increase the amount of government resources.

As per Vision 2022, sustained economic growth was targeted at a minimum of five per cent per annum, with the unemployment rate reduced from 41 per cent in 2013 to 34 per cent this year and 30 per cent by 2022.



Workers unions are not happy with the Public Enterprises Unit (PEU) Circular No. 3 of 2016.

During a different interview with this publication, TUCOSWA Deputy Secretary General Muzi Mhlanga said some of the clauses of the Act were eroding the significance of collective bargaining units.

BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

Officers employed in entities governed by the Public Enterprises Unit (PEU) get salaries that are way above those of their counterparts in government ministries.

This is according to the Establishment Circular No. 1 of 2016; the implementation of the revised salary grading and pay structure for government established positions from the salary review exercise 2016/2017 and the Public Enterprises Unit (PEU) Circular No. 3 of 2016: Controls on Pay Packages of Category A Public Enterprises, dated November 17, 2016, under guidelines on maximum pay packages.

Workers unions are not happy with the Public Enterprises Unit (PEU) Circular No. 3 of 2016. During a dif-

PARASTATALS' SALARIES WAY HIGHER THAN THE CIVIL SERVICE'S



TUCOSWA Deputy Secretary General Muzi Mhlanga.

ferent interview with this publication, the Trade Union Congress of Swaziland (TUCOSWA) Deputy Secretary General Muzi Mhlanga said some of the clauses of the Act were eroding the significance of collective bargaining units. Mhlanga also decried the announcement and advertising of the

major index by government saying such nullifies the negotiations of the collective agreements as some of the CEOs of public enterprises then use it as their cast in stone. The unions last week revealed that they were in a process of taking government to the International Labour Organisation

(ILO) over this Act.

Government has since then introduced Public Enterprises Unit (PEU) Circular No. 1 of 2018, in an attempt to control salary hikes within this sector. In the circular, government made it very clear that there should be no salary increases for Category A public enterprises that is more than zero per cent, without the hike being approved by the state.

Public Enterprises unions last week-end vowed to challenge the PEU Circular No.1/2018 which might see their members not having any salary increase. National Workers Union of Swaziland Higher Institutions (NAWUSHI) Secretary General (SG) Fundizwi Sikhondze believed that the Circular was 'doctored' because the major's Circular should be done according to economic calculations including inflation rate which is reportedly to be around 6.2 per cent. On the other hand, TUCOSWA Acting Secretary General (SG) Mduduzi Gina viewed government's move as totally interference with collective bargaining process on state owned enterprises.

He said the interference by government is against Convention 98 of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

According to PEU Circular No. 3 of 2016, the commissioner general, chief executive officers and managing directors in parastatals should be

paid E1 331 167, rising to E1 800 991 per annum, whereas a principal secretary gets E586 736 per annum. Some of the officers within this bracket are also entitled to car allowances.

In public enterprises, executive management should be paid E1 118 276, rising to E1 366 782 per annum. These may include general managers in departments such as operations, finance, corporate services, as well as audit, to name a few. On the other hand, an officer who holds the position of Under Secretary Administration earns E415 737 rising to E472 188 per annum.

In parastatals, officers with no tertiary education earn far more than their counterparts in government ministries. Drivers, messengers, personal assistants and other employees without formal academic qualifications at the Swaziland National Provident Fund (SNPF) were in 2016 reportedly earning more than most professionals. It was reported that a tea lady's monthly salary was E7 511 while a driver earned E11 827 and the highest-ranking messenger was paid E9 583.

The highest paid personal assistant was getting no less than E24 622.58.

In government ministries, officers with no formal tertiary education which include among other people the cleaners, labourers and attendants get E2 016 per month, amounting to E33 288 per annum.

Regional bank to fund Swazi businesses

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

A delegation of high ranking officials from the Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank (TDB) will be in Swaziland on Tuesday to inform local business people how they can access funds to promote trade, expand business and create employment opportunities.

This will be during a business and networking event organised by the bank in collaboration with the Federation of Swaziland Employers and Chamber of Commerce (FSE&CC) and other institutions.

FSE&CC spokesperson Mbuso Sacolo said the participants would also discuss challenges in managing investments and achieving development impact from a practitioner's point of view. He said Swaziland became the 20th member state of the TDB in 2016.

"In an effort to pay closer attention and develop stronger relations with each member state, the bank will host a business seminar to engage the business community and potential clients.

This is in collaboration with key partners; the FSE&CC, the Public Service Pension Fund and the Swaziland Investment Promotion Authority (SIPA)," he said.

The seminar will bring together government and private sector lead-

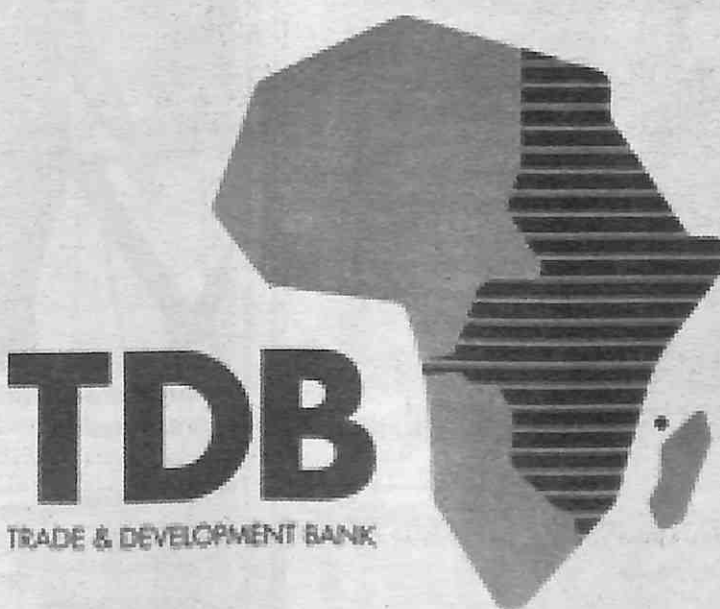
ers, investors, and other development finance partners to discuss trade and investment opportunities in the country. TDB and its partners will jointly address the financial institutions and business community in Swaziland to explore opportunities for further collaboration in different areas of intervention.

The bank will also present its products and services, as well as identify new lending and co-financing opportunities and ways to intervene with suitable financial solutions to meet the needs of both the private and public sector.

TDB President and CEO Admassu Tadesse said as a member state, Swaziland can access funds from the bank to promote trade, expand business, create jobs and ultimately improve the lives of its citizens.

"I am confident that by the end of the seminar, the bank's team and I will have a better understanding of the needs of the business community in Swaziland. We want to understand how the bank can help solve your funding challenges and bring added value through innovation, partnership and forward-thinking solutions," he said.

Tadesse said the bank has over the past five years provided funding amounting to nearly \$16 billion (approximately E192.48 billion) for trade and socio-economic investment in the Eastern and Southern



African regions.

"In recent years, we have been giving a big boost to our financing of trade, enterprise and infrastructure, which is evidenced in the tripling of our loan assets in the past five years. Cumulatively, the bank has provided close to \$16 billion in finance for trade and socio-economic investment in the region," he revealed.

The president said the bank was seeking to engage export companies, financial institutions and other

members of the business community in the country in order to understand available business and investment opportunities in Swaziland.

He said the seminar would also present an opportunity for informative and productive interactions between TDB and the business community.

Adding, Tadesse said the bank sought to also provide full understanding of the bank's products and services that can meet the current needs of the business community.

About Trade and Development Bank

Established in 1985, TDB is a multilateral, treaty-based financial institution with preferred creditor status, immunities.

It currently has as shareholders, 21 member countries from the tripartite region (COMESA, EAC and SADC), the African Development Bank, the National Pensions Fund of Mauritius, Mauritian Eagle Insurance Company Ltd, Rwanda Social Security Board, Africa Re, ZEP RE, Seychelles Pension Fund, Banco Nacional Investimento (BNI), the National Social Security Fund of Uganda, SACOS Group and the OPEC Fund for International Development as institutional shareholders, while the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Belarus (Paritetbank) are non-regional member countries.

Its mission and objectives are to provide developmental capital and services in the region, through customer focused and innovative financing instruments. The bank provides the opportunity for investors to gain exposure to fast growing economies through a highly profitable DFI with a sound balance sheet and strong growth prospects. It aims to be a preferred and leading regional DFI in Eastern and Southern Africa.

TDB is an award-winning, world-class regional development financial institution with 21 member states and 10 institutional shareholders.



Senator Mike Temple holds his lighter up alongside Prime Minister Dr. Sibusiso Dlamini and his wife Gugu at the launch of the 12th edition of the MTN Bushfire on Friday. (Pics:Nomfundo Sifundza)



Sasha Thorne receiving the Bomake Rural Projects cheque from a Bushfire representative.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER SWAZILAND TOURISM AUTHORITY

The Swaziland Tourism Authority (STA) is a public entity established by the Swaziland Tourism Act of 2001. STA is charged with fostering the development of the tourism industry in Swaziland and marketing the country as a preferred destination in Africa.

On behalf of STA we invite applications from experienced leaders who are passionate about the tourism industry to apply for the position of Chief Executive Officer. Responsible to the Board of Directors this position provides opportunity to engage with senior government officials, the private sector and various key stakeholders.

Key accountable areas

- Work with the Board of Directors to provide the vision, leadership and strategic direction required by the organisation to achieve growth in tourism arrivals, revenues and brand awareness
- Implementing all resolutions taken by the Board of Directors
- Submission of periodic reports to the Board of Directors
- Submission of quarterly and annual reports to Government
- Lead the implementation of the Strategic Plan of STA
- Supervise the Executive Management team
- Managing the day-to-day operations of STA providing clear leadership
- Promoting a high performance and team culture consistent with the organisation's values
- Establishing, managing and growing relationships with key regional, business and governmental stakeholders

Professional background & competencies

- Relevant Master's Degree accompanied by 10 years senior management work experience in a Marketing, Tourism or Investment environment
- Ability to plan, organise and lead as required by the organisation
- Ability to translate strategies into operational activities
- Ability to engage flexibly across a range of sectors including government and business
- Ability to motivate and manage professional teams to achieve set standards
- Well established interpersonal, communication, networking and negotiation abilities
- Strong financial and business acumen
- Strategic agility and results orientation
- Passion for the tourism industry

Preference will be given to Swazi citizens.

Closing date for receipt of applications is 17 April 2018. All applications received will be acknowledged. No late applications will be accepted.

Written applications clearly stating the position applied for, and accompanied by a comprehensive Curriculum Vitae should be submitted to:

The Recruitment Manager
KPMG Advisory Swaziland (Pty) Ltd
Umkhwa House, Lot 195
Kal Grant Street, Mbabane
Email: recruitment@kpmg.co.sz

KPMG

PM LAUNCHES

BY NOMFUNDO SIFUNDZA

The MTN Bushfire Festival 2018 was on Friday evening launched by Prime Minister Sibusiso Dlamini at House on Fire.

The festival is slated for May 25-27. Addressing guests, he took note of the many accolades earned by the festival over the years.

"We are here today to launch the MTN Bushfire Festival, a festival that is uniquely African and yet globally infused, a festival experience that welcomes thousands of people in an atmosphere of tolerance and passionate commitment to music, the arts, and the environment," he said.

"This festival is the winner of the African Best Responsible Event Award in 2017 and it has also been hailed by CNN as one of the seven African

music festivals you really have to see, while the BBC has listed it as a Top African Festival.

During the launch, additional artists to perform were announced and cheques presented to the festival's beneficiaries included non-governmental organisations (NGOs) such as Young Heroes and BoMake Rural Projects.

Profits

Young Heroes received E156 360 whilst BoMake Rural Projects was presented with E126 591, a portion of the profits made from the festival attended by throngs of festival goers from about 66 countries.

In total, the festival managed to contribute E51.6 million into the Swazi economy in 2017, while E1.9 million has been disbursed to beneficiaries to date.

Marwick Khumalo appreciates PM

Lobamba Lomdzala Member of Parliament Marwick Khumalo became sentimental in his introduction of the Prime Minister, Sibusiso Dlamini, before inviting him to the podium.

Khumalo said he well understood that politicians worked in a very difficult and tricky field but all in all, they respected and honoured the prime minister for his vast experience and wisdom.

"Before inviting the honourable prime minister, I would like to make it known that we appreciate and respect him for his vast experience, both in the field of politics and generally, he has taken far many steps than any of us in Parliament," he said.



MP Marwick Khumalo introducing the prime minister.



Young Heroes' Khulekani Magongo accepting the cheque from a Bushfire representative.



MTN staff members in a jovial mood.

BUSHFIRE 2018



FNB staff members were also present.

Claim your cash back

Festival goers will be pleased to know that after the Bushfire Festival, it is possible to claim their cash back.

This will be money loaded into the new wristband that will be used to purchase food and drinks at the festival. If one has leftover cash in their wristband on the last day of the festival, they can claim it back by re-sending the unused credit to their bank accounts or via Mobile Money.

In previous years, festival goers had to purchase coupons and even if any were unused after the festival, there were no refunds. Other new developments this year include the unavailability of day passes, instead festival goers are now compelled to purchase a full festival pass. "With the demand for full festival tickets growing every year, as well as our focus on improving the overall weekend experience which is now a full three days, it is

no longer feasible to sell daily tickets to the festival.

"MTN Bushfire encourages everyone to come and enjoy the full festival weekend. MTN Bushfire 2018 tickets are now on sale via the website, www.bush-fire.com and from MTN service centres in Mbabane (Corporate Place), Manzini (Riverstone Mall), Ezulwini (Shak's - Gables) as well as right here at House on Fire," said Bushfire MC Anakhonza.

Ladysmith Black Mambazo returns

World renowned South African group, Ladysmith Black Mambazo is returning to the MTN Bushfire Festival stage.

The group recently won its fifth Grammy award for their album, 'Shaka Zulu Revisited: 30th Anniversary Celebration' in the Best World Music Album category. Known for hits such as 'Mbube', 'Unomathemba' and 'Hello my Baby', the group is set to dazzle at the Bushfire main stage.

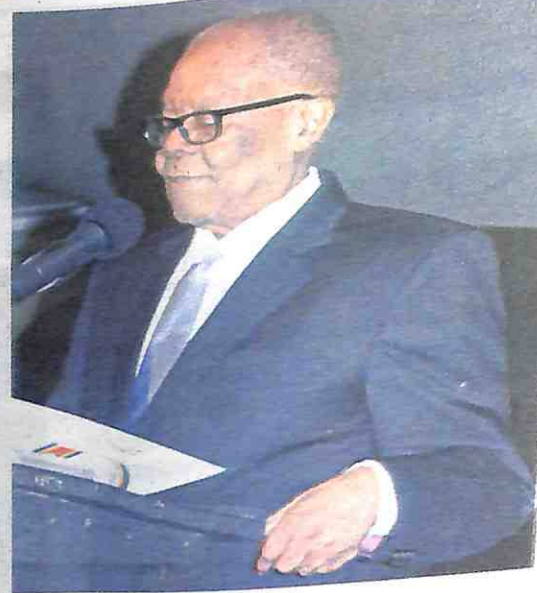
Although the list of artists to perform at this year's festival is not yet complete, the confirmed acts are:

- Dusty & Stones (Swaziland)
- 5k-HD (Austria)
- Alice Phoebe Lou (South Africa)
- Derek Gripper (South Africa)
- Dub Inc (France)
- Ladysmith Black Mambazo (South Africa)
- Salif Keita (Mali)
- Sipho 'Hotstix' Mabuse (South Africa)
- Elida Almeida (Cape Verde)
- Flavia Coelho (Brazil)
- Georgetown (South Africa)
- Kapa Dech (Mozambique)

- DJ Lag (South Africa)
- Manu Sija (Argentina)
- Mario Batkovic (Switzerland)
- Nakhane Touré (South Africa)
- Nathalie Natiembé. (Reunion Island)
- Nonku Phiri (South Africa)
- Oki Dub Ainu Band (Japan)
- Rebirth of Cool (South Africa)
- Samthing Soweto (South Africa)
- Sibusile Xaba (South Africa)
- The Grammers (Finland)
- Timbila Muzimba (Mozambique)
- Tlale Makhene (Swaziland)
- Albert Frost (South Africa)
- Dear Ribane (South Africa)
- DJ Doo Wap (South Africa)
- DJ Bob (South Africa)
- Guy Buttery & Kanada Narahari (South Africa & India)
- K-\$ (South Africa)
- Paul Waxon (South Africa)
- Radio123 (South Africa)
- Sekou Kouyate (Guinea)
- Staceyann Chin (Jamaica)
- Yemi Alade (Nigeria)



Young Heroes Khulekani Magongo addressing the audience on where the sponsorship from the festival is used. RIGHT - PM Sibusiso Dlamini also graced the event.



Attendants at the MTN Bushfire with their lighters up during the launch.



Country music duo Dusty and Stones provided food for the soul, music.

NACAs PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

VOTE FOR YOUR CHOICE OF AN ARTS AND CULTURE ARTIST TO CELEBRATE THE 50/50 NACAs.

THE NOMINEES ARE;

SHONGWE AND KHUPHUKA SAVED GROUP, SANDS, NOTHANDO HLOPHE, LINDA DLAMINI AND NOMALUNGELO DLADLA

Name of artist..... Name of voter..... Cell Number.....

(Send in as many entries as you can to stand a chance to win a prize)

Fill in the form and send it to Swazi Observer offices as well as Swazi Mobile outlets

VOTING CLOSSES APRIL 28, 3PM.

Sponsored by the Swazi Observer

Swazi OBSERVER



BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

POLITICIANS TO GET THEIR EXIT PACKAGES AFTER ELECTIONS

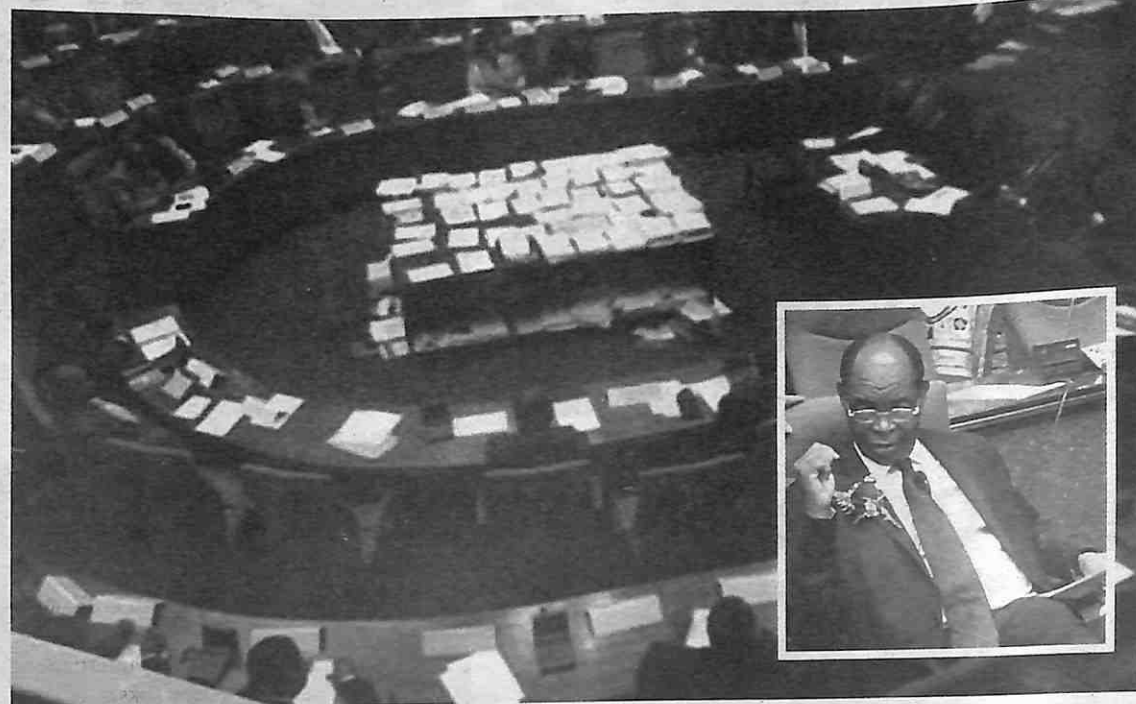
Outgoing parliamentarians who were hoping to fund their re-election campaigns using their exit packages must start looking for alternative funds as they will only get their exit packages after the forthcoming national elections.

On March 4, this publication reported that government had budgeted over E82 million to cater for the exit packages for the country's politicians. On top of the hefty pecks, the Cabinet ministers and Parliament presiding officers would also have the luxury to keep their luxurious BMW X5s on reduced costs from the one they were purchased at by government.

Finance Circular No. 2 of 2013, Section 4.6.7 states that ex-gratia payment is available to all parliamentarians who would fail to be re-elected or re-appointed into the new Parliament. The only time it can be known if a Parliamentarian from the 10th Parliament have failed to make it to the 11th Parliament would be after the elections.

A former Parliamentarian can make it to the 11th Parliament through elections or appointment. A politician can be appointed to the House of Assembly and the Senate House through their Majesties. Elected MPs can also elect senators.

According to the Circular, the ex-gratia payment is a grant that is payable to former Parliamentarians to assist with the costs of adjusting to non-parliamentary life. In the event that the Parliamentarian does



INSERT: Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini.

not fully serve the five-year term, the ex-gratia payment would be prorated taking into account the actual period served. Under no circumstances would a part year served be considered as a full year.

"Should the Parliamentarian be dismissed or removed from office due to misconduct or incompetence, the ex-gratia payment will be forfeited," reads the Circular.

The Circular further states that the ex-gratia will be paid as once-off pay-

ment equal to twelve months (one year) basic salary before taxation for all Parliamentarians.

Confirmed

Minister of Finance Martin Gobizandla Dlamini during a brief telephonic interview confirmed that the politicians would get their exit packages after the elections.

MPs interviewed by this publication made it clear that they were not in agreement of the Circular which deprived them their gratuity rights.

The MPs said the Circular is contrary to normal contract agreements. Hhukwini MP Saladin Magagula said the 10th Parliament term does not relate to another Parliament. He wondered why government was mixing two contracts.

Benefits

The legislator said according to contract agreements one is to get their benefits when contract elapses. "These are distinct terms of office that are differentiated by numbers

like 9th and 10th Parliament," MP Magagula argued.

He said he was failing to understand the Circular as Parliament terms are five-year-contracts which after Parliament dissolution the MPs are supposed to get their gratuities. However, he noted that by getting the packages before elections one would be tempted to invest the money on elections campaigns. MP Magagula said it was expensive for one to win the race to Parliament so the ex-politicians might use all the money during race to Parliament.

On the other hand, Shiselweni II MP Mthokozisi Kunene also echoed Hhukwini MP's words, stating that according to the contract agreement one had to get their package after exiting office. The lawmaker said when an ex-politician is re-elected to Parliament that means that individual is being engaged on a different contract from the previous one. "I don't understand where the Circular's logic comes from because it is against the law," MP Kunene said.

He said the issue has been discussed with Minister of Finance Martin Dlamini who told the Parliamentarians that the Circular was being scrutinised.

He said no-one should not be blamed for the error in the Circular because the people behind it might have made a blunder which is fixable. He urged relevant offices to fix the error.

Emagede Avulekile' SNTC tells Sibahle Cultural Group

BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

Sibahle Ngemasiko Cultural group were fired verbally by management of the Swaziland National Trust Commission Speaking to this publication, Sibahle cultural groups' leader Simon Simelane says they were told verbally to leave the premises of Mantenga Cultural Village where the group rendered their dancing services for the past seven years.

Simelane said they were in the middle of practice one day and a quantum drove in with new dancers for the Village.

Simelane says this happened after the group submitted a letter, to the SNTC management, that requests for a longer contract since the group was given three-month-contracts since last year October.

The last contract was said to end on the 31st of March but they were given a letter asking them to continue to work for another three months. This was when they decided to write the letter to request for an extended contract. He says the management bridged their initial contract when they started paying the group members individually while the contract states that all salaries must be transferred to the groups account as they are accompany on their own.

Simon eluded that this also caused a problem of underpayment. He says the initial amount they were supposed

to earn per person was E1 200 but with the bridging of the contract they found out that each employee was actually receiving the amount of E1 140.

Simelane says E60 was deducted every month from their salaries. "When we asked them where the E60 deductions went, they told us that it was for the Lidlelantfongeni fund, what surprises us the most is that they said they had not submitted the money to Lidlelantfongeni fund," Said Simon.

When speaking to another leader of the group Themba Vilakati, he said he had concerns of how SNTC hires its employees, because these issues started soon after the appointment of the new management.

Work

Vilakati also said the organisation was not taking care of them. He said that they were fed beans all the time and the money did not match the amount of work that they did.

He said the organisation should at least acknowledge the work that they have put in for all these years. He said Mantenga Cultural Village has won many awards and has performed in different countries, because of their hard work. "After telling us to go home, they said whosoever wants to continue working, should register individually, that did not sit well with us because we are a group and they were trying to break us up," Simon said, the most important thing they wanted now was their money. They said they would like to find out how they would

be paid the money that was deducted from their salaries every month.

When speaking to the CEO of SNTC Cliff Dlamini, he said he could not say much because the issue is being handled by their legal advisor Mxolisi Mbuli who refuted all these allegations. Mbuli said SNTC and Sibahle had an agreement to pay the dancers individually. "Sibahle management came to us in October of last year, complaining that their salaries are being cut before they receive them, they said this was because of the bank charges and taxes that they pay, we as SNTC together with Sibahle then came to an agreement that all dancers should be paid individually."

He said that as SNTC they are audited and all their books prove that they paid everything on time.

Mxolisi said that SNTC did not fire anyone but it was in fact Sibahle who refused to sign the contract. He said they were aware that Sibahle was experiencing challenges and they offered to help them as they are mostly young people. He said Sibahle cannot blame the organisation for anything as they did everything by the book.

"We also offered jobs for individuals who wanted to stay with the organisation and since that day no one has come to take the offer, and we cannot force people to work against their own will."

Mxolisi said that all was well at Mantenga lodge and that it's business as

SPAM CALLERS CLAIM TO BE FOREX COMPANY AGENTS

BY ZWELETHU DLAMINI

Agents of forex and cryptocurrency companies who call locals using 'strange' international numbers from Cyprus and other countries have come out to dispute claims that they are spam, scammers or Satanists, as portrayed by members of the public and services providers.

They claim to be agents of legitimate companies. Some of the agents who use international numbers to call their clients and prospective clients in the country have responded to the warning sent out by local mobile telephone service providers calling upon Swazis not to answer the calls as they are allegedly made by scammers. The companies have promised to block these numbers following numerous complaints by subscribers.

Responding to this publication's query, Arotrade agents who use some of these international numbers to call this journalist to guide him on their forex software, said the service providers were misinformed and denied that they were scammers.

"It's not a scam at all. Firstly, we have a license and secondly, we are regulated by the international finan-

cial services commission and we have more than six years in the market. You can verify our license number on our official website, it is all clear. How would we exist for six years if there was a problem with the company?" wondered the agent.

This is the same information contained in the company's web page. "Arotrade complies with strict international regulatory standards and is licensed and regulated by the IFSC (International Financial Services Commission) under authorisation # IFSC/60/391/TS/17. Arotrade investors' funds are held in segregated accounts and are protected under the investor compensation scheme.

Commodities

"Arotrade is a regulated broker and financial services provider for traders across the world. We are also one of the fastest growing online brokers with an asset index of over 1 000 stocks, forex, commodities and indices available as CFDs.

The Arotrade platforms allow you instant access to the global markets via your desktop, smartphone or other mobile devices. You can open one click trades and manage your entire personal portfolio on a single dashboard display," states the web page.

Some of the numbers the agents

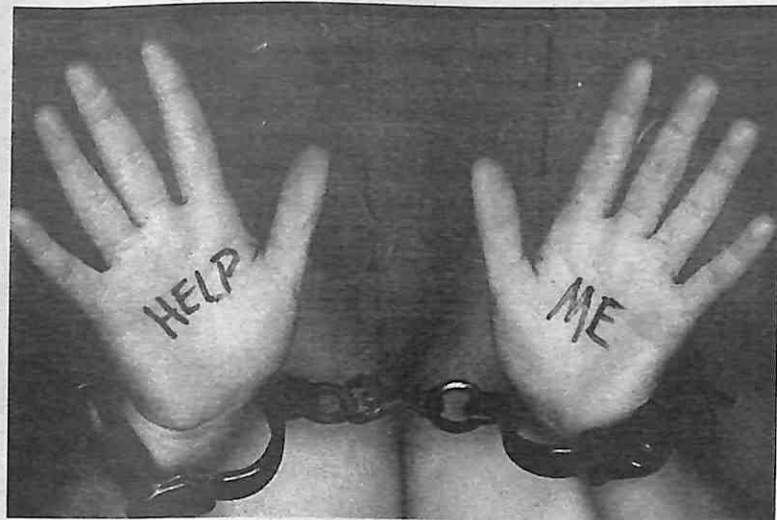
WE HAVE NOT DONE OUR BEST - HUMAN TRAFFICKING SECRETARIAT

BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

The Head of Secretariat on Human Trafficking Nompumelelo Lukhele has revealed that she does not feel that her organisation has done its best when it comes to issues of trafficking and smuggling people. Lukhele was speaking yesterday in a telephonic interview with this publication.

"I feel we have not done our best, we could have done better and there is room for improvement," Lukhele said when asked if she was happy with the work of the secretariat.

However, she feels that where the secretariat applied itself it did well and where they did not, there is room for improvement. It is for that reason that the secretariat will be meeting this week to scrutinise its strategic framework and action plan of 2013 to 2015. The strategic framework and action plan was launched in August 2013 by the Prime Minister Dr. Sibusiso Dlamini. The strategic framework and action



plan that the secretariat want to scrutinise has five pillars which include prevention measures that look into awareness raising programmes.

Lukhele said this pillar involves so many pillars like the army, immigration, police, and non-governmental organisations. Secondly, another of the strategic framework works is the protection pillar, which looks at giving

care and assistance as well as protection to those identified as victims. Many entities are affected by this pillar like the secretariat itself in terms of implementing of the Protection Order. The ministry of health, social welfare, and police are also affected by this pillar. "Thirdly, is the prosecution pillar which looks into both investigations and prosecution of

cases," Lukhele explained.

She said those responsible for the prosecution pillar must make sure that there is successful prosecution. These include the Judiciary and prosecutors. The stakeholders have to be able to identify human trafficking and smuggling cases from elements of the case.

The fourth pillar is the national co-ordination and co-operation which looks into whether various national entities are well coordinated or not. This pillar also looks into it whether the pillars put in place can respond to ensure everything runs smooth. The pillar further looks in collaboration of all the pillars included in the strategic framework and action plan.

The last pillar is the international co-operation which looks at the country working hand in hand with other countries in dealing with trafficking and smuggling of humans. The country works with organisations both at regional and international level. This is because trafficking is an international offence.

NEWS EXTRA DA votes to protect 'land clause' in the Constitution

JOHANNESBURG - The Democratic Alliance has resolved to "protect clause 25 of the Constitution", otherwise known as the "property clause".

The DA was one of three parties that opposed a motion in Parliament in February to look at section 25 of the Constitution with a view to amending it to include land expropriation without compensation.

Yesterday, more than 2000 DA delegates voted unanimously at the party's federal congress in Tshwane to protect property rights in South Africa. "Land is currently a very politically contentious issue," DA MP Thomas Walters, the proposer of the resolution, said. "The purpose of this resolution is to reaffirm that the DA has the answer to land reform. We have the right principles, and we want to tell South Africans of all backgrounds that we have the answer."

"The State expropriating land is not justice. We want people to own land themselves." *News24*

TUCOSWA members vote for string of strikes

STORIES BY FORTUNE
NDLANGAMANDLA

Members of the Trade Union Congress of Swaziland (TUCOSWA) yesterday voted for a string of protests during meetings held in all four regions.

The federation held regional meetings for all its members and the general public where workers deliberated on issues affecting unionists and the general public. In the Lubombo region the meeting was held at Siteki Park, in Shiselweni the unionists were at Nhlanguano Park, in the Hhohho region they gathered at Piggs Peak Park while in the Manzini the meeting was held at the Millennium Park.

Issues on the agenda were the zero per cent increase for public workers, zero per cent increase for Public Enterprises Unit (PEU) and the increase of the graded tax. Another burning issue discussed at length was that of the E3 500 national minimum wage, the 15 per cent VAT levy on electricity and the 15 per cent VAT. Additionally, also on the programme was the poor funding for public health, poor funding for education, the taxation of benefits and other burning issues.

Summarising the four meetings for this publication was TUCOSWA



Trade Union Congress of Swaziland (TUCOSWA) Acting Secretary General Mduduzi Gina addressing the people who attended the meeting in Manzini. (Pic: Fortune Ndlangamandla)

Acting Secretary General (SG) Mduduzi Gina who said in the meetings went very well.

"It was concretely confirmed and resolved that the petition would be delivered to various ministries this Friday," Gina said.

Fail

He said should government fail to address the grievances, the workers resolved that by the end of May they will be another mass protest. The acting SG added that if government still failed to address the complaints by

the end of June, TUCOSWA would organise another march. If government continued to ignore the grievances then the federation will organise a complete stay away which will not last less than five days.

When asked about the attendance, the unionist said he was yet to receive reports from regional co-ordinators. He noted that the turn-out differs with each region. He said he personally was at the Millennium Park where about 300 people attended the meeting.

TUCOSWA sends condolences to their Majesties

When opening the meeting at the Millennium Park in Manzini, the Trade Union Congress of Swaziland (TUCOSWA) Acting Secretary General Mduduzi Gina sent con-

dolences to their Majesties over the passing away of Inkhosikati LaMasango. Inkhosikati LaMasango passed away on Friday and she will be laid to rest today. He said the sending of condolences was done in all of the

regions. He said it was sad that the country lost a member of the Royal family during a time when the country was busy within the different sectors.



use to call are 00357-22222002, 00357-22222004 and 88888888888888.

Scam calls

Scam calls are a form of fraudulent activity with the goal of stealing your money or your information. Similar to email scams, phone scams often present a bargain for merchandise, or something completely free (such as a free prize or a won contest). Others demand payment for actions that victims have not done or services not ordered, including missing jury duty or payments on an outstanding debt like unpaid taxes or utility bills.

Scams may arrive in the form of either calls or text messages and should be blocked or deleted. Consumers are strongly advised not to engage with known scam numbers.

Spam calls

Spam calls are similar to email spam in the sense that they are a form of unwanted communication. Spam calls and text messages are distributed in bulk and in most cases unsolicited, which means they occur without any prior request. Examples may include telemarketers, who are typically live agents hoping to sell their legitimate (albeit unsolicited) service. Another variant of spam calls are robocalls, which deliver a pre-recorded voice statement with the same goal of a sale. Like email spam, robocalls are illegal without prior consent. What's the level of precaution you should take? To reduce the risk of getting more unwanted calls, consumers should avoid interacting with spam numbers at all. (Information sourced from www.whitepages.com)

SWAZI MTN'S ROLE IN PROMOTING ARTS, CULTURE

... "These activities promote respect, unity and friendliness across the nation"

BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

Swazi MTN, working with partners such as Macmillan, remains committed to promote arts and culture in schools and beyond.

This was said by the Swazi MTN CEO Ambrose Dlamini at the launch of the presentation of sponsorship towards this year's Schools Culture Competitions by Macmillan, held at Emfuleni Lifestyle on Thursday.

Dlamini said arts and culture has a special place in our lives as a people. He believes that it promotes engagement by people in activities that are enjoyable and educational.

"These activities promote respect, unity and friendliness across the nation," he said.

Swazi MTN has been a backer of cultural activities which have been upheld through MTN Foundation in the previous twelve (12) years. MTN Foundation is the corporate social speculation wing of Swazi MTN which centers on offering back to communities in the territories of education, wellbeing, venture improvement, and national needs.

Speaking at the event Dlamini, who was guest of honour, said activities they have consistently supported include, but not limited to, The Reed Dance, and Marula Festival to mention but a few, and added that these activities are an integral part of the organisation.

Dlamini said as Swazi MTN, they believe that culture is an integral part of their development because it reminds them of who we are as a country aspiring to be a developed and advanced nation.

"As we are aware that the country aspires to attain First World status by 2022, this milestone will be achieved if the county drives it on the cultural lane," he said.

Stressing the importance of arts Dlamini said as recent research found that partaking in arts, and culture leads to a longer life span. This essentially means that increased public spending in the arts will save money that would have otherwise been spent on medical costs.

"As a nation it is important to conserve, and develop best practice in the arts. It is in our best interest to support, and enable community arts to thrive through legislative support, and budget subventions. However, this would be done within the concept of decentralisation: to sustain quality, and facil-



Arts and Culture CEO Stanley Dlamini helps MTN CEO Ambrose Dlamini with his Swazi regalia which he was presented by Macmillan during the launch of E250 000 Schools Culture sponsorship which was held at the Emfuleni Kraal on Thursday. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



Swazi Observer ME Mbongeni Mbingo shares a joke with some of the guests at the launch.

itate access," said Dlamini

Ambrose made mention that people are motivated through engagement with culture in its widest sense thus communities are strengthened. Given a voice through the arts, people appreciate the fruitfulness and diversity of cultural difference and thus bring us closer to a world of peace and non-violence.

He also advised that Swaziland needs to strengthen the kind of creativity and innovation that has made this country great, to remain competitive in the glob-

al economy. He said the country must nourish children's creative skills in addition to giving our children the Science and Mathematics skills they need to compete globally. Encouraging the ability to think creatively that comes from a meaningful arts education is also important.

"It is significant to note that Swazi MTN is a proud supporter of the Bushfire Schools' Festival. The schools' festival component of MTN Bushfire has gone a long way in stimulating creativity in



Macmillan MD Busisiwe Simelane making her remarks. RIGHT - Arts and Culture CEO Stanley Dlamini makes his remarks.



A pupil from Somnjalose High School showcases her dance skills.

the arts. It has gone a long way in inculcating the arts to both primary and high school students.

This initiative complements the purpose of arts education, which is to create complete human beings capable of leading successful and productive lives in society," he said.

In closing Ambrose expressed his sincere gratitude to His Majesty's

government for being resolute in creating an enabling environment through appropriate legislations and programmes.

He also thanked Macmillan for being a great partner in MTN Foundation's 21 Days of Y'ello Care since its launch and said they were now pioneers in education in arts and culture.



50 Years of Celebrations!

In celebrating the 50 years of His Majesty King Mswati III and the country's 50 years of Independence, **SWAZI OBSERVER** together with **SWAZI MOBILE**, invite you to SMS 1968 TO 5050 and be able to send a personalized message to His Majesty The King.

Hurry and get yourself a Swazi Mobile Sim Card and be part of this historic event. SMS costs E5.00. "Only from Swazi Mobile" Follow the prompts and take part in the celebrations.

MESSAGES WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE SWAZI OBSERVER

SMS 1968 to 5050

Send a "Personalized Message" to His Majesty The King.



Sponsored by the Swazi Observer & Swazi Mobile

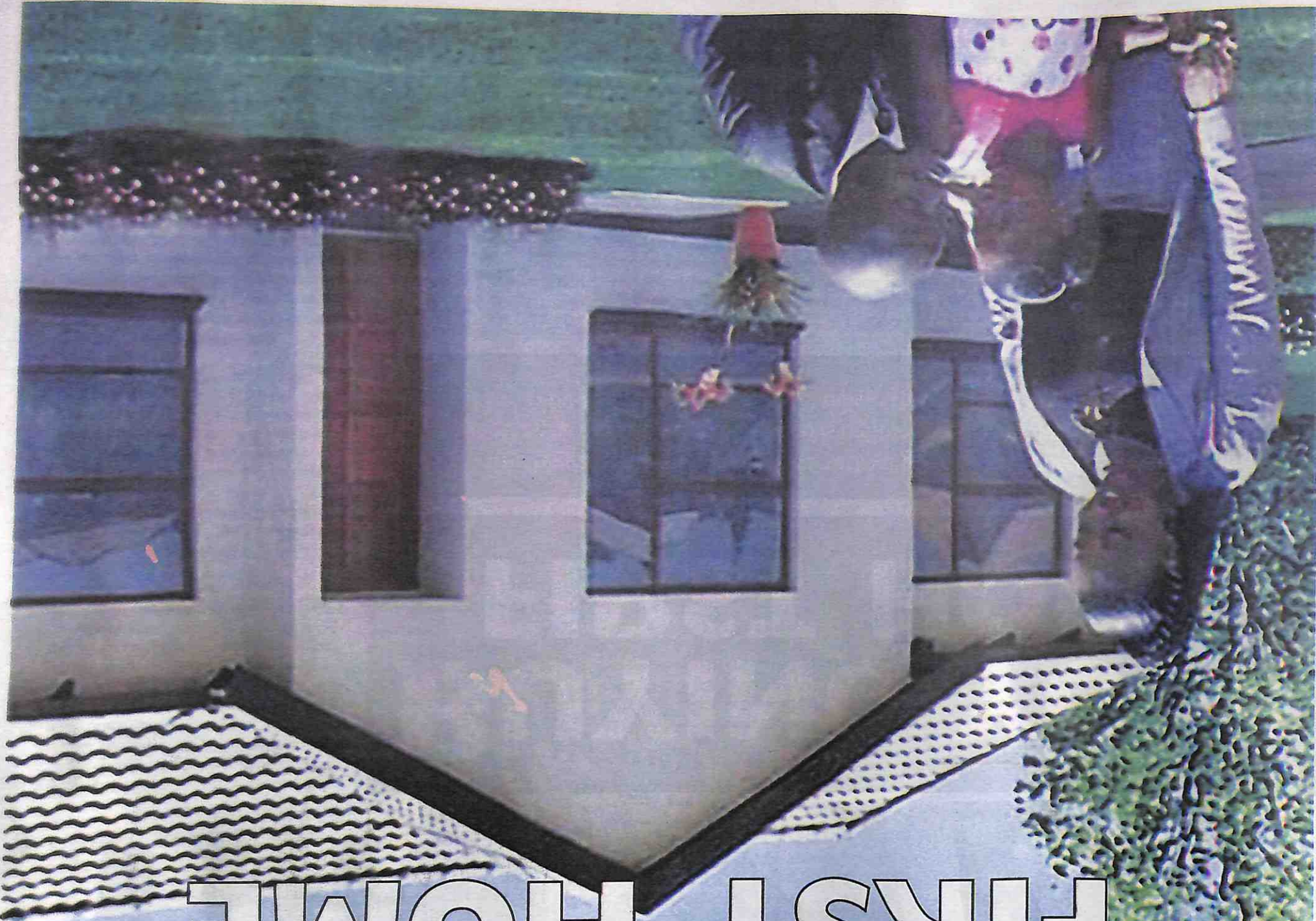


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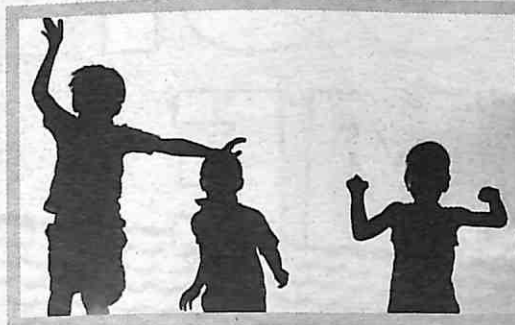
LEGEND

Available	Yellow
Sold	Red
Reserved	Blue



SWAZILAND NATIONAL HOUSING BOARD

Finance available from:



The moment you've dreamed of is here, and you are finally ready to take the step from being a renter to owning your own home.

Many of us slave and struggle for years to get to that point, and it is by commendable effort that you have finally reached this point, so congratulations. However, first time buyers need to be aware of a few things that could cause then, and their property, trouble in the long run.

INSURANCE

Like your car and other valuables, it is imperative that you purchase insurance for your home.

Protection against loss due to natural events such as storms or man-made events such as a break in could be the difference between you and bankruptcy. Look around with different insurance providers to find the right fit for you and your budget.

NEIGHBOURHOOD

The biggest question you need to ask yourself before purchasing a home is whether or not the neighbourhood is right for you. If you have or plan on having children, are there good schools in the area that you can afford? How will living in this neighbourhood affect your commute to and from work, does it make it easier or harder to get there? Take a walk or drive along different streets and see how well they are maintained, are there potholes in the road, is the trash collected regularly? Ask your potential neighbours how it feels to live there, are the streets quiet after dark or are there multiple drinking spots in the area? Is it safe for

young children or someone walking home alone after dark?

RATES

Remember, being a homeowner means having to pay rates to the municipality within whose boundaries you reside.

Your rates are responsible for paying for the trash to be collected and roads to be maintained, among other things. Non-payment of these can see you garnering hefty fines and penalties. You will also need to set up water and electricity accounts in your name with the relevant

authorities, all at a fee.

THE HOUSE

Once you've figured out where you would like to buy a house, look at the house itself.

What kind of space do you need?

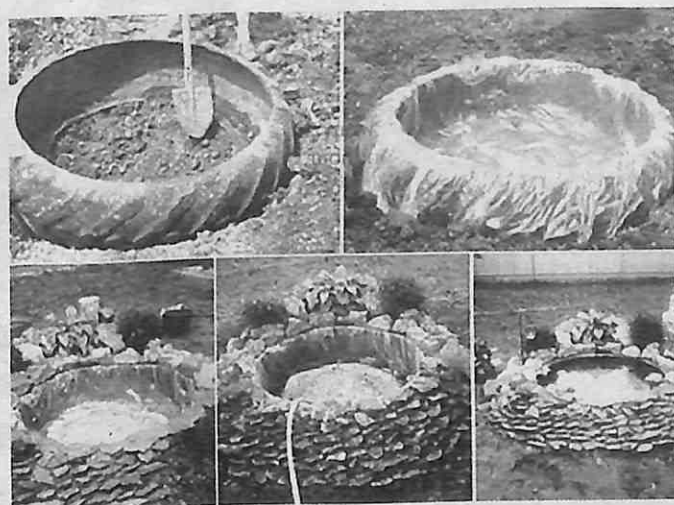
● Your rates are responsible for paying for the trash to be collected and roads to be maintained, among other things. Non-payment of these can see you garnering hefty fines and penalties. You will also need to set up water and electricity accounts in your name with the relevant authorities, all at a fee.

If you like to cook or entertain friends for dinner or parties, a small kitchen will frustrate you in the long run. How many children do you have or want to have in the future, and will there be room for them to grow in this particular home? If you're

an animal lover, you might have to look only at properties which are fenced off to keep both your pets and passersby protected. If you enjoy your privacy, a wall fence might be needed. Remember that you can always add upgrades such as an electric gate or a wall once the property is yours, but weigh the cost of doing this yourself versus purchasing a property that is already complete. Once you've found a house you like, make sure to walk through the property and inspect it thoroughly for any faults before you sign on the dotted line.

BUYING YOUR FIRST HOME

The biggest question you need to ask yourself before purchasing a home is whether or not the neighbourhood is right for you. If you have or plan on having children, are there good schools in the area that you can afford?



If you're concerned about mosquitoes, the water filter will keep your pond water moving around so it doesn't become a stagnant pool.

MAKE A BACKYARD POND OUT OF AN OLD TIRE

This project is amazing. Not only does this DIY project clean up the area by putting some old tires to good use, but it actually beautifies the landscape and creates a tranquil, relaxing spot to kick back and just enjoy life. It'll attract birds while you upcycle something that won't recycle into the environment otherwise. A win-win! Installing a pond like this could be completed over a weekend, and imagine how much enjoyment you and your family will get out of it!

You will need:

- Old tractor or car tire
- Decorative plants and rocks of different sizes



- Waterproof tarpaulin-like material to line the bottom
- A few buckets of sand gravel
- Pond filter
- A shovel
- Something to level the sand with (a

piece of wood will work just fine)

Step 1: Grab an old tire. Tractor tires are nice for larger ponds, or a car tire will work just fine for a smaller pond. Then find a nice spot in your back yard where you'd like to enjoy your pond.

Step 2: Measure and dig out the area to insert the tire, leveling the bottom very well.

Step 3: Cover with a tarp or plastic pond lining. Add a filter, some water and finally, the fish. Surround with rocks and plantings and sit back and enjoy your oasis! If you're concerned about mosquitoes, the water filter will keep your pond water moving around so it doesn't become a stagnant pool.

BEEFY SUGAR BEAN STEW

Just so we're clear, I am choosing cheese over emabontjisi all year long.

However, I have been struggling to cook beans the Swazi way for a number of years. So when I was finally able to update the recipe for the beefy bean stew that we all grew up eating, I simply had to share. This recipe is a labour of love, but believe me when I tell you that it is worth it. Make a double batch of both the beans and the beef stock on a Sunday afternoon and you can serve a family of four once a week for the whole month.

Beefy bean stew | Serves 8
Ingredients

- 3 litres water
- 3 cups sugar beans, rinsed
- 500g beef cubes
- 500g beef bones
- 250g good quality sausage or boerwors
- 1tbs salt
- 3 tbs paprika
- One Knorr Beef curry stock cube
- 2 tbs black pepper
- 2 tbs dried or fresh parsley
- 2 tsp Worcestershire sauce
- 2tbs butter
- 4tbs olive or vegetable oil
- One large onion, finely grated
- Four garlic cloves, finely grated

Tools

- Three large pots
- One large bowl
- One small bowl
- Wooden spoon
- Sharp knife
- Chopping board
- Grater

Directions

Step 1

Pour the beans and half the water into one of the large pots and bring up to a boil, then lower the stove to its lowest heat setting and simmer for two hours, checking periodically and adding water if necessary.

Step 2

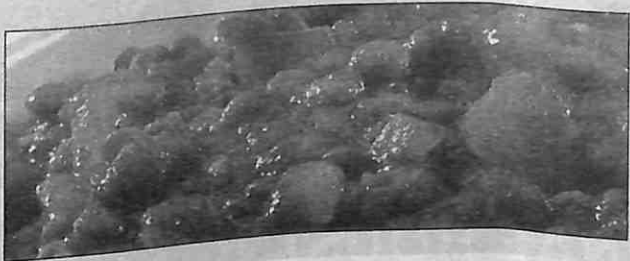
Slice sausage into thick chunks about half the size of the beef cubes. In a large bowl, toss the sausage, beef and bones in half the vegetable oil, black pepper, paprika and the salt. Heat butter and the rest of the oil in a large pot, and fry the sausage and beef on high heat for five minutes, then lower the heat and fry for another ten minutes, stirring occasionally. You want all the meat and the bottom of the pot to have a rich brown crust that is full of flavour.

Step 3

Pour the remaining water into the pot, add the garlic, onion, Worcester sauce and stock cube. Bring to the boil, then lower to a simmer. Simmer for as long as the beans cook, checking occasionally to see if you need to add water. Add salt to taste, and garnish with parsley once cooked.

Step 4

Once the beef and beans are cooked, strain half the stock into a large pot, leaving the meat and bones. Ladle in the beans and bean water one spoon at a time, until you get the balance of flavours and texture you desire. I like mine a little more beefy, with hints of the bean flavour coming through in each bite, so I use more stock than beans. Ladle in the meat and bones.



DIFFERENT USES FOR A BAGUETTE

Not only is French bread delicious fresh out of the oven with some soup or a stew, it is very versatile and can be used in a lot of other ways.

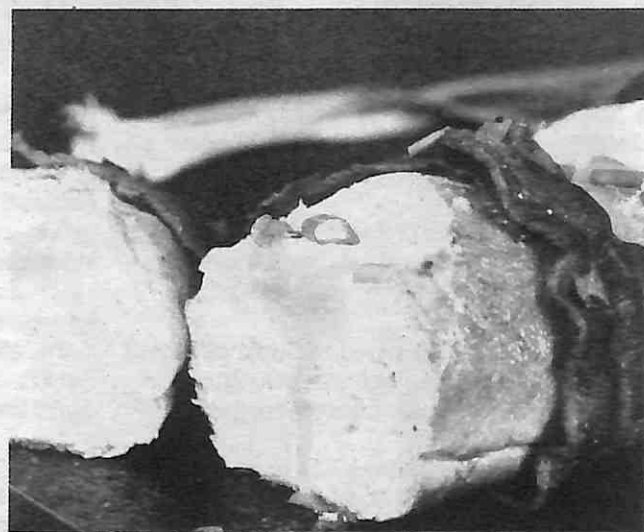
The other day, I sliced the last quarter of the loaf in half lengthwise and popped the two slices in the toaster. You could even replace your store bought white loaf with this bread and bake and freeze a bunch of them ahead of time, making smaller or larger loaves for your family's needs.

French toast

Kind of obvious, but I only figured this out a few weeks ago when I woke up feeling hungry and inspired. Slice three thick, diagonal slices of your day old baguette per serving. In a casserole, combine two eggs with half a cup of milk per serving. I like to add a teaspoon of vanilla essence and two teaspoons of sugar, but these aren't necessary. On a grill or in a large pan, heat one tablespoon of vegetable oil and one tablespoon of butter, until the butter starts to foam. Gently lay your bread in the pan, making sure the slices do not touch. Reduce to medium heat and fry for five minutes on each side, until the toast is golden brown and crunchy. Drizzle with some maple syrup before serving.

Garlic bread

Perfect for a braai or as an accompaniment to soups, stews and pasta dishes, garlic bread is a must have in the freezer at all times. I like to make two baguettes, one to eat and one to store in the freezer as a garlic loaf. Once cooled, slice your loaf in half by gently pressing your hand



on the top and running your bread-knife through the middle. In a medium bowl, combine a quarter cup of butter, two tablespoons freshly chopped parsley, a pinch of salt and four finely grated garlic cloves. Microwave the mixture for about a minute, until the butter is soft enough to spread. Spoon the mixture onto both cut sides of

the bread, then close the loaf and wrap in foil. Store in your freezer for up to three months. When you're ready to use the bread, heat it up in the foil on the braai stand or in a 220 degree oven for twenty minutes, or remove from the foil and warm up in the microwave for two to four minutes. Serve immediately.

FRENCH BREAD

In the words of the late, great Eddard Stark, "Winter is coming".

And that means throwing diets out of the window in favour of comfort food. I don't really enjoy pap, so I've had to improvise when it comes to what I will eat my bean stew with. I've found that nothing goes better with a bowl of steamy, beefy bean stew than some home-made French bread straight out of the oven. It's so much easier to make than you think, and you will never buy a store bought baguette ever again. With a crunchy crust and soft, chewy inside, this loaf is great for sopping up soups and stews.

French baguette | Makes two medium loaves

Prep time: 2 hrs 15 mins | Cooking time: 30 mins

Ingredients

- 1 cup warm water

- ½ tbs dry active yeast
- 1 tbs vegetable or olive oil
- ½ tbs sugar
- 1 tsp salt
- 3 cups flour

Tools

- Baking tray
- 2 large bowls
- Clean cloth or clingwrap
- Clean, dry, smooth surface
- Knife
- Wooden spoon

Directions

Step 1

In a large bowl, combine sugar, yeast and warm water, stirring gently until all the yeast has dissolved. The water should be warm but not hot, about 110°C. Let it sit for ten minutes, allowing the yeast to foam.

Step 2

Add salt, oil and one cup of flour to the yeast mixture and combine. Add another cup and a half of flour and combine again, until you have a stiff dough.

Step 3

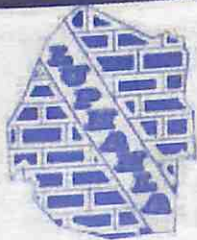
Lightly flour your work surface and hands, then turn the dough out onto your floured surface and knead for about ten minutes, until you have a smooth, elastic dough that is not sticky.

Step 4

Add one tablespoon of oil to another large bowl, and place the dough in the bowl, making sure it is covered in the oil. Cover with a damp cloth or clingwrap and let sit in a warm area for one hour, until the dough has doubled in size.

Step 5

Once the dough has doubled, punch it down and divide in half, then shape each half into two long and slender loaves with tapered ends. Grease your baking tray with oil and a light sprinkling of flour. Place your loaves in the pan and score each loaf diagonally a few times with your knife. Cover the dough and let rise for another hour. Bake at 190°C for 30 minutes and serve immediately.



A SERENE RESIDENTIAL AREA JUST FOR YOU

The township has created a new nest for Swazi citizens looking to build their homes in an urban area but away from the congestion of the city.



Mabuya Township is a township developed by the Swaziland National Housing Board which offers a refreshing twist to the meaning of urban living.

The township holds 98 residential plots and is located in the Ngwenya Town, adjacent to the Swaziland Meat Wholesalers and is only 3 kilometres from the Ngwenya Border Post.

With 49 plots already sold and registered to Swazi citizens, the township has created a new nest for those looking to build their homes in an urban area but away from the congestion of the city.

Plot sizes at Mabuya Township range from 429 square meters to 961 square meters. To ensure a secure and private neighbourhood, SNHB has finalized preparations for the construction of a perimeter wall around the township in the new year.

Using the best sustainable construction designs and techniques, SNHB offers different house types consisting of 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms, duplexes, single and double storey houses that customers can choose from. SNHB also offers the option to customise the house plans to suite specific individual preferences.

Addressing the basic need for home ownership in Swaziland is the core of the existence of SNHB. This township is the SNHB's humble effort to meet the demand for home ownership.

Mabuya Township offers the ideal place to call home and the perfect investment opportunity for those looking to grow their wealth through property.

Mabuya Township Summary

- Situate at Ngwenya Town, 3 km from Ngwenya Border Post
- Has 98 fully serviced residential plots
- A public open space for recreational purposes
- Gentle sloping terrain
- Beautiful scenery
- To date 49 plots have been sold, 7 booked and 42 available for prospective buyers



Tel: 2405 5000

Email: salesandmarketing@snhb.co.sz

Facebook: Swaziland National Housing Board (SNHB)

WhatsApp: 7802 5763

MABUYA TOWNSHIP

A SERENE RESIDENTIAL AREA JUST FOR YOU!



LEGEND

- Reserved
- Sold
- Available

- Situated at Ngwenya Town, 2-3km from Ngwenya Boarder Post
- Easy access from the MR3 Highway
- Has 98 residential plots
- One public open space
- Fully serviced infrastructure
- Gently sloping terrain
- Plot sizes ranging from 449m² to 963m²

Finance
available
from:



Terms and Conditions Apply

SWAZILAND NATIONAL HOUSING BOARD

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Swaziland National Housing Board

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BE A DOER - MBULELO



BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

Mbulelo Ndlovu is a young man who has followed his passion and is now reaping the benefits.

This youngster sacrificed his first University allowance to buy his first camera and a good three years later, he is now one of the busiest camera people on the land when it comes to the lens.

We caught up with him and had an in-depth conversation on him, his childhood, upbringing and aspirations. Enjoy.

Mbulelo Ndlovu is a 22-year-old photographer, the first born in a family of three which consists of him, younger brother and mother. He described himself as a naughty child.

"I was a naughty child. According to my mother, I had a very wild imagination and I did not conform to the standard of a typical black child, and I think me going to a private school also helped me because I had friends from Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Tanzania, South Africa and all other countries in the region. That diversity from a tender age built me and I think it helped shape me to be a person who accepts everyone."

His first three years of primary were at St Pauls, and moved on to

Living Waters after his father passed and that's where he says he got bullied at first.

Well, St Pauls was fun, but after my dad passed on my mother decided to take me to Living Waters to complete my primary school education.

Unfortunately, when I got to Living Waters, the first two years were terrible because I was bullied.

Luckily for me though, the bully was expelled before we even completed Grade Seven and then I started to enjoy because I was also exposed to a lot of arts. I tried acting and drama and even won

drama king for the acting club.

I stopped though since my friends thought it was dumb for me to do it, and also having learnt that it wasn't in me anyway."

He then moved on to KaZakhali Private School for his high school, although he says he would have loved to go to Sifundzani.

"I enjoyed KaZakhali, but to be honest, I would have loved to go to Sifundzani because I've always said I'm an arty person and I would have loved to explore avenues such as music that I only got to explore after high school. KaZakhali excelled with the education, but they didn't really support such extra-curricular activities. I would have loved to attend Sifundzani for the arts.

Socially, it was bitter-sweet. I was not a cool by any means, not even. I loved my sports, less books, especially in the first three years. My hobby was soccer and still is now. I've broken a lot of jaws, fractured a lot of bones and dislocated bones. It still remains a very important hobby in my life," he says.

Mbulelo is currently doing his third year at the Swaziland

Christian University (SCU) where he is studying Computer Science.

He describes tertiary life as a jungle, where only the

toughest survive. "Tertiary life is hard. You need to be cautious of your friends and the people that you surround yourself with.

I am currently studying Computer Science at the Swaziland Christian University and I took this decision after getting accepted at the University of Johannesburg and the University of Botswana for Civil Engineering - following in my father's footsteps, but then I couldn't get scholarships, so I took a decision to stay home."

He says he believes that no-matter how talented one can be; quitting school is never an option.

"Let me tell you one thing. No-matter how talented you are, and even if everyone knows how talented you are, never, ever drop out of school.

Never quit school. Get an education, get a certificate and have something to fall back in. Once you go to school, you have the world in the palm of your hands. To young people that may be gifted in arts; anything, be it photography, music or writing, don't quit school.

I have friends that took that route and are now regretting, so make sure that you don't quit school. Be smart when making these type of decisions, even if



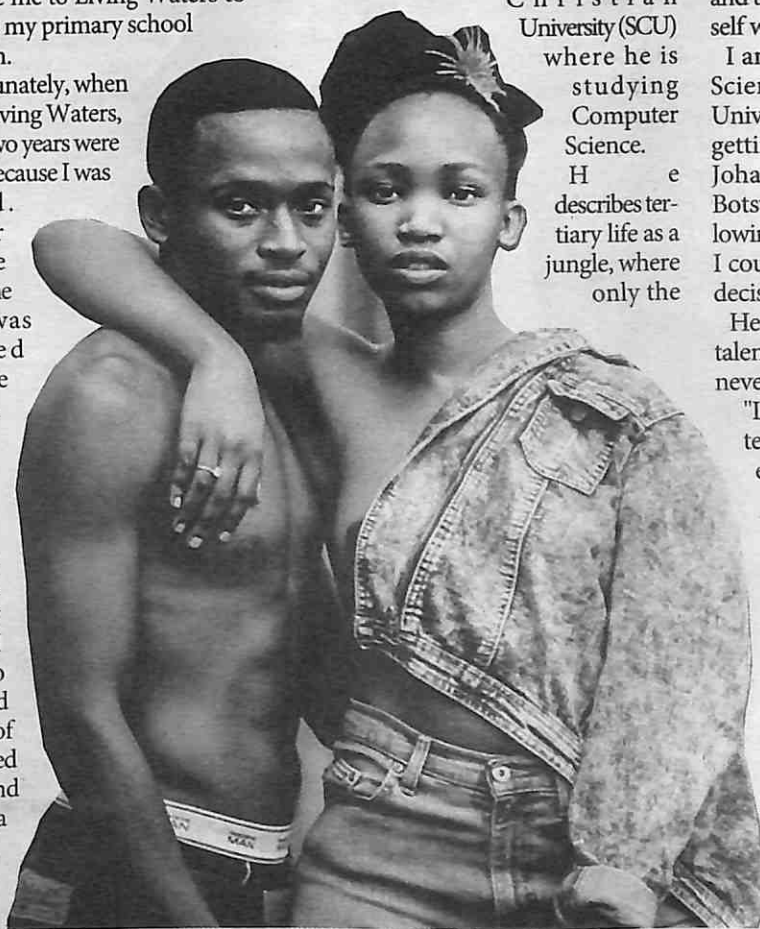
what you're going to study isn't what you love, but take that and learn. It will help you in the long run."

INSPIRATION: My inspiration comes from three photographers. The first one is a Kenyan guy who goes by the name Cedric Nzaka. He is a Kenyan photographer, and his handle is everydaypeoplestories on Instagram. I like his style - whatever he does, he uses the sun as the natural light and that's what I like doing. If you've seen my pictures, I like using the sun as the native light, I also use lighting at night. No excessive artificial light. Then there's Khalid Ramirez also from Kenya. He is very creative. His pictures are abstract and simply blow you out of your mind. The third one is Lebo from South Africa. I like his style as well.

ASPIRATION: Every day, I always tell my friends I want to travel the world. Even if I don't get to be super rich, but being able to travel the world and take pictures will be enough. And maybe win an award for my portraits, yeah man, which would make me very proud.

I also ASPIRE to INSPIRE other people.

It's crazy, I get DMs (Direct Message) from people who tell me how INSPIRED they are and that is awesome as I'm only 22 and I feel like there's a lot that I still have to learn.



ADVICE TO YOUNG PEOPLE:

Be focused and have a dream. I have a friend Mongezi who is also a photographer and he always says be a man and stick to your words.

Young people need to understand that things don't come overnight. I remember when I got my first camera, I took my first scholar ship allowance and I bought my first camera.

That was hard but I managed to pass that hurdle. As young people, if we want change, we need to transcendent to be what we want. Also be a doer of your words. We can all say we want to be millionaires, but not all of us will work hard enough to be millionaires.

ON PASSION PAYING THE BILLS

- Trust me there's nothing that will

make you happy enough than doing what you love.

When you start, obviously, you won't have things easy, but the money will come as a plus if you work hard enough. I'm lucky to be doing something that brings in something.

ON DRUGS - I've seen people that gallop alcohol, not because they want to anymore, but because it has taken over.

Some people consume alcohol and

some are consumed by alcohol, funny thing is you won't even see it.

All I can say is just be wise. I am anti-drugs, I don't understand the concept. You can be high for a minute, but be low for a life-time.

ON GIRLFRIENDS/BOYFRIENDS - I've met amazing people along the way, but I have commitment issues, so it never works out.

I'm still working on myself and the

brand, so for now my life is quite good the way it is.

When you want to bring someone into your life, you need to make sure that it's organised.

Like an apartment when you bring someone over. It needs to be properly prepared with room for changes addictions and all.

I know what kind of boyfriend I want to be, so I'm still working on myself being a better person for now.

SundayObserver Scene

MUSIC ISSUE



STARS ON THE RISE

BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

This week we celebrate our rising stars.

The country has seen a number of artists releasing music, performing in major gigs and stages in and outside of the country. So for that fact SCENE went out and found some of the country's rising stars.

Being a rising star is not easy the pressure and expectation that people put on you are overwhelming at times. In this week's issue we take a look at the entertainment industry, specifically music. We uncover the hardships

that rising artist face in the industry and how these artist perceived the industry before they took it on.

We discovered that being in the industry is actually difficult and requires hard work, so for all of you who thought it was all fun and games, sad news for you because it is not, well at least not all the time. We know that the entertainment industry is very fun, I mean the music, the gigs, the travelling, meeting other celebrities and the overall experience, all that is definitely exciting.

We take a deeper look into the industry, the benefits and hindrances that they have on artists and people in general. We discuss the

drug issue surrounding the entertainment industry.

As social media is a vital tool in this generation, especially in the entertainment industry, we speak to Skhubash a rapper who uses social media to promote his work, and so far it has been working for him as he is nominated for the Firefly competition. We also uncover how social media can build or destroy an artist's reputation.

Although some of our Swazi artist take longer to break into the industry, SCENE found artists that worked hard till we started noticing and now they are rising to greater heights, 80 Script needs no introduction, after

winning Best Hip Hop Artist in 2017, he is climbing the entertainment ladder.

He speaks to us about his experience a rapper. His fellow artist King Terry, a rapper, who is passionate about his work expresses how he started out in the industry. Both motivated him to enter the industry. Both rappers also talk about how drugs and the industry are mistakenly associated with each other.

We also speak to Award winning Symphony, who says the way people received her music was what motivated her to start singing.

Forced to sing in the choir back in high

school she found her one true love through music.

I also had the pleasure to interview ZoëGenesis who is shortlisted for the 2018 Bushfire Firefly. She tells us about how she loves the industry and why she chose to enter the industry.

Zoe elaborates on how important it is to understand the industry.

I would also like to thank Solani's Executive Lounge for allowing us to take great pictures, Simphiwe Shabangu behind the lenses. Thank you so much....

Read, Be inspired and Enjoy
Until next week

STARS ON THE RISE!

These are artists who are really doing the most, if you know what I mean? I mean we've seen how big Sands is at the moment, and then Symphony grabbing the AfriMusic Award for Best English lyrics. Surely we are moving forward with this industry.

The recent evolution of music management and promotion has brought in a number of artists that are bringing in new material. The music industry is an immensely complex and ever-changing system, and understanding how to be successful as an artist is essential for anyone entering the field.

All things considered several artists enter media outlets consistently, however it is just a couple of that get their huge break into the business. In the wake of breaking into the business upcoming artists also need to make an effort to remain in the business as well as to rise also. Well, what happens

before artists start thriving in their careers? It is usually hard to break into the industry but most artists argue that it is more difficult to stay in it once you've broken into it.

Swaziland's entertainment scene is still at its development stages, but without a doubt our artists are rising to the top. So who are these people and what makes them "rising stars? The simplest answer would be because we are not only seeing the fruits of their labour but we are enjoying them as well.

We already have a number of Swazi artists making us proud in other countries. Raising the Swazi flag high, on the continent and beyond, it is these rising stars that are helping the country's entertainment industry grow.

It is important that we support our artists, for them to grow and be able to continue to strive in their careers. Which begs the question, do we support our local artist enough?

Some people still prefer International artists over our very own. This is one of the challenges our artist face. Emerging artists are

prone to more criticism because they are compared to recording artists.

It may not be fair as some emerging artists argue that they are not given a chance at all to present their work. It is even more difficult for them because they always bring something different and people are reluctant to change.

Another common challenge among emerging artists is how to establish a base of support for their work and build relationships with funders, broadcasters, curators, producers and fans.

The entertainment industry can be viewed as a "shady" industry in terms of dealings and processes. Some artists agree that building strong and professional relationships in the industry is very difficult as some people may take advantage of you or your talent.

Building a fan base is the most difficult part according to some artists. Most people find it hard to follow other artist because they already have their favourites. It is therefore extremely difficult for emerging artist to secure a good faithful fan base.

While some artists give up and change careers, only the strong-willed continue to pursue the industry even after so many challenges.

It is always easy to think the emerging



SOCIAL MEDIA CHANGING THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

Becoming a rock star or a pop idol has fascinated the world's population since the advent of major music distribution.

Yet the music industry is a consistently changing field, and the methods of promoting artists and their talents have not been immune to change. While there are still traditional record labels offering contracts to artists, there are many artists who have opted to use new technologies as a way to gain popularity. Social media has become an influential tool for artists and their management teams.

Times have changed whether we fully accept it or not, and social media have a huge influence on the entertainment industry.

Without a doubt, social media has already changed and is changing the entertainment industry considerably. Entertainment industries have been working in tandem with the advancement of social media.



It is clear that social media is more powerful at the moment than ever before and it is directly affecting the entertainment world today, for better or worse. While some artists say that social media is destroying their careers because of the things their fans post on social media, some artists use social media platforms to promote

their music and build their brand.

Talking to a rising artist in the country about the impact of social media on the industry, He said one of the most obvious benefits of social media is increasing brand awareness. With millions of users on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other networks, there are plenty of people to reach.

Skhubash who is a rapper on the rise said he uses social media as a way to fill in the gaps and get exposure to a new audience and of course, to update his existing audience, what is happening in his life.

"I vowed to myself to strictly use social media for promoting my music not personal stuff and so far, it is working for me. Through social media, I have met many amazing musicians from Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa and even as far as the USA."

With this it is evident that social media is and can be used as a tool to promote artists. However there are always negative impacts wherever positive ones exist. The rapper said social media is not accurate.

Whenever he uploads an event and a number of people say they are going to attend, only a few from that number will attend which then destroys the event planned.

It also takes a lot of time and effort to maintain an interactive

social media presence. Social media is also home to many ghost users; these people create fake accounts in order to spread false stories about celebrities. Sometimes these stories are career threatening. Skhumbuzo says he avoids the urge to panic and respond in a knee-jerk fashion. Instead, he evaluates a person's true meaning or motivation versus a person's words. Misinterpreting a snarky comment such as criticism, for example, can turn a non-issue into a crisis.

A product of social media, Skhubash says he is where he is because he uses the platforms a lot. Social media makes it easier for him to find gig opportunities, there are actually many tremendous opportunities provided by social media.

With all that said, you still need to have a good product to promote yourself on social media, because if not you might end up and a trending #hashtag and these days you might end up a meme.

A job in the entertainment industry seems like a dream come true for most people across the world.

With a job like that, they think, they'll pull together a multitude of fans that will support their every move, and the amount of money they'll make at work will boggle the mind and exceed even the wildest of dreams.

But the reality is jobs in the entertainment sector aren't always glamorous, and they're certainly not always easy. Some people don't make it to fame; others don't find the constant pressure easy to live with. Still others find that they just don't enjoy the work as much as they thought they would. Drugs and alcohol can seem like an easy solution, and unfortunately, they're also easy substances to get. The idea of mixing drugs and entertainment isn't new. In fact, it's a concept that's been around for decades. We've witnessed even the greatest singers and actors in the entertainment industry succumbing to the idea of drugs.

If we recall Whitney Houston was one of the artists who battled with a drug addiction problem. This proves

ADDICTION AND ENTERTAINMENT



that even the biggest stars aren't protected when it comes to this issue.

Other popular artists that have struggled with addiction are Kelly Khumalo and other artists have spoken publicly about the use of drugs and how it affected their lives and careers.

All drug abuse cases by celebrities have never ended on a good note, it is therefore evident that drug addiction is real and should not be taken lightly by our industry.

Although Swaziland's entertainment industry is not yet at its peak, we can safely say drug use in Swaziland is at its adolescence stage. Nonetheless the possibility of it rising is still very

high.

Are we hiding it? Maybe we are, as a small country it is easy to demean such problems and not realise that they are actually affecting a number of people.

Some artists believe that doing drugs helps them improve their work or concentrate.

But I think it is evident that drugs destroy people's lives.

Addictions can decimate a person's health, finances, and relationships. Without proper care, an addiction can completely overhaul a person's life, and that could make the entertainment job very hard to hold onto.

A difficult issue is also that of celebrities

being public figures and as a result, community members are quite concerned about the impact their issues can have. Specifically, parents worry that entertainers with addictions will somehow spark their children to develop addictions.

As most people tend to copy and imitate the people they look up to, especially the youth, it is probable that these young people will then copy the act of doing drugs from their idols in the entertainment industry.

Drug use isn't exclusive to musicians. It is a critical matter that needs to be dealt with by everyone.

Drug use is not the only downfall

to the entertainment industry; people in entertainment rarely have enough privacy. They are subject to criticism, ridicule, and humiliation from people all over the world of whom they've never met. They struggle to balance their personal life with their work.

The constant demand for them to be entertaining can become stressful. The entertainment industry does not offer welfare for those who can't keep up. They dread looking up their own name on Google, yet they can never help it.

Nevertheless, what can we do without the entertainment industry? I mean having fun and lowering your stress level are some benefits of the entertainment industry. Entertainment not only relieves you of stress, but also helps you regain your energy and thus recharge your batteries.

Your mind diverts away from your day to day worries and tensions and you are able to divert your mind from the normal schedule. So, everyone must have a daily dose of entertainment. Listening to music is the simplest way to entertain oneself, especially local music from local artists.

artist are the only ones that face challenges, but working with emerging artists doesn't come without its own set of challenges. Some managers and producers say emerging artists can have unrealistic expectations.

Some try to tackle large projects in a short amount of time, don't understand the financial limitations, lack maturity in social situations, express a sense of entitlement, or lack basic professional skills such as speaking in public about their work or maintaining professionalism when teaching or during other types of community engagement.

Therefore it is important that aspiring artists learn and equip themselves with the right knowledge and tools to

be in the industry. As the Chinese philosopher 'ying and yang' suggests there are also advantages for working with emerging artists.

Emerging artists are more apt to making use of technology and new media in their art-making, more interested in critiques and studio visits during a residency, more interested in social interactions with other artists-in-residence, more interested in participating in public programmes and community engagement, as compared to mid-career and established artists.

I think rising stars should be rewarded. We should have award ceremonies that reward these stars for the work that they do. This would definitely motivate our young artist to work hard

and produce quality products.

The National Arts and Culture Awards NACA's, Swaziland Music Awards SWAMA and Gospel Awards are some of the awards ceremonies that recognise the talents that the country has. These award ceremonies are growing each day, receiving more attention from residents of the country, soon they will be the most anticipated shows in the country and that is where we are headed as a country.

These are artists who are really doing the most, if you know what I mean? I mean we've seen how big Sands is at the moment, and then Symphony grabbing the AfriMusic Award for Best English lyrics. Surely we are moving forward with this industry.

I mean since last year, the biggest festival in the country 'Bushfire' launched a separate stage for our artist to perform for tourists and locals. Through Firefly, Swazi artist now have a platform to showcase their talents.

This very platform also helps people from all over the world get to know the kind of music that our artists have to offer. It may come as a benefit also to the artists as they now have a broader and bigger audience.

For many Swazi artists, the reception of their music is very promising, people are buying their CD's and attending their shows, this is very humbling for the artists and it shows that the country is supporting the evolution of the music industry.

Indeed the industry is taking off, and it is evident in every entertainment event that is hosted in the country. We see these events gaining more momentum every year and that is promising and more importantly encouraging for artists who want to take their careers to the next level and make a living out of it.

We can only go up from here, as more and more award ceremonies are being introduced, no doubt that in a few years' time our entertainment industry will be at its peak. In 2022 we have to meet the measures set by His Majesty King Mswati III. His vision incorporates each industry in the nation and from the way this industry is growing, it is completely conceivable.

TALENTED, SKILFUL

80 SCRIPT

From recording demos using a recorder on an mp3 player at the age of 8, to best Hip Hop Artist in 2017, Zolile Motsa, is one of Swaziland's rising stars. 80 Script has been making music for approximately 10 to 15 years, on and off.

He then entered the industry professionally in 2013, motivated by the dreams heshared with his best friend from a young age.

"We always wanted to be superstars, date models, drink champagne, perform in front of thousands of people, and travel regularly through music and so on. Music was the perfect profession as far as realising that dream goes." Said Zolile laughing

The desire to be the best hip hop artist in the industry also motivated this young man to enter the industry and his passion and determination paid off as he won the award at the SWAMA Awards last year.

However, as usual it wasn't easy for him to break into the industry just like most artists.

"It's definitely ten times harder to make it in this industry than one would first assume. People think making music and trying to be successful at it is a walk in the park, when in actual fact, it isn't," he says there's a popular narrative that making music is fun and games, that it isn't real work but for him being a musician is one of the hardest endeavours one can embark on and it can test you all the way to the outer limits of your character.

To be able to cater for a different audience an artist needs to be, you need to offer something new and exciting.

80 Script says he his deep interest in aesthetics makes him differ-

ent. Beyond just making music that people can enjoy and relate to, he understands the importance of aesthetics

"All the minor details that go towards making a brand and also how appealing that brand later becomes, I find this aspect of building a career to be the most interesting.

I am very particular about how I am packaged and presented to the public and I believe this is a crucial element when it comes to building an artist."

It is very common for artists to start out in groups before finding their feet or going solo, this is very familiar to Zolile as he was in not one but two different groups before pursuing a solo career.

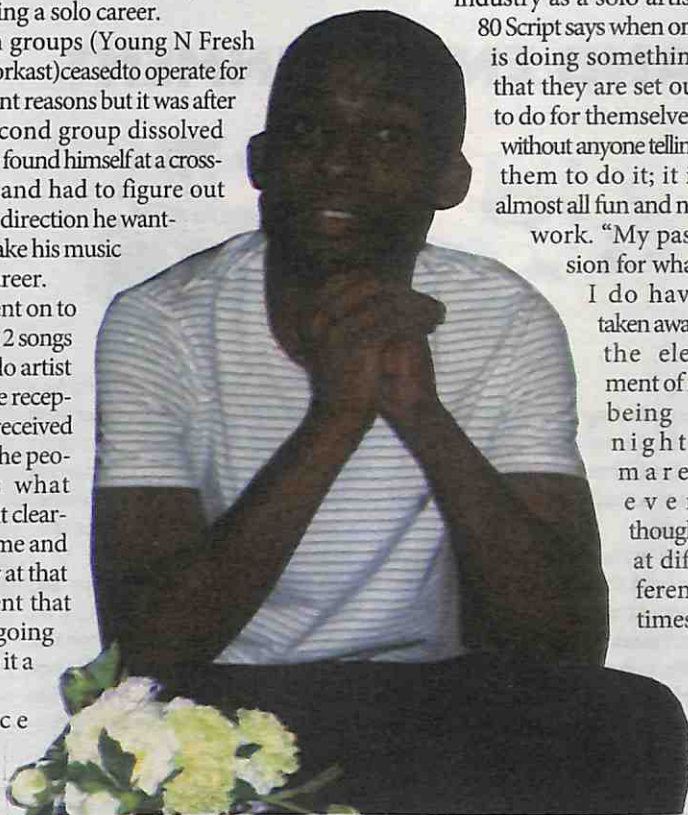
Both groups (Young N Fresh and Forkast) ceased to operate for different reasons but it was after the second group dissolved that he found himself at a crossroads and had to figure out which direction he wanted to take his music and career.

"I went on to release 2 songs as a solo artist and the reception I received from the people is what made it clearer for me and I knew at that moment that I was going to give it a shot."

Since entering the



"I am very particular about how I am packaged and presented to the public and I believe this is a crucial element when it comes to building an artist." It is very common for artists to start out in groups before finding their feet or going solo, this is very familiar to Zolile as he was in not one but two different groups before pursuing a solo career.



industry as a solo artist, 80 Script says when one is doing something that they are set out to do for themselves, without anyone telling them to do it; it is almost all fun and no work. "My passion for what

I do have taken away the element of it being a nightmare, even though at different times,

it can look like it's nothing more than a nightmare. But it does have its challenges.

The love I have for the art far exceeds the difficulties that come with being a full time artist."

It is a touchy subject but the issue of drugs in the entertainment industry is real.

The reason why the industry is associated with drugs according to Zolile is because artists are showcased on large platforms like television as well as in the music that masses of people listen to. This makes it easier to associate the industry with those things, which is tricky because drugs are a part of the society we live in and music is merely a reflection of the society that each artist comes from.

"It is easy to blame the industry for the drugs society glorifies but the industry reflects its society. However, we as artists have the influence to change that, to a large extent or a small one. Drugs are a part of society, which is unfortunate."

With all challenges and the work that

artist go through it is easy to think that, maybe if artist had a chance to choose a different career, well that is not the case with this rapper he says he would definitely choose the career all over again. The only thing he would do differently though is make the executive decision to pursue it relentlessly much earlier. "I would have gone into the industry at 16."

It is obvious that the country is moving in the right direction when it comes to arts in general. But there is still much to do. The mere fact that we as artists are still not paid royalties for our music shows that the industry is still an infant that needs to grow.

Zolile says the only way it can grow is if corporates and government do more. "Yes, alot has been done already as we as entertainers are extremely grateful for the support we are receiving from these entities.

But so far, we've only scratched the surface. There is more to be done and we are only getting started. We also need to have arts introduced to our tertiary education."

KING TERRY

A lot of people enter the music industry because of different reasons and the reason King Terry entered was different indeed, he entered the industry because it felt right.

He started performing at school concerts and competitions which gave him immense joy. Being on stage and making records is what he passionate about, being great at it makes it even better.

Strangely the music he grew up listening to in his earliest years isn't anything like the music he makes now, his father and uncle Sydney always had the latest music, hardly any Hip-Hop, mostly Michael Jackson, R.Kelly, Keith Sweat, Boys 2 Men, Whitney Houston. "I fell in love with Hip Hop when I was 11, the exact album was Will Smith's Wild Wild West OST, then at 13 my cousin Wallace introduced me



to a lot more music I gelled with."

Being a rising star begins with breaking into the industry and before

ON THE RISE

'SEWUKHONA'

The hit 'sengikhona' hit make symphony started back in high school, singing in the school choir. She and her friends tried doing it right after high school but their parents were not for the idea.

I then got back to it in 2015 when I joined T55. Been at it since then here I am today with a full album in my name.

Motivated by mostly what people thought, she saw the response that she got every time she sang. She then decided to try this out and see what happens and so far it has been great for the artist. She says even though it is not always easy the risk was worth taking.

Symphony is not fazed by the pressures of the industry "some will love you some won't. One has to just focus on what they are here for. It's a harsh industry but it's not all bad." She says she found out that the industry is more or less how she imagined it could be.

Over the years the music has changed, while our parents say that this generation's music is less meaningful than theirs, Symphony believes her music spreads positivity.

"The music our youngsters listen to has very little to do with making them make better decisions for example.

It has very little to do with making them better citizens of our society, that's also how I'm different. For me it goes beyond just music I'm about changing lives and inspiring others the right way especially young girls."

Most people would assume that it takes years for an artist to make it after breaking into the industry, well for our rising star it only took three years.

She attributes her success to taking



her seriously. She says one needs to be clear with where they want to be and work hard to get there. "A great harvest requires a great seed, don't be afraid, have the courage to take a risk for your brand."

"For every appearance make a statement. What helps is that I treat every performance like it's the 1st and last. They say you are as good as your last one."

After starting out in 2015 she realised her career was taking off when she won MTN bushfire firefly last year. That was her 1st time to ever win after a couple of setbacks; she says that experience gave her 10 thousand reasons to continue with this journey.

Since she has just released her album 'Sengikhona' she says the process was harder than she thought it would be. Doing this album has

taught her so much about herself and about people.

"At some point I felt like I didn't want to do it anymore but I'd remind myself of all the sacrifices I did to even being able to say I'm recording an album. My manager was there for me the whole time. I got to know my strength and weak points, I learnt so much."

As she heads to Portugal, to receive her award, we definitely know that she is going to leave a mark.



POETIC AND ORGANIC

ZOE GENESIS

Learning to communicate through music to people of different cultures from a young age and having performed solo covers during morning assemblies from her first day of primary school to her last day of high school, Zoe most definitely one of the rising stars of the country.

ZoeGENESIS mastered the art of song-writing during her early teen years. In the year 2015 she transitioned to a recording artist when she joined Stand Still Mafia.

In 2016, she collaborated with producer and vocalist, M-Seth, on their hit single "Options".

She became a soloartist, in 2017, releasing her debut solo single, "Genesis". Wigo and

Mozaiik the Producer collaborated on the production of the song. The hit never died down because even in 2018 it was listed as one of Top 5 Songs by Swazi Female Vocalists by gcwala99.com.

Starting out in 2015, Zoe has been trying to break into the industry for two years and it's only this year that she felt she's learnt and mastered enough to take things on 110%.

Zoe says she believes her writing skills are unique to just her, which is what she is bringing into the industry that will set her apart.

"I'd say I can be poetic and very animated at the same time, for example my new single 'King' it is very organic and it proves just how different my music is."

It was the need to be heard that motivated Zoe to become a singer.

Raised by her

mother who taught her to always be positive, no matter the situation, she low-key became a positivity activist. Feeling the urge to spread this key mind-set, her voice came across as the one way that she could reach out to the masses. She feels like her music breaths positive energy.

The industry is no child's play for Zoe; she says being on the outside makes it seem so easy. Just record a song and release it. Then later drop an album. But since she's been on the inside she realises that a lot goes into building your brand and your name as an artist.

"There's so much admin and effort that is required in the industry. It's not realizing that fact, which makes people lose the plot. It is simple things like branding that are important but never seem like something you'll need to focus if you're on the outside."

The songstress had hoped that the whole of last year was going to be her big break year, but a lot of things were made clearer from her.

From shady deals and partnerships, to realizing making a career for yourself isn't free, and a few cases of exploitation.

Despite all that she says these experiences groomed her to become who she is today as an artist. "I wouldn't have it any other way."

Since entering the industry Zoe says it been nothing short of inspiring, there are so many aspects of this career that really challenges her, in a creative way. It has also matured her not only as a musician but as a young woman as well.

While every career has its downfalls Zoe says the entertainment industry is as difficult as any industry, she has faced different challenges and has learnt from them "I guess it's just me growing a happy child and thinking everyone is nice."

But this misconception is an all-rounder in all industries. Not everyone who is friendly is your friend.

I've learnt to be more cautious but still be nice."

that, artists usually have their own ideas of how the industry is like, Terry says there is a lot you don't get told before you go into this "jungle", he says as an artist you learn you learn as you go and it never gets easier.

"The bigger you get, the harder the work becomes. It's not all glitz and glamour; there is a lot of sacrifice that goes into it. Education Is The Key." A monster at live performances, Terry says he has always been about breaking new ground, working towards bridging this gap between the artist and the consumer, taking quality product directly to

admirers.

He feels like that is what sets him apart from other artists and for the past two years has been doing just that. Having been in the industry for 10 years, King Terry says winning the Sibebe Friday Night Live Season 5 was a turning point in his career. He says he did not only begin to see his career thrive but it also became a rollercoaster.

Being in the industry can be tiring for some artist but Terry has been enjoying the journey. Although like every career it has its highs and lows, King Terry says it's all been worth it.

King Terry says one of the most common misconceptions about the industry is the issue of drugs, "drugs are a universal problem, artists just so happen to be in the limelight and everything they do is more public and a tad exaggerated. I, for one, do not do drugs or use them to enhance my rap skills."

The most unfortunate thing is now these younger artists have been sold this idea that "lean" and "weed" will make you better rapper, news flash, IT DOESN'T."

According to Terry another delusion that people have about the industry is that exposure somehow

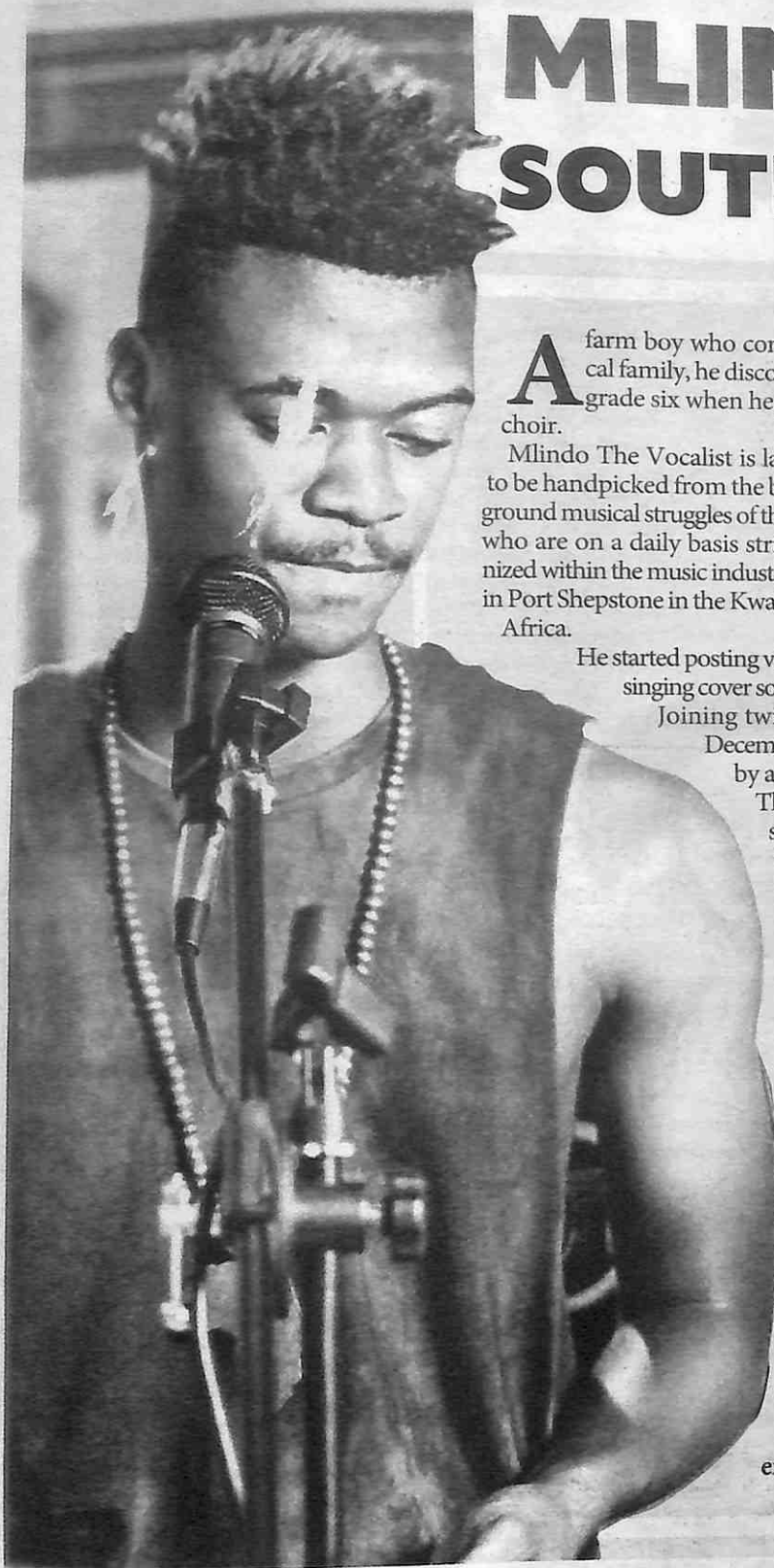
puts food on the table. Akhona says publicity help put the word out there about you and your work.

Agreeing that education is important in the industry Akhona said if he had to do it all over again he would put more effort in learning the business side earlier and take risks earlier in life.

He couldn't stop emphasising on the importance of school and education; he said he always tells people looking to enter the industry to finish school and to always have a backup plan. Terry says the most common mistake people make is thinking having a Facebook page,

getting your song on radio or being in the newspaper is "it". He argued that promoters do not pay artist based on their popularity and Facebook likes, it is all based on how many people will walk through those gates to see your performance. "How you present yourself as an artist is vital, having a huge entourage does not help the performance, and sometimes it comes down to the smallest things like being on time and general respect for people. Ohh and communication is also key, how you do it communicate with people and our managers, that's what gives character."

MLINDO THE VOCALIST SOUTH AFRICA'S RISING STAR:



A farm boy who comes from a musical family, he discovered his talent in grade six when he joined the school choir.

Mlindo The Vocalist is latest musical gem to be handpicked from the belly of the underground musical struggles of the emerging artists, who are on a daily basis striving to be recognized within the music industry. Born and raised in Port Shepstone in the KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.

He started posting videos back in 2016, singing cover songs by other artists.

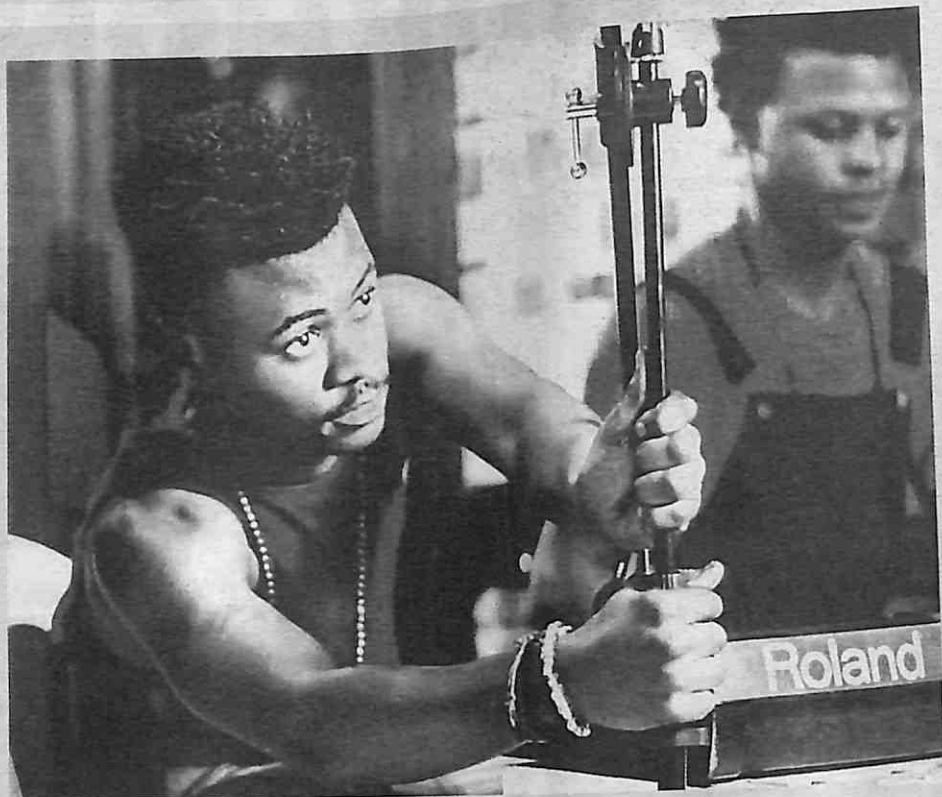
Joining twitter just last year December and discovered by a few months later.

This proves just how social media can improve artists' careers.

He is definitely a rising star to watch out for.

He rose to the fame after being discovery online by Hit producer DJ Maphorisa. They soon recorded the smash hit Ama blesser.

He later worked with Akanamali hit maker, Sun El Musician on the song Bamthathile which is also another smash.



Real name Lindokuhle Magedezi has a couple of likeable traits that stand out. For instance his playfulness, when it comes to his vocals and the creativity he displays in how he delivers his song lyrics, and not forgetting his facial expressions that reinforce the message in his songs.

Mlindo's rise to stardom is without a doubt, a clear indication that South Africa has no scarcity of musical talent, and for as long as the music industry as a whole remains lethargic in opening up space for the new breed of talent to come up, many young emerging artists will never know how it feels like to be Mlindo The Vocalist. He is winning the hearts of young and old people

especially young females with his extraordinary voice. Singing mostly love songs, Mlindo admitted to being heartbroken which is what inspires his music.

While some people think it is a sad story, some are thanking whoever broke his heart because now the whole world will get to see and enjoy music the young man has to offer.

He is currently working on a single featuring Sjava.

Mlindo is also working on his album which is greatly anticipated by his fans.

He is one to look out for in 2018!
(Source: Publikinbox)

OTHER ARTISTS WHO ARE ON THE RISE INCLUDE

LANGA MAVUSO

His voice is lush, luxurious, and carries emotion with ease. His 2017 EP, Home, is a beautiful sentimental story that ironically has healing power.

Now that he's signed to Black Coffee's Soulistic Music label, excuse the cliché, but the sky is the limit for the soul singer, and 2018 is the year he will truly get to shine.



SHO MADJOZI

Sho Madjozi has worked with PH, OkMalumKoolKat, PS DJz, Ms Cosmo, among other notable names. Her hit song "Dumi Hi Phone" received the visual treatment last year, giving it an extended life. Sho Madjozi's combination of hip-hop and gqom has proven a working formula, and makes her appeal to two of the biggest youth music markets in South Africa. Hopefully in 2018 she'll release a full body of work. It would be the last nail on the game's coffin.



ROUGE

Rouge released one of the best albums of 2017 with The New Era Sessions, a criminally overlooked body of work that featured Big Star, KLY and Moozlie. Rouge can rap circles around your favorite, and she's been featured by Shekhinah and DJ Switch. She is also one to look out for in the industry.



BEAT ON BEATS WITH MDUBASA



DJ Vinny Da Vince and Sabz during the Sabz #SoulTrain birthday party which was held at Ron Deh Voo last week Saturday.



The surprise guest DJ Vinny Da Vinci didn't disappoint with his mind blowing, soothing soulful house beats.



Thabo Phalatse and Trev The Japanese were a big hit amongst the house heads who danced through their set.



Doing it the DJ's way. Trev impressed with his dance moves.



House lovers braved the wet cold weather to attend Sabelo Kunene's party.



Trev The Japanese posing with a fan.



The right people attended the event as they reacted to every track played on the night.



Activist 76 on the decks.



Otto B was not to be left out as he also treated the Swazis who attended the event to good music.



An energetic June Jazzin lived up to expectations as he complimented his set with silky dance moves.



Entertained fans also took time to take pictures.



Birthday boy Sabelo 'Sabz' Kunene looking on as Vinny dished out some fine tunes.

CALLING ALL

ASPIRING HOUSE MUSIC PRODUCERS AND ARTISTS

ARE YOU SWAZILAND'S NEXT HOUSE MUSIC SENSATION?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE PART OF SWAZILAND'S BIGGEST HOUSE MUSIC PROJECT?

Please show interest by contacting beatonbeast@gmail.com with your full name, stage name, location, contact details and demo.

DON'T HAVE A DEMO YET?
No worries. Just show interest.

'THE CHANGE'

BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

The change playwright made a big comeback at the Swaziland Theatre Club on Friday evening.

The play was brought back by popular demand. Written by Maswazi Dlodlu, the play addressed issues

faced by women in the society, especially in Swaziland.

Society

Staged at a homestead where a woman is physically and emotionally abused by her husband who is a trusted member of the society. Her husband does not only beat her up but brings his girlfriends into

their home.

It is after she hears her husband confess killing their son in order to be voted back in Parliament that she turns the tables around.

Violence

The play tackles the issue of gender-based violence in our societies. This sad yet funny and exciting

play was brought to life by an all Swazi cast, and it was directed by the well-known Thembinkosi Mthethwa.

Drama and theatre enthusiasts were there to watch the beautifully showcased play.

Here are some pictures of from play.



Association of Swaziland Theatre Groups' President Wandile Maziya making remarks after the show.



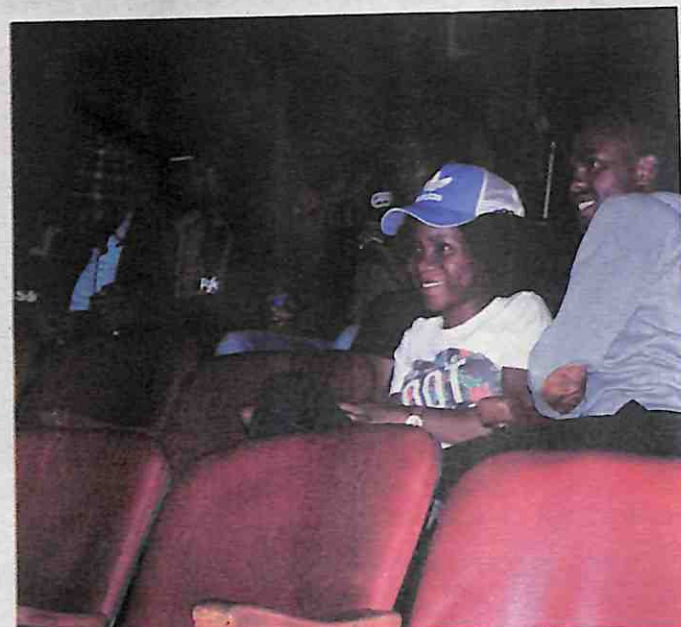
Mahlobo consulting inyanga about his future.



Mahlobo introducing his girlfriend to his wife LaSimelane (on the floor).



The cast of 'The Change' entertaining the guests with music and dance during the show.



The audience enjoying the show.



Mahlobo strangling his wife after she chased his girlfriend out.



Mhlobo apologising to his wife after all the abuse he put her through.



'The Change' Director Thembinkosi Mthethwa making remarks before the play.

THE ACADEMIC JOURNEY



MANANGA MANAGEMENT CENTRE

WITH MBALITETHU DUBE

Good leaders are trailblazers, making a path for others to follow. Great leaders, however, inspire their people to reach higher, dream bigger, and achieve greater.

Perhaps the most important leadership skill you can develop is the ability to provide inspiration to your team. Today's journey will take a look at Mananga Centre for Regional Integration and Management Development. The Centre's primary focus is on developing managers and leaders in the work place and emerging leaders.

Current programs on offer at Mananga Centre

1. Training and Management Development

The focus is on the continual development of the work force to ensure that their knowledge skills and abilities are continuously updated. The courses offered target different levels of management. Certificates of accomplishment being awarded on completion of the programme including:

- The Senior Management Development Certificate
- The Middle Management Development Certificate
- The Supervisors Development Certificate
- The Management Development Certificate for Personal Assistants
- Certificate in Human Resources Management
- Certificate in Project Management
- Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety Management

2. Higher Education Programmes

The rationale is to develop skilled, flexible and adaptable leaders who will remain relevant as they meet

the ever changing challenges of the competitive corporate world. The following programmes are offered:

- Masters' in Business Administration (MBA)
- Master of Science in Strategic Management (MSCSM)

3. Degree Courses

Undergraduate courses offered are divided into Computer Literacy and Language Skills, Business Management, Financial Management, and Entrepreneurship.

Business Management

- BBA (Honours) in Business Management, HRM, Marketing or IT
- BA (Honours) Community Development
- Diplomas in Business, HR, Marketing or IT

- Diplomas in Office Admin and Management

Financial Management

- Diploma in Financial Management and Accounting
- Diploma in Public Sector Accounting
- Diploma in Procurement Management

Entrepreneurship

- Diploma In Entrepreneurship
- Award in Setting up your own Business
- Business Start-up Certificate
- Award in Money Management for small businesses
- Award in Digital Marketing Essentials for Small Businesses
- Award in the Principles of Business Ethics
- Computer Literacy and Language

Perhaps the most important leadership skill you can develop is the ability to provide inspiration to your team. Today's journey will take a look at Mananga Centre for Regional Integration and Management Development.



● *Perhaps the most important leadership skill you can develop is the ability to provide inspiration to your team.*

POETRY

The Road Not Taken

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I
could
To where it bent in the under-
growth;
Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better
claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted
wear;
Though as for that the passing
there
Had worn them really about the
same,
And both that morning equally
lay
In leaves no step had trodden
black.
Oh, I kept the first for another
day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to
way,
I doubted if I should ever come
back.
I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood,
and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the differ-
ence.

Robert Frost

Don't Quit!

When things go wrong,
as they sometimes
will,

When the road you're trudging
seems all uphill, When the funds
are low and the debts are high, And
you want to smile, but you have
to sigh,

When care is pressing you down
a bit, Rest, if you must, but don't
you quit. Life is queer with its twists
and turns,

As every one of us sometimes
learns, And many a failure turns
about, When he might have won
had he stuck it out; Don't give up
though the pace seems slow—You
may succeed with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than, It
seems to a faint and faltering
man, Often the struggler has given
up, When he might have captured
the victor's cup, And he learned
too late when the night slipped
down,

How close he was to the golden
crown. Success is failure turned
inside out—The silver tint of the
clouds of doubt, And you never
can tell how close you are, It may
be near when it seems so far, So
stick to the fight when you're hard-
est hit—It's when things seem worst
that you must not quit.

Skills

- Computer Literacy/ICDL
- Portuguese Language Essentials
- Business English/TOEFL

Examining Bodies

The professional business courses are examined by internationally recognised bodies including: Mananga Centre (SD), Association of Business Executives (UK), Institute of Certified Book keepers (SA), Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (UK) and the Association of Business Managers and Administrators (UK).

Mananga Centre is also an Affiliate of Chinhoyi University of Technology, Zimbabwe.

For more information contact Mananga Centres admissions office. Tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.

Till next time

They are four things that makes a person not live his/her dream and these are as follows:

- 1) Fear
- 2) Giving up too soon.
- 3) Waiting for the right moment.
- 4) Thinking that you don't have a choice.

Our dreams and visions begin as undeveloped pictures deep within our hearts and minds—things we see that God wants to do in the future. I have dreamt, I have turned my mind loose to imagine what I want to do. In the morning, afternoon and evening, everyday, every hour, every minute thinking about my dream.

I have seen the way to get to my dream. Yes, people including my parents, relatives and friends are saying "You can't do it, having an Art Banner that is 54km+17km long inline with Live Your Dream cycling for SDGS.

Any vision or dream deserves and demands focus. Surround yourself with wholesome relationships that are in unity with your dream. Visions create a bright future, increases our motivation levels and supply a mighty stimulus to work hard for fulfilment. Vision seals destiny.

"But what if I have a physical handicap? How can a change of attitude help me?" you may ask. Perhaps the story of Tom Dempsey, a boy who was disabled at birth, will give you your answer.

Tom was born without half a right

foot and only a stub of a right arm. As a boy, he wanted to engage in sports as the other boys did. He had a burning desire to play football. Because of this desire, his parents had an artificial foot made for him. It was

made of wood. The wooden foot was encased in a special stubby football shoe. Hour after hour, day after day, Tom would practice kicking the football with his wooden foot. He would try and keep on trying to make field goals at greater and greater distances. He

became so proficient that he was hired by the New Orleans Saints.

The screams of 66 910 football fans could be heard throughout the entire United States when, within the last two seconds of the game, Tom Dempsey — with his crippled leg — kicked a record-breaking 63-yard field goal. It was the longest field goal ever

kicked in a professional football game. It gave the Saints a winning score of 19-17 over the Detroit Lions.

"We were beaten by a miracle," said Detroit coach Joseph

Schmidt. And to many, it was a miracle — an answer to a prayer.

Have a wonderful 50/50 celebration.

Love Your Dream in 2018

Live Your Dream in 2018.

People don't fail in life. People just give up in life.

Don't give up on that dream no matter what.

#Keep cycling

THE SECRET OF LIVING YOUR DREAM:

USE WHAT YOU HAVE TO GET WHAT YOU WANT



Keep moving

Never judge a man at his beginning because the beginning is always small. Every vision, every dream has only one believer and vision is the source of confidence.

Love Your Dream is all about unveiling the power that is within us. Our graduates are very educated but they are not motivated. My question is

- How can we free a black man?
- How can we change the mind set

that has been programmed for a minimum of 13 years?

Get in touch by emailing: munyaradzi.muzenda4@gmail.com or follow us on facebook cycling4sdgsswaziland and Liveyourdreamafrica.

When we are young to be honest (teenagers), and when we are grown-ups too, all of our perceived flaws are blown up and maximised; we usually cling onto our childhood picture perfection like we were way too bad.

Well I hate to admit but I am one of those; I do like some of them, not all.

Whenever we would look at the family album at home, I would just try by all possible means to hide the ones I hate, and I managed. It's normal. For so long, I was so kept up on the idea of imperfection such that I ended up caring less about who I was.

Think about it: if you don't have a healthy relationship with yourself, you cannot expect to form healthy relationships with others. Being in authentic and healthy relationships means being vulnerable. If you're not secure with whom you are, being vulnerable is nearly impossible.

The combination of vulnerability and insecurity leads to jealousy, resentment and the ultimate demise of a relationship — be it romantic or platonic. This can be especially painful if you don't practice self-love.

When we're in relationships, we tend to find solace in our friends and partners. This isn't inherently bad. However, in the absence of self-love, we begin to rely on our partners and friends for our self-image and confidence, allowing them to shape our identities. As a result, when these relationships end, we feel like we've not only lost those relationships, but ourselves.

THE KING OF SELF's



We all desire to be known intimately, but the truth is that even those we trust the most will never know every part of who we are. The only person who can truly know us is ourselves.

"You're always by yourself even when you're with people," said Krasnow, "The more you can practice being alone without distraction, the more you'll begin to know yourself and love yourself."

The radical self-love movement focuses on inspiring and aiding people who are hurting to come to terms with who they are. Radical self-love emphasises the importance of caring for yourself, accepting yourself, and not settling for less than what you deserve.

Often, those within the movement share stories of their own journeys towards self-acceptance, as well as suggest resources and tips for helping others along their journey. TED Talks have naturally become a platform for many well-known voices within the movement to share their experiences and lessons learned on their journeys towards radical self-love.

Radical self-love is about unlearning deeply ingrained beliefs about inadequacy and inferiority and replacing those beliefs with more positive beliefs instead — those of confidence and appreciation for one's own abilities. Many proponents of radical self-love themselves are people who have suffered

eating disorders or have worked to unlearn self-destructive behaviour such as self-mutilation.

They share their stories of how they healed themselves in the hopes of inspiring others around them to consider a similar change.

Loving ourselves and loving our ugly bits leaves us free to enjoy ourselves rather than worry about how we may look or whether or not we are good enough to be where we are.

It really can be hard to love yourself as well as your flaws rather than despise them, and living in societies that actively discourage self-love and self-acceptance do

more damage than you would think.

The notion that we are not good enough, that our bodies are disgusting, that we need to do this or look like that to be loveable is so ingrained in our media and our economy and our own thought patterns that we consider hating ourselves to be completely normal.

Self-love is knowing what's worth for you, knowing what can or cannot surround you. It's knowing when to leave and when to stay (friendships and relationships), its knowing when and how to say NO! I CAN'T!!

You are good enough.

You are worthy.

You are deserving of love and respect.

You are allowed to love yourself and be happy in your own skin.

Although that might be logically sound, often we still find it difficult to be happy with ourselves. Happiness and self-acceptance don't happen overnight; rather, they are big journeys made up of little steps over the course of years, maybe even decades.

The radical self-love movement is just one way to go about taking that journey. It may seem impossible and you may not know where to start.

Nkosingphile NtshaliNtshali

Analysis & opinion



BY MBONGENI
MBINGO

LAW OF THE JUNGLE

● *The timing for this is also perfect. With the elections just around the corner, it is obvious that people are positioning themselves for the next term. It is not unprecedented too, because we have already lived in the era where the Judiciary was muddled—if not corrupt.*

And so, it came to pass. Members of Parliament contrived to do the unthinkable, and set up a probe to investigate the operations of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC).

As you read this, a five-man committee is constituting itself into a probe team, tasked by Parliament to investigate operations of the corruption watchdog.

You have to ask yourself how it came about; or what crisis has led to such a controversial decision. I must of course qualify controversial; it is purely because one looks at the impact of such a probe with suspicion. At the end of the day, a probe of this nature has to be undertaken when all other options have been exhausted. It has to be the last resort; like a decision that has been taken because of a national outcry.

In fact, to be a little pragmatic; we can use the allegations that there are no corruption cases that have been taken to the High Court since a controversial statement by the Chief Justice in October 2016. That to me deserves a very open and robust dialogue, from which a probe would be understandably taken to get to investigate the impact this has had in the pursuit of fighting corruption in this country.

Clearly, there is a serious problem between the Judiciary and the anti-corruption commission that has manifested itself in the pursuit of cases, leading to there being no cases taken to the courts. This is a big enough scandal to warrant that some people be held accountable. It is also a big enough issue to demand that parliamentarians, as oversight (something they are quick to use these days in defending the probe into the ACC) would be seen to be expected to be vocal about.

But, here I am, no one in our Parliament has raised a finger. There is nothing to suggest that this is a problem, to begin with.

This is what scares me, and wakes me up at night;

how can parliamentarians be so silent about this and yet be vocal about some figment of their imagination leading to the unsubstantiated claim of maladministration at the ACC? Apparently, if you follow the events leading to this issue finding itself in the chamber; you will learn that it was a reaction to a newspaper article from a weekly publication called the Independent. Ever since that publication, the MPs have been vehement that there was something wrong within the ACC, demanding that there be some action taken.

Concerned

If you contrast the claims of maladministration against the CJ's ruling on the Gideon Dlamini you would be forgiven for thinking that MPs would be concerned with the impact of that ruling, and in effect, how we have not seen any cases going to the High Court, ever since that position was taken by the chief justice.

That deserves some sort of inquiry, doesn't it? It definitely warrants an emotional and highly charged session inside the Chamber, with MPs taking turns to wonder if the ACC was not being frustrated by this position—which, by the way, still awaits a sitting of the Supreme Court. Now, let us ask ourselves, how is this case still not being heard by the Supreme Court? Do we not have permanent judges of the Supreme Court for this very reason?

Where's the urgency in this case? Why then are we paying the Judges of the Supreme Court if they are not going to assist in the administration of justice in this country?

Well, isn't it strange that these are not questions the MPs who are so concerned about three cars they should not be worried about, are asking? Is it not a loud statement in itself that this is not an issue of the probe—if at all then we have to justify a probe into the ACC?

We must ask ourselves these questions because they are valid; because we care about this country, and also because something is not right with this. As I tried to point out last week, this is alarming and speaks to the broader picture of the capture of the ACC by whomever are lurking in the shadows, waiting to pounce.

The timing for this is also perfect. With the elections just around the corner, it is obvious that people are positioning themselves for the next term. It is not unprecedented too, because we have already lived in the era where the judiciary was muddled—if not corrupt.

It is evident that this probe is being undertaken because the ACC at this point, without its head and the man who has been a stumbling block for many, is suddenly not there—because they succeeded in moving out of the way. The prime minister too appears not to be interested; he is preoccu-

pied himself; he is also on the way—if the Constitution is anything to go by—out of Hospital Hill.

This is perfect timing then for state capture; the real, and not imagined state capture. If the ACC is weakened, pushed out of the way, those who would have succeeded in doing so will be at the high table, having all the meat to themselves. They will be calling the shots, and I am afraid, to the extent the courts will find they will be compromised.

Determined

What is frightening, however, is that we are seeing this play out in front of our eyes, with the people we elected into Parliament determined to see it through. It was shocking to learn that the probe had been selected, and that it was going ahead, despite that there had been attempts to respond to the very questions they are setting out to investigate.

For instance, the terms of reference for the probe are that the select committee will investigate controversies surrounding fleet management at ACC. Like, what cow dung is that? They are going ahead to investigate this despite that the minister has responded to a parliamentary query, assuring MPs that the cars MPs are concerned about are accounted for.

This is despite the fact that we as a country should be worried that these people are clearly after information more than just relating to three beau-

tiful cars; there is more to this than that!

I am certain they will justify their sitting by claiming that there is rot in the ACC; because they want to probe a Special Account; they want to investigate alleged corrupt practices within the recruitment and promotion of personnel.

Great stuff. If someone wanted to probe the police special fund I am certain there would be war.

I too am wondering how the very same Parliament said nothing when issues were raised about a case regarding the recruitment and position of the former deputy commissioner, who I am certain remains suspended. But then again, who are we to know anything?

So, what is it that they say about the law of the jungle? Survival of the fittest, maybe? Or is it to describe a situation where people who are strong and do not care about harming others are most successful?

Perhaps the principle of the law of the jungle will best describe what we are about to happen once those pulling the strings get their way.

Clearly, because no one seems to care about the corruption watchdog, or the real intentions of the probe, including getting access to confidential information (all to themselves), then we should brace ourselves for a survival of the fittest. That is where we are headed.

Of course, one must not forget that these days MPs just want to probe anything that walks through Parliament; perhaps for financial gain. *Yindze lendlela!*

April 2, marks the beginning of Autism Month, where the World is lighting it blue and the parents of children with Autism and their children in Swaziland today are wearing blue to join the world in bringing a message of hope to children/ individuals with Autism and their families.

Today Swaziland with the rest of the world is commemorating this important day, called, "World Autism Awareness Day under the theme, "Accessibility and Social Protection," which has been contextualised for Swaziland.

Swaziland is still at an awareness stage in addressing issues of Autism. Since April is Autism awareness month, Autism Swaziland in partnership with the Unique Characters and Manzini City Council and the support of other partners and stakeholders will be raising awareness on Autism issues. This is an endeavour to improve on accessibility to basic services and social protection of children and individuals with Autism in Swaziland.

This also marks the beginning of sensitisation meetings beyond April which will be targeting community leaders, church

WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

leaders, the legislature and the media. These sensitisation meetings will give more knowledge on the condition and thus set a stage for accessibility of basic services and social protection for children/individuals with Autism and their families as already stated above.

Autism is a disorder of neural development characterized by impaired social interaction and communication, and restricted and repetitive behaviour patterns. It is a lifelong developmental disability that affects the way a person communicates and relates to people around them.

People with Autism Spectrum Disorders also have difficulties with abstract concepts, implied language and social norms. Studies also show that Autism is nearly four to five times more common to boys than

girls estimated at one out of 68 children, one out of 42 boys and one in 189 girls diagnosed with Autism.

By comparison, more children are diagnosed with Autism/ASD each year than with Juvenile Diabetes, AIDS and Cancer, combined. Autism has since become the fastest growing developmental disability in the world, affecting 67 million people.

Although not statistically qualified, there is an increase in Autism cases in Swaziland as confirmed by engagement with some pediatricians and therapists who assert that about six in 10 children that visit the Kingdom's hospitals exhibit symptoms of Autism necessitating this awareness creation and commemoration.

This condition is hardly known in the country and commonly inter-

preted as mental retardation. The ignorance of this condition by parents and the community at large has led to no or very limited attempts to access the medical, psychological and physiological services for the mental development these children and individuals need. Families of such individuals are left continually distressed by the condition they do not know nor understand. They, therefore, also need a lot of psychosocial support to cope with the situation. Generally, families consider disability as a bad omen hence sufferers of Autism are not exposed to other community members and services which makes their identification and interventions on their behalf difficult. It has been observed around the world, that early identification and intervention for the proper management

of this disorder and the improvement of these individuals is of paramount importance as Autism cannot be cured but managed mainly through therapy.

Studies also show that Autism is a whole body disorder as some individuals with Autism also have two or more other disorders, disabilities or chronic diseases.

Autism Swaziland in partnership with the above-mentioned organizations will continue to raise awareness about Autism to mitigate its impact in the Kingdom of Swaziland. Funding support and the Participation of other partners is requested for the purposes of scaling up advocacy on Autism issues. This will also help the organisations and all institutions supporting Autism interventions to mitigate the impact of Autism in the Kingdom.

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Founding/ Executive Director
Autism Swaziland



By Comfort Mabuza

We certainly are living in interesting times when considering the ensuing debate regarding prospective next Swazi Premier that is going on in the local print media.

Talk about freedom of expression in our country, well somehow I wonder if their rights to privacy and political ambition are not being violated in the process. In a free thriving constitutionalism democratic order there is always guaranteed free political activism that remains the tenet of free speech. "Tinkhundlacracy" which is our homogeneity democratic philosophy, such powers of appointing of the prospective premier have been left in the hands of the appointing authority after consulting Emabandla-Royal Counsellors.

One hope whatever game plan the media is advocating will not in the end be perceived as influencing and creating so much pressure thus violating the potential candidates aspirations to land at the government's highest office and by having their rights to privacy invaded unnecessarily.

Even if these potential candidates were nursing any hopes, surely subjecting them to such undue scrutiny even before the present Parliament is dissolved, is actually creating so much anxiety. As I reflect more on the genesis of this kind of reporting, I ask myself if we are not pre-empting and influencing a process which we certainly have no control over as the scribes, and in the process influencing public opinion and perceptions of what should be otherwise an interesting political development.

As a media practitioner myself, I do feel the debate that is generated is causing so much strife upon the political ambitions of these citizens whose names are being thrown into a hat before time.

While the debate is unfolding, I am equally concerned that we are already talking about a process even when the present Premier is still in office,

SWAZI FUTURE PREMIER CANDIDATES AND THE SPECULATION IS CREATING TENSIONS

● Even if these potential candidates were nursing any hopes, surely subjecting them to such undue scrutiny even before the present Parliament is dissolved, is actually creating so much anxiety.



Current Prime Minister Dr Sibusiso Dlamini.

what are we saying to the powers vested to the appointing authority by the Constitution on this matter?

Well we should hold our horses and stop creating such dust really in a process that is so delicate if one understands how our primers are appointed. At the rate things are going, we must revisit the media's role in shaping perceptions thus influencing public opinion. I wonder if these people whose names are being raised are enjoying this political publicity when the present Tinkhundla system does not operate this way.

The media just creating so much dust honestly and somehow ushering undue pressure to both the appointing authority and public's expectations.

THE ROLE OF THE MEDIA

The Role of the Media in a Democratic dispensation should drive an agenda that says people must be given a voice and availed media platforms where these thoughts are exchanged and shared freely without fear or favour.

As an advocate for Human Rights agenda and by extension freedom of expression let me underscore that the advancing press freedom is very critical in this time and age should be

accompanied by some a high level of responsibility. It certainly come with a high price for to shaping public opinion and telling the truth.

This also should go hand in hand with ethical principles that members of the public are not unduly subjected to so much pressure in the process they certainly have no power over influencing. While ours is a calling to nation building process founded on the principles of supporting a democratic dispensation, media should somehow take responsibility in ensuring that rights to privacy of individuals is secured. The media cannot have a field day discussing the prospective candidate's names for the premiership position, because these people cannot appoint themselves. The media must respect peoples' fundamental rights to privacy as these are a cornerstone of a desired Human rights culture founded on human dignity and respect.

We should not be blind to that the process politically is delicate, lest we are viewed pursuing an agenda that we all know we certainly have no controlled over.

PAY ATTENTION TO PEOPLE'S VOICES

Instead of speculations maybe it is

high time the Swazi media give the people a platform to share their views on matters of country's governance as part of encouraging debate and information exchange as part of nation building.

Was it not the wise King Sobhuza II who advised that we should listen even to even those we perceive as fools and drunkards for therein lies truth and sincerity. "Silalelene sidzakwa ngobe sikhokha yonke ingonyulukaye liciniso."

Swazi media should work tirelessly in capturing citizens' voices in any given matter that has an impact on their wellbeing. It is extremely saddening that the media these days seems to be dominated by popular and powerful voices and never capture the voices of the marginalised masses. We call upon the media whose mandate is primarily to inform and disseminate information that all voices should be given platforms to express themselves without any undue limitations.

On the other hand we are not blind of how the media is still paying the high price of disseminating news and information under trying constraints. The media internally is forever experiencing undue clandestine self-censorship because of the deep seated fear of not wanting to take risks in telling truth by those who happen to be "POWERFUL."

Freedom of the media must therefore not be reduced to safeguarding interests of a chosen few, when people ought to access it and be heard. Media must desist from only giving coverage to the 'powerful' advancing their interests at the expense of the marginalised. There is more at stake than advancing hidden agendas with the premier position respect their rights to privacy.

IT IS ABOUT TRUTH

TELLING

Are we not being obsessed with gossip and fed half-truths with the prospective candidates for Premier? We seem to have a media running after useless sensational news advancing people's hidden agendas, instead of promoting news coverage with a public interest. Glancing at the pages of the local media daily, at times I keep asking myself, are some stories being covered having any public interest or we are advancing ghetto journalism where the media is unable to pick pressing national interest matters and ensure we pursue such an agenda.

Of course, there is room for entertainment as part of information dissemination, but should we really not be asking ourselves what is the agenda needing Swazi populace to reflect deeply on. Issues of poverty alleviation, hunger and diseases are remaining important issues that the media will never exhaust, and how we need to see it empowering the citizens without ever getting tired.

These are salient issues that are at heart of a human rights based agenda which we should see being advanced. Let us seek the truth and expose underlying causes that make people live in such abnormal lives forever exposed to hardships?

CAUSING UNDUE HARM

The media in its quest of gathering the news will eventually cause discomforts as truth telling will rub people the wrong way, especially when it covers sensitive facts deemed too personal as the case is with the future Premier.

The undeniable fact is that any information dissemination about people impacts on the reputations of people, and they will be affected by any story disseminated and will definitely cause some discomforts. Of course, I do understand reputations and image of individual are at stake if what is reported borders around their conduct and behaviour.

Once people hold public office they eventually must understand that they have chosen a life that should be scrutinised by virtue of holding positions of trust. The media's imperative responsibility is to attempt to balance things and avoid character assassination and remain impartial in reporting facts and not fiction.

A public figure unfortunately foregoes that right to privacy, and it is always important that people understands that, as the media is not supposed to be settling personal scores and getting at an individual and damaging their reputation in the process. If by any chance people feel hurt as truth is being told then there is need to help them get redress?

Those who feel aggrieved ought to must be availed with a platform to be heard by lodging a complaint through an internal Ombudsman, editor or even approach a self-regulating complaints mechanism. I wonder why the people whose names are being thrown around are not raising issues with the Media Complaints Commission. Somehow their rights are being violated with this ensuing debate and their political future is marred with such negative controversial coverage.

VOICE OF BUSINESS



As the economy changes for the worst, we need to increase the impetus and the number of platforms on which issues are discussed with a view to getting all stakeholders to work towards the development of our beloved country's economy.

In this edition we will discuss some of the means we are engaging to empower women and to get the voice of business out for all to hear.

The Federation of Swaziland Employers and Chamber of Commerce (FSE&CC) recently had a new chairperson for the Business Women Forum of Swaziland (BWFS), Ms.

Sindisile Horton. She is the sales and Marketing manager for Total Swaziland. The BWFS is a membership-based organisation, representing women-owned businesses and entrepreneurs. The organisation was established in 2006, through funding from the International Labour Organisation and United Nations Development Programme.

To Empower Women Entrepreneurs

The vision is to be the leading organisation that fosters the development and economic empowerment of women in Swaziland with the mission to facilitate and advocate for an enabling environment for sustainable entrepreneurship of women in Swaziland through

the coordination of capacity building programmes, the integration of young women into the business environment and dissemination of business related information and provision of mentorship programmes for existing and aspiring business women.

The BWFS has since been operating under the umbrella of the FSE & CC, which has been responsible for administration, implementation of programmes and overseeing of the operations of the Forum.

The forum is membership based; hence any women in business who is interested may join.

The forum has since introduced meetings at Mountain Inn, which will take place every first Tuesday of the month where issues relevant

to business women in the country are discussed. Some of the meetings that were convened since then, include an in-depth presentation by Swaziland Revenue Authority (SRA) where the VRA Sekulula System was unpacked. Some of the areas of discussion included the legislative framework and principles of VAT, and procedural requirements for compliance.

The commemoration of International World Women's Day was themed "Leave no Women Behind".

This is clear indication that there is a global drive to empower women. The theme ensures that there is active participation and positive strides towards equitable attainment of gender equality in social, political and economic dimen-

sions. This also touched on the upcoming elections where women are encouraged to participate and be represented, not only in the economic space, but also in the political sphere.

The Transport Indaba

One of the issues we are advocating for as the voice of business includes the 24-hour operation of our border posts who are a gateway for the flow of goods into and out of the country. We are looking at the necessary gaps that need to be addressed in order for the economy to thrive. This is our mandate.

We recently identified and had an Information Technology and Communication (ICT) Workshop where some of the issues that affect

THE CHANGING BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT



JOY NDWANDWE'S LEADERSHIP ZONE

Gilikidzi, *Mutsi Lomkhulu wase Mountain View*, where we have been family neighbours for almost 30 years.

My condolences to Mahlalela family, Lomahasha, South Africa and Mozambique, for losing this dynamic and passionate leader. My sincere condolence to *Make Mary Mahlalela*, who became our suburbs role model for fitness and healthy lifestyle.

Today this country has Shukuma Swaziland, which always makes me recall when you and my mother were walking in the suburb and main road; Swazi citizens thought you were crazy. *Make Mahlalela*, the most insightful lesson, the dignity within which your enthused simplicity, walking to work, even though your husband was Chief Executive Officer of Swaziland Railways.

This insightful lesson critical in present day Swaziland, where the dominate culture is greed and materialism, you are a symbol of simplicity is dignity. My condolences to all his children in Swaziland and diaspora, as you celebrate the life of your father, may you cherish his memories. He was not an angel but an excellent person and most significantly, a knowledge reservoir, a baobab tree has fallen indeed.

Protector of Development

Makhelwane Mahlalela, a committed member of the Mountain View community, which he transformed from 'white' Wah Wah, through his jovial and larger than life personality. Always ready to defend its dignity and low-density, whilst ensuring that this area reflects the demographics of Swaziland. Makhelwane was dramatic when the moment required drama to prevail within our community. Significant moment, he came to my mother, his neighbour with a petition, walking on the then Princess Drive Street, requesting residence to sign this petition.

He had written to protect the development within Mountain View, as there was an application to have a one-stop truck point in the area.

Makhelwane was adamant on how this development would negate the low density of this area, thus, negatively influencing property values. This would not be acceptable, as Mountain View, a strategic investment; hence, he animated the community to prevent city council from approving this one-stop truck point. The next point for objection was the social and moral risks that would emerge if this disinvestment project approved. As one-stop truck stops, attract 'sex workers' and by this

FAREWELL MAKHELWANE!



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time Makhelwane was using the vernacular describing the nature of this work.

Makhi, as we fondly referred to each other, vehemently opposed as to how this truck stop would not only devalue the property investment but also degenerate the morality within Mountain View area.

Today we live in a relatively safe and secure environment at Mountain View, with odd incidences of break-in as is this beloved resident stood against this disinvestment project. It would have been extremely sad that what used to be a 'white' community degenerate into a mixed development zone.

After so many years of preserving the ambience and character of the area, despite the historical evolution of the Highlands View Hotel, due its negative image the young were prevented from using this establishment. Presently, the Mountain Inn Hotel, has enhanced property investments within the area through its moral image, evidently the then proposed one-stop truck point would have degenerated this hotel's image. *Makhi Mahlalela*, community leader, ensured the community voices are heard, taking up this matter dramatising it and today there is no truck stop. Am certain other members of the Mountain

View residents have memories, too, this petition stands out in my mind as this low density area would be a basket case right now.

Passionate Researcher

Professionally, I connected with *Makhi*, in 1996 when I was an employed researcher for the National development Strategy (NDS), and he was a stakeholder leading the infrastructure development consortium. Then was disoriented, just returned from Canada and Makhelwane who had also studied in the same country rescued me from the recently trained North American ego.

Asked me to humble myself, to enable effective stakeholder's participation, who ranged from pastors, chiefs, trade unionist and civil servants. I introduced myself as '*sid-vandvane*' the feminists almost killed me, but I won the hearts of majority of stakeholders. Moreover, to this end, Makhelwane Mahlalela, grounded me, as he understood what I was struggling with as he was trained in Canada.

He understood I was in the internationalist cloud nine, and this was not going to cut it with such a broad and national stakeholder participation.

Later, when I returned to Swaziland,

after working with USAID in Pretoria, Makhelwane was fascinated that I had come home for research, his passion.

This time he was involved in the Smart Partnership, and he insisted I become an active participant in this international space.

He could have literally dragged me, but by this time, I knew that I had come for indigenous knowledge research, and I could not find my hot spot in Smart Partnership. Eventually, when I published the first edition, *Akusiko Kwami Kwebantfu*, unearthing King Sobhuza II's Philosophy, Makhelwane Mahlalela was thrilled about my product, and even shared with me some gossips around this product. He was supportive, whilst sharing with me how he wished to publish as this country is not publishing and yet there is so much we can teach the world.

I am sad that Makhelwane Mahlalela, passed on whilst the second edition volume one is being edited, as we had discussed the prospects of this international publication. As an internationalist, *Makhi*, appreciated how I was immersed into international knowledge politics.

In addition, he was impressed by my ability to infiltrate international 'lilywhite' communities, within the

academic, knowledge creation, dissemination and production space. Part of my African Renaissance activism, in transforming knowledge politics to ensure integration of south and north and south knowledges. I will miss *Makhi Mahlalela*, as we shared the passion for research, even overwhelming at times, like emailing me the Mahlalela research study written in Siswati. I will miss his calls; whenever he bought, a book he felt I must read supporting my African Renaissance activism. In addition, this priceless neighbour, brother, and at times an uncle appreciated support, as researching in Swaziland can be painfully isolated.

Conclusion

In conclusion, over the past month we have loss numerous senior members of Swaziland society, what a loss. Mrs Lindiwe Nhlabatsi, sincere condolences to her family and the African Women Peace Foundation, which she served with love and passion. *Make Nhlabatsi*, was committed to this foundation such that her ailment did not stop her from attending any women forums.

We truly appreciates her contributions towards advancing women issues, she will be missed in the women forums where she actively engaged and participated. I was sad arriving in Swaziland after her burial, and my condolences to her children and grandchildren, may her soul rest in peace.

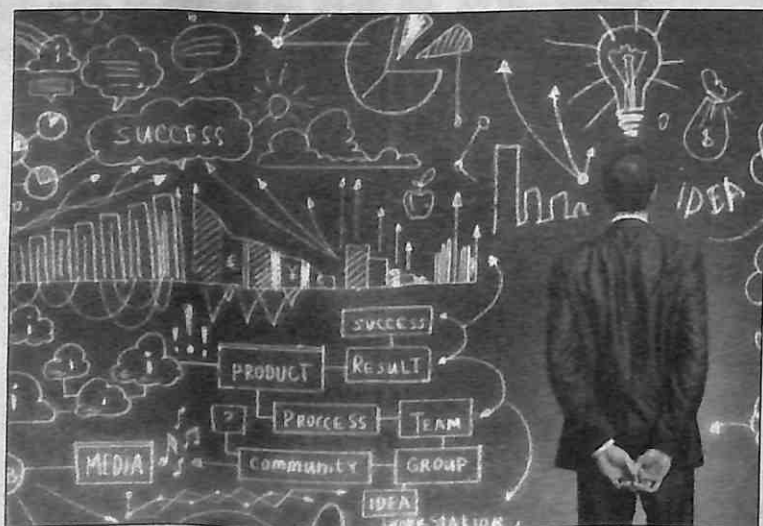
We lost upcoming senior citizen Mzala Gabriel Mkhize, whose memorial was a true reflection of how art, music, humour and life intertwined. Even in his technical work at UNISWA Department of Education, he combined all of these areas, and his colleagues and student enjoyed every moment of their work. This eulogy by Dr Sihle Zwane, made me realise that Gab Mkhize can too soon, as then his methods were considered unconventional, and now these educational methods are conventional. I was sad when realising the missed opportunity in engaging with Gab, drinking from his well of knowledge as I am planning the virtual academy.

My sincere condolences to the Mkhize and Dlamini families, his siblings, children and grandchildren. In addition, most significantly Manzini will never be the same, may his soul rest in peace.

local industry were put on the table for discussion. ICT was flagged as one of the areas that would, if leveraged on, give an impetus to our economic empowerment. This is one of the modes we engage to give these issues a platform.

The FSE&CC also views the transport sector as a critical sector to the economy since it enables the movement of goods and services in and out of the country easily. In Africa, Swaziland included according to the World Bank, the cost of transporting goods is the highest in the world. This then places a significant burden on the development of many African economies.

PwC, in a recent report titled 'Africa Gearing Up', urges that whether moving resources off the continent or bringing goods and services into its economies, Africa's future growth and development will depend on the



quality of its infrastructure and efficiency of its transport networks. The report continues to note that, currently around just 11 per cent of the continent's trade is with other African traders, the firm attributes this to infrastructure barriers to trade, and

trade agreement should be an imperative. Swaziland is one of the 15 landlocked developing countries (LLDC's) in Africa. As a landlocked country, Swaziland is facing impediments in trade facilitation.

Due to their remoteness, landlocked

countries are dependent on neighbouring countries transit countries for their external trade and suffer from high trade transaction costs. Huge transport costs, inadequate infrastructure and bottlenecks associated with importation and exportation requirements can be a serious stumbling block to their integration into the global economy, impairing export competitiveness or the inflow of foreign investment.

According to the World Bank (1999), LLDC's pay around 50 per cent more in transport costs than coastal countries and have up to 60 per cent lower volumes of trade. Inefficient customs and transit procedures are considered to be the main cause of delays and high transport costs and represent a greater obstacle to trade for LLDC's than tariffs. As a result of LLDC's marginalisation in global trade, the amount contributed by

LLDC's to developing countries' share of global exports has exhibited a consistent decline.

Because of these trade reasons, the transport sector in any economy cannot be neglected, and thus engagement and development in the transport sector should be from both the public and the public sector. With the brief over-view, the FSE&CC will host another the Second Transport Indaba on the 12th of April which will cover topics including regulatory and legislative affairs, Swaziland Customs Modernisation Initiatives, and The Impact of the growing demand for vehicles in Swaziland. The topics will be presented by SRA, The honourable minister for transport and public works and municipalities of Matsapha, Manzini and Mbabane. All stakeholders are encouraged to attend these events to give added life to the voice of business.



**NOKUKHANYA
GAMEDZE**

JA BOARD CHAIR

THE DIFFERENT SOURCES OF FINANCE THAT START-UPS CAN PURSUE TO GET FUNDING



As JA Swaziland constantly works with young people, a common challenge is consistently recognised which is a threat to the survival of startup businesses.

This is the lack of funding for start-ups. It becomes a much more serious challenge specifically with young people who strive to make start-ups work as they struggle to gain credibility with financiers. It is therefore safe to look at different sources of funding that young people can explore in order to get their businesses off the ground. Start-ups do not have to regress just because of the lack of funding opportunities. I believe all options have to be explored before a good idea dies as only an idea. Sometimes one may find that all that was missing is information on where to look for capital. Let's explore some few option I found.

1. Personal investment

When starting a business, the first investor should be the owner of the business—either with their own cash or with collateral on their assets. The has to be something that the owner of the business is willing to put on the table otherwise convincing someone else to do it while the initiator of the idea is not willing to come to the party may be difficult. This proves to potential investors and bankers that the entrepreneur has a long-term commitment to the project and that they are ready to take risks.

2. Love money

This is money loaned by a spouse, parents, family or friends. Investors and bankers considers this as "patient capital", which is money that will be repaid later as the business profits increase.

When borrowing love money, one should be aware that:

- Family and friends rarely have much capital
- They may want to have equity in the business
- A business relationship with family or friends should never be taken lightly

3. Venture capital

The first thing to keep in mind is that venture capital is not necessarily for all entrepreneurs. Right from the start, one should be aware that venture capitalists are looking for technology-driven businesses and companies with high-growth potential in sectors such as information technology, communications and biotechnology.

Venture capitalists take an equity position in the company to help it carry out a promising but higher risk project. This involves giving up some ownership or equity in the business to an external party. Venture capitalists also expect a healthy return on their investment, often generated when the business starts selling shares to the public. Be sure to look for investors who bring relevant experience and knowledge to the business.

4. Angels

Angels are generally wealthy individuals or retired company executives who invest directly in small firms owned by others. They are often leaders in their own field who not only contribute their experience and network of contacts but also

their technical and/or management knowledge. In exchange for risking their money, they reserve the right to supervise the company's management practices. In concrete terms, this often involves a seat on the board of directors and an assurance of transparency.

Angels tend to keep a low profile. To meet them, you have to contact specialised associations or search websites on angels. The National Angel Capital Organisation (NACO) is an umbrella organisation that helps build capacity for Canadian angel investors. Young people are advised to check out their member's directory for ideas about who to contact in different areas.

5. Business incubators

Business incubators (or "accelerators") generally focus on the high-tech sector by providing support for new businesses in various stages of development. In Swaziland this may refer to the Royal Science and Technology Park which is looking into developing different business ideas that young people come up with specifically in the high-tech sector.

Affiliating with different organisations such as Junior Achievement Swaziland and SEDCO under the graduate enterprise programme is also another step one can take to better position themselves for opportunities of growing their enterprise.

6. Government grants and subsidies

Government agencies provide financing such as grants and subsidies that may be available to start-up business. In Swaziland we have the Youth Enterprise fund as well as Kick Start under Swaziland Beverages. These are opportunities that young entrepreneurs should be constantly on the lookout for. They do come with their own selection criteria but they are worth the energy and time for someone who wishes to advance their business.

7. Bank loans

Bank loans are the most commonly used source of funding for small and medium-sized businesses. Consider the fact that all banks offer different advantages, whether it's personalised service or customised repayment.

It's a good idea to shop around and

find the bank that meets your specific needs.

In general, one should know bankers are looking for companies with a sound track record and that have excellent credit.

A good idea is not enough; it has to be backed up with a solid business plan. Start-up loans will also typically require a personal guarantee from the entrepreneurs.

Conclusion

When it comes to funding for start-up businesses, the idea is that an individual has to keep looking. People are willing to assist however most often than not, they find themselves asking the question "who?" It therefore becomes a challenge as to whether entrepreneurs do position themselves well to be at an advantage when such an opportunity is presented. There will be a few rejections along the way however, entrepreneurs should believe so much in their business to want to try again each time a no is received. I certainly hope these few tips will get young entrepreneurs started on their quest to find investors for their business ventures.



BY LISA MONGELLI

The pursuit of happiness is a full time preoccupation with most of us.

Very few people are content with their lot in life. We want more money a new car a new lover or husband a different house a different job.

Most of us have no idea how to attract what we want so we are constantly attracting by default.

We externalise our hopes wishes and dreams thinking Happiness

is something outside ourselves, then when our Happiness doesn't materialise we become discouraged, depressed and even angry. Many of us go a life time and never understand that the pursuit of Happiness begins within.

To site scripture the Gospels state: "The Kingdom of Heaven is within you". "Seek ye first the Kingdom of Heaven and all you desire shall be added unto you". What these Bible verses state categorically is without Gratitude inner Peace and Faith that Happy Life we all so desire will certainly elude us.

Every Great Master that ever lived has taught the same thing "Happiness comes from Within You". The way to a Happy Life begins with inner Joy. It begins with the conscious awareness that Gratitude draws in more of the "Good Stuff". When we become more aware of what we have to be Grateful for the

Universe sends us more of the same.

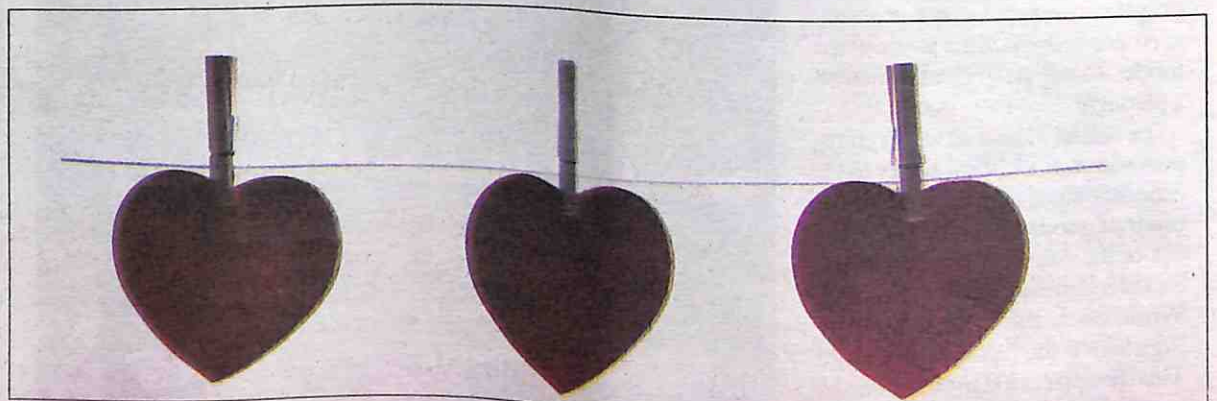
More love more abundance more peace more good coffee. Whatever it is that invokes a positive thankful state of mind in you will definitely bring in

more of the same.

The big questions here are do you feel Grateful and loving? Are you Thankful for what God has already given you? Do you see yourself as a victim living

in an unfair and difficult World? Do you shy away from the present feeling incapable of directing your energy into creating a better Now? Are you in the constant pursuit of seeking your Happiness

ATTRACTING HAPPINESS....





TOURISM & TRAVEL

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CHRONICLES OF REGIONAL TOURISM WELLNESS AND SOCIAL RENDEZVOUS IN BOTSWANA

The sixth Inter-Tourism Games (ITGs) annual extravaganza came to a spectacular end last Saturday, during the Easter weekend, at the Gaborone International Conference Centre (GICC), where officials, officers, and members of staff from four tourism boards and authorities, as well as tourism ministries and departments, gathered to celebrate yet another regional milestone.

Botswana, the host country, had outdone themselves, hosting the ITGs for the second time since inception.

The ITGs started in 2013 as an initiative between Lesotho and Botswana, with Swaziland and South Africa's North West province joining the following year. Swaziland went on to host the third edition of the ITGs in 2015, at the University of Swaziland's Kwaluseni Campus Sports Emporium.

The fourth and fifth editions were hosted by the North West province and Lesotho respectively. Next year, the ITGs return to Swaziland, and excitement is justifiably high. What with the last outing to Swaziland being the talk of the region three years later! Everyone cheered last Saturday when the torch was handed over to Swaziland, a symbolic gesture that confirms the Kingdom as the next host of the ITGs.

The cheering, it turned out, was informed by experience. Some spoke of Swaziland's fascinating landscape, while some spoke of her unparalleled and authentic culture. Indeed, the Kingdom will not disappoint.

The story of the ITGs is one that begins from the road trip itself to host destinations. For tourism practitioners; travelling such somewhat long distances by



Acting CEO of the Swaziland Tourism Authority Gcinithemba Fakudze (left) hands over soccer trophy to the captain of the winning team North West province.

road helps them to fully appreciate the geographic and socio-cultural variations in their respective destinations.

Also, they get to experience the efficiency of immigration processes first hand; hence positioning them to advise both locals and international tourists and operators about same.

Crossing the Swazi and South African borders at Ngwenya/Oshoek was quite hassle-free and very fast, so was crossing the South African and Botswana borders at Lobatse.

In tourism, ease of immigration plays a major role in as far as decision-making is concerned.

International tour companies tend to

package destinations that have fast and efficient immigration processes, and avoid those that have unreasonably stringent requirements. This notion was further asserted by the CEOs of the tourism boards and authorities at the close of this year ITGs.

They contended that people within the region should be able to move freely and easily within the region, for tourism, leisure, and business purposes. An example was given of the successful one-border system between Zambia and Zimbabwe, a model that they suggested could be adopted by all countries in the region.

Botswana pulled all the stops to ensure



Swaziland were crowned culture champions at the ITGs in Botswana last week.



Cultural diversity as Swazis Tswanas and Sothos dance at the ITGs last week.

that the sixth ITGs were a success. The accommodation facilities that they provided to visiting teams were excellent, and so were the sporting facilities. Notwithstanding few time overruns, the whole programme was meticulously designed and executed, and for that, they were lauded.

The ITGs involved games on the first day (Friday) across four disciplines – soccer, netball, volleyball, and tug-o-war. On the same day in the evening, the host county hosts a welcome dinner which is combined with an awards ceremony.

Team Swaziland, at the sixth ITGs, went away with a bronze medal in the tug-o-war discipline. The team vowed to turn the tables next year

when Swaziland hosts, as it wants to sweep the boards across all disciplines.

The second day (Saturday) is known as the 'culture day', as the competition takes a new twist from sport to culture. Swaziland came first beating last year's champions South Africa (who were third), Lesotho second, and the hosts Botswana fourth. However, the principals reiterated that the ITGs were not much about competition but about creating synergies in the marketing of Destination Southern Africa.

This hypothesis was put to test on Sunday when team Swaziland had breakfast in Botswana, lunch in South Africa, and supper at home.

The Law of Attraction is always working whether we believe it or not. The truth is we live in a universe that is in a constant state of Creation and we as the human race are part of that creative process that motion. As a part of God force we are also creators and we create our lives with our thoughts.

a future that may never come? What is the power of your thoughts attracting into your life? What are you perpetually creating? Peace Joy and Contentment or Unhappiness Frustration and Despair?

The Law of Attraction is always working whether we believe it or not. The truth is we live in a universe that is in a constant state of creation and we as the human race are part of that creative process that motion. As a part of God force we are also creators and we create our lives with our thoughts. The law of attraction states that whatever thoughts you are holding in your mind you are attracting to you. The relevant question here is what are you attracted to?

When your thoughts continually focus on what you don't want you will surely attract more of the same. The problem with most of us is we are constantly thinking about what

we don't want and get confused and upset when it keeps showing up. We express this generally through worry! Oh I'm worried about money or my child or my job or my fill in the blank. Actually there is nothing noble about worry. Constant worry is creating harmful stress on the mind and body. See yourself with the good you deserve believe it's possible for you and have the faith to know it is there. The Law of Attraction states what you think about most you attract. One of the most important guidelines to knowing what you are attracting into your life is your emotions. Feeling good keeping a good thought is so important. There are only two types of emotions really we call them all kinds of things but the bottom line is, you either feel Good or you Feel Bad.

If you're thinking about attracting a brilliant new job and you keep focusing or speaking

about how unhappy and disempowered your current job makes you feel, you are definitively on the wrong track. When you speak about your life do it in a positive context. Words have power and can not only the tone of your intention but of your whole reality.

Attracting what you want materialises through intention, simply put this means focusing on what you want, intending it, feeling you deserve it, and believing it has already happened. A thought holds an electrical charge that sends out a signal to creation helping you to manifest your desire. Every thought you think is a creation. Learning to adjust your thoughts and actions to a positive mindset isn't always easy. Let's face it if you get up on the wrong side of the bed it is pretty easy to spiral down and have a Bad Day. This is where choice comes in, a shift in your awareness can uplift you to a positive mindset, and the catastro-

phe that began your day ends up just a minor hiccup.

"The Allowing" to quote Ester Hicks is so vital. Allowing the Universe to give you what you want isn't always easy it has to do with self worth. Putting the brakes on a negative way of thinking is not easy. When circumstances don't change quickly enough life becomes overwhelming. At this juncture it is important to realise change always comes about with time. Quiet the disbelieving voice believe you deserve life's abundance and allow yourself to receive it.

Enjoy this beautiful gift of life, keep a good thought and choose to be Happy.

About Lisa:

Lisa Mongelli is a Therapeutic Life Coach and Metaphysical Practitioner. Born in the US Lisa has lived and worked in the US Europe and now Africa. She lends her own Unique method to Life Coaching, Couples and Family Counselling. With over 20 years experience in the field of Metaphysical Coaching and Life Guidance Lisa has assisted individuals from all walks of life to find their way back from life crises to healing.

By Wilton Mamba



1 John 5:19 'We know (for a fact) that we are of God, and the whole world (around us) lies in the power of the evil one (opposing God and His precepts)'.

Rev. 12:9 'And the great dragon was thrown down, the age-old serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, he who continually deceives and seduces the entire inhabited world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.' Satan, who had been deceiving the world since the beginning of time, lost heaven and now fully focused on the work on earth is further written in verse 12 (last part) '...and to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you with great wrath, knowing that he has only a short time.'

The evil one has fooled Christians to believe God is everywhere - more dominant in the world than the power of evil.

In this comfort zone, we relax and, to our surprise, suffer more evil than good; witness more crime and no one is safe and secure; die prematurely in an increasing rate of accidents on our roads; read more about incidences of rape, incest, fraud and even murders - a good many involving man of the cloth and born-again Christians.

Did Jesus not say in **Matthew 10:16**, "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as serpents and innocent as doves"? Who is everywhere? You ask. This state of affairs seems to suggest it is Satan who is everywhere. We have been fooled to believe a lie by Satan and his agents so that when storms destroy people's property, schools, roads, crops and livestock; when people die in stadium stampedes and suicide bombings; when corruption reigns supreme and becomes institutionalised in our government and business - we blame God. We say He has forsaken us.

We ask: 'What kind of God would allow thousands of his own people to be killed in genocides, infanticides, xenophobic attacks, landslides and wars?' Today many believe there is no God; the very few who still do, believe God talks only to certain individuals like their pastors whom they have elevated to godly status as a result. You cannot blame them. This is the work of Satan.

HOW SATAN CONTROLS THE PRESENT SINFUL WORLD



Many pastors know the truth, but the devil has hardened their hearts, so that they continue to keep people ignorant for personal gain. Satan does this to discredit God, thwart the spread of the gospel and make an emphatic statement to young and old that there is no God.

But did God or the Son of God, Jesus Christ, ever say they would be everywhere?

Never! The gospel of Jesus Christ announces the coming of the Kingdom of God to 'man' - He never says to the 'world'; just as even He Himself the world did not recognise despite

that He is the Word that was in the beginning; and the agent that God used to form the world. Jesus clearly explained the Kingdom of God to the Pharisees in **Luke 17:20 - 21**: 'Now having been questioned by the Pharisees as to when the Kingdom of God was coming, He answered them and said: "The Kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed, nor will they say 'look here it is or there it is'. For behold the Kingdom of God is in your midst.'

We are born in sin, through a sinful nature - and that gives Satan a head-start. When we get born again,

Jesus lives in our hearts; we become an agent of light and no weapon fashioned against us shall ever prosper. He who has the kingdom weathers the storm; you are like a car driving at night with its headlights dispelling all forms of darkness. The headlights 'is our God'.

He is where Christians are, and He is not a man that He should lie - and when 'He says I will be with you to the end', He means just that. He who has the Son, the 'headlights on', shall not fear the storm, genocide, xenophobia, witchcraft - not even death, for Jesus defeated death on the Cross

in Calvary.

Pastors, this is the truth that you should share with your sheep, and it shall be well with you:

Mark 26:16 - 17, Jesus said: "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation. He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned. These signs shall accompany those who have believed:

* In my name they will cast out demons.

* They will speak with new tongues

* They will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly poison it will not hurt them.

* They will lay hands on the sick and they will recover."

Wilton Mamba is a student of servitude, motivational speaker, writer, football coach and businessman. If you have been blessed by reading this article, or seek clarification on some of the issues raised here, kindly contact Mamba on 7677 9312 or 7977 0952 or 2404 5284. You can send an email to mambaw@multimediaintl.co.sz or mambawilton.multimedia@gmail.com. Kindly join us for 'reasonings' on the Word coordinated by David Goliath Spiritual Solutions every Wednesday from 5pm -6pm and Saturday's at 11am until 1pm at Multimedia International offices at Corner Somhlolo Road and Mbhilibhi Street, Mbabane.

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF MAFUTSENI CYCLE CLASSIC



We are super excited about the upcoming Dups-United Newcom Wheels Mafutseni Cycle Classic which is slowly but surely approaching.

The fact that this is going to be the 10th edition of this glorious event is even more reason to be more excited and prouder. We are eternally grateful to our partner Newcom Wheels, for the duration of those 10 wonderful years and look forward to a long lasting relationship in the promotion of the beautiful sport of cycling.

Other people that have assisted us on that ride are government officials, those that have manned water points, the Royal Swazi Police who are always there to direct traffic and maintain order, the media, the community of Mafutseni, and most importantly the cyclists themselves.

The Dups-United Mafutseni Cycle Classic has grown from strength to strength over the past decade. The very first sponsorship for the event was to the tune of E12 500; fast forward to now and the amount has increased



to a whopping E180 000. In her speech at the event's launch, Dups Holdings Executive Chairman, Nelie De Sousa said she aspired for the event to continue to get bigger and better, and also be more inclusive of the community within which it is held.

It is our hope that this year, local cyclists will come to the race in their numbers, and hopefully scoop the big prizes.

With its growing stature, the race is now known far and wide within the SADC region, and cyclists from other countries are expected to also participate. During last year's race we had cyclists from

Mozambique supporting the event. Brace yourselves for an even bigger crowd this year.

Although there are many great prizes to be won, the biggest prize is the benefits that can be reaped from participating in sport. As a company that promotes wellness through our subsidiary company, United Health, we can never overemphasise the need for people to stay in good health. Cycling is a fun way to stay fit and has the advantage of being a low impact exercise. This means that it causes less strain and injuries than other forms of exercise.

All the major muscles get a work-

out when you cycle.

Even though just a few people here take cycling seriously, many in First World countries such as Japan, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Germany, Denmark, and The Netherlands are avid cyclists who even use it as a mode of transport. Not only does cycling keep those nations fit, but it also reduces their carbon footprint and saves money that could have been used to buy fuel for cars if the same people opted to drive.

Over the past years we have seen more and more children joining the Mafutseni Cycle Classic. This is indeed a positive development

and we hope even more will join the party. With obesity levels going up, even among children in Swaziland, it would be great if parents considered buying bikes for their children and cultivate the interest in cycling. It is best to catch them young rather than wait until they are obese then we try to put out fires.

So next time you would like to spoil your children, rather consider getting them a bicycle so that they can work out and learn to be competitive, than buy them a video game so that they can plug in and start being couch potatoes from an early age. If your child cycles, please do encourage them to join the race in May. The journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step; who knows, they could end up doing it professionally one day and have you to thank!

Please give us a call on 2508 6000 if you have any queries regarding the race. You can also mail to info@dupsgroup.com, www.facebook.com/unitedhdsd or on Twitter @unitedhdsd, or pay us a visit at our offices in Manzini, Matata, Matsapha, Simunye, Nhlhlangano, Mbabane, Pigg's Peak and Siteki.



WINNIE MANDELA WAS A HERO

BY AFUA HIRSCH

...If she'd been white, there would be no debate

Heroes are curious things. Ours have roots in the ancient Graeco-Roman sense of the concept, which places a premium on military victory.

What's problematic is how many of our heroes embody an inherent level of violence, as is unsurprisingly the case with people whose main accomplishments arise from war. We are tolerant about people who regarded the working classes as an abomination (Wellington), the transatlantic slave trade as a good idea (Nelson) or Indians as repulsive (Churchill), because we think the ends – defeating Napoleon or Hitler – justified the means.

Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, as the press coverage of her death this week shows, is not entitled to the same rose-tinted eulogy as our white British men. She is “controversial” and a “bully”. One newspaper columnist was boldly willing to abandon his usual restraint in not writing ill of the dead specially for this “odious, toxic individual”.

The media reports have raised the horrific murder of 14-year-old Stompie Moeketsi, though few have been unduly troubled by the fact that this was a crime she always denied any involvement in, or by the ample evidence of the lengths to which the apartheid regime went to infiltrate and smear her and her followers.

Sadly, I suspect much of the newly discovered outrage sparked by Madikizela-Mandela's death has little to do with any recent conversion to the cause of Black Lives Matter, or accompanying grief for the fate of little Stompie – one of so many black children who lost their lives during the brutality of apartheid and the struggle against it. What it's really about is a reluctance to admit that apartheid was so wrong, and so entrenched; and that without the resilience and vision of Madikizela-Mandela, and those of her ilk, it would not have been brought down.

Britain's heroes are allowed to have waged war. The warriors against white supremacist oppression, on the other hand, are not. When, for instance, I questioned Piers Morgan over the appropriateness of having a 50-metre column in Trafalgar Square to commemorate Admiral Nelson, he spat that Nelson Mandela has a statue despite being a “terrorist”. When I debated with a renowned naval historian over his adulation of the admiral, the argument wound its way to Haiti – the only example in history of slaves successfully overthrowing their masters and establishing their own republic – and whether this was a victory for the

enslaved over their oppressors (my view) or a tragedy for the plantation owners who were killed in the process (his).

There is no end to the contortions in our psyche. Who now – outside South Africa, where I have heard its demise lamented more than once – would defend the apartheid regime? It's easy to condemn in hindsight. Yet we have forgotten what it actually takes to overthrow such tyranny when the legal and moral force of a sovereign state was on the side of white supremacy. Columnists did not cut it. Activists could not have done it. Peaceful protest did not do it. Sports boycotts, books, badges and car boot sales did not do it. It took revolutionaries, pure and simple. People willing to break the law, to kill and be killed.

It took women such as Winnie Madikizela-Mandela. She was, as the world's media have had to be repeatedly reminded this week, not an “activist”: she was a leader in a liberation struggle. She survived – during more than 35 years of apartheid – surveillance, threats, harassment, arrest and imprisonment, 491 days in solitary confinement and eight years in exile. The methods of torture used against her included, according to one

account, denying her sanitary products so that she was found, in detention, covered in her own menstrual blood.

I doubt the Daily Mail, recalling Madikizela-Mandela's life this week as “blood-soaked”, appreciated the irony of this choice of phrase, nor that of judging her – rather than the apartheid regime she helped overthrow – the “bully”.

Our ambivalence about apartheid is the elephant in the room. As a nation, one of our techniques for glossing over this uncomfortable fact has been overly beatifying Nelson Mandela, whose posthumous glory has always struck me as coming at the cost of forgetting the others. Who now remembers the names of Robert Sobukwe – the profound pan-Africanist whose medical treatment for fatal lung cancer was obstructed by the apartheid government, or Elias Motsoaledi, convicted at Rivonia alongside Mandela and not released from Robben Island until 26 years later.

We consider Nelson Mandela to be safe because of his message of forgiveness, because of truth and reconciliation, because he accepted the Nobel peace prize with apartheid-regime president FW de Klerk – decisions to

which Madikizela-Mandela was fundamentally opposed. She was a radical until the end. Each rejection of that radicalism is an endorsement of the tyranny she fought against.

But is it surprising that we endorse it? An endless litany of heroes were either architects of, or happy to take part in, the very apartheid Madikizela-Mandela sacrificed so much to help end. Among them are those at the centre of our current statue wars – Cecil Rhodes, Lord Kitchener, Jan Smuts – all immortalised on prominent plinths. It's hard to resist the conclusion – comparing the fact that it's these people whom we immortalise, and those such as Madikizela-Mandela whom we demonise – that we are still undecided about which side of history we, as a nation, are on.

It doesn't have to be this way. Denmark this week unveiled its first statue of a black woman. It does not commemorate someone who fed neatly into diversifying the existing order – the limited kind of black hero we in Britain seem willing to accept – but the “three queens” of the Caribbean island of St Croix, who led an unprecedented revolt against Danish colonial rule. Doing so requires Denmark to take a new look at its true history, seeing through its 20th-century rebranding as a liberal bastion that saved Jews from the Nazis, and whose empire was “not as bad as others”.

BY SISONKE MSIMANG

A RENEWED MILITANCY IN SOUTH AFRICA

Winnie Madikizela-Mandela died Monday at age 81. As she is eulogized, there will be many who point to her perceived failures.

They will call her a “firebrand” and point to her “radical” political views. Most damning, they will say she was a convicted kidnapper, a corrupt politician and an adulterous, violent woman. Many will compare her with her ex-husband, Nelson Mandela. He will be cast as an angel, while she will be painted as the she-devil who almost took him down.

Hers was a life marked as much by racism as sexism. That she was able to

meet both head-on is a testament to her fierce spirit. Madikizela-Mandela had strong feminist instincts. She challenged patriarchy not only in words but also in deeds, and she suffered for it but seemed never to worry too much about how she was perceived by her opponents. She was, to the very end, a remarkably independent woman.

To be sure, Madikizela-Mandela was controversial. She was convicted of kidnapping and assaulting a young activist named Stompie Seipei during a period in the late 1980s when she was often in the company of the notorious Mandela United Football Club – a group of

bodyguards who both protected and betrayed Madikizela-Mandela.

Madikizela-Mandela was part of the complex politics that dominated the South African landscape as the apartheid regime cracked down on activists. She was deeply enmeshed in smuggling guns and other contraband in and out of the country, and had been imprisoned, detained and banished on numerous occasions. These bold acts made her a hero to black South Africans. They understood that like many other leaders and members of the African National Congress (ANC) party, Madikizela-Mandela was in the difficult position

of having to lead a revolution while dealing with intense personal trauma.

The primary difference between Madikizela-Mandela and others was that she was a woman. Though she lived in a deeply patriarchal society, her stature and popularity were simply unrivaled. Her defiant attitude was profoundly destabilizing to men within her own movement as well as in the broader white society she was challenging. She had been married only a few years when her husband was sentenced to life in prison. Her two daughters, Zenani and Zindzi, were both just a few years old. Instead of collapsing,

as others might have, the woman who was the first black medical social worker in the country became a powerful spokesperson for racial justice. She had a knack for articulating both her intense disdain for the architects of apartheid and her fury at the injustice that had specifically been done to her husband. She was thoroughly unapologetic and crystal clear. While Nelson Mandela became the most recognizable prisoner of conscience in the world, his wife had one of the most recognizable voices on South African radio. She was fully supportive of the ANC's decision to burnish Mandela's reputation and status – to deliberately create an icon the world could rally around.

Focus on SA scene

ZUMA PUT ON A BRAVE FRONT FOR FIRST APPEARANCE IN COURT

DURBAN - His supporters cheered as the man they regard as their leader arrived at the Durban High Court on Friday. Jacob Zuma put up a brave front by smiling back.

But sitting alone in the dock in Court A waiting for Judge Themba Sishi to start the proceedings, Zuma visibly appeared tense.

He fiddled with his hands on his lap, bowed his head and even clasped his hands to his face.

Exactly nine years after charges were dropped against him, Zuma was back in court on Friday. While it was short and sweet, barely 15 minutes before the proceedings were postponed to June 8, it appeared that Zuma realised that this time around it might be a long drawn-out battle.

As the crowds gathered outside waiting for him to arrive, several of his guards had already positioned themselves in and around the dock.



Former South Africa president Jacob Zuma.

Sniffer dogs were brought into the courtroom at about 7 am and even media vans parked directly next to the court were checked.

The public and the media were allowed inside the court at about 9 am, and

among the Zuma supporters taking their seats in the public gallery were former minister Des van Rooyen and disgraced erstwhile SABC boss Hlaudi Motsoeneng. KwaZulu-Natal Premier Willies Mchunu was also there. *Africa news agency*

Cyril's decision to pull plug adds to JZ's legal bill woes

DURBAN - Jacob Zuma's legal woes mounted on Friday when his successor Cyril Ramaphosa pulled the plug on the state paying for his challenge to the public protector's state capture report.

Zuma was slapped by the full bench of the Gauteng High Court, Pretoria, with having to pay legal costs for his challenge to former public protector Thuli Madonsela's state capture report from his own pocket.

It was revealed on Friday that Ramaphosa's lawyers said he would not appeal the cost order against Zuma, and if Zuma wanted to, he must do so from his own pocket.

It is estimated that the costs run to R10 million.

Ramaphosa's spokesperson Khusela Diko could not be reached for comment.

This was a blow against Zuma, who will be facing multiple legal challenges in the next few months.

Despite his criminal trial, Zuma is expected to be called to testify at the Zondo Commission of Inquiry into state capture.

The commission, chaired by Deputy Chief Justice Raymond Zondo, will begin its work in the next few months.

Zuma had challenged Madonsela's report in October last year, which caused a delay in its release.

ALSO READ: The path to court: #JacobZuma and the arms deal

This also followed complaints by Madonsela that Zuma had taken 18 months to respond to her written questions over allegations of state capture.

slapped

When he did respond in 2016, Zuma did not answer some of the questions.

The punitive cost order against Zuma came also after the Gauteng High Court, Pretoria, slapped current Public Protector Busisiwe Mkhwebane with a personal cost order.

This was in relation to her CIEX report into the bailout of Bankorp by the state.

Mkhwebane complained in Parliament a few weeks ago against the personal cost order against her in the matter.

News24

ANC disassociates from Zuma supporters

JOHANNESBURG - The ANC on Friday once again called on members who wish to support former president Jacob Zuma during his court battle to do so in their private capacity.

"It is important that members who would prefer to go to court to pledge their own support, do so in their own capacity as individuals," said ANC spokesperson Pule Mabe in a video posted on the party's Facebook page.

"We also stated preferences on how we would love to see them conducting themselves to the extent that such con-

duct should be in keeping with upholding the good name of the ANC," he added.

"We will not in any way take away the rights of individual members and their own preferences and all that, including declaring guilty verdicts on those expected to appear in court."

Mabe said that Zuma was protected by the law and had a right to be considered innocent "unless proven otherwise".

Zuma's case, in which he is facing 16 charges relating to 783 payments he

allegedly received in connection with the controversial arms deal, was postponed until June 8 in the Durban High Court on Friday morning.

Many supporters flocked to the site, dressed in the ANC colours of green, gold and black.

On Friday, Mabe also said that Zuma had attended the last national executive committee meeting held in Durban and had "greatly honoured" a pledge to take part in electioneering activity.

The country's next national elections will be held in 2019. *eNCA*



Maimane is black, proud but says the DA is not black or white

TSHWANE - In a rousing speech in Tshwane, Democratic Alliance (DA) leader Mmusi Maimane tackled allegations of racism and apartheid-style thinking that has dogged the reputation of the country's largest opposition party.

Addressing the 2 000 delegates assembled at the Tshwane Events Centre, Maimane insisted the party was a home for all South Africans, regardless of race.

Calling on the liberal values of the DA, Maimane said that though he was proud to identify as black, he would not allow his race to determine his path in life.

"As liberals in Africa, we are not colour-blind. We understand that the racial domination and dispossession of apartheid and colonialism destroyed people's freedom. We want to fix this injus-

tice without reducing every person to their race," said Maimane.

He lambasted critics who referred to the DA as "the party of apartheid" or a "white party", insisting the opposition was a party united in "glorious diversity".

"They even say that I am a puppet of white people and, if we win an election, I will be replaced by a white person. The truth is that I will never be black enough for them. Because they don't want black people to think for themselves,

"They want black people to remain trapped in the politics of race because this is what keeps the ANC in power," said Maimane.

The DA leader pointed to the example of Helen Suzman to work towards uplifting black South Africans.

News24

SAHRC welcomes H&M pledge after hoodie scandal

JOHANNESBURG - The South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC) said on Friday that it welcomes steps taken by the Swedish multinational clothing-retailer H&M to address concerns raised as a result of its hoodie advertisement.

In January, H&M was embroiled in a racist scandal after it posted an ad of a black boy advertising a hoodie written "Coolest Monkey in the Jungle". H&M "unreservedly apologised" for the ad on its international website.

The company has since suffered massive reputational damage, with sales at its 4 553 stores around the world declining and the EFF calling for H&M's banning in the country after its members trashed its outlets. The commission said that it met with H&M's Country Manager to South Africa, Pär Darj, to present the company's plans to address concerns that the slogan on the sweater was racist and other concerns raised by the commission during its meeting with



H&M in January. The steps taken include the appointment of managers on diversity and inclusiveness both at a global and national level; a commitment to training its managers and staff on the question of transformation and racism; an undertaking by H&M to submit its internal policies dealing with gender and equality to the commission; and

another undertaking to provide progress reports and hold quarterly feedback meetings with the commission.

"The SAHRC welcomes the steps taken by H&M to address these concerns. The commission will continue to monitor the above commitments," the commission said in a statement.

African News Agency



SUNDAY OBSERVER WORLD NEWS

The right place | The right Sunday

MUGABE'S HOME INVADED AGAIN, 119 LAPTOPS STOLEN

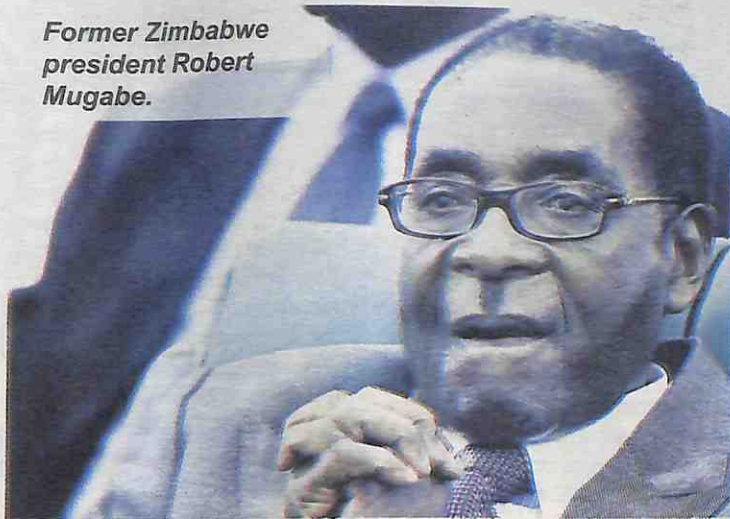
HARARE - Zimbabwe's former president Robert Mugabe's home has again been invaded, just less than a week since a similar break-in was reported in his Mazowe farm.

According to NewsDay, at least 119 laptops and seven desktop computers which were in locked containers at the Polo Grounds adjacent to Zimbabwe House have been lost.

It is understood the theft was discovered on Tuesday, when the Mugabes were moving their belongings from Zimbabwe House to their private residence in Borrowdale.

"They broke into three containers using a bolt cutter. The containers had personal belongings of the (former) First Family. When Mugabe resigned after the military intervention, the former First Family was asked to remove their belongings

Former Zimbabwe president Robert Mugabe.



ings and because of limited time, some of the items were left in containers at Polo Grounds next to the presidential helipad," an unnamed source was quoted as saying.

The reportedly stolen equipment

was going to be donated to unnamed schools in the country.

The ex-president's wife Grace has since made a police report under the case no CR110/04/18 and a detective Nyabonde was in charge

of the investigation.

This comes just a few days after a senior government official has said that the former first lady was this week lying about illegal gold miners stealing laptops and illegally mining gold in one of her properties. The state owned Herald newspaper had reported this week that Home Affairs Minister Obert Mpofu dismissed the ex-first lady claims as lies, adding that the break in at the first family orphanage school was an inside job.

Mpofu also said that there was an ongoing court dispute between the former first family and three mining syndicates. He said the syndicate had approached the High Court and were issued with a provisional order barring police and Gushungo holdings from interfering with their mining activities under case no HC293/18. *News24*

Trump administration hits Putin's 'son-in-law'

MOSCOW - The United States hit seven Russian oligarchs and 17 Russian government officials with sanctions on Friday for what it called 'malign activity' around the world, as the Trump administration tried to show that President Donald Trump is taking tough action to stand up to Moscow.

A dozen Russian companies owned by the oligarchs were also targeted, along with a state-owned arms-dealing company and a subsidiary bank, the Treasury Department said.

Aluminum magnate Oleg Deripaska, one of Britain's best known oligarchs, is among those accused by the White House of 'directly or indirectly' acting on behalf of the Kremlin.

Mr Deripaska, 50, hosted George Osborne for drinks on his yacht in 2008, sparking accusations the ex-chancellor was canvassing him for donations to the Conservative Party coffers. Osborne denies these accusations.

The Russian has featured prominently in US prosecutor Robert Mueller's investigation over his ties to former chairman of the Trump campaign, Paul Manafort.

He has also been accused illegal wire-tapping, extortion, racketeering, money laundering, and death threats against business rivals.

Shares in his energy company En+ dropped 19 per cent on the London Stock Exchange after the sanctions were announced.

Senior administration officials have cast the penalties as part of a concerted and ongoing effort by the US to push back Russian President Vladimir Putin's government and his inner circle, emphasising that since Trump took office last year, the US has punished 189 Russian-related people and entities with sanctions.

Daily Mail

Brazil's first black chief justice joins party to run for president

BRASILIA - Former chief justice and the first black member of Brazil's Supreme Court, Joaquim Barbosa, joined the centre-left Brazilian Socialist Party (PSB) late on Friday mulling a presidential bid in the October election.

Barbosa, 63, has never run for office but he is widely admired for heading a high-profile 2012 political corruption trial over vote-buying that led to the imprisonment of three top aides to former leftist president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

Since Barbosa retired from the top court in 2014 his name has regularly appeared in presidential opinion polls and he could shake up the election campaign by becoming the anti-establishment candidate many voters are looking for.

"My talks with the PSB have led to an understanding that allows me the comfort of having more time to reflect on a final decision on running," Barbosa said in a statement. He said the PSB had not guaranteed him the nomination. PSB officials said their polling shows

Barbosa could pick up many of the votes of Brazilians who will abandon Lula's Workers Party due to his corruption conviction and imminent imprisonment. A majority of party members favour nominating Barbosa at a convention in June, they said. With Brazil's political establishment rocked by political corruption scandals, voters are seeking alternative candidates like Barbosa who are honest and trustworthy, party leader Carlos Siqueira told Reuters last week.

Reuters

Sisulu apologises to King Letsie III over border drama

MASERU - The Department of International Relations and Cooperation (Dirco) Minister Lindiwe Sisulu has paid a courtesy call to the King of Lesotho, His Majesty King Letsie III to discuss, among other things, the challenges at the Maseru Bridge, a border between South Africa and Lesotho.

According to reports, senior government officials who included Sisulu and Home Affairs minister Malusi Gigaba had to intervene last month to quell a diplomatic spat with the neighbouring Kingdom after King Letsie III was "mistreated" at the border gate.

In a statement on Friday, the minister personally apologised to the King for what Dirco described as an "unfortunate and regrettable incident" at the two sister countries border in March.



Lesotho's King Letsie III with Lindiwe Sisulu.

In her meeting with His Majesty the King, the minister of international relations conveyed the message that the government was working on increasing capacity at the border post.

She said that the government was also working towards finding a permanent solution which was aimed at making travel movements of the King and

people travelling between the two countries less complicated. "We have come here to convey our apology to His Majesty the King, the Lesotho prime minister and to the entire Basotho nation for the inconvenience caused and also to explain to the King what we intend and are committed to do.

News24

BRIEFS

Rwanda's president reshuffled Finance Minister

KIGALI - Rwanda's President Paul Kagame appointed Uzziel Ndagijimana as Finance Minister in a cabinet reshuffle, his office said.

Kagame swept to a landslide victory in a presidential election last year, securing a third term in office and extending his 17 years in power. Late on Friday, he promoted state Minister of Finance Ndagijimana to replace Claver Gatete as finance minister, the office of the presidency said.

Gatete, a previous central bank head credited with overseeing a period of relative monetary stability, was named minister for infrastructure. The economy has been rebuilt with a focus on technology, mining, tourism and agriculture following the 1994 genocide of 800 000 ethnic Tutsis and politically moderate Hutus. Growth rates have averaged five to six per cent over the last decade. This year, the International Monetary Fund expects its economy to expand by 7.2 per cent. *Reuters*

US congressman pulls loaded gun at meeting

WASHINGTON - A US congressman said he pulled out a loaded Smith & Wesson pistol during a meeting with gun control activists on Friday in a bid to prove that firearms are not responsible for violence.

House Republican Ralph Norman of South Carolina told The Post and Courier newspaper that he drew the handgun and placed it on a table while at a "Coffee With Your Congressman" event at a diner, in an attempt to convey that guns are only dangerous if in the wrong hands. *AFP*

US air strike in Somalia

MOGADISHU

- The US military said on Friday it had killed three militants after launching an air strike in Somalia against al Shabaab, a militant Islamist group allied with al Qaeda. The military's Africa Command (Africom) said they carried out the strike on 5 April near the town of Jilib, about 370km southwest of Mogadishu.

"In coordination with the Federal Government of Somalia, US Forces conducted an air strike against Al-Shabaab militants near Jilib ... killing three terrorists and destroying one vehicle with a mounted heavy machine gun," it said in a statement. *Reuters*

Fresh air strikes hit Syria's rebel Douma

BEIRUT - Fresh air strikes pounded the rebel-held Syrian town of Douma yesterday, rescuers and a monitor said, after a night of heavy bombing on the opposition holdout outside Damascus.

"The bombing still hasn't stopped. There are three warplanes in the sky and two helicopters," Firas al-Doumi, a rescue worker inside Douma, told AFP yesterday morning. Douma is the last rebel-controlled town in Syria's Eastern Ghouta, a sprawling suburb of Damascus that was once the opposition's bastion on the edge of the capital.

Backed by Russia, Syrian troops have recaptured 95 per cent of Ghouta through a fierce air and ground assault, as well as negotiated withdrawals. *AFP*

Strong quake rattles Papua New Guinea

SYDNEY - A powerful 6.3-magnitude earthquake struck a remote part of Papua New Guinea yesterday, US seismologists said, but there were no immediate reports of damage. The quake struck at a depth of 10 kilometres some 195 kilometres west of the town of Mount Hagen, the US Geological Survey said. *AFP*

MESSI'S BETTER THAN RONALDO - RONALDINHO

BARCELONA - Ronaldinho considers Lionel Messi to be a better player than Cristiano Ronaldo and wishes he had spent longer alongside the Argentine at Barcelona.

The Brazilian icon was at the peak of his powers at Camp Nou when a fresh-faced teenager emerged from the famed La Masia academy system.

The two South American stars complemented each other for a brief period, but Ronaldinho moved on to AC Milan in 2008.

Two-time World Player of the Year Ronaldinho has seen his former colleague in Catalunya go on to collect five Ballons d'Or and countless other records and awards, and he believes Messi tops Ronaldo as the best in the world.

Asked again during a promotional trip to Malaysia to pick between Messi and Ronaldo, Ronaldinho said: "Messi. I would have loved to continue playing alongside him."

"I didn't get enough time with him, he was very young. I'd love to take to the pitch with him one more time."



Lionel Messi and Ronaldinho.

Messi is leading a treble charge at Barcelona this season, with Ronaldinho hoping to see the Liga leaders and Copa del Rey finalists get their hands on the Champions League crown.

Conquer

He is, however, also looking for another of his former clubs to conquer the continent at some stage, with Paris Saint-Germain having spent big in an effort to topple the European elite.

"In football, even when you sign great players you need some time to put

together a winning team," Ronaldinho added on PSG, who broke the world transfer record to sign Brazil international Neymar for €222 million in the summer of 2017.

"I believe in the next few years they will win the Champions League."

He was, however, to also taste La Liga, Serie A, Copa America and World Cup triumphs and claims to have no regrets from his playing days.

He said: "I don't really have any regrets".

Goal

MMA star McGregor released on bail after New York assault

NEW YORK - Irish Mixed Martial Arts superstar Conor McGregor was released on \$50,000 bail after being hauled before a US judge on assault and criminal charges over a frenzied attack on a bus of rival fighters that injured two athletes.

The 29-year-old, nicknamed "The Notorious," was filmed lobbing a dolly through a window of the bus in a New York stadium at the end of a media event on Thursday. The bus was moving slowly through the Barclays Centre loading dock at the time.

The Irish father-of-one was also captured on surveillance throwing a chair toward a passenger window of the bus and punched a member of a security detail, his Brooklyn arraignment heard Friday.

Two athletes were wounded, forcing them to be pulled from the upcoming UFC 223 card, the Ultimate Fighting Championship confirmed.

Lightweight Michael Chiesa sustained facial cuts and flyweight Ray Borg multiple corneal abrasions.

"I'm devastated to say the least," tweeted Chiesa.

McGregor spent Thursday night in a Brooklyn police station, after surrendering, and was escorted to



UFC fighter Connor McGregor.

a criminal court in handcuffs.

He stood before a judge in jeans, saying nothing except "yes your honour."

The judge set bail at \$50,000 in a package that allows McGregor to travel without restriction. His next court date was set for June 14.

"He's the most visible face on the planet. He has no criminal history and the bail package is completely appropriate," McGregor's lawyer Jim Walden told the court. AFP

Masters contention:

TIGER WOODS NEEDS A LOT OF HELP

AUGUSTA - Tiger Woods admitted he will need 'a lot of help' to get into contention for a 15th major title after making the halfway cut with just a shot to spare.

Woods struggled to a second round of 75 in testing conditions at Augusta National to slip to four over par, 13 shots behind fellow American Patrick Reed.

"I felt like I hit it off well off the tee," Woods said after a round containing two birdies, three bogeys and a double bogey on the fifth.

"I hit my irons awful. I didn't control my distance, my shape, spins. I left myself in bad spots and hit a lot of beautiful putts but didn't make anything."

Help

"I'm going to need a special weekend with two rounds in the mid-60s. I would have done it the first two days if I would have quit playing after 16! Let's see if we can get it in 18 holes tomorrow."

"I'm so far back I'm going to need a lot of help. I'm not in control of my own destiny. But six months ago I didn't know if I was going to be able to play golf again, so I'm just so grateful of the opportunity to play at the top level."

Woods underwent spinal fusion surgery shortly after last year's Masters and only returned to action in November, but had finished 12th, second and fifth in his last three starts on the PGA Tour.

Daily Mail

Lewis Hamilton to serve five-place grid penalty at the Bahrain GP

SAKHIR - Lewis Hamilton will take a five-place grid penalty in today's Bahrain Grand Prix following a gearbox change on his Mercedes late on Friday in another early season setback for the world champion.

The British star had wound up fourth fastest earlier in Friday's second free practice session at the Bahrain International Circuit.

"@LewisHamilton will take a five-place grid penalty for the #BahrainGP after having to change his gearbox," tweeted Mercedes.

Kimi Raikkonen was fastest as he and Ferrari teammate Sebastian Vettel dominated the session ahead of the two Mercedes, headed by Valtteri Bottas.



Lewis Hamilton.

Hamilton's setback in his bid to overhaul Vettel's early-season lead in the title race - following his victory in the season-opening Australian Grand Prix - was confirmed by the

International Motoring Federation (FIA), the sport's ruling body.

Gearbox

Bottas also had a new gearbox fitted on Friday evening, but escaped

a grid penalty because he had already been penalised in Australia.

Four-time world champion Hamilton, who created a minor controversy when he showed his approval on social media earlier in the day of the retention of grid girls at the Monaco Grand Prix, said before his penalty had been announced that it had been "a normal Friday".

"It's very close and we have some work to do. The tyres feel the best they have here in years, very stable with less degradation."

Mercedes Technical Director James Allison said after Friday practice that the team were not as competitive in relation to Ferrari as they had been in Melbourne.

AFP

Record-setter Nadal roars back, Italy hold France

VALENCIA - Spain's Rafael Nadal returned to action with a 6-2 6-2 6-3 Davis Cup win over Germany's Philip Kohlschreiber on Friday to set a record for the longest winning streak in the competition's history.

World number one Nadal had not played since he retired from his Australian Open quarter-final against Marin Cilic in January with a leg injury, but made light work of Kohlschreiber to draw five-time winners Spain level at 1-1 in the tie.

Victory meant Nadal set the record for the longest Davis Cup winning streak in combined singles and doubles rubbers with 23 matches in a row.

Holders France were tied 1-1 with Italy in Genoa and 2005 winners Croatia were also deadlocked against visitors Kazakhstan after a day of thrilling action on indoor red clay in Varazdin.

The heavily-favoured US team took a 2-0 lead against a depleted Belgium side on the indoor hard courts in Nashville to come within a point of their first Davis Cup semi-finals in six years.

Dismantling

Nadal was swiftly back in the swing of things in Valencia, dismantling Kohlschreiber after Alexander Zverev blew away David Ferrer 6-4 6-2 6-2 to put Germany in front.

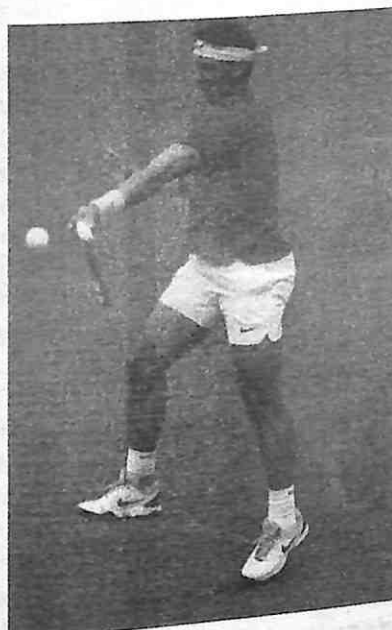
The 31-year-old Nadal hardly put

a foot wrong on his return, having produced 14 of his 30 winners in the opening set of a lopsided contest.

Kohlschreiber also went down tamely in the second before putting up more of a fight at the start of the third, but 16-time grand slam winner Nadal was relentless and wrapped up the match.

"It's positive of course, winning in straight sets, it was a solid match. I feel comfortable back on the clay," Nadal said on the Davis Cup website. It's a great feeling to be back, coming back from injuries is always difficult, but it's great to be in front of my crowd on a very memorable day. I'm very happy with the match."

Reuters



Rafael Nadal.



ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP



LIVERPOOL, EVERTON IN GOALLESS DERBY

LIVERPOOL - Liverpool missed the striking prowess of Mohamed Salah as they passed up a chance to go second in the Premier League with a 0-0 draw against rivals Everton in the Merseyside derby.

Salah, who has scored 38 goals in all competitions this season, was absent for yesterday's clash at Goodison Park due to the groin injury he sustained in the 3-0 victory over Manchester City in the Champions League quarter-finals on Wednesday, and Liverpool's second string failed to deliver.

Dominic Solanke, starting down the middle with Roberto Firmino on the bench, was the main culprit as he wasted the two clearest chances of a drab encounter in front of England Manager Gareth Southgate, while Loris Karius only had one Everton effort to deal with

across the entire 90 minutes.

The Toffees' approach played a large part in reducing the spectacle and their performance will do little to stop criticism of Sam Allardyce from Everton fans. The home supporters would have left happy had Cenk Tosun, Seamus Coleman or Dominic Calvert-Lewin made the most of openings inside the final three minutes, but they had to settle for holding Liverpool to a draw that damages their quest to finish above Manchester United. Without the attacking threat of Salah, Liverpool struggled to pose much danger in the final third as Sadio Mane, Solanke and Danny Ings - starting his first game in 916 days - all struggled to find room.

Patience was key for the visitors and had Solanke done better on the rare occasions the Everton defence was

unlocked they would have gone into the break ahead. James Milner's cross from the left was headed wide by the 20-year-old, and when he was gifted a chance six yards out he fired straight at Jordan Pickford.

Everton finally broke out of their defensive formation midway through the half when Yannick Bolasie cut inside from the left, but his curling effort was superbly pushed around the post by Karius.

Liverpool resumed their dominance as Everton retreated back into their shell after the restart, much to the ire of the home faithful.

Wayne Rooney's game came to an end just before the hour when he was replaced by Idrissa Gueye, England's record goalscorer snubbing Sam Allardyce as he left the pitch.

Daily Mail

My experience helped me settle quickly at Arsenal - Aubameyang

LONDON - Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang believes his past experiences have helped him settle quickly at Arsenal.

The Gabon international has scored five goals in his first six Premier League games following his arrival from Borussia Dortmund in January, thus, becoming the first player to achieve that feat at the Emirates outfit.

The forward revealed that his ability to cope and settle quickly into a new environment is as a result of the nomadic

lifestyle he has always lived since he was young, majorly due to his father's football career.

"I've travelled throughout my life because my father was a footballer," Aubameyang told club website.

Succeed

"I've experienced many different cultures and languages, so that was a very good experience for me, to be able to move around quite frequently.

"The advice I'd give my youngster self is to always believe in what you're doing.

You need to give yourself the chance to succeed.

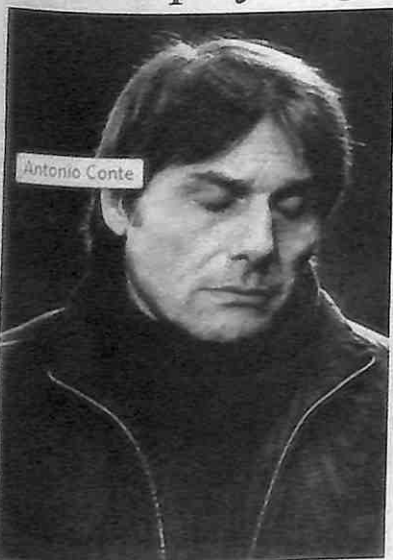
"That doesn't come from anyone else, you need to give yourself a chance and to fight for your objectives.

"I've fought hard - it's never been easy for me. I always kept on believing too and this is where it's taken me today."

Aubameyang will be looking to continue the fine form in front of goal when Arsenal play host to Southampton in their next league game today.

Goal

'Chelsea players got Mourinho sacked, now they are after Conte'



LONDON - Chelsea's struggles under Antonio Conte mirror those of Jose Mourinho when disgruntled players forced a managerial change, claims Frank Leboeuf.

The Blues swept to the Premier League title in 2016-17, but are now struggling to secure a top-four finish.

Mourinho endured a similar dip during his second spell at Stamford Bridge, with several senior stars accused of giving up in order to get the Portuguese sacked.

Former Chelsea defender Leboeuf believes history is now repeating itself, with an underperforming side displaying "a lack of respect" to all concerned. The ex-France international, who spent

five years in west London between 1996 and 2001, told SFR Sport: "It's a lack of respect for the fans and the club, both on the manager's part, because he's already packed his bags, but also from the players.

"We saw it with Mourinho, it seemed like some of the players were almost losing on purpose so the manager can get sacked as quickly as possible.

"I knew a team that was hungry for trophies, wanted to win. Now, it doesn't seem that way. One year you win the league, the next it's a mess."

Chelsea suffered a costly 3-1 defeat to London rivals Tottenham last time out to leave them eight points adrift of the Champions League places. *Goal*

Wenger remains 'confident' on Ramsey renewal at Arsenal

LONDON - Arsene Wenger remains "confident" that Aaron Ramsey will sign a contract extension at Arsenal.

The Wales international midfielder is tied to the Gunners until 2019, but is yet to commit to the club beyond that point.

Having seen Mesut Ozil and Alexis Sanchez provide unwelcome distractions after entering the final 12 months of their respective deals, and Jack Wilshere still sparking exit talk as he heads towards becoming a free agent, Arsenal are eager to avoid a repeat.

Discussions with Ramsey are ongoing and while Wenger maintains there is no rush to get a deal done, he is hoping to see talks reach a positive conclusion.

The long-serving Frenchman told reporters when pressed for an update on the 27-year-old's future: "We are communicating. I'm confident. "He is not at the end of his con-

tract. He has one-and-a-half years to go.

"We want him to stay because he is one of the guys who has been here for a long time and will be an important player in the future for the club.

"We want the players to be happy to play for the club.

"The players who want to stay here play for the club with the way we want to play football, and with the values we think are important for us, and with the right amount of money we want to pay them.

"All the three have to be together. He's an important player for me and for the club."

Ramsey has once again been a regular for Arsenal throughout the 2017-18 campaign, making 25 appearances across all competitions.

His last outing proved to be one of his most productive, as he netted twice in a 4-1 demolition of CSKA Moscow in the first leg of a Europa League quarter-final clash.

Teamtalk



Real Madrid to offer £44m plus Isco for Salah

MADRID - Real Madrid are reportedly ready to offer Isco and £44million in a bid to land Mohamed Salah from Liverpool this summer.

The Spanish giants are set for a major revamp to their first-team squad, with Isco one of the players likely to move on after he was said to have fallen out with head coach Zinedine Zidane.

Isco is set to join the likes of Gareth Bale, Luka Modric and Keylor Navas in leaving at the end of the season, while there are also doubts over the futures of Karim Benzema and Toni Kroos too.

Spain star Isco, who has also

been linked with Manchester City, is said to be unhappy with his lack of game time this season and wants a new challenge.

The report in *Diario Gol* claims that Real President Florentino Perez is unhappy with Isco's complaints and is convinced that a move for Salah would appease the club's fans.

The Egyptian has scored an incredible 38 goals in all competitions this season, becoming one of European football's hottest properties in the process.

Liverpool are expected to fight to keep the 25-year-old at Anfield, but Perez hopes that an offer of Isco plus €50m (£44m) would help sweeten any potential deal.

Teamtalk

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ON SATURDAY



Arrows deny Stars third spot

DURBAN - Free State Stars missed the chance to move into third spot in the ABSA Premiership after they drew 1-1 with Golden Arrows on yesterday afternoon.

There was a good mid-field battle in the opening stages as both sides looked to settle in the first 15 minutes.

Lerato Lamola looked threatening for the hosts upfront and he went close after 19 minutes with a powerful strike that sailed just wide of the upright.

There was a good tempo to the first half, although clear-cut chances were hard to come by for both teams.

Clinton Larsen's men took control of the game with 15 minutes remaining in the half, although they struggled to break down a resolute Stars defence.

That proved to be the trend for the rest of the first stanza as the sides entered the break deadlocked at 0-0.

10 minutes into the second half, Ea Lla Koto took the lead when Nkanyiso Mngwenge deflected Patrick Phungwayo's cross into his own net.

However, Arrows levelled matters on 72 minutes as Siphelele Magubane surged into the box before slotting past the on-rushing Sangare.

Both sides upped the tempo as the second half went on, with both sides pushing for a winning goal in the final 15 minutes.

In the end, neither side could carve out a clear-cut chance and they were forced to settle for a share of the spoils on the day.

Soccer Laduma

'We don't have enough to play on all the fronts'

JOHANNESBURG - Having played to a 1-1 draw against Nigeria's Enyimba International FC on Friday night, Bidvest Wits coach Gavin Hunt revealed that their opponents were no match for the Students.

The outspoken South African manager said that Wits were more attacking than their counterparts despite playing to a stalemate in the CAF Confederation Cup first leg play-off match.

Hunt also denied the fact the continental competition is a distraction as far as their Premier Soccer League (PSL) campaign is concerned. Coming back to the domestic scene, the Clever Boys are still fighting for a spot in the top eight as they now sit in eighth place with 32 points from 24 matches. However, they have tough fixtures coming ahead against bottom-placed Ajax Cape Town away next week, they will meet log leaders Mamelodi Sundowns at Loftus Versfeld Stadium on Saturday, followed by a trip to Nigeria, April 17.

KickOff

JOHANNESBURG - Kaizer Chiefs were no match for Chippa United as the Soweto giants lost 3-0 at the FNB Stadium yesterday afternoon.

There weren't any opportunities for both sides in the opening ten minutes apart from glaring errors at the back by the Chilli Boys which almost gifted Amakhosi the lead but the hosts failed to capitalise.

Steve Komphela was forced to make a change in the 14th minute as Ramahlwe Mphahlele pulled up earlier in the match and was replaced by Bongolethu Jayiya.

In the 25th minute, Thabo Rakhale gave Vladislav Heric's side the lead after skipping past Erick Mathoho before slotting past the on-rushing Itumeleng Khune with a low shot at the near post, 0-1.

The Soweto giants could not combine going forward and were trying to make use of their set-pieces to get on the scoresheet but they could not get their accuracy right.

Ryan Moon almost equalised for Amakhosi two minutes before half-time but goalkeeper Daniel Akpeyi made a point-blank save as Chippa

went into the break leading. Steve Komphela made alteration at the start of the second half as Teenage Hadebe made way for



went into the break leading.

Steve Komphela made alteration at the start of the second half as Teenage Hadebe made way for

Bernard Parker.

Leonardo Castro had the first shot at goal for Amakhosi in the second STANZA 20 min-

Augustine Mulenga happy with the expectation of goals

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates forward Augustine Mulenga says he welcomes the pressure of being brought in to score the goals to help the club win this season's Premier Soccer League (PSL) title.

The Zambian marksman opened his Bucs' scoring account in mid-week with a wonderful goal which earned the team a 2-1 victory over Bloemfontein Celtic in a league game which was played at the Orlando Stadium.

As a result, there will be a lot of expectation for him to consistently produce similar moments of brilliance like that as Buccaneers look to beat Mamelodi Sundowns to the most coveted trophy in the country.

"I don't have any pressure. I am a striker, my job is to score. If I have the opportunity to score, I have to score. I don't have to think about any pressure. I don't have any pressure. I just have to do my job. When the coach introduced me (in the 75th minute), I knew what I could offer the team," Mulenga said on IOL.

"This wasn't the first time I scored such a goal. I am used to scoring goals like that. When I got that chance, I took the responsibility and shot because it's something that I always do at training, no wonder it came out as good as it did," Mulenga, who joined Bucs from Zambian side Zanaco last January, continued.

The Buccaneers are currently placed second on the league standings - one point behind Sundowns, who

have a game in hand. Bucs coach Milutin 'Micho' Sredojevic is looking to Mulenga to inspire Bucs to their fifth PSL title.

"I am a new player here. I have to do well in the remaining games so that next season I can start high on confidence. I haven't set any target of how many goals I would like to finish with. I know that there are few games remaining. I just have to do my best as a player to improve in each and every game so that by the time next season starts, I hit the ground running," Mulenga explained.

The skillful forward is hoping to emulate his countrymen Isaac Chansa and Dennis Lota, who enjoyed a lot of success during their spells with Pirates. Mulenga is also keen to repay the faith shown in him by Zambian football legends Kalusha Bwalya and Wedson Nyirenda.

"My fellow Zambians, what they have done for this club is a big achievement for them. I am looking to achieve more than what they did for this club because it is my time now Mr Kalusha (Bwalya) and Wada (Nyirenda) know what I can do and they believe in me," he continued.

"I follow the advice that they give me. They told me that I should push myself at training, just do what I can and everything is possible when I give my all. They told me that when the coach gives me a chance, I should express myself," the 28-year-old concluded.

Mulenga and his Pirates teammates will face SuperSport United in a league game at the Mbombela

Stadium on Wednesday. Goal



Orlando Pirates forward Augustine Mulenga.

utes before time but could not find the target with a half-volley from the right side of the box.

Dumisani Zuma was unfortunate not to have found the equaliser for Amakhosi 15 minutes from time with a diving header inside the box that missed narrowly wide following a brilliant cross from Hendrick Ekstein.

However, Mxolisi Macuphu punished the hosts 12 minutes before time, beating the offside before lobbing Khune who had committed to the ground following a defence splitting pass from Linda Mntambo, 0-2.

Zuma had another chance three minutes from time for the home side with a sliding shot inside the box but United shot-stopper Akpeyi made a good stop.

Komphela's charges lacked inspiration going forward and looked dejected towards the closing minutes.

Former Chiefs striker Edward Manqele rounded off the scoring with a simple finish to make it 3-0 to Chippa.

Soccer Laduma

Milutin Sredojevi wants to win CAF Champions L

JOHANNESBURG - Orlando Pirates head coach Milutin 'Micho' Sredojevic has revealed what Bidvest Wits and SuperSport United should expect during their away games in the 2018 CAF Confederation Cup play-offs.

SuperSport will take on Kenyan side Gor Mahia in the first-leg clash at the Kenyatta Stadium in Machakos today, while Wits are set to travel to West Africa where they are expected to face Nigerian giants Enyimba in the second-leg encounter next week.

"SuperSport United will have very serious business because Gor Mahia is a well-supported and, if I can say, the most tribal team in Kenya," Sredojevic said on Times Live.

"They've got massive support and I think they've a CAF tournament before. It's going to be very hard for SuperSport but they have the experience and the confidence that they'll represent South Africa's football in the best possible way," he continued.

Micho, who has won league titles in Ethiopia, Sudan and Uganda, knows what is required to do well in continental competitions.

KickOff

ERIKSEN EARNS SPURS SIXTH STRAIGHT WIN

STOKE CITY - Christian Eriksen maintained his hot goalscoring streak, striking both goals in Tottenham Hotspur's 2-1 win at struggling Stoke City to extend Spurs' winning sequence yesterday.

Harry Kane was back to lead Spurs in his first start for nearly a month after recovering from an ankle problem but it was their great Dane Eriksen who struck twice in 11 minutes after half-time to take his tally to five goals in three games.

He struck after 52 minutes before a mistake from Hugo Lloris on his 200th Premier League appearance allowed Mame Biram Diouf to equalise within five minutes.

Eriksen then curled in a fiendish 63rd-minute freekick to which Kane claimed to have got the faintest finishing touch with his head only for replays to show the Dane had scored the goal that allowed Spurs to join third-placed Liverpool on 67 points with a sixth straight league



Christian Eriksen (right) scored twice as Tottenham Hotspur won at Stoke City in the Premier League yesterday afternoon.

win.

Though Xherdan Shaqiri led a late fightback for the home side, hitting the

bar with a freekick, Stoke remain rooted one from bottom.

Reuters

Heynckes' side cruises to Bundesliga title

AUGSBURG - Bayern Munich secured a record-breaking sixth straight Bundesliga title in style with a comfortable 4-1 victory over Augsburg.

Most likely with an eye to the second leg of their Champions League quarter-final against Sevilla, Jupp Heynckes rested a glut of Bayern's stars at the WWK Arena.

That decision looked to have backfired as Niklas Sule's 18th-minute own goal gave Augsburg the lead, but two goals in quick succession swung the game in Bayern's favour.

Corentin Tolisso's header restored parity after 32 minutes, and Bayern took control when James Rodriguez slotted in following excellent build-up play from Joshua Kimmich and Juan Bernat.

Failed

Augsburg failed to match their early intensity following the second-half restart - Arjen Robben extending Bayern's lead just after the hour and Sandro Wagner adding further gloss to the victory late on.

With another Bundesliga crown now wrapped up, Bayern's attention will now switch to their European and DFB-Pokal campaigns, as Heynckes - who took charge in difficult circumstances following Carlo Ancelotti's departure - aims to match the treble he claimed in 2012-13. Determined to delay Bayern's celebrations, Augsburg looked threatening early on - Caiuby flashing a well-struck effort across the face of goal. Philipp Max was the next to test Bayern's resolve, racing in behind the visitors' defence before hammering a powerful strike against Sven Ulreich's near post, but Augsburg did take a deserved lead soon after. **AFP**

Dybala hat-trick piles pressure on Napoli

BENEVENTO - A Paulo Dybala-inspired Juventus bounced back from their midweek Champions League disappointment to grind out a 4-2 win over rock-bottom Benevento and open up a seven-point lead at the Serie A summit.

The Bianconeri suffered a humbling 3-0 defeat to Real Madrid on Tuesday, but edged past the league's bottom side to crank up the pressure on second-placed Napoli ahead of their clash with Chievo today.

Dybala, in particular, had a night to forget against Madrid after picking up a second-half red card that rules him out of next week's second leg.

The Argentinian - one of only two players to retain their place from that game - responded to that setback in style, though, as his third hat-trick of the season secured all three points for Massimiliano Allegri's side.

He scored twice - the second a penal-

ty - either side of Cheick Diabate's leveller to give Juve a deserved half-time lead.

Diabate grabbed a second equaliser after 51 minutes, but Dybala spared any potential blushes by grabbing a second from the spot with 16 minutes to go before Douglas Costa added gloss to the scoreline with a stunning late goal.

Path

The visitors scarcely had to get out of second gear to take a deserved lead after 16 minutes.

Juan Cuadrado cushioned a long ball into the path of Dybala on the edge of the penalty area and the Argentinian took one touch before whipping a sumptuous effort into Christian Puggioni's top right-hand corner.

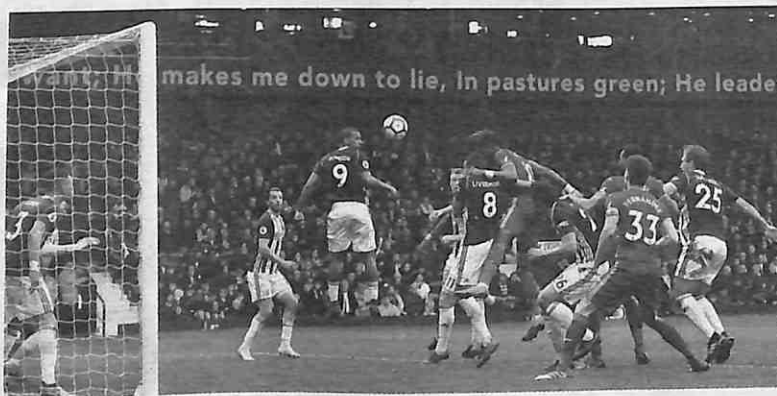
Sandro then saw an angled drive well smothered by Wojciech Szczesny at the near post moments before Diabate netted an unlikely leveller.

AFP

ABRAHAM DENIES BAGGIES VALUABLE VICTORY

WEST BROM - Tammy Abraham's first league goal since October rescued a point for Swansea City and inflicted further damage on West Brom's survival hopes in a 1-1 draw at The Hawthorns.

The Chelsea loanee had not netted since scoring both goals in a 2-0 home win over Huddersfield Town, but out-muscled Jake Livermore to head in the equaliser for Carlos Carvalhal's side 15 minutes from time. It was a devastating blow for the rock-bottom Baggies, who had looked set to pull within eight points of safety thanks to Jay Rodriguez's strike early in the second half. But following the sacking of Alan Pardew after an eight-match losing run this week, caretaker boss Darren Moore - part of the



Tammy Abraham steals a point for Swansea with an equaliser in the 75th minute as he pops up from a corner to head home.

West Brom side who pulled off the 'Great Escape' in 2004-05 - is facing an ever-growing task to rescue the club's top-flight status once more.

West Brom are now 10 points from 17th, while Swansea climb four points clear of the drop zone thanks to another

Newcastle boost survival hopes

LEICESTER - A goal in each half from Jonjo Shelvey and Ayoze Perez gave Newcastle United a precious 2-1 victory over Leicester City yesterday, a third win in a row that moves the Magpies another step closer to survival in the Premier League.

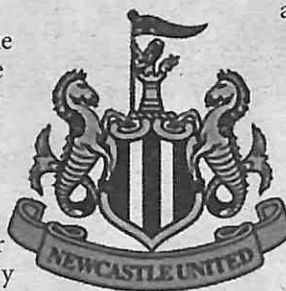
Shelvey opened the scoring when he received the ball just outside the area at the end of a sweeping move up the left flank, taking a touch to elude Leicester defender Harry Maguire before rifling home the ball in the 18th minute.

Winger Riyad Mahrez thought he had won a penalty when he

went down in the box shortly before half-time but referee Stuart Attwell waved away the appeals of the Leicester players.

A defensive mix-up between Maguire and Wes Morgan allowed Spanish playmaker Perez to nip in and lob the ball over Kasper Schmeichel to make it 2-0 and though Jamie Vardy pulled back a late goal for Leicester, Newcastle held on to win.

The victory puts Newcastle in 10th place on 38 points, 10 points off the drop zone, while Leicester are eighth on 43. **Reuters**



COME-FROM-BEHIND CLARETS BOOST EURO HOPES

WATFORD - Burnley incredibly scored twice in three second-half minutes to boost their hopes of European qualification with a dramatic 2-1 win over Watford at Vicarage Road yesterday.

Sam Vokes netted with his first touch off the bench before Jack Cork completed the stunning comeback in the 73rd minute to overturn what looked likely to be the winner from Roberto Pereyra. Pereyra had put aside his first-half frustration in front of goal to guide the Hornets ahead in the 61st minute and inspire hope of bringing an end to a three-match winless Premier League run. But it was the Clarets who were buoyant soon after, substitute Vokes and midfielder Cork both netting from close range to secure a fourth straight top-flight victory for the first time since November 1968. Former Watford boss Sean Dyche earlier had Nick Pope to thank for a fine first-half display as club captain Tom Heaton, back in the matchday squad for the first time since September, watched from

the bench. And, although Watford found a way past World Cup hopeful Pope, Burnley rallied bravely to go six points clear of eighth-placed Leicester City, who lost 2-1 to Newcastle United.

Indeed, if Burnley hold onto seventh - and struggling Southampton do not win the FA Cup - they will have done enough to earn a spot in the Europa League qualifying round.

Target

Chris Wood entered the match on a run of four goals in three games and was on target again inside two minutes, only to have his header rightly chalked off for a marginal offside call. Troy Deeney nodded past the far post at the other end before Pope kept out a pair of Pereyra drives, the winger initially dallying over a good opening on the first attempt. Burnley could well have gone ahead midway through the half, but Ashley Barnes - a scorer in each of his last four appearances - completely missed Aaron Lennon's low cross and Ashley Westwood's follow-up was blocked.

Goal

UYAYIFUNA NA?

SWAZIBANK CUP 2018

QUARTER-FINALS



Young Buffaloes' Phiwa Dlamini joined by his teammates as he celebrates the only goal scored during their game against Royal Leopard yesterday.

(Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



Green Mamba's Solomon Oladele celebrates his goal with Thabo Mngometulu.



Royal Leopard's Bonginkhosi Dlamini bites the dust during their game against Young Buffaloes which they lost 1 - 0 yesterday. This was during the SwaziBank quarter finals game held at the Somhlolo National Stadium.



Man of the match Mxolisi Mkhontfo receives his E2 000 cheque from Sifiso Mdluli.



Green Mamba's Musa Dlamini controls the ball whilst Malanti Chiefs players close in. This was during the SwaziBank quarter-final games played at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.



Royal Leopards' Barry Steenkamp in a tussle for the ball with Young Buffaloes' Siboniso Ngwenya.



Green Mamba fans in a jovial mood during their game against Malanti Chiefs.

Malanti Chiefs goalkeeper Ntokozo Shabangu and his teammates watch helplessly as the ball hits the back of the net.



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SWAZIBANK CUP 2018



BULL OUT TO PILE MORE MISERY ON BELEAGUERED MATSAPHA UNITED

Mbabane Highlanders vs Matsapha United
Somhlolo National Stadium, 4pm

BY SIBONGISENI ZONDI

SOCCKER- Two time SwaziBank Cup champions Mbabane Highlanders and last season's runners up Matsapha United will today battle it out for a place in the semifinals of the prestigious tournament.

Highlanders, under the guidance of South African football legend Mlungisi 'Professor' Ngubane, have been in good form of late and their supporters are starting to believe that the prospect of a third SwaziBank Cup triumph could become reality.

Highlanders have won three of their five MTN Premier League matches in 2018 as well as all two in the SwaziBank

Cup. In fact, the Black Bull last lost a match at the back end of 2017 when they were beaten 2-3 by nemesis Mbabane Swallows.

With a new attacking line spearheaded by Thabiso Mankonkane and Mthobisi Mngomezulu, Highlanders have looked menacing at times in the second half of the current season and Matsapha will need to be careful against a side eager to win the SwaziBank Cup for the first time since 2010 and for a third time overall.

Matsapha meanwhile have been struggling for form having dipped after a high flying start to their campaign in the Premier League in September.

After winning five of their opening eight league matches, they have then won only three of their next 15.

In their last match on Easter Monday, Matsapha were stunningly beaten 2-0

by already relegated Midas City.

But Matsapha have found solace in the SwaziBank Cup and have tasted

only one defeat in their seven matches in the competition since their debut last year.

That defeat came in the final of last season's edition against Young Buffaloes and Matsapha will hope captain Vusumuzi Zungu as well as attacker Sphamandla Dhlamini inspire them to yet another SwaziBank Cup victory today.

Uyayifunana?



Weslians face 'Downs in hub derby

Manzini Wanderers vs Manzini Sundowns
Somhlolo National Stadium, 2pm

SOCCKER- Manzini Wanderers have never won the SwaziBank Cup just like their opponents Manzini Sundowns and today these two sides face off for a place in the semifinals of this year's edition.

Both sides have certainly come close with Wanderers being beaten finalists twice, in 2009 and then again in 2015.

Sundowns meanwhile were runners up in 2007.

Wanderers also reached the semis last year only to be knocked out by Matsapha United.

The Weslians are eager to end their long trophy drought this season but will

first have to negotiate their way past an inconsistent Sundowns today.

Wanderers have certainly improved under coach Nyanga 'Crooks' Hlophe.

The Weslians have won two of their last three matches in the league and will hope to transform that good form in the league to the SwaziBank Cup. Lwazi 'Shana' Maziya's headed effort (again) was enough to see the Weslians beat Royal Leopard in the league on Easter Monday and coach Hlophe will once again bank on his trusted captain to inspire his side to victory.

Sundowns have coach Zenzele 'Ace' Dlamini in their dugout and the experienced coach knows all there is about winning the SwaziBank Cup.

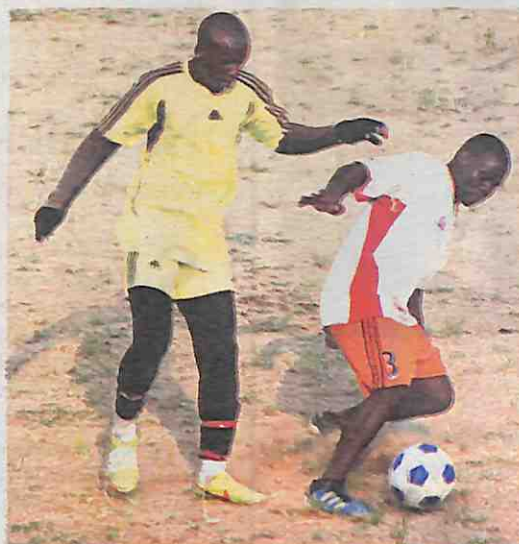
He led Moneni Pirates to an unlikely triumph in 2015 and Sundowns will hope 'Ace' can weave his magic once again and this time inspire the Kappa Boys to their first SwaziBank Cup victory.

Uyayifuna na?

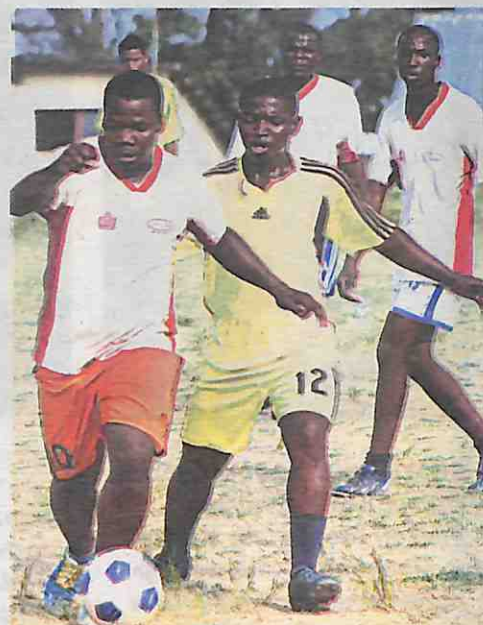
TILWANE BAR EASTER'S TOURNAMENT



Tilwane Bar Easter's tournament winners Bokor Haram receiving a goat as the first prize from the sponsor Richard Mdziniso at Sidvokodvo Sports Ground last Friday. Bokor Haram beat Ray Camp 4-3 in penalties. (Pics: Lucky Simelane)



Mncedisi Lukhele trying to mark Ncamiso Masina.



A Ray Camp player being challenged by Simanga Dlamini.



The players in action.



Mdziniso with Ray Camp FC players before their clash

Sponsor of the tournament Richard Mdziniso exchanging pleasantries with Bokor Haram players.



Bokor Haram getting ready for the final against Ray Camp FC.



Runners up Ray Camp players before kick off.

MTN KHEMANI'S LUNGELU WINS ENJABULWENI MTB

STORIES BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

CYCLING – Perseverance helped MTN Khemani cyclist Lungelo Mlangeni outclass a group of over 50 fellow cyclists to walk away with the Enjabulweni MTB Championship title.

The 20-year-old cyclist endured what looked like a challenging 30km route in the outskirts of Manzini to emerge victorious during the annual race held at Enjabulweni High School yesterday morning. He clocked a time of 01:21:34 hours to win the event.

Coming in second and third was the Forever Cycling Club pair of Ayanda Dlamini and seasoned cyclist Thulani Gule who recorded 01:24:15 and 01:26:27 hours respectively. The first lady to cross the finish line, on a time of 01:46:59



Enjabulweni MTB Challenge champion Lungelo Mlangeni crossing the finishing line during the race held yesterday. (Pic: Sibusiso Masilela)

hours, Retha Harding. In the 20 km, Forever Cycling Club Qiniso Dlamini

emerged the winner and was followed by his teammate Sihlangu Sikhondze. Interviewed after the race Mlangeni expressed his excitement of winning the competition and said he emulated his teammate and national star Muzi Shabangu who won the previous installment.

Happy

"I am happy that I managed to win the race which was a bit challenging at some stage but I managed to maintain momentum until the end. This success has encouraged me to keep working hard towards getting a place in the national team and I would like to thank my team for the support that they have given to me and it is important that we have won this competition twice as a team," he said. Meanwhile, the runner up said he was pleased with his performance although he would have loved to win.

"It was a tough race but I am happy to have received a podium finish. I am

THE PROVISIONAL RESULTS

30km	10km
Males	Boys
1. Lungelo Mlangeni 01:21:34 hours	1. Makepeace Bailey 00:35:37
2. Ayanda Dlamini 01:24:15 hours	2. Vuyani Magongo 00:36:42
3. Thulani Gule 01:26:27 hours	3. Ntsika Manyatsi 00:37:55
Females	Girls
1. Retha Harding 01:46:59	1. Sierra Du Point 00:45:54
2. Lesley Foss 02:03:16	2. Raya Young 00:57:20
3. Lauren Stow 03:49:28	3. Merchy Mkhwanazi 01:00:12

CAS IMPRESSED BY JUNIORS' ATTENDANCE

CYCLING – The Cycling Association of Swaziland (CAS) foresees a bright future for the sport in the country.

This was noted by the association's President Sihlangu Nhlabatsi during the 2018 Enjabulweni Mountain bike challenge yesterday morning. He said they were impressed with the number of junior cyclists that turned up for the event held at Enjabulweni High School.

"We are quite happy to see such a huge number of young cyclists

attending this race. It gives us hope of a great future for cycling in the sport. We just need to make sure that the talent of these youngsters is nurtured until they reach the elite stage.

The president further thanked the hosts Enjabulweni High School and the sponsors for making the event a huge success.

"We commend the good organisation of this race, especially because it was our first race of the year. There was also no accident and we hope to see such events as the year progresses," he said.

encouraged to work harder so I can do better in upcoming competitions," he said.

The race was sponsored by the Manzini Buy 'n Save Super Spar at a tune of E100 000.

UYAYI FUNA NA! COMPETITION WINNERS



SwaziBank Public Relations Officer (PRO) Phesheya Vilakati presenting a ticket to Mbabane Swallows supporter Mlungisi Mavimbela for today's quarterfinal games at Somhlolo National Stadium today. (Pics: Sibusiso Masilela)



Manzini Wanderers supporter Sihlelelo Mthimkhulu also won herself a ticket to go and watch her team against Manzini Sundowns.

Leopard Ladies, Divas advance to SwaziBank Cup quarters

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

SOCCER – Royal Leopard and Divas have booked a place in the quarter-finals of the Swazi Bank Women's Cup.

The police outfit handed Mbekelweni Ladies a 7-0 thrashing while Divas recorded a 2-1 victory against OlympAfrica at the Somhlolo National Stadium yesterday.

Leopard started the match like a house on fire with the likes of Captain Simphiwe

Simelane and Nomsilo Magagula terrorising the Mbekelweni defense and goalkeeper Nobile Shongwe.

Today will see Kappa Ladies battle it out against Lobamba Highlanders for a spot in the last eight in the first clash to kick off at 9am.

The encounter will be followed by another one pitting Shiselweni Roses against Siteki Ladies at 11am.

The four teams will join four others that have been seeded in the tournament namely Mbabane Swallows,

Manzini Wanderers, Young Buffaloes etc.

The inaugural tournament is sponsored to a tune of E75 000 and the Champions will walk away with E20 000.

The fixture

Today at Somhlolo National Stadium

Kappa Ladies vs Lobamba Highlanders 9am
Shiselweni Roses vs Siteki Ladies 11am

Nkululeko Gama wins inaugural TZD Trail run

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

SOCCER – UMBUTFO Swaziland Defence Force (USDF) athlete Nkululeko Gama yesterday clocked 1:04:09 hours to win the inaugural TZD trail run held at Mpaka.

The diminutive athlete claimed championship the title and the E1 500 prize money after dominating the better part of it. Coming second was Swazi Slojos' Sifiso Ngcobo who clocked 1:07:26 and TZD's Kalulu Mdlovu completed the podium winners on third, clocking 1:10:00. They received E1 000 and E500 prize money respectively.

In the ladies category, Swazi Slojos' Gugu Mthemba was the first to cross the line, clocking an impressive 1:33:42 hours. She was followed by the USDF duo of Simangele Mahlambi and Sindi Sikhondze. Interviewed after the race, Gama said he was happy with the victory which he dedicated to his new team, "Firstly, I would like to dedicate the victory to my new found home in the UDF. They have really helped me and I've grown to be a better athlete

because of them. Coming to the race itself, it was enjoyable, I can't complain. "The hilly terrain was interesting and challenging, but I feel like I could have done better. With the time I clocked, I think if I had competition, I would have easily been third or fourth, and that's why I'm saying I was lucky to have won today. All in all, I'm trying to reach the 59 minutes mark, and I will not rest until I do so," he said.

Champions

The lady champions also said she was happy to have won as she had trained hard for the race.

"I trained hard for this race and I guess I'm just reaping the rewards. I really enjoyed it and the rough terrain was also part of the enjoyment. I guess these are the type of races that will prepare us for anything."

Mthemba was presented with E1 500 for her exploits whilst Mahlambi and Sikhondze received E1 000 and E500 for the second and third position respectively. Meanwhile, in the 10km race, USDF shone bright again as Melusi Khumalo came first. The star who has

just returned from Mauritius proved to be the main man, winning his second race of the year, after winning the WafaWafa race.

Khumalo was followed by Swazi Slojos' Sikhumbuzo Sihlongonyane and Sifiso Mgabi who came second and third respectively. In the female's category, 16 year-old USDF jewel Khanyisile Hlaytwayo who is also fresh from the Mauritius trip came first. The youngster was followed by teammate Sibongakonhe Dlamini and TZD's Welile Shongwe who came in second and third respectively.

In the 5km race, Mndeni Kunene was crowned the champion, clocking 17:37 minutes.

He was followed by teammate Nhlanhla Magagula and USDF's Lindokuhle Kunene who came second and third respectively.

In the female's category, 14 year-old Enjabulweni's Celiwe Ndlovu was victorious, clocking an impressive 30:06. She was followed by TZD's Anele Mhlongo and Ncedile Sigwane who came second and third respectively.

Poor finishing cost us – Sitsebe coach

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER – Women soccer national team coach Fisiwe Hlophe has attributed their AFCON Women qualifiers 0-1 loss to Lesotho to poor finishing.

Interviewed yesterday, the coach said they were unfortunate to lose the clash they played at the Setsoto Stadium in Lesotho on Friday evening, as her charges played well on the day. "I think we did well throughout the match but were let down by poor finishing in the final half. We failed to bury our chances while the opposition made good use of theirs and punished us," she said. The former

Mbabane Swallows and Young Buffaloes striker stated that they have now shifted focus to the return match slated for the Somhlolo National Stadium on Tuesday afternoon. "We have to get over the first leg results and focus on the upcoming match. We need to be more cautious and fight for a win since we will be playing on home soil," she also said. The nation's pride will now need a two goal cushion in order to set up a date with neighbours South Africa in the next round of the competition. The African women national teams are currently fighting for a spot in the finals of the continental showpiece to be held in Ghana later this year.

...Mazda pledges to sponsor next edition

Mazda Swaziland has pledged to sponsor the next edition of the TZD Trail run.

This was said by the company's Manager Andile Hlophe during the prize presentation of the inaugural tourney held at Mpaka yesterday.

"We would like to pledge our sup-

port in this race. We are very happy to see Swazi citizens working out to stay fit and healthy. This means we will have a healthy and progressive nation. I wouldn't commit for now, but we definitely are on board in the next edition," he said.

TZD Director Zakhele Dlamini

thanked all participants for their support, and promised a bigger and better edition next year.

"I would like to thank them for their support and promise that we will improve going to the next edition. This was only the start; we just hope to bring a better version next year. Thank you very much once again, we are grateful to all stakeholders."



Young Buffaloes' Phiwa Dlamini shoots to score his goal past Royal Leopard goalkeeper Phephisani Msibi. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

BUFFALOES SCRAPE THROUGH

BY SIBONGISENI ZONDI

Buffaloes: (0) 1
Leopard: (0) 0

SOCCER- Young Buffaloes were made to work but eventually beat Royal Leopard yesterday to reach the semifinals of the SwaziBank Cup. The two sides' contest at the Somhlolo National Stadium was a dull one with few clear cut chances created. The first half was an forgettable one as both sides failed to create notable goalscoring opportunities. Buffaloes began the match well, attacking Leopard constantly in the opening five minutes.

However, from that point onwards the match died as a contest with both

sides failing to take proper control of the tie. The only real chance of the stanza came in the 39th minute as Buffaloes broke out on a quick attack on the right flank.

Fanelo 'Order' Mamba released striker Phiwayinkhosi Dlamini with a well calculated cross but the forward dismally failed to connect with the ball and the chance was wasted.

The second half, like the first, was lacklustre but Buffaloes did find the opener ten minutes into the stanza through striker Phiwa.

The forward slotted home with a powerful shot from inside the box.

Leopard looked for an instant response and almost found it in the 57th minute only for winger Bonginkhosi 'Manyovu'

Dlamini's shot to go agonisingly wide of the Buffaloes' goalkeeper Nhlanhla Gwebu's post.

Leopard failed to break a resilient Buffaloes defence from there on as the army side held on to win 1-0 and avenge their defeat by the same scoreline to the police side in the SMVAF Ingwenyama Cup earlier this year.

Teams:

Buffaloes

Gwebu, Ngwenya, Maseko, Mkhwanazi, Mamba, Nyandoro, Mazibuko, Mkhabela (Wandile), Phiwa, Gamedze, Fanelo

Leopard

Msibi, Mlamuli, Magagula, Phumlani, Machawe, Sushi (Tokyo), Mliilo, Junior, Barry (Siboniso), Matse, Manyovu (Mzoro)

Mkhontfo brace sends 'Mamba' to SwaziBank semis

BY SIBONGISENI ZONDI

Green Mamba (2) 3
Malanti Chiefs (0) 1

SOCCER- Mxolisi Mkhontfo scored twice as Green Mamba beat Malanti Chiefs 3-1 to reach the semifinals of the SwaziBank Cup yesterday afternoon.

The quarterfinal match between the two former winners of the competition was played at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

Green Mamba began well, showing their intentions early on as Solomon Oladele turned beautifully in the 10th minute before unleashing a shot which was just wide of the Malanti goal.

Five minutes later Green Mamba opened the scoring through midfielder Mxolisi Mkhontfo. From a corner, pint sized midfielder Njabulo Tfwala played a clever cutback and Mkhontfo hit the ball first time and hit the turf first before looping over Malanti goalkeeper Ntokozo Shabangu and settling into the net.

The match was then delayed for close to ten minutes halfway through the stanza as Shabangu suffered an injury and had to be treated before being substituted off for Mduduzi Shongwe.

Green Mamba continued probing and were unlucky not to double their tally in the 42nd minute as Tfwala was teed up perfectly by Oladele only to hit the side net from well inside the box.

Malanti almost found an equaliser at the other end in the first minute of first half injury time only for Mamba left back Thabiso Gumbi to clear away what looked to be a goalbound effort.

Malanti would rue that wasted oppor-



Solomon Oladele celebrating his goals with team mates yesterday.

tunity minutes later as Mkhontfo got his and his side's second goal. Caleb Ngwenya's charges broke on a quick counter on the right before full back Thabo Mngometulu crossed into the box and found Mkhontfo who poked home to put his side 2-0 up.

That became the last meaningful attack of the match as Green Mamba took their 2-0 lead into the halftime break.

Malanti began the second stanza on the front foot and were rewarded 10 minutes in as Thokozane Dlamini poked home a rebound after Green Mamba keeper Thokozani Mkhulisi had parried Sandile Mazibuko's shot.

However, two minutes later Mamba restored their two goal cushion through Oladele who slotted the ball home after a mini scramble inside the box.

Green Mamba took control of the match from there on and almost found

a fourth in the 68th minute as Tfwala brilliantly released Mkhontfo with a lovely through pass but the latter's shot was brilliantly palmed away by Malanti substitute keeper Mduduzi Shongwe.

Green Mamba was guilty of missing several sitters late on with man of the match Mcolisi Mkhontfo, Mthunzi 'Xavi' Mkhontfo and Tfwala amongst the culprits. But it mattered little as the Correctional Services side held on for a 3-1 win to reach the last four.

Green Mamba:

Mkhulisi, Gumbi (Sanele), Thabo, Khumalo, Makonese, Mxolisi Mkhontfo, Khetho, Njabulo Tfwala, Xavi, Musa, Oladele (Mpendulo Mamba)

Malanti:

Shabangu (M. Shongwe), Potogo, Fakudze, Simelane, Makhubu (Tekwa), T. Dlamini (Fakudze), Mazibuko, B. Shongwe, Molopo, Nkambule, Mayisela.

Mkhontfo, Sihlangu win man of the match gongs

BY SIBONGISENI ZONDI

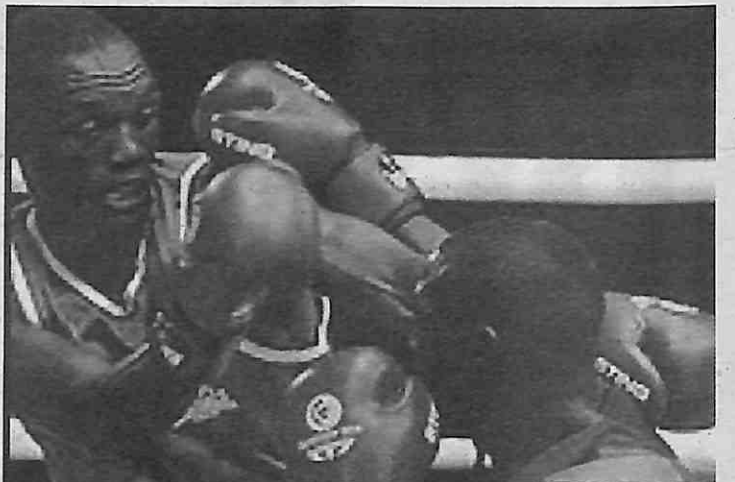
SOCCER- Green Mamba's Mxolisi Mkhontfo and Young Buffaloes' Sihlangu Mkhwanazi were the first winners of the 2018 SwaziBank Cup Man of the Match awards yesterday.

Man of the Match awards in the SwaziBank Cup are introduced at the quarterfinal stage. Mkhontfo scored twice as Green Mamba beat Malanti Chiefs 3-1 in the first quarterfinal at Somhlolo National Stadium while Mkhwanazi was part of a rock solid defence that kept a cleansheet

as Buffaloes edged Royal Leopard 1-0 in the second semifinal.

Speaking to journalists after the second match, Mkhwanazi said they wanted to defend the title they won last season.

"My teammates helped me so this award is not just about me. We are ready for any team in the semifinals. We will respect every opponent. We are taking each match as it comes. Our target is to defend the cup," Mkhwanazi said. Green Mamba and Buffaloes will find out their semifinal opponents in a draw to be held at SwaziBank headquarters in Mbabane tomorrow morning.



Zweli advances, Thabiso crashes out at Gold Coast

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

BOXING - The country endured bitter sweet moments in Gold Coast when boxer Zweli Dlamini advanced to the quarter-finals of the Commonwealth Games only for seasoned Thabiso Dlamini to crash out.

Zweli made the country proud after beating Bashir Nasir from Uganda in the 56kg category yesterday morning.

Dlamini will now compete in the quarterfinals of the tournament with an opponent from Canada. The young boxer attributed his win to the support showed by the local delegation led by the Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala and Chef De Mission Pearl Dlamini.

"I am happy with my first win in the Commonwealth Games

and this was inspired by the moral support from team Swaziland. It was touching to hear them shouting my name during the bout and that kept me going throughout the race," he said. The boxer further promised to continue working hard until the end of the tournament.

"I will continue pushing hard in preparation of the quarter-final bout."

Meanwhile, Thabiso who lost 0-5 loss to Terry Nickolas from the host country in a tightly contested 68kg bout said he was happy with his performance despite the loss.

"I did everything on the day but luck was not on my side. But I have also gained valuable experience by competing in such a major competition and that will help me improve in my game," he said.

SwaziBank Cup semis draw tomorrow

BY QONDILE NTIWANE

SOCCER - The Swazi Bank Cup semi-finals draw will be conducted tomorrow.

This was announced by the Swazi Bank Public Relations Officer (PRO) Phepheya Vilakati yesterday.

He said the draw to be graced by the Managing Director Zakhele Lukhele will be held at the Ban's Auditorium at 8am.

"Teams are invited to the draw tomorrow morning at 8am and are urged to keep time," he said.

Two teams, Green Mamba and defending Champions Young Buffaloes have qualified for the last four games of the knockout tournament.

The two others will be known today in the last round of the quarter-finals at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

Manzini Wanderers will lock horns with town rivals Manzini Sundowns in the first clash to kick off at 2pm while Mbabane Highlanders have a date with Matsapha United at 4pm.

MTN National First Division

MAYN National First Division									
Results									
Citizens	1					Sikhalo		0	
Callies	1					Milling		1	
Tycoons	2					Hub		1	
Mahlalini	2					Tinyosi		4	
Bad Boys	0					Amalanda		1	
Sea Birds	2					Madlenya		1	
Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	Pts	
Citizens	19	13	5	1	37	18	19	42	
2. Sea Birds	19	11	5	3	39	20	19	38	
3. Madlenya	19	11	2	6	37	19	18	35	
4. Milling	19	8	6	5	17	15	3	30	
5. Tycoons	19	9	1	9	28	25	3	28	
6. Tinyosi	19	7	6	6	32	20	12	27	
7. Sikhalo	19	7	5	7	21	24	-3	26	
8. Hub Sundowns	19	7	3	9	18	20	-2	24	
9. Callies	19	6	5	8	17	25	-8	23	
10. Amalanda	19	6	1	12	22	33	-11	19	
11. Bad Boys	19	4	5	10	18	31	-13	17	
12. Mahlalini	19	3	2	14	28	51	-23	11	

APRIL 8, 2018



UNITED FIGHT BACK TO DENY CITY

Pogba has endured a desperately



Guardiola kept his pre-match promise to prioritise Tuesday's Champions League quarterfinal second leg against Liverpool with City needing to overturn a 3-0 first leg deficit.

City's Abu-Dhabi owners have splashed an estimated €878 million over the past decade to assemble a squad that has tilted the balance of power in Manchester from red to blue. **AFP**